

some other competent authority, whose hints and instructions in the matter of teaching are worthy of regard.

This whole question is beyond the compass of a single article, and deserves the most candid and careful consideration.

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### MINOR MATTERS.

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"DON'T!"—Don't take your BANNER with you into the class. We have heard of such instances; and only a few weeks ago a friend told us he overheard a teacher reading the questions from the "Leaf," in the exact order contained therein,—holding the BANNER in her hand before the pupils' eyes. Such a course, if persisted in, tends in the direction of making teachers mere *machines*, grinding out the thoughts of others. Make a plan of your own. Use all the helps obtainable, but impress on all the stamp of careful study, and prayerful thoughtfulness.

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HOW IS IT?—"How is it that our Catechisms are not more studied?" A very intelligent friend made this inquiry of us a few days ago, urging, with considerable force, that it was a mistaken policy for Methodists, if they desire to obtain sound notions of our theology, to ignore their value. It is sometimes said that the Bible contains all the truth essential to man's salvation, and that, indeed, *perfect* truth can be looked for no where else. While readily granting this, we do not understand how that should be urged against a *systematic* arrangement of the views of any Christian church concerning what the Bible teaches. Some one has expressed the idea that what the geologist does for the student of nature in the proper classification of the earth's strata, the theologian

does for the student of the Bible, in the classification—so to speak—of the great truths which God has left. We don't know that the Bible professes to be a theological text-book, and while it contains everything needful for man to be made acquainted with for his salvation, anything which helps in the direction of which we have spoken, is exceedingly valuable; and we are satisfied that Methodists would be better able to meet the forms of error so prevalent to-day, if our Catechisms were more thoroughly and more frequently studied. If we have departed from the practice of past days in this respect, let us return.

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THE "BANNER."—Our friends will be pleased to learn that the circulation of the BANNER was never so large as at present, and that nearly every mail brings fresh subscribers,—indeed, so rapidly has the list increased, that though an extra large edition for *June* was printed, many new subscriptions had to be dated from *July*,—the edition being exhausted almost immediately after publication.

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CATHOLIC SERMONS.—We are in receipt of a number of "*Catholic Sermons*" from Mr. F. E. Longley, of 36 Cowcross Street, London, England. They comprise five Sermons,—two being by the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., one by Rev. Arthur Mursell, one by Rev. A. G. Brown, and a fifth by the Rev. J. T. Davidson, of the Islington Presbyterian Church, London. The "get up" of these sermons is very creditable, and the subjects of general interest, while the names of the authors will furnish the best index we can give of their general character. It is proposed to follow these by published discourses by other leading Protestant divines.