

Children may find it hard to understand, but a thoughtful parent can, with diligence, make almost any of the "questions" intelligible. But even if the child cannot understand the doctrines he should commit the words to memory. They may lodge a long time in his mind as dry formulæ; but it is impossible to tell when they may flash into significance, and become most luminous and powerful. There are other catechisms in use, very good in their place,—such as Mother's Catechism, Brown's, &c., but none of these should be allowed to supersede the Shorter Catechism. Hymns are learnt more easily, but they are no adequate substitute. Should parents neglect their duty to their children in relation to the Shorter Catechism, Sabbath School teachers, ministers and elders should take a double interest in the work. The Catechism should be an important portion of every day's lesson in the Sabbath School. Teachers would do well to study such works as Fisher, and Patterson on the Catechism, and thus prepare themselves to interest their pupils in the truths which they are required to commit to memory.

MISSIONARY MUSIC.

[Our young friends who are engaged in the good work of collecting or giving money for missionary objects might do well to commit the following verses to memory.]

- 1 Have you ever brought a penny to the missionary box?
A penny which you might have spent like other little folks?
And when it falls among the rest, have you ever heard a ring
Like a pleasant song of welcome, which the other pennies sing?
- 2 This is missionary music, and it has a pleasant sound,
For pennies make a shilling, and shillings make a pound;
And many pounds together, the gospel news will send
Which tell the distant heathen that the Saviour is their friend.
- 3 And oh! what joyous music is the missionary song.
When it seems to come from every heart, and sounds from every tongue,
When happy Christian little ones all sing with one accord
Of the time when realms of darkness shall be kingdoms of the Lord.
- 4 But sweeter music far than all, which Jesus loves to hear,
Are children's voices when they breathe a missionary prayer:
When they bring the heart petition to the great Redeemer's throne,
That he will choose the heathen out and take them for his own.
- 5 This is the music Jesus taught when he was here below:
This is the music Jesus loves to hear in glory now:
And many a one from distant lands will reach his heavenly home,
In answer to the children's prayer, "O Lord, thy kingdom come!"
- 6 Then, missionary children, let this music never cease:
Work on, work on in earnest for the Lord, the Prince of Peace;
There is praying work and paying work for every heart and hand,
Till the missionary chorus shall go forth through all the land

Home Mission Work.

REPORT OF LABRADOR MISSION.

BY REV. D. SUTHERLAND.

June 14th, 1865.—Took passage at Halifax in schr. *Brilliant Star*, Capt. Simeon Smith of Port Medway. On Friday, noon, we touched at McNair's Cove to take in water. I went ashore in company with the captain and crew. In Halifax, and here again, scenes came under my observation that impressed me powerfully with the thought that, while we feel it our duty to send forth missionaries to Labrador and the foreign field strictly so called, there is too little attention devoted to the home field. In both places referred to, horrid and un-mixed profaneness and blasphemies assailed my ears. The ruder class of landmen, as well as seamen, are chargeable, to an alarming extent, with these sins. They seem to be possessed with a strange grammar and rhetoric of blasphemy against the Author of their being, in which satan takes delight to instruct them. When these people mean to say that such a thing is good or bad, or any other quality is meant to be expressed, or any degree of comparison, the word used is not the one suited to the idea, but one which carries with it a rude curse or oath.