

memory, and perhaps one reason why infidelity and rationalism have never taken root in Scotland, as they have in Germany, or even in England, if we may judge from the recent "Essays and Reviews," is, that such a form of sound words and of Bible truth, has been indelibly impressed on the minds of Scottish children.

If the shorter catechism then be of such importance in our schools, any aid to make it a more easy task for young children, will not be regarded as unimportant. We therefore have pleasure in mentioning a plan which has been found most efficacious in the States, where within a comparatively short time, over 15,000 children, many of whom would not otherwise have opened the catechism, have repeated it correctly and without mistake.

The plan is to hold out an offer of a Bible, with suitable inscription, to each scholar who repeats the catechism perfectly. Few children there are who may not accomplish this effort in time, and therefore the reward is beyond the reach of none, while all are stimulated to learn with renewed zeal by the expectation of thus gaining a Bible. Scholars who have obtained the reward will have their catechism all the better engraven on their memories, and the Bibles will long be treasured in memory of early days at the Sabbath School.

In several of our schools this little plan is now being tried with excellent effect, and we can therefore recommend it to our readers.

THE BOYS AND THEIR APPLES.

What is Tom doing? A friend has given him a capful of ripe rosy-cheeked apples. He has got home with them. He has a number of brothers and sisters; there is his sister Helen, older than himself, and his two younger brothers, and little Mary, and Annie, and Jeanie. He got eight apples; that would have been one for each of them, and have left two to himself. Does he share his store among them? No, the mean, greedy fellow has got a corner of the house, lest anybody should ask him for one, to munch them all by himself.

What a picture of selfishness! But it is just like Tom. He is always for himself. At dinner, if he can get the best of everything, he never minds his brothers or sisters. If they go to swing, Tom must have it first, and as long as h