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Supplement to the HOME STUDY LEAFLET, Feb. 10th, 1895.

## FINANCIAL APPEAL.

The expenses of the Sabbath School Committee this year have been unusually heavy. We began the year with a deficit of nearly \$1,000 and had to continue the work of the last eight months at a constant expenditure, which was not balanced by a corresponding income. We cannot reduce our expenses in the season when few contributions come in for any of the schemes of the church. Our lesson helps have to be printed and paid for all the year round, in summer as well as in winter. This expense is met by money borrowed on the personal notes of the convener. We expect that in the next three months the contributions of Sabbath Schools will enable us to meet these as they mature. Additional expense has been incurred in publishing a *Scholar's Quarterly* and *Teacher's Monthly*. There were repeated demands for these, and the reception they have met with has amply vindicated the judgment of the committee in issuing them. The largely increased subscription list will eventually more than pay all the extra cost incurred, but meanwhile we are heavily burdened. One who has not had experience in such matters would not imagine how much initial outlay is connected with launching even such a small enterprise as ours. At this season, too, the expenses connected with the scheme of *Higher Religious Instruction* and the *Collection of Statistics* come upon us. For the next three months we shall need the utmost liberality of the friends of the Sabbath School work. These can help us in two ways:

1. **By sending in liberal contributions at once.** Only a small proportion of those who have contributed in the past have as yet, reported for the current year. Many who received the children's day service still withhold the collection promised. If these friends would kindly remit their usual amounts we should be greatly obliged. Why should not more of our churches follow the example of United Church, New Glasgow, N. S., and others, which took up a congregational collection and sent the handsomest cheque to the convener that he has ever received. Don't forget the Sabbath School Committee when you are allocating your monies this month.

2. **By subscribing for our Lesson Helps.** Those who have no personal interest in them say that they are among the best published. Certainly they aim at two most important objects; the use of the Bible in the school and the home study of the lesson. The largest publishers in the United States are following our lead. But while they demand a double subscription by issuing two leaflets we combine the explanation of the lesson and the written answers on one, and thus reduce the expense to the school to one-half. There are no helps published so cheap as ours, and, as far as the essential work of the teacher is concerned, there are few so full and helpful. See what those say about them who use them. I shall be glad to send samples to any who wish them.

T. F. FOTHERINGHAM,  
Convener Gen. Assem. S. S. Com.

107 Hazen St., St. John, N. B., Feb. 1st, 1895.

# HOW TO USE THE "HOME STUDY LEAFLET."

The aim of the **Home Study Leaflet** is, as its name implies, to promote the home study of the lesson. It cannot do this unless both teachers and parents take a little trouble to use it effectively. Numerous testimonies come to us of the marked improvement in knowledge of the lesson before coming to the class which has resulted from its faithful use, and in almost every case in which the expected results have not been attained the teachers have failed to use the means which it has placed in their hands. We assume that all earnest superintendents and teachers are willing to persist patiently in a method of work if they are hopeful of achieving by it more effectually the end of S. S. instruction, namely, a better knowledge of the Word of God.

Any teacher may use the *Leaflet* with the best results even if no other in the school has adopted it. He must, however, shew the scholars that he esteems it very highly and attaches great importance to receiving the answers regularly and neatly written. He should conscientiously take, or send, it to absent scholars, and always insist upon receiving "excuses" from absentees. He should take the answers home, mark their respective values very carefully, note them in his class register, and comment upon them in an encouraging way next Sabbath. He should speak of them when calling upon the parents of his scholars, refer to the answers given by their children, and awaken their interest and sympathy. At the end of the quarter some small recognition, such as a bright card with a note on the back of it stating why it was given, should be presented to all who have obtained 50% of the total marks for the three months. He should also urge those who have shewn interest and ability to enter for the Quarterly Examination of the scheme of *Higher Religious Instruction*. (See Syllabus under Department I).

The best results, however, will be attained when the school as a whole adopts the *Leaflet* as part of its organized work. The superintendent, or some one specially appointed, should oversee the distribution of the *Leaflets*, their collection, the record of marks, announcement of these to the school, and award of "Merit cards" to those who have shewn diligence. A "Home Study" secretary would fill a very important post in a well appointed school. Frequent references should be made from the desk to questions and answers so as to keep up the enthusiasm and induce the less enterprising to take part.

