

The Teachers' Monthly.

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IMPROVEMENTS IN OUR LESSON HELPS.

The Sabbath School Committee have decided to introduce the improvements in the lesson helps for 1897 with the last quarter of 1896. Accordingly our readers will find the *Monthly* enlarged to 32 pages and a colored map inserted. This very materially increases the cost of publishing and they have therefore been compelled to raise the price to 50 cents for a single copy and 40 cents for school subscriptions. Present subscribers will receive their copies at the old rate of 25 cents until the expiry of the time for which they have subscribed, but all renewals and new subscriptions will be charged at the advanced rate. In taking this forward step the committee have considered solely the wants of our teachers. The limited space at the disposal of the editor, when the magazine consisted of twenty pages, prevented the insertion of sufficient help to the teacher in the way of comment and illustrations. These will now be supplied with all the fulness that can be reasonably desired. As much space will be given to each lesson as is found in the ordinary Teacher's helps for which a higher price is charged, and the matter given will be the best "beaten oil" that the editor can produce or procure. Our teachers will find that, from cover to cover, the *Monthly* has taken a long stride forward.

The colored map will be inserted also in the *Senior* and *Intermediate Quarterlies*, and a new section in the former, "Bible Search Lights," will give a fresh stimulus to the study of the Daily Readings and marginal references. Our *Quarterlies* are now, we think, the cheapest and best for practical purposes, that our schools could use. They are not overloaded with matter which the scholar has merely to read over and "absorb" without mental effort, but while giving all necessary information, they encourage to independent thought and Bible study. The scholar who faithfully studies our *Quarterly* or *Leaflet*, not only knows his lesson well, but has learned to think and use his Bible too.

The *Primary Quarterly* and the *Primary Department* in the *Teachers' Monthly* continue under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. H. Archibald, whose very original and practical methods of treating the lessons give our primary teachers a new interest in their work.

We solicit for our lesson helps, in their improved form, the cordial support of our teachers. The convener is in receipt of hundreds of replies to a postal card recently issued, in which the following and similar expressions are constantly repeated:

- "They meet our need much better than those we previously used."
- "They are in advance of the American helps."
- "They are quite superior to the other helps that have come under our notice."
- "We find them very much better than the Westminster we formerly had."
- "The *Primary Leaflet* and *Quarterly* excel any other that I have seen."
- "They are excellent."
- "They excel any other that has been brought forward as yet."
- "They are far ahead of any others."
- "At least equal to any we have used."
- "The best and most convenient ever used by our school."

Abundant testimony is also born to their success in promoting the home study of the Bible, regular and punctual attendance, and the use of the Bible itself in the school. Almost without exception all the replies received approve of our church publishing its own S. S. literature and not remaining dependent upon "American" sources. The letters referred to will all be published as a supplement to the November *Monthly*, so that our subscribers may read for themselves the pleasant words that have given the editor so much encouragement.

The General Assembly requests that the **WHOLE COLLECTION** in connection with Children's Day services be sent to the S. S. Committee.—*Minutes 1896.*

This magazine will doubtless be received before September 27th, so we hope your school and congregation will celebrate the day with enthusiasm. Our friends in "the states" have adopted our "Children's Day" as their "Rallying Day." Make it a grand rally of parents and friends with the school, that a fresh interest may be aroused in our delightful work of caring for the lambs.