

exercises had degenerated into mere routine, cold and lifeless, that she recognized the necessity of organizing agencies under her own control, and imbued with her spirit. What noble work her Sabbath schools have accomplished! Inestimable, however, as is the good that has thus been accomplished, and multiplied indefinitely as the agencies in operation are, it is yet obvious that if the necessities of the case are to be adequately met, more systematic work, effective machinery and trained agency are imperatively demanded. But why not gird up her *own* loins for this enterprise? Why seek to lull her sense of responsibility asleep? On the other hand, the Church has just reason to complain that, under existing arrangements, she has not full scope and opportunity for meeting her obligations; for under the new order of things the State has monopolized the ground which formerly belonged to both. It is in view of this deprivation of the Church by the State of her former opportunities, and in recognition of the fact that there are not a few children whom, with the means now at her command, she could not otherwise reach with a word from the Book of Life, that the present *permissive* arrangement is deemed justifiable. It is, as has been indicated, of the nature of a compromise. The responsibility for the work is brought as near as possible to those on whom it should rest, while confidence is placed in their judgment as to the course they will adopt in their special circumstances, it being taken for granted that they will not unduly interfere with the rights of others, or hinder the proper work of the State. Under this arrangement, the evils resulting