The following plan has been followed with excellent results. A committee of two was appointed (changed quarterly) to read and value the answers from the whole school. Each teacher was furnished with a large and strong envelope, marked with his name and the number of his class, into which he put all the *Leaflets* handed in by his scholars. These class envelopes were handed to the examining committee who reported next Sabbath and the results were read out from the desk. At first only the brightest scholars and the most active teachers will take part but gradually the whole school will be drawn into the plan if a few are wise and persistent in their efforts.

When the **Home Study Leaflet** was first issued three years ago very few lesson helps contained questions for written answers, now no good series is without them. But we claim for the "*Home Study*" series a superiority over all others in *cheapness*,—the Westminster Lesson Leaf costs 5 cents and the Westminster Question Leaf 20 cents, making 25 cents for what we

give for five ; in *omission of the Bible lesson*, thus compelling scholars to bring their Bibles to school ; in the "*Excuse for Absence*," which is a constant reminder of duty and helpful to the teacher in his "pastoral work ;" in *clearness* and *accuracy* of exposition ; in aptness of the *Scripture references*, and in the use of *outline maps*, a most useful feature, entirely original, and peculiar to the "**Home Study**" series.

Samples of the "**Home Study**" Leaflet, Quarterly, and Teachers' Monthly, in quantities sufficient to supply the whole school, will be sent *free* on application to the convener.

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## What those who use it think of the "Home Study Leaflet."

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In response to an inquiry as to the results of the use of the *Home Study Leaflet* the following among other replies were received. The names of correspondents are not given since their consent was not asked at the time. Many more of a similar character might have been added if space permitted.

"I think all our Sabbath Schools should use the *Leaflet*. There is nothing better I know of for the purpose intended."

"I am highly satisfied with the *Leaflets* and *Teachers' Monthlies*. We cannot wish for anything better."

"We have used the *Home Study Leaflet* for a year and think it the best help of the kind that has come under our notice. It has promoted home study in cases where we had reason to believe that little in that line was done. We like it for its suggestiveness and apt *Scripture references*. It is rather a help to the intelligent study of the lesson than a substitute for that study. We heartily commend it to all superintendents and teachers of our Sabbath Schools."

"Replying to your inquiry, I beg leave to say that we have found the *Home Study Leaflet* of the very highest value in stimulating the home study of the lesson and securing a deeper interest alike on the part of the teachers and the scholars. My teachers now are all very much in favor of its use and even in the young classes, except the infant class, it is being used to advantage."

"After using the *Leaflet* for one year in our school our teachers and officers unanimously voted to renew our subscription for the following reasons: (1) Increased interest on the scholar's part; (2) Interest awakened among parents in the lesson; (3) Reference to and study of the Bible promoted; (4) Definite work for class for each week."

"I have not been as successful as I desired with the *H. S. Leaflets* principally on account of feeble co-operation of teachers, but to some extent home study has been increased and greater interest created. To a much larger extent it has led to the use of the Bible itself in the school."

"The teachers who faithfully use the *Leaflets* find it exceedingly beneficial. My object in ordering was to place something in the hands of scholars that they might have *definite* work to do. The fact that the majority of the teachers wish to continue the use of the slips is the best guarantee that I have of their utility."

"We like the *Home Study Leaflet* very much, chiefly because the scholars have to bring their Bibles to school."

"The *Home Study Leaflet* has been used by a few classes in three of my six schools. So far as I can learn the results have been favorable. The scholars who have used them appear to value them, and the teachers have spoken well of them. We have ordered the *Quarterly* for all our schools for the first quarter of 1895. We have been using the Westminster papers, which are excellent, and our session were slow to make the change. But the main reason for making it was that they were anxious to encourage our own publications, and I hope they will find them so satisfactory that they will not wish to give them up."

