

# SUNDAY SCHOOL BANNER

for  
TEACHERS  
AND  
YOUNG PEOPLE.

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## New Year's Hymn.

"O YEAR that lies before us,  
What shall thy record be,  
As thy short months roll o'er us,  
And swift thy moments flee?  
Now thou art fair and spotless  
As childhood's opening hour,  
Thy bud so pure and stainless,  
Say! what shall be thy flower?"

"Thou bring'st new hope to cheer us,  
New visions fair and bright,  
Of higher aims and conquests,  
And purer, clearer light;  
New strength for fresh endeavour,  
New purpose firm and high,  
New dreams of holy pleasures  
Which wait us in the sky.

"So, year by year, in mercy,  
To us it hath been given,  
To climb from our past failures  
Up one step nearer heaven;  
To strive each year we journey  
Upon our pilgrim way  
That each new fair to-morrow  
Be better than to-day.

"Lord, grant us grace to serve Thee  
In serving each and all;  
Our hearts keep warm and trustful,  
Protect us lest we fall;  
And if this year's last moments  
On earth we may not see,  
We know no harm will reach us,  
For we shall be with Thee."

—Janet Steel Pattinson.

## Myself; My Work; and 1883.

AN immense host of Sunday-school teachers will be at work in 1883. We shall be of the number. We are the successors of a much larger host; we succeed men and women whose work in the schools has ended, for they have gone into the grave where no one can work. They had their short season, but it is over. We are the predecessors of a still greater host, myriads of whom are yet unborn. Our season will soon be over, theirs will soon begin.

If each teacher will calculate how few at most, when all are told, will be the number of hours he can possibly spend in his class in the whole of his life; if he will remember for how much shorter time each separate scholar will remain under his influence; and if he will also remember that the golden opportunity for this particular sort of service will never recur again, it will surely stimulate him to consecrate more fully to God and the school, his time, talent, energy, and love. Let any one Sunday, any one lesson, any one opportunity in 1883 be unimproved, and none can estimate the calamity, and few can realize how large a proportion of the entire total of our possibility of service will have been lost for ever. Well for us all, well for the Church, well for the nation and the world, if every one of the tens of thousands of toilers in our schools will, in each hour of service this year, sow some blessed seed of holy truth in young hearts. We may live to gather some of the fruit; but if not, others will; and though our season may end before the produce of our toil is very rich, the seasons of God are eternal, and in them the results of devoted work done this year by servants unnoticed by the crowds, but rewarded by the Master, shall be pienteous and blessed.—Adapted from *Wesleyan Methodist S. S. Magazine*.

CHILDREN should attend church. They need to worship God, and without such worship they cannot grow strong in doing right.

STRIVE to enlist your pupils in a loyal and loving support of your pastor.