

because we look to him to be posted on the best literature, new and old.

2nd.—Allow plenty of time; three or six months is not too long to establish a library. Make careful inquiry about every unknown book proposed. Have it read if possible. Pass no book unless personally vouched for by one or more of the committee. Guard against loose expressions or teachings.

3rd.—Don't try to start a big library. Your funds may not permit, and its value depends on quality, not size. Fifty books well chosen are better than one hundred and fifty, many of which may prove doubtful or worse. By requiring books not to be out over two weeks, and no more than one or two in a family at a time, you can manage to go round the school with a less number than you have of teachers, officers and scholars on the roll.

4th.—Let the committee next appoint a secretary, secure catalogues of books used in other good schools, and from such publishers as the Methodist Book Rooms, Toronto, Montreal, Halifax, London, and New York. With these and the personal knowledge of the committee make up a specific list, putting down the titles, author, publisher, and retail price (from which a discount of from twenty-five to thirty-three and a third per cent. is usually allowed off). Make a couple of extra copies of your list and send it to these Book Rooms, asking them to return you the list with net quotations on each book separately. In this way you can order according to your cash, and I think get a better lot of books than by picking them out haphazard at a book-store or from a lot of books which publishers will send you to make selections, returning those not chosen. In such cases the school must pay the freight on those sent, but the publisher will pay on those returned. Always order from Canadian publishers, avoiding trouble on account of duty and extra charge for carriage. The committee can sometimes spend part of a day profitably in a good local book store, where, especially in the fall of the year, large numbers of new volumes are received from the Old Country houses. You may thus be able to secure some of your chosen list and add others to advantage. But from the large publishers you will probably get better terms on a large lot of books.

5th.—In asking for prices or buying, insist on books well bound in cloth, on good paper, and printed from type large enough not to try the eyes of old or

young, keeping in view the idea that the library is to be permanent. The idea that it is to be permanent, not to be exchanged with other Sunday-schools, will lead to better care of the books, to greater thoroughness in the reading, and consequently to more wholesome and enduring effects. When the older scholars do not care to read a book again, it need not be discarded, there are others growing up to the book. A child may not be able to read a certain book this year, but next year will be much interested in it. Good pictures add to the interest of books for juveniles.

6th.—Provide variety, books for boys and for girls, for adults as well as the young. Begin with half a dozen, especially for the officers and teachers on Sunday-school management and teaching, and for reference. Include some good books on travel, natural history, biography, poetry, works that inculcate temperance, kindness to dumb animals and the missionary spirit, as well as wholesome stories. Do not omit the works of some of our Canadian authors.

7th.—When the library has been finally secured, have a complete list made out as before described, and kept for future reference, and appoint a good, careful young man or woman as librarian.

8th.—Do not disband the committee when the books are bought, but with the librarian keep a look out for good additions by watching book reviews, etc., in such papers as your own church papers, and others. Try to add a dozen fresh books each year. In this way by degrees you will get a better selection and sustain interest in the library.

9th.—Teachers will enhance the value of a library by questioning their classes about the books they read, or suggesting good points in certain books to their attention. And in the home, how much better to think and talk about good books than neighbourhood gossip.

10th.—in making your selections,

AIM AT LITERARY EXCELLENCE.

Good literature, whether it be biography, travel, poetry, religion, philosophy, or fiction, whatever else it means must be a vivid expression in elevated and correct language of the writers' vision of truth. In an article on the making of a journalist which I read the other day the writer, after recommending the works of half a dozen great authors whom young men should read to improve their literary style, said, "If you can't afford all these, read the Bible and Robinson Crusoe, for you are not likely ever to