

*(This Leaflet is published herewith, in response to a wish expressed at the late Provincial Convention, Ottawa, October, 1891.*

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## THE HOME DEPARTMENT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

### I.—ITS PURPOSE.

The aim of the HOME DEPARTMENT is to promote the study of the Bible in the home, in connection with the Sunday School, among those who for any reason do not attend its sessions.

While there are some whose reasons for not joining in the study of the Bible in the Sunday School are trivial, there are many who are not indifferent to its value, but who are shut out from its privileges by force of circumstances. There are, for instance, the aged, the infirm, invalids, those who have the care of young children or of the sick, those who live at too great a distance from church, isolated families, and communities where there is neither preaching service nor Sunday School. Again, there are those whose business takes them away from home most of the time, so that they cannot regularly go to any Sunday School, such as commercial travellers, railroad conductors, brakemen, and other railway employes, postal-route clerks, druggists' clerks, etc. Still again, there are others without strong local attachments, such as boarders, academy or college students, clerks in stores and offices, whose interest in Sunday School matters dropped with their leaving home, and who, if they cannot be induced to come into the Sunday School once more without delay, may be toled back by agreeing to study the lesson for at least half an hour each week by themselves.

### II.—ITS METHODS.

The plan is to form HOME CLASSES, the aggregation of which shall make up the HOME DEPARTMENT of the Sunday School. A class may consist of one only, if no more can be added to it. That will make it possible for a commercial traveller, or one who has gone away logging into a backwoods lumber camp, to keep in step with his school, and to feel the touch of his comrades in study. In many cases it will be possible to have all the members of the family not already in the Sunday School enrolled in a HOME CLASS. The members of such a class are recognized as members of the Sunday School as fully as though personally present. They are entitled to all its privileges, such as drawing books from its library, admission to its entertainments, and always are to be invited to its social gatherings, picnics, concert services, etc.

Lesson helps and papers should be furnished to the members of Home Classes upon the same terms as to other members of the school.

In joining a Home Class, one has but to sign a simple agreement, by which he promises to study the Sunday School lesson for at least a half-hour each week. He also has a Report Card, which he fills out, and at the end of the quarter returns to the Superintendent as directed. From all the cards thus sent in, a quarterly report is made to the school of the progress of its Home Department.

In order to make the members of the Home Classes feel that their connection with the Sunday School is a vital one, the Superintendent should