

SECTION V.

TESTS.

Nature.—1. Usually in school reviews both weekly, monthly and quarterly. 2. By occasional appointments as substitute teachers by means of which scholars discover for themselves their knowledge and ability to impart it. 3. By examinations written—(a) Entrance examinations by which the scholar's fitness for a particular class may be determined. (b) Promotion examinations on the strength of which alone he may be graduated from class to class. (c) Periodical examinations either yearly or half-yearly and based on the series of lessons in the lesson course together with Normal drills.

Advantages.—1. *Correctness* as a qualification for work. 2. *Readiness* as a spur in competition, and a preparation for usefulness. 3. *Maintenance of Interest* through the conscious upbuilding of knowledge. 4. *Strength*—through the individual and collective consciousness of the possession of knowledge.

SECTION VI.

RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT.

“Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth!” Little more than a century has passed since the beginning of the modern Sunday School by Robert Raikes, yet how great the developments! So great, indeed, that it may require no prophetic gift to venture a statement of what shall be in the future. A century ago a little seed was planted which has grown into a great and fruitful tree; to-day we gather its ripest and best seeds, and plant them for the next centennial, confident that great as have been the developments, in the ensuing progress they shall be far outstripped. These seeds have Divine life in them. It is not in the nature of Christianity to cease growing. If Sunday Schools represented an unchristian thought and purpose we might expect them to reach their limita-