

The fifty-two lessons include seventeen from the life of Jesus.

This new Course is confessedly an experiment. It is not intended as a departure from the Uniform Lesson Course, but as a suitable introduction to it. There is much to be said in its favor; something also to the contrary. We shall be pleased to send sample copies of this issue of *THE TEACHERS MONTHLY* to any address, and also of the new *Beginners' Quarterly*, so that superintendents and teachers may judge for themselves as to the adaptability of the course to the needs of their school and the advisability of introducing it.

II. THE TEACHER TRAINING COURSE

A most important step was taken by the recent General Assembly of our Church in the establishing of a Teacher Training Course, under the direction of its Sabbath School Committee, and intended both for those who are now teachers and for such as may wish to prepare for teaching.

The Course covers two years—seven months in each year—and embraces three departments, (a) Scripture, (b) Doctrine, (c) The Art of Teaching.

Examinations will be held in May of each year, a certificate to be granted in each subject, and a diploma when certificates have been obtained in all the subjects of the Course.

For 1902-3, the examinations in Scripture will embrace the contents and growth of the New Testament, and the Geography and Institutions of New Testament times; Doctrine, the Shorter Catechism, Questions 43 to 75 inclusive; and in the Principles of Teaching, Chapters I. to IX. inclusive, of Dr. Hamill's "The Sunday School Teacher," price 50c., plus 5c. for postage.

The Assembly's Committee have arranged with *THE TEACHERS MONTHLY* for the supply of the material for the examinations in the departments of Scripture and Doctrine. Accordingly, beginning with October and continuing for the seven months of the course, a weekly lesson will be given in the Department of Scripture, as outlined above, and the present exposition of the Shorter Catechism will be enlarged so as fully to cover the ground of the examination.

Fuller information as to the details of the Course and the examinations may be obtained by writing to the Editors of *THE TEACHERS MONTHLY*, Confederation Life Building, Toronto.

THE ROOT OF OBEDIENCE

Love to a person is the strongest motive in human life. Leaders who have inspired their followers with a personal affection for themselves, have been served with the utmost heroism and devotion. King David by his grace and chivalry so won the hearts of his soldiers, that three of them were ready to risk their lives to bring him a draught of water from the well of Bethlehem. In modern times the Stuarts of Scotland and England, in spite of their evil qualities, possessed so great a personal charm, that their followers were ready to risk fortune and life in their ill-starred cause.

It is to this motive that Christ appeals, when He requires the obedience of His disciples. In the upper room He said to His chosen followers, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." He knew all that obedience would mean for them. He looked into the future and saw that more than one of them would suffer a violent death because of loyalty to Himself. He knew that later, men and women, youths and maidens, would be slain by the sword, burned at the stake, torn by wild beasts for His sake. He knew all that missionaries would have to face and endure as heralds of the cross. The loss and the reproach, the scorn and the contempt, which His followers would have to meet during all the ages, were not hidden from Him.

A leader with insight less keen would have been filled with despair at the prospect. But He knew the secret hidden force that would hold their feet in the path of obedience as surely as the attraction of the sun holds the earth in its orbit. It was for this reason, that from the very beginning of His work on earth Christ set Himself to the task of winning the love of men. For this reason, He chose the company of the poor and outcast rather than of the rich and the great, and at last went down into the darkness of Gethsemane and up to the agony of the