

subsidiary to the home school, and no good can come to the Church or to the community, to old, or to young, from putting last what God has put first, and first what he has placed last. In these days, when, such a thing as a public conference or convention to promote *Home teaching* is unknown in a land which is full to overflowing with all manner of talk, wise and otherwise, about our public Sabbath schools, it is refreshing to find an influential body like the Presbytery of Toronto standing up, by a recent resolution, in favour of throwing, but not to the entire neglect of Sabbath Schools, more of the energy of its pastors, henceforward, into the promotion of fireside teaching and training, strengthening that time honoured school, where were taught patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, in the good days of old. The resolution to which we refer, was in these words:

1. That instead of holding special meetings for parents and teachers, to be addressed by members of the Presbytery, it would be preferable meantime, and would make sure of reaching a much larger proportion of our people, were an exchange of pulpits throughout the bounds of the Presbytery arranged for, and the ministers occupying the pulpits on that particular Sabbath to press upon parents the responsibilities and duties resting upon them—1st to read the Word of God daily with their children; 2nd, to read carefully, and in all cases possible to explain to their children the Bible lesson to be taught in the school on the following Sabbath; and 3rd, that while striving to discharge home duties to their children, they also avail themselves thankfully of the assistance of the Sabbath School teacher.\*

While we give, let us say frankly, to the modern Sabbath school all the praise due to an institution that has done the Church and the State some good service, yet we cannot be blind to some serious evils connected with unduly pressing its claims. It is in danger of shifting the main burden of the work of teaching the young, from the shoulders of their parents, to the shoulders of strangers: it is in danger of blinding parents and the Church to real facts in the case, causing them to imagine that the work of educating the young is going on well, when, from the youth, etc., of the teaching school it is not going on at all, or to any deep or solid degree; it is in danger of cultivating in the young a love for sen-

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\* We cannot see the necessity, or even wisdom, of asking ministers to exchange pulpits so that a stranger should once a year press on a congregation great and solemn duties which can be pressed by no one more efficiently than by the pastor of the congregation, not once, but often during the year.—Ed. C.C.M.