

specified by the General Assembly, namely, the Higher Religious Instruction Scheme. An allocation at New Year will be accepted as an equivalent. The precise amount need not be specified in advance, but, as an approximate guide, we might suggest that from one to ten dollars according to the ability of the school, would be "reasonable." If the schools which have contributed in the past will but repeat their donations, there will be doubtless a sufficient number of new subscribers to enable the committee to meet all their liabilities.

Children's Day should become one of the most delightful occasions of the whole year. The scent of the sea & the clover fields still lingers in fragrant memories. The "kindly fruits of the earth" have been garnered. The reunion of families and classes has kindled a fresh love and friendship. We bid the children's voices lead us now in grateful praise of the Divine goodness. We reverently re-open our Bibles to study anew the life of Him by whom all things were made and without whom was not anything that was made, who dwelt among us full of grace and truth.

Copies of the responsive service may be obtained from the convener, Rev. T. F. Fotheringham M. A., 107 Hazen St, St. John N. B.

HOME STUDY LEAFLET.

One of the most difficult problems of Sabbath School work is how to secure home preparation of the lesson? Scholars appear in class and acknowledge, without a blush, that little or no thought has been given to any of the work assigned. Where lesson leaves are used these lie snugly between the pages of unopened Bibles or repose peacefully in the pockets of Sunday garments until much fumbling brings them forth at the opening exercises of the school. Any suggestion which would help earnest teachers and parents in their efforts to correct this evil should be welcome. The Sabbath School committee have just issued a Home Study Leaflet which has this end mainly in view. It will appear in monthly sheets of four, like the Westminister Lesson Leaf. On one side are eight questions on the lesson. Answers to them are to be written at home in the spaces between; on the other side, besides brief notes to teacher and scholar explaining the method of using the leaflet, there stands a blank form to be filled up in case of absence as follows:

DEAR TEACHER:—Please excuse my absence from Sabbath School to-day. I cannot come because.....I have read the daily portions of

Scriptures and have committed.....verses to memory in addition to the Golden Text; also.....Questions in the Shorter Catechism, and have recited them to.....I was at church.....I send with this my weekly offering of.....cents.

Your scholar.....

If this is sent to the teacher, and the excuse is satisfactory, the scholar will be credited with marks as if present. Not a few of the foremost S.S. workers have seriously questioned the advantage of supplying scholars with lesson leaves containing the text and notes upon it. The use of these has banished the Bible, to a large extent in some schools; they are seldom studied, and even when some attempt is made to use them properly there is little more, in many cases, than a lazy reading over of the prepared comments. There is no comparing of texts or turning up marginal references. Our Home Study Leaflet, on the other hand, necessitates the use of the Bible itself, constrains to some study during the week, promotes regular attendance, invites parental co-operation, and gives new interest and influence to the teacher—all these in a much greater degree than the ordinary S.S. helps. It will also serve as an admirable auxiliary to our Higher Religious Instruction work.

The leaflets may be obtained from the convener at the rate of \$1 per 100 or \$12 per 100 per annum. All subscriptions must end with December. Those subscribing now will receive the leaflets for October, November and December free. This is the lowest price possible at present, indeed the committee run serious risk of financial loss if their enterprise is not pretty generally appreciated. Orders should be forwarded as soon as possible so that the number required for next month may be approximately known. Samples sent free on application.

T. F. FOTHERINGHAM,
St. John N. B.

Convener.

Sketches from Palestine.

BY REV. THOMAS CUMMING, TRURO.

FROM SHILOH TO SHECHEM.

BETHEL, where Jacob had his marvelous vision of the mystic Ladder reaching from earth to heaven, is situated, as I