

**MY CLASS FOR JESUS:
RECORDS OF LABOUR AND
SUCCESS IN SABBATH-
SCHOOL TEACHING, PP. 1-154**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649653737

My Class for Jesus: Records of Labour and Success in Sabbath-School Teaching, pp. 1-154 by
Eliza Mumford & J. Smith Spencer

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ELIZA MUMFORD & J. SMITH SPENCER

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SCHOOL TEACHING, PP. 1-154**

MY CLASS FOR JESUS:

RECORDS OF LABOUR AND SUCCESS

IN

SABBATH-SCHOOL TEACHING.

BY

LILLIE MONTFORT.

EDITED, WITH INTRODUCTION, BY

REV. JOHN SMITH SPENCER.

SECOND EDITION, REVISED AND ENLARGED.



London:

ELLIOT STOCK, 62, PATERNOSTER ROW.

MDCCLXXIII.

141. m. 162.

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PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

THE rapid sale of the first edition has amply demonstrated the correctness of my convictions concerning the probable effect of publishing these records of a living teacher's toils, discouragements, and success. Numerous testimonies of the benefits resulting to individuals and schools from the perusal of this book, have been received both by "Lillie Montfort" and myself; and while thankfully acknowledging the kindness of those many friends who have interested themselves in its diffusion, we must record our profound gratitude to Him who prospers the feeblest efforts for His glory.

It seems necessary for me again to state that the entire responsibility of this publication is mine. "Lillie" is the very last person who would have thought of putting such an account of her labours before the world. The original came to me in the form of private contributions to my store of Sunday-school information. Some parts of this book were extracted from letters received by me twelve years since, and those portions which form a continuous narrative

were sent to me for personal use about five years ago. I mention these things to protect my dear friend from the slightest suspicion of having herself designed to make known her life-long work. I might have written the account in the third person, and thus have shielded her from any appearance of a personal recital. But this, I was sure, would greatly diminish the interest. Most readers prefer to have individual experiences narrated by the one in whose history they transpired. Knowing this, I resolved to maintain the original style, and while preparing the manuscript for the press, endeavoured throughout to preserve my friend's identity. Had "Lillie" written for the public, possibly this book would have assumed a different form. It would, very probably, have appeared more perfect as a literary production, but it might have lost some of the freedom and freshness characterising an autobiography intended only for the use of a private friend. Yet for all this "Lillie Montfort" is, in every respect, the author of "My Class for Jesus." The story is her own, and told in her own way. I have simply done for it that which was necessary to put it into book form.

It ought, perhaps, to be said that some of the sketches have been written since "Lillie" consented to have her work made known. This especially applies to two, which now appear for the first time. For reasons which need not be

named, we have decided to omit chapter eleven of the first edition, entitled "The Pet of the Class," and have substituted for it "Found of Jesus." Chapter sixteen, "Perplexed, but not in despair," is also entirely new, and will prove, I think, a valuable addition.

My friendship for "Lillie," or rather her friendship for me, is a possession gratefully inherited from my parents. Her name has been familiar to me almost as long as I can remember. The impression made upon my youthful mind by her cheerful piety is among the brightest memories of my early religious life. While a Sunday-school teacher I was always stimulated by her kind and encouraging letters; and since I entered on the work of the Christian ministry, I have often received from her mental and spiritual invigoration. And now, while seeking by this publication to benefit our Sunday-schools, my hope is also to minister some comfort and gladness to the life of one who, amid much affliction and care, has for many years toiled for the welfare of others.

JONN SMITH SPENCER.

HOLBECK, LEEDS,
January, 1873.