

tender bud, the soul, the heart of the child will waste away and die.

It is, as you all no doubt know, the opinion of some of the greatest adepts in pedagogics that as the child is in its sixth or seventh year, so it will remain. Indeed, we have proof of this before us in the lives of the saints. From very tenderest childhood these holy men and women were directed by pious mothers, who instilled in their hearts a love of prayer, a devotion to Jesus and Mary, a practice of the sweet duties of religion. Susanna and Tobias are examples in the Old Testament, and in the Christian Era we have a St. Louis, of France, a St. Aloysius and a St. Stanislaus. Yes, assuredly, as the child is in its sixth and seventh years, through the care of parents, so it will remain.

Is it not true that we hear today complaints on every side of the alarming increase of crime committed in early childhood and youth, crimes of every descrip-