

OUR PERIODICALS.

The best, the cheapest, the most entertaining,
the most popular.

	Yearly Subscription
Christian Guardian, weekly.....	\$1 00
Methodist Magazine and Review, monthly.....	2 00
Magazine and Review, and Guardian or Wesleyan.....	2 75
Magazine and Review, Guardian and Onward.....	3 25
The Wesleyan, Halifax, weekly.....	1 00
Sunday-school Banner, monthly.....	0 60
Onward, 8pp. 4to, weekly, under 5 copies.....	0 60
5 copies and upwards.....	0 50
Pleasant Hours, 4pp. 4to, weekly, single copies.....	0 30
Less than 20 copies.....	0 25
Over 20 copies.....	0 24
Sunbeam, fortnightly, less than 10 copies.....	0 15
10 copies and upwards.....	0 12
Happy Days, fortnightly, less than 10 copies.....	0 15
10 copies and upwards.....	0 12
Dew Drops, weekly.....	0 08
Per quarter.....	0 02
Berean Senior Quarterly.....	0 20
Berean Leaves, 100 copies per month.....	5 50
Berean Intermediate Quarterly.....	0 06
Quarterly Review Service. By the year, 24 cents a dozen; \$2 per 100. Per quarter, 6 cents a dozen; per 100.....	0 50

THE ABOVE PRICES INCLUDE POSTAGE

WILLIAM BRIGGS,
Methodist Book and Publishing House,
TORONTO.

C. W. COATES,
2176 St. Catherine St.,
Montreal, Que.

S. F. HUERTIN,
Meth. Book Room,
Halifax, N.S.

Sunday School Banner

W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor

TORONTO, MARCH, 1902

Temperance in the Sunday School.

THE temperance question has again come to the front as it has not since the great plebiscite campaign of 1898. It is being discussed in the pulpit, on the platform, in the press, and in legislative halls. Such discussion is a great moral education. "Let truth and falsehood wrestle," says Milton, "whoever knew truth put to shame in free and open encounter?"

Canada, we are glad to know is the most sober, law-abiding country in the world. It has the least consumption of liquor per head, and the fewest commitments for drunkenness. But this is only an incentive to rid our land at once and forever of the still far too great amount of drinking which yet abounds, with

all the wretchedness and misery which it entails.

"Let well enough alone," says the liquor people; but is it well enough when six thousand of the brightest and best, the very bone and sinew of our country, are done to death as the victims of drink from year to year. If a slaughter like this took place in South Africa, how horrified we would be! If we are less cursed than other lands, there is there the better chance for us to secure the prohibition and extermination of this painful traffic. In no country in the world can this result be so easily achieved and sustained as in Canada.

We are not unmindful of the vast progress that has been made. We can remember when Toronto, with a population of less than 50,000, had nearly 400 saloons. Now, with a population of over 200,000, it has but 150 saloons—just 150 too many, but a vast improvement on four hundred. Very similar has been the progress of temperance throughout the whole Dominion.

Our Sunday Schools have a vital part to play in this great crusade. Let us save the boys from the traps and perils and pitfalls to perdition, by which the liquor traffic surrounds their feet. Let us get them pledged in the school, trained in temperance principles, and saturated with temperance sentiment, strengthened in moral fibre to resist temptation, to overcome evil, and to fight with intelligence and consecrated Christian zeal against the great enemy of their country. In the class books is a printed form of pledge to which we hope every teacher will secure the signatures of every scholar. The record of our church in this temperance work is something of which to be proud. Let us not stain the laurels won in the past, but win fresh triumphs in the present, and secure a glorious future for our land.

It is whispered that an endeavor will be made to remove the formal temperance lessons from the Sunday School calendar. We trust not. It would be a backward step of tremendous import. That Deborah in Israel, Frances Willard, and the noble women of the W. C. T. U., secured its introduction, despite the fear of estranging the beer-loving Germans and the wine-loving people of the grape-raising parts of the United States. The schools and churches should exert their moral influence in this great crisis. It is not a question of party politics, but of Christian morality and essential ethics.