

SUNDAY SCHOOL BANNER

for
TEACHERS
AND
YOUNG PEOPLE.

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'If We Could See.

BY WILLIAM R. WOOD.

If we could see beneath our brother's
frown,
Beneath the look, the hasty word, the
deed,
That veils the inner, hidden, brother
heart,
The toiling, struggling, oft-defeated
heart,
The weary, harassed life-discouraged
heart,
Perchance less answering frown our
brows would bear.

If we could know the longings, strivings,
prayers,
That throb unceasing in its voiceless
beat,
The fair ideals cherished, lived for,
prized
More dear than life, but never, never
reached;
If we could mark that failure's bitter
pain,
Perchance the cutting phrase would die
unsaid.

If when we look upon the worldling's
course,
And view the madness of his race for
gold,
Or pleasure's gleaming bauble, or the
wreath
Twined by the heartless mob, and
labelled Fame,
We then could note his empty, anguished
heart,
Perchance our hearts would pity more
than blame.

If we could feel, with them who have
not won
In life's great inner conflict, all the pain,
The deep, unutterable, ceaseless pain,
Of life's defeat, the emptiness, the woe
Of looking back on life misspent and fled,
Perchance our sympathy would quench
our scorn.

If with the eye of love our hearts could
gaze
Upon the white soul of the little child,
That we erewhile for childish fault re-
proved,
And see the battles in its child life
fought,
Its strivings for the true, the pure, the
fair,
Perchance our very hearts with shame
would blush.

If we could know how still the Father's
heart
Yearns o'er his erring children in their
wrong,
If we could know the prodigal's unrest,
And half-acknowledged longing for his
home,
Perchance our love with clearer flame
would shine,
And oft we'd bless where now we only
blame.

Riverbank, Ont.

Give the first question in the Old Testa-
ment and the first in the New.

Answer.—The first in the Old Testa-
ment—to Adam—"Where art thou?"—
God seeking the sinner. The first in
the New, "Where is He?"—The sinner
seeking Christ.