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# Sundan School Banner.

W. H. WITHROW, D.D., EDITOR.

#### TORONTO, MARCH, 1898,

### More About the Home Department.

We are glad to find so great an interest shown in the Home Sunday-school Department. An ample supply of Home Department literature has been prepared for introducing the Home Department. These are cheap and inexpensive leaflets. sample set will be sent free of charge by writing to Rev. William Briggs, Toronto, Rev. S. F. Huestis, Halifax, or Mr. C. W. Coates, Montreal.

The following article on Home Bible study was sent by the Editor of The Banner as a communication to several of the leading papers in Canada for the purpose of promoting in all the churches the study of the Bible, that best foundation for personal piety and public weal. We give some testimonials of the success of the Home Department elsewhere. especially call attention to the testimony

We have pleasure also in presenting an article by Dr. Maclaren, one of the most active and energetic members of the International and Provincial Sunday-school Executive. Dr. Maclaren is a very busy man in his profession, yet he finds time to be in his church class every Sunday morning, in his Sunday-school class of young ladies every Sunday afternoon, and at two other services besides. also one of the most active members of the Missionary Board of our church and of other connexional committees. He is. moreover, one of the most stalwart temperance workers in Canada. He fulfils more than any layman we know the admonition of Scripture, "It is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing."

## Home Bible Study.

The result of Sunday-school work in enlisting some twenty millions persons in the systematic study of the Bible is a noteworthy feature of modern times. It has created a vast literature and engaged the generous and unpaid services of two millions of teachers. tem of Bible instruction is receiving a striking expansion. It is being carried to the homes of the people and is embracing, not merely the young people in the schools, but the adults of the family, who cannot, or do not, attend the schools. Most of the denominations have their vigorous Home Department of Bible study. Its members are enrolled as part or the Sunday-school, study the same lessons as the school, and receive the same lesson helps.

There are many persons who are unable to attend the Sunday-school-mothers engrossed in household cares, invalids, the poor who will not go for lack of suitable clothing, unlettered persons, who shrink from comparison with the bright boys and girls in the classes, and those in country places remote from the school.

The vital link between the home class and the Sunday-school is the quarterly visitor. The visitor is generally a young lady of leisure and culture and winsome ways, who first secures the promise of the Home Department scholar to spend, at least, half on hour in the study of the Scriptures every week, and then makes periodical visits to receive reports, help from the city of St. John's, Newfoundland. with difficulties, and distribute the lesson

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