

Public Meeting.

On Monday, October 21st, a meeting was held in S. Matthew's Parish room, at 8 p.m. The Chair was taken by the Bishop, and there was a goodly gathering of teachers, parents and others, to listen to the short addresses given by some of the City Clergy. After the meeting had been opened with a Hymn and Prayer, the Bishop called first upon the Very Rev. Dean Norman. The Dean commenced by pointing out how great was the need of definite Church teaching based on the Church Catechism. He impressed upon the Teachers that their work was a Pastoral work in the fullest sense, and a work of great privilege. He warned them against too entire dependence upon manuals, urging the use of the open Bible in preparing their Sunday School Lessons. He asked parents to supplement the Sunday School teaching at home, and to encourage in their children regularity, diligence and good conduct, and he added that they all needed an afflatus of the Holy Spirit in their great responsibility, if they were to turn out true Church of England men and women.

The next speaker was the Rev. A. J. Balfour, who urged that, with a view to good Sunday School work, there should be daily Intercession. He instanced the case of Victoria, in Australia, where it had been tried for twenty years to divorce religion from secular teaching, leaving all religious education to the Home and Sunday School, with the result that there had been a great increase of crime and a decrease in the attendance on Sundays. He urged upon all, the reading of the Bible devotionally, and emphasized the necessity of the cooperation of Parents with Teachers, and concluded by saying that the home influence and the home example must coincide with the home teaching.

At this point a second Hymn was sung, and then the Bishop invited the Rev. Isaac M. Thompson to address the meeting. In a few burning, earnest words, Mr. Thompson made some most telling remarks. He strongly believed in the power of united Intercession for Sunday School work at a time when education was the great and difficult question of the day. He complained of the colourless Theology of the ordinary Protestant Schools, and said that the three great means for ensuring true Church teaching were the Church, the Home and the Sunday School. The success

of Sunday School work, he declared, depended on the help given by the parents and on the sympathy of the Teachers with their pupils. He urged upon the Teachers in preparing their Sunday Lesson, first to get it clear in their heads and then to spread it out before God in prayer. The Rev. Lennox Williams spoke next, and said he hoped that, as a result of these Days of Intercession, many would be stirred to offer themselves for Sunday School work, though they must be prepared for disappointment. Sunday School teaching was not so easy as some people imagined. He was very glad that Mr. Thompson had put the Church first as the great secret of successful Sunday School work. Children should be accustomed to love their Church Worship, for, he said, their Sunday School education was a preparation, a leading up to the enjoyment of full Christian privileges. To the Teachers he said, that it needed more preparation to teach the youngest children than the oldest. It was difficult to make knowledge fit into young minds. Teachers must therefore always be striving themselves to learn, for, "He, who has ceased to learn, is no longer fit to teach." He urged on them also to be regular Communicants. Their lessons would vary with their spirituality. He asked them to be punctual and regular, and to give notice if they intended to be absent, to be kind and considerate, but firm. He wished that parents would begin to teach their children quite young, as soon as they were three years old, day by day. He suggested that the use of pictures, such as the Bible Lesson Pictures, published by Harris & Jones, Providence, R. I., would be found a great help, and he also recommended a book entitled "The Art of Teaching," by J. G. Fitch, published by the Sunday School Institute, London, Eng.

His Lordship then summed up, selecting the salient points that had been offered by the previous speakers; and then after saying that Sunday Schools had been wrongly condemned, when the blame was only due to defective systems, he gave a sketch of the plans which he had put into successful practice in England and closed with the following hints, (1) that Teachers must offer special prayer before and after each lesson, (2) that they must study the character of their children and pray for them by name, (3) that they should always