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## Sunday School Banner.

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

TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1893.

### Home Department of Sunday-school Work.

We have been much impressed by the importance of the Home Department of Sunday-school Study, and, therefore, brought the matter before the last meeting of the Sunday-school Board. The Board considered that as several other subjects were being strongly urged, as the Epworth League, the Junior League, the Inductive Study of the Bible, Catechumen Classes and other topics, that it would look like unduly multiplying machinery and having too many irons in the fire to urge the adoption of the Home Study Department. It was also feared that it might, in some degree, divert attention from the Sunday-school around which it was felt desirable that the chief rally of the congregation should be. The following resolution was passed:

"Whereas, it is felt that the systematic study of the Word of God should be still more widely observed and practised in all our households, *Resolved*,—That this Board strongly recommends the use of the Home Readings in connection with the Sunday-school lessons, and that, so far as practicable, adult, as well as youthful, members of the family, may be found on the Lord's day in the Sabbath-school.

"And, whereas, we note with regret that a considerable proportion of the schools close in

winter, *Resolved*,—That the utmost effort be made to secure the continuation of these schools throughout the year; but, where their closure is found unavoidable, that this Board recommends that efforts be made to secure the distribution of our Sunday-school papers and the maintenance of the study of the lessons as a Home Department of our Sunday-school work, in accordance with methods which will be more fully outlined in our Sunday-school periodicals."

We have been written to by some of our superintendents who are much interested in this department, and will be glad to hear how it is worked and with what success where it has been adopted. We have pleasure in calling attention to the following circular of the Sherbourne Street Methodist Sunday-school, Toronto:

HOME DEPARTMENT OF SHERBOURNE ST. METH.  
CHURCH SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

Dear Friend:

The objects of this Home Department are:

1. To promote a regular and systematic study of the Bible in the home.
2. To keep alive the interest of those who are forced to be away from home, or who remove to localities where they are without Sunday-school privileges.
3. To reach individuals and families who are without the Gospel.
4. To promote family religion.
5. To develop Christian workers.
6. To increase the attendance upon the school.
7. To increase attendance at Church.

By becoming a member of the Home Department you have the advantages of:

1. A definite understanding with yourself, and an agreement with others as to what you propose to do.
2. The helps which are prepared for the International Lessons.
3. The inspiration of studying in company with your children, as well as with your fellow-members of the Sherbourne St. Methodist Church Sunday-school.
4. Actual membership in the school.
5. A plan which will help you and your family to study God's Word pleasantly and profitably in your home.

You are strongly urged to become a member of the Sunday-school and attend its sessions every Sunday afternoon at three o'clock; but, if you cannot do so, you are cordially invited to become a member of the Home Department, and to organize a home class with such members of your family as do not attend the school; and if you will do so, kindly observe the following directions:

1. Please sign the membership card attached hereto, with any others who may join you, and send it to the address of the Secretary.