

A Bible Scholar in the Kitchen

of the church on Sunday morning, to be delivered to the sick by Messengers, Sunday afternoon. The badge of service worn by the Messengers when on duty is a neat white pin button, with the words "Home Department Messenger" in blue. They have a good sized card of introduction, which they leave with the member as they make their first call, which reads :

DEAR FRIEND :—

This will introduce to you

.....
one of our Home Department Messengers. Every week he will call and leave with you the church calendar, the Sunday-school weekly literature, and will be pleased to bring you books from the Sunday-school library.

Faithfully Yours,

.....
Home Department Supt.

—S.S. Evangel

WHAT THE ASSEMBLY SAYS

The Recommendations of the General Assembly are made only after the most careful consideration of the committees who present them and of the Assembly itself. Woe to the committee that ventures to put a slipshod or foolish recommendation before the Assembly! It has a way of quietly killing off all immature propositions. Here is a Recommendation which was adopted in 1900, and reaffirmed in 1901, and should be carefully pondered in every Sabbath School and congregation. It can be put into practical effect with a little well directed effort. One or two courageous and persevering people can set all the machinery—it is very simple—effectively at work.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDS :

That a Home Department be established in connection with each school, as tending :

- (a) To develop family religion.
- (b) To increase interest in and attendance at the Sabbath School and public worship ; and
- (c) Through companionship of young and old in study, to stimulate to more system-

atic and thorough searching of the Scriptures.

It would be hard to name three more desirable aims, or to suggest a more common-sense way of reading them.

The schools in needy districts are getting the benefit of the Children's Day Fund in the form of a supply of our Lesson Helps and Illustrated Papers free or at a reduced price. Already they report great encouragement from such supplies. The applications have come from schools as far apart as the extreme west of Canada and the bleak Labrador coast on the extreme east. Presbyterians are slow to accept help when they do not need it, but it is a great delight to be able to render help to those who do require it, and who are eager to help themselves to the extent of their ability.

A BIBLE SCHOLAR IN THE KITCHEN

I know of one dear woman who had only a common-school education, "and a very common one at that," she used in her humility to say, who yet became so choice a Bible scholar, that in her church and Sabbath school it grew to be a habit with the people to defer to her opinion, and those who had abundant opportunity for study learned to mark their own opinion with an interrogation when it differed from hers. To one who questioned her as to how it was possible in her narrowed and wonderfully busy life to give the amount of study and thought that she evidently did to Bible themes, she made answer :

"Why, you see I have a great deal of time to myself. After the children are started for school I am alone all day. And I know that at six o'clock there will be eleven hungry people who will look to me for a good dinner ; so of course I have to spend a good deal of my time in the kitchen. Years ago I foresaw that the largest portion of my waking hours would have to be spent there, and I felt lonely and wanted a companion. So I covered my Bible with slate-colored cambric and took it to the kitchen with me. After a while my husband put up a shelf on purpose for it, and made a little wire arrangement to hold it open, and we have had real good