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given them, should be exactly on a level with their mental development, and should contain no element which may unfold and fructify as they grow towards maturity. No intelligent Presbyterian is ashamed to recall the words of his Catechism when he reaches manhood. If pious, as well as intelligent, he will tell you that these words grew upon him in truth and depth, the more he reflects upon them. Yea, many an aged believer among us revolves in his mind, with a delight second only to that with which the words of Inspiration are remembered, Definitions and Answers treasured up in early youth.

We are persuaded that the Depth and Thoroughness of the Catechism are among its excellencies; and as to any terms or expressions which are technical or compact, these can, in almost every case, be rendered intelligible, even to pretty young persons, by the competent instructor. It is hard, indeed, to see how the truths of the Bible can be taught at all, without employing terms which some would stigmatize as technical; and, certainly, on this ground, the Scriptures, themselves, have often been found fault with.

3. The Catechism presents a *good and orderly arrangement of its topics*. The proof of this has been already exhibited, and need not be repeated in the present connexion. There are, as might be expected, different views as to the best order of presenting systematically, the doctrines of the Christian Religion. The discussion of this difficult question would, however, be altogether out of place in an Essay of the present character. Suffice it to say, that, while some very eminent men have preferred another starting-point, and manner of development, the order adopted by the Catechisms and the Confession of Faith is the one most generally followed by writers on Systematic Theology. To those who have studied some of the more lengthened works on this science, it seems very admirable that, in a book of a few pages, it should have been possible to condense so much matter, whilst giving to it a form and symmetry not surpassed by the largest and most approved treatises.

Now it is hardly necessary to dwell upon the importance of good arrangement in a manual of this kind. All that might be said in favour of an orderly manner of handling any complex and important subject, would be relevant here. A proper ordering of topics carries the mind along naturally and pleasantly, is a great aid to the memory, and secures that one point shall throw light

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arrangement.