

gift books of a religious character for the young were neither so abundant nor so easily procured then as they are now. The money-value of the books received might not be great, but they were very highly valued; if not for the sake of their precious contents, they were greatly prized for the sake of the donor. Mr. W—— had a magic-like influence over the young. He had a wonderful knack or readiness in winning their confidence and affection; though there was nothing in his conduct of a fawning or feminine character, but much that was markedly the reverse. While he was open and frank to all, his temperament was not a little irritable,—he could be angry and rebuke to the face, and with great severity. Yet despite this imperfection or failing he secured the respect of all, the esteem of most, and effectually won the affection of the young. There was about him a warm-heartedness that nothing could cool, and a gushing benevolence that no conduct on the part of others could long or greatly interrupt. He was sometimes angry, to his great grief, but I do believe the sun never “went down on his wrath.” I remember an incident in connection with his Wednesday class that indicated his tendency to haste when provoked. As was to be expected in such a large assemblage of children of all classes, there were some rather rough boys who could scarcely refrain from mischief, even when in class before the minister. One such boy, on a certain occasion, had been conducting himself with great impropriety in some way; on observing which, Mr. W—— instantly reached over, and with his cane gave the wrong-doer a very cordial *crunt* on the crown. This, no doubt, made us all stand in awe and tremble. What was said and done to the boy by the minister at dismissal I do not recollect. But that the good man rested content with what he had done I cannot believe. It is more than probable that Master G——, at the close of the class, would receive a sixpence, a kindly pat on the head, and some kind words from the minister. This boy's future course was in every sense most creditable and successful. Long long years ago, by his superior talents and good exemplary conduct, he won a most respectable position in the legal profession in the Western Metropolis of Scotland; and, if I mistake not, was and is, a leading man in one of that city's churches, adorning, I doubt not, the higher profession of the christian. How many are yet alive who belonged to that class in my time, I cannot tell. I suspect they are few. With most of them the day for work has closed, and night, workless night, has come! A solemn thought: and suggestive of the fact that my sun hies on to his setting, and cannot now be very far from his going down. All that sustains me in view of that event is a simple faith in the gospel story, with which I was early made intellectually acquainted by revered and pious parents, and by Mr. W—— in his winter class for children. My desire and hope is that the young, who may chance to read this, will value more and improve better than I did the precious opportunities of religious instruction enjoyed, and that they may rejoice all their days in the light of God's reconciled countenance.

Mr. W—— had another class for young persons from twelve to