

We cannot tell what these things are doing. Then think of the Home Department. Why, first the Home Department started in Kansas in 1883, only seventeen years ago. Now there are six thousand Home Departments—that is a year ago last May—six thousand Home Departments reported at Atlanta, and a membership of more than two hundred thousand persons. You have found, as I found one the other day, riding up and down in an elevator, tied to his place, a boy, doing the best he could, with no father or mother, and there in the little odd moments he took his Bible and was studying his lesson. Think of the mother with little children in the home, not isolated by the demands of nature as she was in the former time, but constituting a part of the great circle—the sisterhood and brotherhood of the circle. Think of those fellows away out on the western plains herding their cattle in the winter time, when the snow is two feet deep; they are members of the Home Department class. So we get an idea of the enlargement of the Sunday School.

Think of the house-to-house visitation. I wish I had Hugh Cork's picture to spring upon you. That irrepressible chief, brought up by Providence, I believe, as verily as the Apostle Paul was, to spread the Gospel of house-to-house visitation. An entire city visited in a single day; every person invited to come to church, and to send or bring his children to the Sunday School.

And then think of the enlargement of the Sunday School in the matter of adults, and young men and young women. I went to Washington not long ago. There was with us the Commissioner, what you would call Lord Mayor of one of your big cities. He was in the chair, and made a speech. There are District Court justices, a good number of Congressmen, and many fine men in that city giving their time to Sunday School work. I was in Calvary Baptist Church on Sunday night, and by Dr. Green's courtesy I was permitted to speak. I saw come down the aisle two hundred and fifty young men, two by two, and I saw an old man, an old Confederate veteran, with his shattered hand, leading the host; and as we were waiting I turned to Dr. Green and I said, "I wish you would tell me the meaning of that procession," and then he said, "We are going to baptize a candidate after the form of our Church." And when the candidate was being baptized these two hundred and fifty rose up and sang, "Blest be the tie that binds." To me there is no music so beautiful, there is no music that ever compares with the voices of young men singing Christian hymns. And so these young fellows sang exquisitely. I said to him, "I wish you would tell me about this." He said, "This is Vaughan's famous Bible class; it is connected with my Sunday School. There is Captain Vaughan. He has gone around in Washington the last fifteen years with fish-hook and line, and using the drag net, and he has fished out one young man from a government office, another from a bank, another from a store, another from a factory, and he has three