

3. Restraint ; to limit the vices and influences of the hardened.

4. Leavening ; to bless Teachers and Parents, the Church and the world.

All these agree in one Supreme or chief end ; namely, to win and train as many as possible to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever, and to restrain the irreclaimable from recklessness and ruinous influence, as far as possible.

This fully agrees with the Divine plan in the creation and Government of the universe ; namely, to people the world, (as nurseries,) and Heaven, (as a home,) with immortals, made in His Image, and trained up to share His character and His eternal blessedness. Toil on then, in good cheer, dear parents and teachers ! God made not the world in vain ; He formed it to be inhabited, (Isa. 45:18,) His promise is to you and your children, (Acts 2:36 ; and 26:31.) Train them up for Him, (Prov. 22:6.)

## 2ND: THE CONSTITUENTS OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Who are the proper subjects or constituents for Sabbath Schools ?

When the excellent Mr. Raikes instituted them, or rather, restored them, they were designed chiefly for poor and ignorant children. But very soon they were found to be a most precious means of grace alike to rich and poor, young and old, teachers and scholars, wise and simple. They were found to be eminently a fulfilling of our SAVIOUR'S parting injunction ; "go ye therefore and teach all nations," or, as the words may be translated more literally, "go ye and make disciples of all nations ;" or still more literally, in English, "Go ye and make scholars of all nations, (viz., religious learners, or Sunday Scholars)," baptizing them into the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit ; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you ; and lo ! I am with you always, even to the end of the world.

Thus Sunday Schools were found to be a Divine institution restored. They were instituted by His parting command and promise, who also said, "suffer little children to come unto me," "lovest thou me ? then feed my lambs and my sheep." And the teachers and scholars

soon found that in obeying His command, they really enjoyed His promised presence in a marvellous and soul-reviving degree. Like the ark of the covenant, they brought blessings wherever they came. Like Laban & Obed-edom, peoples said, "I know by experience that the Lord hath blessed me for thy sake." And no marvel. For they were actually making Sunday scholars of all nations, baptizing them spiritually into His name by His word, coming down as the rain from heaven upon their souls, with the out-pouring of His Spirit, teaching them to observe all His commandments ; and so He was with them always ; for so He had promised.

There is no limit set to their usefulness. Aged people may well attend them, as in Wales under the blessed ministry of Dr. Gouge. From one to one hundred years of age, let them come, whosoever will ! Wise pastors are now forming a class for parents, in the Sunday School, and others for young men, and young women. This is a most excellent plan ; for it at once puts an end to the prevalent fancy that Sunday Schools are only for children. This silly fancy is ruining many Sabbath Schools ; young men and women fear to attend them, lest they be accounted children. "Gentlemen and ladies don't attend," they say, and so, when your son or daughter grows to puberty, they hop off from Sunday school, through simple shyness, "because grown folk don't go." You can cure this fatal tendency, O ye parents ! Let every father and mother attend Sunday School, who can. Then your grown sons and daughters and neighbours will not fear to go too ! Thus many souls will be saved. I earnestly commend this plan to the care of every pastor, and every parent who is anxious for the souls of his children. Let Pastors, Elders, Deacons, and their wives, whoever is most able and willing, have a class to teach. Let each be small to begin with, and let the teachers learn to gather in every wandering sheep or lamb. Let no devout and willing soul be idle. The master's order is : "Lovest thou me ? Then feed my lambs and sheep." Whether lay or cleric, young or old, male or female, here is room and work for all, either as teachers or schol-