

# **THE POINT OF CONTACT IN TEACHING**

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The Point of Contact in Teaching by Patterson Du Bois

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**PATTERSON DU BOIS**

**THE POINT OF  
CONTACT  
IN TEACHING**



By the same author

**BECKONINGS FROM LITTLE HANDS**

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THE  
POINT OF CONTACT  
IN TEACHING

BY

PATTERSON DU BOIS

Formerly a Secretary of the American Philosophical Society,  
Fellow of the American Association for the  
Advancement of Science, etc.

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1898

DEDICATED  
TO THE LITTLE CHILDREN OF THE  
SUNDAY-SCHOOL



## Preface

The child mind is a castle that can be taken neither by stealth nor by storm. But there is a natural way of approach and a gate of easy entry always open to him who knows how to find it.

The ideal point at which a child's intelligent attention is to be first engaged, or his instruction is to begin, is an experience or point of contact with life. One who understands this truth need seldom have any great difficulty in getting an entry into the child's mind.

This little manual is an expansion of a small monograph issued over two years ago under the title "Beginning at the Point of Contact." Being written originally in the interest of better educational standards in the Sunday-school it won its way into request by Sunday-school primary workers. But certain secular normal-



## Preface

school teachers, discovering its general educational utility, quickly appropriated a large part of the edition.

With the demand for republication came the suggestion that amplification would increase its practical value. The new matter now forms so considerable a part of the whole as to render the present manual practically a new work. Numerous verbal illustrations have been included, showing how the principle has been applied in dealing with individual pupils, with classes, with schools, and even with peoples in more or less primitive stages of life.

The dissertation on the construction of primary Bible courses is reserved for the last chapter, as not being necessary to the mere exposition of the general principle, but as being a legitimate outcome and illustration of it.

*August, 1896.*

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