

## RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN REGARD TO THE SABBATH SCHOOL HELPS.

The following are the resolutions finally adopted by the General Assembly in regard to the publication of our S. S. Lesson Helps.

1. "That the publication of the S. S. supplies be continued.
2. "That the Committee of the *Presbyterian Record* be requested to undertake this work and carry it out under the control of the editor of the *Record* from January 1st, 1898.
3. "That the S. S. Committee be instructed to take special steps towards the removal of the existing deficit, and that in this connection the total collections taken up on Children's Day be devoted as a help for this purpose, and that in the meantime the Assembly, in accordance with the decision of last Assembly, authorize the Convener of the S. S. Committee to obtain a loan sufficient to meet the present liabilities.
4. "That if it is found that the work of printing the *Record* and S. S. supplies can be more advantageously carried on in Toronto than in Montreal, the Assembly approve of its being done in Toronto.
5. "That thanks be given to the S. S. Committee, and especially to the Convener, and further that the Assembly express its appreciation of Mr. Fotheringham for his valuable services in connection with the publication of the S. S. supplies in some tangible form, and that in making its appeal for contributions, it be understood that the sum of \$500 be granted by the S. S. Committee to Mr. Fotheringham, if the funds received will allow."

The Convener had stated that about \$5,500 would have to be raised before September 1st, and that the authorization of the Assembly to raise a loan was of no value to him in negotiating with the bank. It would be necessary to obtain legal collateral, or a loan from some of the funds under the control of the Assembly. Thereupon Drs. Robertson, Thompson and Fletcher agreed to become personally responsible for the amount required, and the limit of their liability was engrossed on the minutes (page 64).

In regard to the fifth resolution it should be stated that, as required by the third, all contributions in connection with "Children's Day" services must be devoted to relieving Drs. Robertson, Thompson and Fletcher of the liability so generously assumed by them. Up to \$5,500 these collections are inviolable, over that sum, all receipts of the committee must be expended in paying the balance of the debt incurred in establishing our lesson helps. *The Convener wishes it to be distinctly understood that not one dollar will be paid to, or accepted by him while the debts of the committee remain unpaid.*

We hope that our Sabbath Schools will observe "Children's Day," September 26th, with enthusiasm. In appointing the day six years ago the General Assembly designated it as "a day of special prayer on behalf of the Sabbath Schools of the church" and directed "that such services be held as will bring prominently before our congregations the claims of the Sabbath School upon their prayerful sympathy, pecuniary support and personal cooperation." This is the main object of the day and to make the services uniform and interesting throughout the church the S. S. Committee have issued a brief, scriptural programme of exercises entitled THE LORD'S VINEYARD.

It is *simple*, requiring no rehearsal except practising the hymns, which are all taken from the New Hymnal, but are also found in the old one; *instructive*, being really a Bible reading on the theme, interspersed with hymns; *appropriate*, bearing upon the harvest season of nature and human life, with a slight reference to the Jubilee year; and *interesting* in its method of dealing with the subject. A parcel of them has been sent to every S. S. superintendent when the size of the school was known, and in every other case to the minister, taking the number required from the last Minutes of the General Assembly. Sample copies have also been sent to all superintendents to whom it was not possible to send parcels. If any have not received their supply by the first week of September, or have not received so many as they would like, they will please drop a card, stating the number required, to Rev. T. F. Fotheringham, St. John, N. B., and it will be promptly attended to.