

Rev. Mr. HODOSKIN moved that the third topic on the docket be combined with the one now being discussed, and that the time for their consideration be extended to the hour of adjournment.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Hetherington and carried.

The words **HOW CAN WE BEST GATHER INTO OUR SCHOOLS THE THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN WHO NOW NEGLECT THEM**, were therefore added after the word **OBJECT**.

Mr. BECKET thought his resolution covered the whole ground.

Rev. Mr. MARLING (Toronto) believed that to put up overschools: "For uncared for children," would prevent any parents from sending their children. What parent would admit that he did not care for his children? He wanted, however, to hear their American brethren on this matter, as they were understood to have taken a great deal of pains in it.

Mr. BECKET (Montreal) thought his resolution did nothing like proposing to put up "For uncared for children." The object of obtaining visiting Committees was to bring in children. If *all* the children were brought what more could be wanted?

Mr. AARSTRONG approved of the resolution, having seen the good working of visiting committees, who, in his school, were called absentee visitors. A year and a half ago that school had dwindled down to the number of sixty, of whom the average attendance was about thirty. Four persons were, therefore, appointed to act as visitors, to get all children not connected with other schools to come to that one. That plan answered well. In order to get children who were uncared for, it was not necessary to write that over the door. He was Superintendent and made no distinctions. The child who was capable of being in a particular class was placed there. If there were absentee visitors appointed to all schools, a large number of children now uncared for would be brought in, yet nothing invidious would be done. He had heard it said, that the children themselves made the best missionaries; but believing that the great object of Sabbath Schools was to bring children to the knowledge of Jesus, he thought they could hardly be expected to take the same interest in bringing other children to the school as was to be looked for from persons engaged in the service of the schools, especially when these last were so engaged from high and pure motives.

Mr. THOMPSON (Rochester) had seen a great deal of effort put forth to get into the schools children who did not belong to any Church unless the Church of Rome, and had seen these efforts blessed; but it was no particular machinery that did it. It was the love of God shed abroad in the hearts of those who labored, and though at first there were many little difficulties, it was found at last that the parents could be got at. He knew a brother who really had but one talent, but that one was the talent of trying to do good. He tried to get the French Catholic boys into the school. Fathers and mothers and priests all opposed him, but he succeeded. He was a mechanic, and used to go down to the residences of these poor people,

sometimes with firewood, at others with bread or clothes. They found he had a heart, and he thus came to exercise great influence over them. He (Mr. Thompson) could bring tears into the eyes of either parents or teachers by the mere mention of the name of that brother. He did not approve of putting up "poor schools." He once saw an arrangement where there was an infant school, and a Sunday school, and one called an intermediate school, which was devoted to the poor children who were picked up in the streets. He told the friends that this intermediate school would break down, and, in fact, it ran down to nothing. His desire was, that all the children should come together to the same school. They were all possessed of immortal souls, if they had not all clothes. Let the poor children be taught that they have souls, and the rich that they should respect the poor on that account. Committees for visiting were all very well; but that would not do alone. He had known a young lady who taught in a mission school; but on a wet Sunday her mother said she had better not go as it was at a distance, and as the mother thought she would find no children there. He (Mr. T.) said she had better go; she herself insisted on going, saying she was sure she would find her children. On her coming back he asked if she had had any scholars? "Yes, seven as usual, she always had children." The reason was, that she always went herself. Let the teachers take an interest in their scholars and the children could not be kept back.

Mr. MORGAN gave an account of the manner and difficulties of getting up a school at Dickinson's Landing. When he first went round, the parents said there were schools enough; but he insisted that they should have a Sunday School, and he at last collected forty-five children to start with. He next went round to collect for a library which he started with \$14, and he had now 250 volumes. Then there were difficulties with the children. Some would say they could not come to school because they had no shoes. He said you shall have shoes, and he got them for them. In ten years they had only lost about nine Sundays from having no school, and when some difficulties had occurred, he insisted upon losing no more. He was a poor shoemaker; but when the Convention was talked of, he said he wanted to go and show himself and see what was going on, and bring good news back from it. At present he was fireman to the school. He had been several years a trustee as well; but when they turned him out of that he insisted on keeping the other office, and so he made the fires still.

Mr. FOOTE (Buffalo) thought that Committees would do little to get children to the schools. Give him one little boy or girl zealous in the work, and he had yet to see the place where children could not be prevailed on to come to the school. He had a large file of correspondence on Sunday Schools, and every letter complained of want of teachers. There was no trouble about getting children. He had visited one place where there was a Christian Church, supposed to have great efficiency; but there were from 300 to 500 neglected children there. He appealed to them on this subject, and three weeks after on returning there, he was told that a little Irish Catholic girl had done more