

This report, said Mr. Blake, was dealt with in this way, as we find on another page of the official report of the proceedings of the Synod :—

"The Rev. the Provost of Trinity College read the report of the Committee on Religious Instruction in the Public Schools (Appendix J), and on motion of the reverend gentleman, seconded by Rev. John Davidson, it was

"Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Religious Instruction in the Public Schools be adopted, and that the committee be re-appointed for the ensuing year."

Now, as I said, is it not better for us, like honest men, to say that was the utterance of persons who knew whereof they were speaking, carefully prepared and carefully worded. That was a great advance, a great benefit, and I say that I should prefer my children attending at the Public school should do what we were obliged to do in our International Sunday School Committee, in which were representatives from Canada, United States, England, Ireland, Scotland, Australia, and Africa, representing fourteen millions of people. We found that it was not a good thing to use the whole Bible in teaching, because there were a great many passages which are more suited than others to the children who are under our instruction. We have just closed this month a seven years' instruction in the Bible; we have commenced with the book of Genesis and finished with the book of Revelation, 336 lessons; and in seven years we go over the various portions of the Bible prepared for the children. I rejoice to find that my child, if at school, gets a very good, thorough knowledge of the Bible, historical and otherwise, in one year, two hundred and eighty-one lessons, extending from the book of Genesis to the book of Revelation. I rejoice to find that the splendid Proverbs occupy a prominent place; that

The Ten Commandments

are there—not, as people would have us believe, only nine of them. "Thou shalt not worship any graven image" is there in just as big print as any of the others—(loud applause)—and I have found there also the thirteenth chapter of Corinthians, and I wish those who are making these charges and this attack upon this book had a little of the spirit as well as the letter of the law. Now I entirely disagree with the remarks that have been made against this book by certain persons occupying positions which should have been held sacred by them, and who were in utter ignorance of its contents. From one pulpit there has come the voice, "Why! we haven't got in this book the story of the fall of David!" "We haven't got in this book the story of the strong temptation of Joseph by Mrs. Potiphar!" My friends, fancy! (Applause.) Fancy!! Fancy the peculiar taste of the men who particularly miss these passages; and that from the pulpit, bad enough to think it, but to preach it, so much the worse! But to be serious for a moment. I represent for a moment a girl of nineteen or twenty years of age, in the country, with a class before me of boys and girls, and I am given that selection to read to them! Would you like to have your daughter sitting beside a lump of a boy of sixteen or seventeen while this was being read? Sir, I would not. (Applause.) **We must have some common sense in these things.** (Applause.) We find that however good it may be for grown people to take their Bible, and sit down, and mourn as David did over his weakness, or to rejoice with Joseph upon the strength which enabled him to overcome his temptation, it is not reasonable to have it read to a mixed class of children fourteen, fifteen, or sixteen years of age, and I entirely approve of the great wisdom of that committee, and I believe that there is an inspiration in these matters, that led them to choose with the great propriety that they have in the historical, biographical, and doctrinal selections, and that led to taking the choicest portions from the various books in the Bible, and putting them in such a way that a class of children should be interested in them, and

Search and read the Scriptures

more fully. (Applause.) Another portion which it was objected had been improperly omitted was 2nd Timothy, iii. :—"All Scripture is given by inspiration." Sir, that chapter was wisely omitted. One hundred years ago people said it was a bad translation. It should have been "Every Scripture that is inspired," and if you'll look up your New Version you'll find that it is put in such a way. It is "Every Scripture that is inspired." I want to say that I was glad that the committee, or one of them, waited upon Archbishop Lynch. (Hear, hear.) I am glad the Roman Catholic Church should consent to this same portion of the Bible which we were reading. (Applause.) I believe that the Bible

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