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TO OUR READERS.

We anticipate for our little journal, in consideration of the wide sphere of usefulness that it is designed to fill, a successful future. The field is, we think, unoccupied by any other publication in America. We aim to make the SCIENTIST of interest to Teachers by giving from time to time lessons and notes upon the teaching of elementary science in the public schools; to amateur scientists, young collectors, and boys and girls who wish to begin the study of nature and the collecting of specimens, by giving instructions and practical hints such as they need; and also to the general reader, by giving a monthly summary of scientific news such as every intelligent man should know. We feel conscious of the fact that our aims have thus far been but very imperfectly fulfilled, but the scores of kindly letters, highly complimentary and wishing us success in our enterprise, that we have received from friends whom we have never met, are very encouraging, and lead us to believe that the world is not so coldly

critical after all. And so, with such encouragement, we feel strong in hope and determination for the future, and shall aim, by making improvements in the SCIENTIST as rapidly as possible, to merit the confidence of our fellow-workers and the public generally. With your assistance we hope to gradually enlarge the SCIENTIST until, by the beginning of the next volume, it shall be more than double its present size. You can help us by sending in your subscription, if you have not already done so, and by inducing others to do the same. The entire income for this year, at least, is to be spent in improvements. For our own labor we do not ask any remuneration—it is freely given.

Communications of the right sort are always welcome to our columns. Have you been off on a vacation trip to some locality of scientific interest, write it up for the SCIENTIST. Have you made any discovery in natural history or any improvements in the ordinary methods of collecting and preparing specimens, report the same to the SCIENTIST. Have you had any experience in teaching elementary science, give your fellow-laborers the benefit of it through our columns. Your lamp will burn none the less brilliantly for lighting your neighbor's.