

SUNDAY SCHOOL BANNER

for
TEACHERS
AND
YOUNG PEOPLE.

VOLUME VI.]

AUGUST, 1873.

[No. 8.

"Thou art the Guide of my Youth."

ON Thee, my Father and my God,
My trusting soul expectant waits,
For strength to tread the narrow road
That leads to Salem's heavenly gates.

Oh turn to me a listening ear,
Though oft my feet have gone astray ;
Still let me feel Thee ever near,
To hold and guide me in Thy way.

Be Thou my Sun—Thy beams illume
And bathe me in celestial light,
To banish fear's perplexing gloom,
And put the shades of doubt to flight.

Be Thou my Shield—from every snare
Of Satan and the world defend,
So shall I wage a glorious war,
And rise a conqueror in the end.

Oh had I but an eagle's wings,
I'd bear me joyful hence away,
Far from the crowd of earthly things,
To scenes where dwells unclouded day !

But peace ! ye murmuring thoughts, be still !
Nor lurk within my peaceful breast ;
Here, Lord, I wait to do Thy will,
Till Thou shalt call me to Thy rest. c.

Melchizedek.

BY THE REV. T. M. MORRIS, IPSWICH.

Gen. xiv. 18-20; Psa. cx. 4; Heb. v. 8, 10, 11;
Heb. vi. 20—vii. 28.

MELCHIZEDEK is one of the most remarkable of Scripture personages. We see him come forth, we know not whence; we see him go, we know not whither. Just for a moment does he tarry in the field of our vision, and then we see him no more. The priest and king of Salem suddenly appears and as suddenly disappears.

Ages after, his name and memory appear to us again; though he has thus long dwelt in the land of silence he has not passed away for ever into forgetfulness. In Psalm cx. David, upon whose vision the glories of the coming Messiah were brightening, addresses him who was to combine the offices of prophet, priest, and king, in these remarkable words:—"The Lord hath sworn and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek." Then again for another series of ages does Melchizedek lapse into obscurity, nor do we meet with any further allusion to him till we come to the Epistle to the Hebrews, the writer of which manifestly sets him forth as the type of Christ.