

importance that you should enter personally into all the details of your Sunday Schools, that you should admit none to be teachers but those who are sound members of our Church, and if of age, communicants; and that you should select suitable books for use in the school, illustrative of the catechism and liturgy of the Church, and that you should insist that the catechism is thoroughly learned and explained to every child capable of understanding it. And I would recommend a larger and more special instruction to be given to all young persons to be confirmed. It would be far better that the number should be somewhat smaller, than that they should come ignorant of those very privileges on their appreciation of which the use of confirmation to them depends. For this purpose classes of instruction in the catechism and liturgy would be most valuable. And as a far greater strain will now be put on the resources of our Diocesan Church Society, I do not think it probable that you will obtain much help from it in the way of books. This is another matter in which we shall have to help ourselves.

And now, my brethren, let me close this address with a few words of parting admonition to the clergy and laity.

In the present trial of our infant Church, how much, my brethren of the clergy, must depend upon your personal conduct. Though it be very certain that the laity ought to esteem your office more than your persons, yet you must see how little the office is valued when the man is despised. You ought to consider that it is not eloquent preaching, it is not intellectual eminence, it is not easiness and good nature, it is not a talent for business, it is not running to and fro about the country, it is not social position, which will earn for you the power to influence mankind for good. All the earnest love of souls, all the guilelessness and simplicity, all the fervour of devotion, all the goodness of heart, all the humility and charity, all the wisdom and tact that can be acquired is scarce sufficient for your duty; and without such graces you will too often labour in vain. Keen eyes are watching your every action, and swift tongues repeating every word. The enemies of religion rejoice in your halting, and excuse their own vices by every bad example among you. And every vice in a clergyman's family assumes a magnitude altogether disproportioned to the offence. But above all, do not bite and devour one another. Never is a clergyman so obnoxious to censure, so certain to be wrong as when he gives publicity to the errors of his brother, and strives before the unbelievers. And I grieve to say it, but I believe it to be the experience of every bishop, that of all the troubles that happen in a diocese, it is generally found that the clergy have been at the bottom of the strife; and if they would be quiet, and each man mind his own business, the laity, with few exceptions, would give little trouble. How soon will division about things indifferent cease to be of importance in our eyes, and we shall all be called on to give account of the way in which we have fulfilled the great duties of our ministry.