

A Sunday school is an easy, cheap, and unmixed good." And we find the same approval of Sunday schools in many Episcopal charges delivered within the last few years; indeed no difference of opinion appears to exist as to their importance. In this country more particularly, where few opportunities of instructing the young are afforded to the minister throughout the week, the Sunday school may be regarded as furnishing the only opportunity of instructing the youth of our congregations in the principles of religion. The common school system of education, though excellent in many respects, does not even pretend to provide adequate religious instruction for the young. We must, therefore, look to the Sunday school to supply that which every parent should regard as indispensably necessary to the well-being of his child. We know that the teaching of the heart exclusively belongs to God. He alone can bring home the truth with saving power to the soul; still it is of inestimable value, that the young mind should be stored with the knowledge of God's word. In how many cases have we found that the good seed sown in the young breast has remained for years apparently dead and utterly unfruitful, while the noxious weeds of vice and ungodliness have become more rank from year to year. But when the Holy Spirit has imparted his life-giving influence to the soul; when his quickening power has been experienced, the good seed which has so long remained unproductive has been made to spring up, and bring forth abundant fruit to God. My reverend brethren, we cannot overrate the importance of the Sunday school; I would therefore urge upon you to give much of your thoughts and attention to this subject. Be not discouraged, if you behold but little fruit from your labors; "let patience have its perfect work;" "in the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thy hand, for thou knowest not whether shall prosper either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good." I know that the great difficulty experienced in conducting Sunday schools, is the want of suitable teachers; but even this difficulty, great as it undoubtedly is, may be overcome by faithful perseverance; suitable books for the assistance of teachers can at first be procured, and in time, as the interest of the teachers in the work increases, they will conscientiously apply themselves to the work; and in preparing to instruct others, they will themselves learn many things of which they were before ignorant. There should be in every mission as many Sunday schools as there are congregations; and as the clergyman cannot, because of his other duties, superintend them all, he should engage the assistance of such suitable persons as are willing to undertake the duty of teachers, and he should meet them occasionally, for the purpose of reading with them those portions of scripture, and of considering the subjects which are to occupy their attention in the school. This employment of the members of the congregations will have another salutary effect. Those who are alive to the interests of their immortal souls naturally feel desirous to make themselves useful to their fellow-men; and where no opportunity of doing this is offered in