

The Teachers Monthly

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WITH the present numbers, as promised last month, all our publications appear in a new dress of type, clean and clear, so that even old eyes may read with comfort, and that young eyes may not suffer. Our printers are at pains to give an attractive finish to their work.

PROGRESS is the keynote of the report to the General Assembly on Sabbath School Publications. There has been a large increase in the circulation of each one of our five publications, the total issue now bordering close on 100,000.

We are glad to have now an edition of the Shorter Catechism (without proofs) of our own. In finish and appearance we have tried to make it better than the best. We are preparing for an edition with proofs soon, so as to supply all needs.

We are getting ready also to issue an illustrated paper for the Little Ones week by week. The first numbers will be in good time for the New Year. Our hope is that all our schools may order this new paper—the children's "very own"—for the infant classes. It will be bright and pretty.

There are other forward steps in contemplation. A little later on, when our arrangements are completed, we shall give details.

This **TEACHERS MONTHLY** will reach many just as they are packing up for their summer holiday. Do not, on that account, throw it aside. The Sundays from home ought to be real Sabbaths—rest days—and it will help to make them so if you take an hour to go over the lesson, as if at home. One veteran camper we know makes it an invariable rule to get his boys together on Sunday afternoons under a tree, or if the weather be bad, in the tent itself, for an hour with their Sabbath School lesson and some hymns and a prayer. It gives a good taste to the Sundays.

Even as a question of how to get the most out of a holiday it is a bad policy to shut out one's quiet Sunday times. To say nothing better of it, the hour over the lesson, alone or with the children that may be at hand, breaks the monotony in a wholesome fashion. And then, even in vacation, the spiritual nature, not less than the physical, must be fed with wholesome food, if the holiday is to be recreation and not dissipation.

The S.S. Teacher as a Patriot

By the Rev. Principal Grant, D.D., LL.D.

1. Why should our teachers be patriots? Because true religion includes all life. Therefore, to ignore social and national facts and relations would be to degrade Christianity. It would make our religion possibly suited for ghosts, but not for human beings. "There is a great sibness," says a classic of the Scottish Church, "between the Church and the commonwealth. They depend one upon the other, and either is advanced by the prosperity and success of the other." Hence it is that throughout the long development recorded in Holy Scripture our obligations to the nation are enforced, and the privileges we enjoy as members of a community are prized as of inestimable worth. The patriotism of Israel was grounded in religion; indeed, the community was the religious unit. The Psalmists always reflect on the history of the nation, in order to stir up their own faith and to assure Israel that the God of their fathers is the living God. "Truly God is good to Israel" is their abiding conviction. "If I forget thee, oh, Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning" is the passionate cry of the Psalmist in exile. "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem," is their earnest exhortation—Jerusalem meaning the whole community after the return from the exile, and includ-