

classes in England, came out. Indeed the answers of those children, who had had the benefit of our weekday and Sunday School System were, as a rule, infinitely superior to the answers of the young ladies and gentlemen of the middle and upper classes of Society. And since this course always embodied very full teaching week by week on the Holy Communion, our people were ready to make their first Communion as soon as they were Confirmed. And when our people had been Confirmed and had been admitted to the Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of Christ, we still continued to help them by sending to all Communicants a monthly letter calling them together for a monthly Communion, at which the special object was to seek the Divine Blessing upon our common work, and upon all members of our Church. And, at the same time, I used to beg all to come to a monthly meeting, at which, while something was done to instruct and edify, we had the opportunity of mutual and friendly recognition. By God's blessing upon these means, there was ever a steady growth, and frequently grown up people, would tell me how they had come to lay hold of and appreciate the Faith, as it is in Christ Jesus, by being present and hearing "the dear children" catechised: often too Godparents, who brought their babes to be baptized at our Children's Service would express their amazement and admiration at the knowledge, and firm and intelligent answering of the young people entrusted to our care, and many would say, "Oh! if we had only had such teaching when we were children, what a difference it would have made to us." Constantly too, even now, I receive letters from those who say that they were thus specially helped—and not long ago I received a letter written in pencil from a death-bed in Australia asking my prayers, and thanking God for having been permitted to enjoy and profit by these very privileges.

And now, my Reverend Brethren, allow me to add to this my own personal experience, a few thoughts upon this subject drawn from that truly wonderful book "the Ministry of Catechising," by Monseigneur Dupanloup, Bishop of Orleans, and formerly one of the best known Catechists in the City of Paris. In this glorious book you will find fully set forth a most careful and elaborate system of dealing with the

young, which, although it may in its form be quite impossible and indeed unnecessary for us, yet shews by the very labor undergone, and by the marvellous results attained, the tremendous importance of the subject now before us.

I cannot pretend to offer you any epitome of Monseigneur Dupanloup's great work—you must read it for yourselves; but I will offer you just a few of the good Bishop's exhortations addressed to the Priests of his Diocese, and then I will go on, my Reverend Brethren, to tell you what I think you may be able to do—or, at any rate, I will make suggestions, which, if they cannot be exactly carried out, will I trust set you thinking as to what more you can possibly do for the young, who may be committed to your charge.

These then are just a few of the grand things urged upon the Clergy of his Diocese by this good man, by this great Bishop.

"Catechising," he says, "is our great duty, and for my own part, it has always been my sweetest and dearest labor—my chief and most constant care. It is my profound conviction that the world would be saved, if we all devoted ourselves to youth. And in no way can we devote ourselves with more pleasure and with more fruit, than by means of Catechisings, even those which are most humble and unpretending. Oh! God grant then that the fire of zeal may be kindled more brightly in all your hearts for this blessed ministry! For the time has come, when a supreme effort must be made to save souls, and above all to save Childhood, which is the great hope of the future! Oh! the beloved ministry of Childhood! Oh! the loveable and precious souls of little children! I have greatly loved them, and I shall love them always. It was at my Catechisings, that I learned to know the beauty of souls, and the simple fresh beauty of children's souls surpasses all. It was there that I saw them, with that inexpressible charm, with which innocence and the grace of God adorns those early years—it was there that a humble and obscure Service met with such trusting teachableness, such living gratitude in thousands of young hearts, and such constant fidelity, which yet endures. And thus my Ministry with the dear souls of these children is my sweetest recollection upon earth; and nothing will ever be to me equal to the