

nity. It is almost irresistible when you keep on asking anybody. I have found that out at home. (Laughter.)

Fourth, and practically, it secures you a religious census. The Canadian or United States Government cannot begin to get as good a religious census as the faithful campaign in House-to-House Visitation.

What are the benefits of it? First, it unifies the church practically. That is a good deal better than unity of sentiment, or any attempt at unity of doctrine or polity or anything of that sort. Take conference together for the first time, perhaps, in your life in practical Christian service, and it is a good deal more than sitting in a convention and singing, "Blest be the tie that binds."

Secondly—It appeals to non-Christians as a power unique. They look at you. I have seen saloon-keepers stand in their doors on House-to-house Visitation Day. They will joke over it; but that same saloon-keeper went home and said, "Mary, have they been around here?" "Yes; two very nice ladies came around here;" and the saloon-keeper's children next Sunday were in the Sunday School.

It dignifies the Sunday School work. Your big business man down in Brockville, that does not go to Sunday School, and thinks it is rather a small affair, sees the House to House visits; he sees the banker over the way, or the lawyer and merchant going from house to house visiting, and it occurs to him, after all, if these men can visit there is something more in the Sunday School than he has been dreaming of.

It sets Christians at work; it aeriates their piety, it furnishes a point of contact between the masses and the Church. "The way to save the masses," said Moody, "is to save a mass at a time." It is carrying out that idea.

It initiates the Home Department, it gives information to pastors, superintendents and churches—information which they can derive from no other source, and which may be invaluable to their own churches and schools, and which, if followed up, adds many permanently to the church and school, but only if it is followed up by the individual churches. It discovers and develops workers. There are people in the church who say, I can do nothing. They can visit from house to house, and they find that there is something that they can do. It stimulates them, it discovers them, it develops them. It blesses the visitor quite as much, and in some cases more, than the visited. It is very much like something that Shakespeare says: "It is twice blessed; it blesses him that gives and him that takes," and I would not leave off the other words he says, "It is mightiest in the mightiest." Then, lastly, in my own city of Jacksonville it laid the foundation for a revival in our churches. The first thing they did after Pentecost was to go from house to house. Now, the best thing, in order to bring Pentecost, is to go from house to house. (Applause.)

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