"After twelve months use of the *Home Study Leaflet* I have to record my sense of its great value. It has given our scholars a more intelligent interest in the lesson, and many of them have carefully preserved every issue for future reference. They have discovered its worth in the use of it. The task of revising the answers to the questions has been one of

great interest to me, and though in many cases I find replies which merely indicate that the lesson and the helps have been used, in quite a goodly proportion I meet with evidences of study and independent thought. This is to me its greatest recommendation. Our teachers all use the Leaflet and look for it."

"We do not get as many scholars to use the *Leaflets* as we would like, for we are convinced that it is an admirable way of promoting thoughtful study, and of enabling the teacher to know the scholar. In the classes where it is most used it has increased the interest. Our scholars always brought their Bibles as a rule, so we cannot say that the *Leaflets* have had much influence in that direction. They promote definiteness of teaching and study."

"The *Home Study Leaflet* is the best aid to both scholars and teacher that we have seen. It promotes home study. It enables the scholar to get a better grasp of the subject both in fact and detail, and impresses it on the memory."

"I am very well pleased with the *Home Study Leaflet*. I have no fault to find with it. I cannot see how it can be improved within the space at your disposal. I hear nothing from our teachers in the way of faultfinding."

"Our teachers are very favorably impressed with the *Home Study Leaflet*. I think it has promoted home study, especially the questions to be written out. It has led the scholars to bring Bibles."

"The *Home Study Leaflet* if rightly used, must prove helpful both to scholars and teachers, to home study and to the use of the Bible in the school. The notes and Scripture references seem very complete and accurate as well as suggestive. The skeleton maps are a fine feature."

"Home study has been promoted in all classes in which the *Home Study Leaflet* has been used from a small to a great degree. The fact of there being something definite to do has, we think, tended to greater interest."

"I have great pleasure in answering your questions in regard to the Lesson Leaflets. They are a success far beyond our expectations and I cannot fully express my satisfaction with them. Before we received them we could not get the scholars to study at home, but now they take a pride in it. I have recommended them to others."

"The *Leaflet* has promoted the home study of the lesson because the scholars have to give written answers to the questions. It has also been helpful in inducing scholars to bring their Bibles to the Sabbath School."

"In reply I would say that the *Home Study Leaflet* is a great improvement on that used in former years as it greatly promotes the study of the lesson at home. It leads to the searching of the Scriptures by the pupils and necessitates them to bring their Bibles to school. In conclusion I would say that it is appreciated by both pupils and teachers."

"The *Home Study Leaflet* not only promotes home study, but enables the teacher to understand the scholars and to see where they lack in a way in which they could not do without it."

"In reply to your postal card of the first inst. I feel pleased to say that we have used the *Home Study Leaflet* in our school for the past year and found it to work with great success. Our scholars fill them out very carefully and then they are given in to the teacher on Sabbath, who gives the pupils credit according to their answers. Each teacher takes a note in her class-book of the number of marks obtained and at the end of each three months each pupil knows his standing in the class. We as a S. S. find that the Leaflet has been most helpful to us and it is very much approved of by the children."

"I have consulted a number of my teachers and they confirm out of their experience my own impression that the *Home Study Leaflet* has helped to secure home study. Many of the scholars habitually write the answers and return them to the teachers. I would not venture to suggest any improvements, it is admirable as it is. The convenience of sending to absent or sick ones is a great advantage."

"We think the *Leaflet* has promoted the home study of the lesson. We also think that it has created a greater interest in the work of the class, and helped to bring out the Bible to school. We trust its influence and circulation may increase."

"It is simple and easily understood by the small classes as well as the highest."

"I beg to assure you that the *Home Study Leaflet* is very highly esteemed with us and I am persuaded that its faithful use will be very beneficial to our school. Two features are particularly valued viz. the fact that each scholar has work for his Bible and cannot get along without it, and secondly, the requirement finding texts to prove a certain truth."

"Our teachers are well pleased with the *Home Study Leaflet* which is evidenced by the fact that our subscription is renewed for another year. Most of the scholars take a deep interest in answering the questions which has promoted a close study of the lesson at home. Last year we kept a record of the marks and gave a 1st and 2nd prize in each class accordingly. It has caused most of the scholars to bring their Bibles, but it requires a lot of preaching to get some of the boys to bring theirs. Most of our scholars write the answers on a separate piece of paper."