

78 generally when the preacher read the lesson each one would open their books, and follow as he read)

On this list was also another suggestion, which at the time I could not understand. It was, "Read, mark, learn and inwardly digest". Perhaps I had heard of digesting my food, but it was another matter to digesting what was on the list. ~~As~~ it we were also enjoined to learn our lesson early in the week so that we would know them when called upon to say them. This rule was very seldom kept, and very often, there was a hurried attempt to learn, even whilst in class, and the ~~one~~ last one had the best chance. But there was a good deal of prompting, and the teacher would say, you haven't learned it at all, which often was quite true. In addition to our Scripture text there was a hymn verse to be committed to memory, and also several questions from the catechism. So altogether, with day school and Sunday school, we had to stow away a lot of material. Whilst on this matter of

79 reading the scriptures, I would call to mind that during the whole of my career at the day school, it was part of the educational system, that there was half an hour spent each morning directly the school opened for us to have Scripture lessons. And we started at the first book in the Bible: Genesis. Which means the beginning of things, and followed on through the whole of the historical books, and thus we got a thorough grounding in the history of those early times and of the children of Israel and the Jews. It is nearly sixty years now since it has been allowable for the book to ^{be} used in the schools of the Dominion.

These various matters that I have recorded cover a period until I was about fifteen years old and when my school days concluded. There were other matters which were no doubt equal in importance, such as my eldest sister's wedding, when I was about eleven years old, & I must here