

for, prayed with, and lovingly brought to the joyous step by the efforts of their parents.—Exchange.

### How to Help the Home Department.

The following circular was recently circulated in the Metropolitan Church, Toronto, and compliance therewith urged from the pulpit. Let other leading churches adopt the same plan, and the Home Department will show wonderful progress.

Dear Friend,—In order that the members of our Church and congregation who do not attend the regular services of our Sunday School may enjoy the benefits of systematic Bible study along lines similar to those adopted in our regular Sunday School work, we, as you are no doubt aware, have organized a Home Department, and we look upon this as one of the most essential and important departments of our Sunday School work.

To make this department a success we require your sympathy and co-operation.

Our school furnishes helps in the study of the Bible for this department as well as for the other work of the school. We hardly need emphasize the great importance to the individual membership, as well as to the Church and the School, of systematic Bible study carried on by the membership of our Church, and we would be glad if you would join with us in this weekly and systematic study of the Bible.

If you care to do so, please write your name and address on the slip below, and put it on the collection plate at any of our regular Sunday services, or hand to one of the officers named below, and one of the visitors of our Home Department will then call upon you with further information and the necessary supplies.

Yours faithfully,

N. W. Rowell,

Supt. of Sunday School.

F. D. Price, 245 Sherbourne St.,

Supt. Home Dept.

Rev. William Sparling, Pastor.

### A Year of Progress.

The Methodist Year-Book of the Methodist Episcopal Church, edited by Mr. Stephen D. R. Ford, comes duly to hand from the publishing rooms of Eaton &

Mains, New York. It contains many interesting paragraphs on the work done during the past year by our sister Church across the lines. The year 1902 has been one of gratifying growth. Twice as many communicants have been added to the rolls of Methodist this year as in the preceding one. In fact, there has been twice the average increase of any one of the four preceding years. We are glad too, that in realizing this the note sounded is the need of increased responsibility in bringing the world to Christ. The three million line is now almost reached. There is also a cheering increase on the missionary givings of the year, while the work done in the foreign field shows a harvest that abundantly repays all sacrifice.

Among the notable events of the year are mentioned the establishing of a joint missionary publishing house in Shanghai, China.



Easter Lilies.

O lilies, with your pure white lips  
Tell me the Easter tale again;  
How sweet-winged purity "arose,"  
By Victory's hand, in love to reign.  
Teach me, how like thine own my lips  
From worldly stain may be kept free,  
Calling to life but purest thoughts,  
Like echoes coming back to me.

O lilies, with the heart of gold  
And heaven's touch of dewy down,  
Show me by inspiration pure  
His heart of gold and starry crown,  
That spread o'er earth a blending glow  
While angels sang a "Risen Lord,"  
That Easter morning long ago.

—Lucy A. Bourne.