

formed, and whether the church attendance has been regular.

A gathering of the members for united study, prayer and social intercourse is always helpful. Its aims are to promote Bible study and increase the Christian activity as well as the attendance of students, upon the main school and the regular services of the church. It is at present being quite generally adopted by the Sunday-schools of the United States, the Canadas and England. This method of work has been more extensively adopted in the State of New York than in any other section of the country. A late report from 810 departments in that State shows a membership of 28,400 and an average addition to the membership of each Sunday-school of 10 per cent. With similar enrollments throughout the whole State, there would be an addition to the Sunday-school enrollment of the State of New York of at least 250,000 members. The department in the Tabernacle Church, Binghamton, has 212 members. It reports forty conversions and 130 additions to the main school, including a period of two and one-half years. In the Congregational Church of Birmingham, N.Y., a lady nearly 80 years old is one of the most active visitors in the department, and has a class of thirteen families, which she visits at least once a quarter.

This is what a pastor writes concerning the success of the Home Department in his church. Read it, and then send for the requisites for the organization: "We have in our Home Department nearly as many scholars as the school proper averages. After six quarters I am more convinced it is applicable to every parish. The receipts are double the expenses. I find it enables me to get into many families that are just slipping out of the church. It is a delightful part of my work. I can easily imagine that in many places the 'Home Classes' might grow into larger schools, and these into churches; so that the denomination that leads off in this Home Department work would have the advantage in planting churches. Some of my scholars show a remarkable interest, and are very thankful for my bringing it to them." Secretary Duncan, of Chautauqua, who originated and organized the Home Department as an institution, has recently prepared a useful little handbook on the subject, entitled, "Home Classes; or, The Home Department of the Sunday-school." It contains all the information which anyone needs for a full understanding of the subject. It may be obtained by addressing the author, Dr. W. A. Duncan, Syracuse, N.Y.—*Sunday-school Journal*.

The "Travelling Library."

As the "Home Department" aims to carry the benefits of Sunday-school work into homes, and to many persons, especially adults, who may not be able to attend the usual Sunday-school services; so a plan devised by the Rev. J. W. Funk, of Wichita, Kansas, and called "The Home Mission Travelling Library," proposes to carry the benefits of a good library to many who might not otherwise have access to it. As he writes:

"The design is library extension, on the plan of the travelling library of the University of New York, for the benefit of many who are remote from public libraries, and to complement the regular work of home missionaries by loaning good books. It is a new phase of missionary effort."

A section of the travelling library is put in charge of a "Local Library Committee," which signs an agreement like this:

AGREEMENT OF LOCAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

We, the Library Committee of..... Methodist....., hereby assume charge of Section....., No..... to..... inclusive, and Nos..... of the HOME MISSION TRAVELLING LIBRARY, and agree to exercise necessary care in the preservation of the books, and to loan them in accordance with the prescribed rules.

DATE.....
....., 189.....
Library Committee.

Pasters, for insertion in the books, contain these

RULES.

1. The library shall be open for the delivery and return of books at such times as shall be fixed upon by the Library Committee.
2. All persons above sixteen years of age, approved by the Library Committee, shall be entitled to the use of the library by signing the Borrower's Agreement.
3. One volume may be taken out at a time, and retained two weeks, and may be renewed for two weeks. A book kept over time shall be charged for at the rate of five cents a week.
4. If a borrower lose or materially injure a book, another shall be furnished of the same or later edition, or pay the Library Committee's appraisal.
5. Any person abusing the privileges of the library, or violating the foregoing rules, may be denied the use of the library.