

fore is it not better to make the best of things as we find them and retain it? Have you never noticed in nature that an uprooted plant makes the most of what poor remnant of soil still clings to its roots, by which it often retains life, until after a while it is able to send down roots into one that is better and more nourishing? Is not the remedy rather to use it, but more after the plan of our own church, for the religious instruction of youth? If we can not bring back the public catechising, which was the only Sunday School I had the opportunity to attend in my childhood, let us no longer be content to spend its curtailed hour or so, in a feeble shuffling attempt to give instruction in scripture history, geography, ancient genealogies, and critical dissertations upon a past theocracy.

Let the week day school again teach that, and let the Sunday School time be applied to what should be *its main aim and object*. Let us consider what that aim should be. It is not what those outside our communion, and some within it, would call—conversion of the young heart to Christ, but what may be more appropriately defined as awakening and nourishing up of a trustful Faith in God, the Hope of a better life hereafter, and a present Charity or love of their fellow-beings, and all that that means. The Church of England plan for which was and, thank God, yet is, as the prayer book tells us, the teaching and expounding of The Lord's Prayer, The Creed and the Ten Commandments? First in the easiest and simplest remarks, and when the child's intelligence is more unfolded, in the not to be sur-