

THE SABBATH- SCHOOL INDEX

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The Sabbath-school index by R. G. Pardee

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R. G. PARDEE

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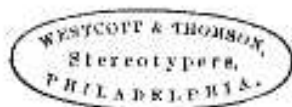
POINTING OUT

THE HISTORY AND PROGRESS OF
SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, WITH APPROVED MODES
OF INSTRUCTION, EXAMPLES IN ILLUSTRATIVE,
PICTORIAL, AND OBJECT-TEACHING; ALSO THE USE OF
THE BLACKBOARD, MANAGEMENT OF INFANT-
CLASSES, TEACHERS' MEETINGS, CONVEN-
TIONS, INSTITUTES, ETC., ETC., ETC.

By R. G. PARDEE, A.M.

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PREFACE.

A FEW years ago the author prepared a little Manual entitled "The Sunday-School Worker Assisted," etc., which was so favorably received as to call for a large edition without any special advertising. What has seemed to be a most imperative call has again come up, from various sections of our land, and from many denominations of Christians, for a fuller and more complete work, illustrated with examples. If our pastors, superintendents or teachers, wished for specific details of all the departments of the Sabbath-school, they complained that they were compelled to purchase a dozen English and a dozen American works, and even then there were important topics of information still unreached. Besides, books written a quarter of a century ago will not fully meet the requirements of an intelligent Sabbath-school man at this day. The cause is making constant progress, and many real improvements have been made during the past few years which are worthy of special record and notice.

Never before has the Holy Bible been so exalted, so taught, so applied, and made so interesting as now. Never before were our best Sabbath-schools devoted to such pure, simple, child-like worship of God as now; and never before was the high and holy aim of *immediate conversion* of the scholars to Christ, and then their thorough religious training, kept steadily in view, as it is in many Sunday-schools at the present time.

The Sabbath-school, as the true working-field of the Christian churches ("The Bible School," as Dr. Chalmers called it), is now the grand rallying cry of the faithful.

The aim and design of this work is to observe, collate, and condense, as far as possible, the *best* thoughts, experience, and observation of Sabbath-school laborers and authors, not only in this country but also in Great Britain, and to combine these with the observation and experience of the writer during the last forty-five years. The author is greatly indebted particularly to the London Sunday-School Union publications, and to *The Sunday-School Times* of Philadelphia, as well as to most of his fellow-laborers and writers in both countries. Gladly would he give credit in every instance, but their works have been so read and their thoughts gathered up, preserved, and noted for use during many years, and their views so assimilated with the author's and made his own, that he is now quite unable to trace them accurately to their right sources. They have become the property of all, and he has appropriated and adopted them into the line of his own thought in the one great work.

The best examples and the best new improvements are here given for the Sabbath-school artist to copy. No one man or school or country embodies them all. None, however, are mere theories. Everything here stated has been tried and proved.

The future progress of the Sabbath-school will be carefully watched, in order to add to or modify subsequent editions of this book, so that the Sabbath-school worker, with no other guide-board but this "Index," may be enabled, by divine grace, to enter the right path and to do a good Christian work in training up the children and youth of his generation.

THE AUTHOR.

New York, February, 1858.



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RICHARD GAY PARDEE.

A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

MR. PARDEE was in some respects the most remarkable man I have ever known. His example is worthy of special record as showing, better perhaps than any other that can be named, what large results can be accomplished through persistent singleness of purpose, in the absence of any great natural endowments. He was neither brilliant, nor learned, nor eloquent, nor original, nor profound, nor had he any special advantages of voice or person, and yet he accomplished, single-handed, results not often vouchsafed to those who have all these qualities and advantages combined. Some account, therefore, of his useful and honored career may be of service, both to the Church at large and to the special cause to which his life was devoted. A better example, either for young men in general, or for the Sabbath-school worker in particular, it would be difficult to find.

Mr. Pardee was born at Sharon, Connecticut, October 12, 1811. His parents were Orrin and Julia Pardee. He was the oldest of a family of twelve children, all but one of whom are still alive. His boyhood was spent on his father's farm, upon Sharon Mountain, and he attended the common dis-