

Dr. Ormiston give some regularly in the *Sunday-School Times*; Presidents Gregory and Chadbourne, and Prof. Bartlett, in the *National Sunday-School Teacher*; our own Dr. J. H. Vincent, in the *Sunday-School Journal*; Dr. G. D. B. Pepper, in the *Baptist Teacher*; Dr. John Todd, in the *Congregationalist*; some excellent expositor, whose name is not given, in the *Examiner and Chronicle*; and so of the *Christian Intelligencer*, our own paper, and a great many others throughout the country.

So far as we have seen our own Church is the only one which has anticipated the entire Sunday school year by a special volume, namely, the carefully-prepared "Lesson Compend" of Professor G. H. Whitney. This is pretty quick work, for it would hardly seem that a book of this kind could have been prepared since the announcement of the International Series. But here it is before our eyes. In being a bound volume, it has all the advantages in convenience of immediate use and reference over the articles in the journals.

There is something very beautiful in this united and simultaneous study of the entire Evangelical Christian world on special themes of God's word. It is suggestive of the growing unity of the great confessions, and will inevitably be productive of vast blessings to the young and those who would instruct them. The labored commentaries are made to disburden themselves in the rich and glowing thoughts of newspaper columns. Never has such a treasure of Biblical wealth been poured out upon society before. We must express the hope, however, that there will not be a disregard to other topics of instruction in the Sunday-school. While the main threads will be those suggested by the general series, let no teacher be confined too closely to them, but remember that much incidental matter can be presented that will apply to other parts of the Bible. Be not mechanical; guard against slavery to system. But, above all, do not forget that man cannot live by bread alone. There is something higher and better than food for the mind. This International Series will prove a curse rather than a blessing if the heart, the great spiritual necessities of the soul, be

lost sight of in the efforts to fill the minds of the young with stores of learning. "Ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth," is a calamity which we need to avoid with all possible care and faith.—*Christian Advocate*.

Can It Be ?

A TEACHER from—no matter where—writes: "While I love and respect our superintendent, I am sorry to say he never prepares his lesson; neither does his assistant, who talks a great deal, but never puts questions so that we know how to answer. Our superintendent could not talk without being interesting, yet his heart is not in the work as it once was."

These are sad words, "as it once was!" There was a time, then, this gifted superintendent, who cannot help being interesting when he speaks, had his heart in the work. How glowing, then, must have been the words that fell from his lips, and how profitable to the teachers who listened! Now he interests, but he does not profit. He still has *head*, but he lacks *heart*. Such a superintendent might well say with Job, "O that I were as in months past!" What a power such a man might become in the school and in the Church if his heart could but be baptized afresh! His loquacious assistant could then be allowed to rest for awhile, and the school would doubtless be the gainer.

Perhaps our correspondent has overdrawn the picture. It hardly seems possible that one in the responsible position of superintendent could permit the duties of the office to sit so lightly upon him. We therefore put a query to the communication, and say, Can it be? Superintendents are requested to examine, and to answer for themselves.—*S. S. Journal*.

RESPONSIBILITY.—John Brown, of Haddington, said to a young minister, who complained of the smallness of his congregation, "It is as large a one as you will want to give account for in the day of judgment." The admonition is appropriate, not to ministers alone but to all teachers.