FORTY YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN SUNDAY-SCHOOLS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649201983

Forty years' experience in Sunday-schools by Stephen H. Tyng

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STEPHEN H. TYNG

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STEPHEN H. TYNG, D.D.,
BECTOR OF ST. GROEGE'S CHURCH, NEW YORK.



NEW YORK: SHELDON & COMPANY. BOSTON: GOULD & LINCOLN,

1860.

BV1520

Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year 1860, by SHELDON & COMPANY,

In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of New York.

74066

SMITH & MODOUGAL, 52 & 84 Beekman-st., N. Y. PUDNEY & RUSSELL, 70 John-street, N. Y.

INTRODUCTION.

an.

The importance of the subject of this little volume none can doubt. There is a familiarity in treating it, and a desultory method pursued in its discussion which may be considered inappropriate for a book. I have only to say, the chapters herein contained, were so many distinct letters addressed to a friend who was the Superintendent of a Sundayschool, at his own request. After a publication in the Independent had given them a very extensive circulation, their compact publication in the present form was also solicited. They are the simple language of personal experience and observation in the field of which they treat. They may be the instrument of suggesting other and better thoughts and experience to other minds. I can not but hope they will be made useful to many. If they shall but set Christians and ministers to thinking, inquiring, and speaking, even in opposition to some of the sentiments they contain, they will do good. There can be but one result to which conscientious thought and inquiry must lead, and with that the end and purpose of the book will be so far attained. To his brethren in the ministry of the whole Church of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to his sympathizing friends, the Sunday-school teachers in all the Churches, the author gratefully presents his little work, praying for their countenance, and the Lord's blessing.

St. Gronge's Rectory. New York, August 1, 1960.

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> Y DEAR FRIEND: You ask for some notes of my personal experience in connection with Sunday-schools, and some of the results of that experience. I shall be glad to gratify you in a

very simple and desultory way, having no time to arrange any thing in a more methodical or didactic shape. The proposal will lead me first to a few reminiscences of my own connection with these interesting nurseries of the Church of Christ.

In the year 1819, when a candidate for the ministry, I was first sent forth by Bishop Griswold, as a young laborer in the Gospel, under the title of what we call in the Episcopal Church a Lay Reader, which included, in those days, the utmost range of personal exhortation