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TO FELLOW WORKERS, GREETING.

Apologies do not make amends for poor work, and good work does not need them. In either case they are useless and will not here be inflicted. Of the material at hand and circumstances around we have tried to make the best disposal, and ask forbearance for shortcomings.

Upon one or two points explanation is due to the teachers of our church. Hitherto, two complete series of Helps, with and without the Scripture Lesson, have been issued by the S. S. Committee. The latter were published, because, in the judgment of the Committee, they led to greater use of the Bible; the former, because some would not take the Helps unless containing the Scripture Lesson.

When the work was transferred to its present management by last Assembly, there was an accumulated deficit of several thousands of dollars resting upon the work, which the S. S. Committee are now trying to pay off; and in which it is hoped their efforts for the good of the church will be heartily seconded.

It was further stated, in the report made to the S. S. Committee in September, for the year 1897, that the estimated receipts of the Helps for said year 1897, would be in the neighborhood of one thousand dollars less than the expenditure. In view of this fact, and the further fact that the contributions of Children's Day* would no longer be available for this work, it was absolutely necessary to economize in every way that would not impair the efficiency of the Helps. It was accordingly decided to merge, in the meantime, the two series into one, until the increased circulation might warrant increased expenditure; and to ask those who prefer them without the Scripture Lesson to kindly bear with this effort to reach a paying basis.

On the same principle the two series of Leaflets, cut and folded, are merged in the meantime into one, and the same kindly forbearance is asked in this regard also.

There are two or three things that may help

in the meantime to make up for the limitation to one series of Helps.

1. Let the scholars be taught that the Helps are for "Home Study," and not to be brought to school. Let them be trained to bring their Bibles to school and to leave the "Helps" at home, and the good end will be attained of better study of the lesson, and study of the Bible as well.

2. Let it also not be forgotten, that often a Help will be picked up and looked at, when no Bible may be near; and further, that in many homes in our land, Bibles are not so plentiful as they should be, and that sometimes a verse of Scripture, or the Scripture Lesson, may be read, when otherwise it would not be, and may reach a heart which otherwise would not be reached.

A word as to the contents of the Lesson Helps may not be out of place. The Lesson Notes by Mr. Fotheringham can be best appreciated by thoroughly testing them. Other Helps may have more of story and illustration, but none that we have seen, have, in the same compass, so much of apt Scripture reference. They keep themselves in the background and point to the Scriptures, and are thus, in the best sense, what Lesson Helps should be.

The Primary Helps, for little folks, by Mr. and Mrs. Geo. H. Archibald, bright, telling, pointed, speak for themselves.

Teachers of senior classes, as well as those of infant classes, will find great help from studying the Helps for teachers of the Primary Department, in this issue. To be able to teach the older scholars we need to be able to simplify the lesson for the young, and to that end these Helps for Primary teachers are of value to all.

What an inspiration for the work of this quarter is set before the Sabbath School teachers. A beautiful character, slowly, it may be, but surely, moulds all around it into something of its own likeness. One always takes in something of the nature of any beautiful character that he loves and admires. And the