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WILLIAM BRIGGS,

Methodist Book and Publishing House,

C. W. COATES,  
2176 St. Catherine St.,  
Montreal, Que.

TORONTO.

S. F. HUSTON,  
Meth. Book Room,  
Halifax, N.S.

## Sunday School Banner.

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

TORONTO, JANUARY, 1898.

### Our Forward Movement.

The Home Department of our Sunday-schools presents a field of grandest possibilities. It gives promise of widening and deepening the study of the Scriptures as nothing else has done. It seeks to enlist the adult members of the household as well as the children in this all-important work. Many of them cannot, and some do not feel inclined to, attend the Sunday-school. But all may study the same portions of the Word of God.

What a new life it would give to our whole Sunday-school system if every member of every family, from the child in the primary class to the grey-haired sire in "ingle-nook," were simultaneously studying the same lessons and reading the same selected passages. What a fresh, intense and hallowed interest it would impart to family life, what an in-

tellectual uplift it would give, what a deepening of piety, what an increase of spiritual power.

This blessed consummation is the purpose of the Home Department in connection with the Sunday-school. It is no visionary thing. It is a glorious possibility. Each Sunday-school can largely contribute to its realization.

The progress already made is encouraging in the highest degree. The Home Department has only recently been introduced in our church, yet we have already over 5,000 members enrolled. The list has nearly doubled during the last year. We want those organizers of this work who have been successful in its introduction, to write giving their experience, and giving helps, hints, and suggestions as to its best methods. We purpose giving special prominence to this subject in future numbers of The Banner.

Our Publishing House is determined that every facility shall be furnished for promoting the Home Department. Our new Sunday-school Quarterly will be indispensable for this work, and will furnish handsomely illustrated and instructional notes on the lessons that cannot fail to attract and retain the attention of the Bible student. Only 20 cents a year, or 5 cents a quarter.

The same qualities will make the new Quarterly no less essential for those of our senior scholars who may find the cost of The Banner beyond their means. Of course the Quarterly does not profess to be a substitute for The Banner. That is specially intended for the teachers and is indispensable for their best success.

We have pleasure in announcing a new departure in The Banner for the current year which will make it more than ever useful in the schools. We purpose printing in each number a page of the best music which we can secure. This, we hope, will still further improve the singing in our schools and keep them abreast with the most recent advance in Sunday-school hymnody. In this number we give a piece, which Mr. Birks, organist of St. James' Methodist church, Montreal, uses to the words, "All hail the power of Jesus' name." Many of us will remember the profound impression the singing of this hymn made under Mr. Birks' direction at the Epworth League Convention in London.