

not a little close and comparative examination of the Bible.

The scholars in a class may combine for the selecting of texts to spell out in this way the name of their teacher, or superintendent, or pastor. At a concert exercise as many scholars or classes may be called on to recite as will fill the specified time. The recitations may be divided, if desirable; the Christian names given at one time, and the family names at another.

As illustrative of this method, the selection of texts made by Charles R. Burt, superintendent of the Pearl street Congregational Church, Hartford, Conn., for the spelling of his own name, is here given:—

COME now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: Though your sins be scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. (Isaiah i. 18.)

Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money, and without price. (Isaiah lv. 1.)

And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. (Rev. xxii. 17.)

Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord. (Acts iii. 19.)

Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is none else. (Isa. xiv. 22.)

Enter ye in at the straight gate; for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because straight is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. (Matt. vii. 13, 14.)

Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near. (Isa. lv. 6.)

Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them. (Ecc. xii. 1.)

But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven. (Matt. xix. 14.)

Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities. (Acts iii. 26.)

Receive, I pray thee, the law from his mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart. (Job xxii. 22.)

Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me: for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. (Matt. xi. 29.)

Culture in the Sunday School.

WE are constantly hearing complaints of the inefficiency of our Sabbath School agency, and the poverty of results. But is not this very much what is to be expected from the general type of agency by which this most important work is carried on? The wonder is not that results are small, but that they are not less. We honor those humble laborers in this department of the vineyard who bring their one little talent and lay it at the Master's feet. We would not utter a syllable to grieve or disparage them. The function of the mosses and lichens in the economy of creation, if not so imposing as that of the oak or the cedar, is yet a necessary one. Very useful they are in their place, and very beautiful in their season. Yet, after all, it would be a very poor world with nothing but lichens and mosses to carry on the process of the universe. It would never do for these to occupy the place of the others, however serviceable they may be in their own place. And, while not complaining that so many of the humbler classes do fill the ranks of our Sabbath School teachers, we would yet respectfully urge that reinforcements should be sought rather more from the educated classes than has been the case. With agency of a higher order, needed work of a higher type might be done. It is only here and there at present that a Lord Hatherley or Lord Selborne deems it no indignity or descent to leave even the woolsack for a Sabbath School class. But were such examples, instead of being noble exceptions, to become the happy rule, what might not be hoped for from that still most popular and most powerful of all our church auxiliaries, that, despite the infirmities and limitations of its promoters, God has so largely blessed!—*The Preacher's Lantern.*