

to heads of families to set themselves against the almost nightly absence from home till a late hour, of fathers, and one or more of the young people, which is so common, that their homes are, to many fathers and children, hardly anything more than their boarding and lodging houses. The absence may not be occasioned by the love of amusement of a harmful or frivolous character, as it is in too many cases. But no matter. While we cannot withhold our sympathy from efforts made to give to the young such occupations, during the hours of evening, as will lessen the temptation to spend them in sinful or demoralizing practices, no evening occupation, however unexceptionable in character, or however rational and improving, should be allowed to take the place of the regular gathering together of the members of a family, to close the day with the household acknowledgment of God, including the Christian instruction of its young members.

NOTE.—The proportion of Scripture memorized at the rate of six verses a week, from the age of seven to sixteen: The number of verses in the whole Bible being 31,173, of which 23,214 are in the Old Testament and 7,959 in the New, if six verses are memorized every week, from the age of seven to that of sixteen, the proportion of the number memorized, 2,708 verses, to the whole number in the Bible will be as 1 to 11.84 or about 8½ per cent. If we suppose that of the six verses memorized weekly, three are from the Old Testament and three from the New, the proportion of the Old Testament memorized will be as 1 to 17.14 or a little under 6 per cent., and of the New, as 1 to 5.87 or 17 per cent.

Will not the parents of the Church lay it upon themselves to co-operate with the Sunday School teachers, to secure that their children shall, in connection with the International Lesson, make the attainment above indicated? Moderate as such an attainment is, who can estimate the value of it, or the good that would accrue both to parents and to children in the making of it in the way suggested? Do not Christian parents forget that they are laying up matter of sorrowful reflection for the dying hour, when they neglect the Christian duty of caring for the religious instruction of their children?