

would be a wonderful condescension on the sinner's part to accept Christ, that the kindness is on the side of the saved and not of the Saviour. Anything which is unduly pressed upon our attention and which we think we can easily obtain at any time is stripped of its value in our eyes. We need to counteract the effect of such soft sentimentalism by occasional statements of the dread alternative of refusing the way of salvation, provided for us through the mercy and love of the Most High. Yet this should always be done very tenderly.

III. WISE AND CAREFUL DEALING WITH THOSE WHO HAVE COME TO A DECISION TO BE CHRIST'S.—Presbyterians have sometimes been charged with giving too much attention to the edification of saints and not enough to the conversion of sinners. But from results it would appear that our traditional policy has not been carried out as thoroughly or as wisely as it might have been. A very large number of our young people, after being hopefully brought in, have been chilled by the coldness of our average membership, and have either drifted back to the world, or found their home in other communions.

Just now in this community the Sabbath school teacher meets with a special interest on the part of the young in the things of Christ. There is a new religious atmosphere in the homes of many of them, and they are seriously thinking about

the conditions of their own salvation. A very large number of them have signed cards pledging themselves to be Christ's; some of them have been admitted to the membership of the Church and more will follow in due time. No doubt many of them have moved with the crowd without any very definite conception of the central idea in the movement. A Sabbath school worker told me that all the scholars in his school had signed the cards, except a very few, but that he was more hopeful of these few than of almost any of the rest. We need not carp at the fact that in every movement of the kind there will be many varying degrees of conviction and sincerity among the professed converts. The point is that the Sabbath school teacher and the Christian worker find themselves face to face with an increased interest in the matters of the soul and how shall they improve it. Many of those who decided for Christ find the time passing by, and discover no very marked change in their experience. What shall we do with them? Shall we treat their profession as a well-meant mistake on their part? No! I think we ought to treat it as a sincere and real transaction between them and Christ; and strain every nerve to help them to keep themselves in the love of God. They have doubtless been well taught, that, in laying the responsibility for their salvation at Christ's feet, they took Him