

SUNDAY SCHOOL BARBER

for
TEACHERS
AND
YOUNG PEOPLE.

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Christmas Carol.

When the Holy Babe was born
Angels, singing, woke the morn,
Chanting praises to our Lord,
Peace on earth and glad accord ;
For He came to set us free ;
He was born our Lord to be,
From sin and pain to set us free.

Star-led kings their gifts unrolled,
Myrrh and frankincense and gold ;
From the farthest East they came,
From the North and South they came,
That all peoples of the earth
Should pay homage at His birth,
Prince of Peace and Lord of Earth.

Prince of Peace ! alas, the shame
That the blessedness He came
Yearning to bestow on men
Still no nearer seems than then
We it is who hinder peace :
Through us sin and pain increase,
He would give the whole world peace.

Holy Babe of Bethlehem,
Number us, we pray, with them
In whose heart is echoed still,
" Peace on earth, to men good-will : "
That Thy will in us be done,
Let our will with Thine be one,
Then we shall not be undone.

SOLOMON spent his money for that which was not bread, he found it all ashes and emptiness. Every one should bend over his ear to listen to every word of God. The Samuel spirit is the fitting and reverent attitude of the heart. A whisper of Jesus should bind like an iron chain. Those who are one with Christ, by trusting in Him, have the promise of all blessings and mercies. Jesus shares with them all that He has.

Is the Sunday-school "A Necessary Evil?"

BY THE EDITOR.

ON the affirmative of this subject our friend, Mr. Thomas Bengough, read a clever paper at the Baptist Sunday-school Association in Toronto. The Sunday-school has been very much belauded and complimented of late, so perhaps, it is just as well that the other side of the shield should be presented. Mr. Bengough's bold challenge will certainly attract attention. No one pretends that the modern Sunday-school is by any means a perfect institution. We believe that it is only in the beginning of its evolution to a much more perfect instrument than it is.

" Faithful," says the Good Book, " are the wounds of a friend," and we will let Mr. Bengough speak for himself. In humorous vein he describes the inefficiency of some schools and some teachers and superintendents and defects of the library, with its books of the " whipped-cream variety, easily digested, pleasant to the taste, and ' light ' on the intellectual stomach."

A heavy charge against the school is that it is often considered to relieve parents of their personal responsibility in the training of their children. We fear that this charge is too true, and that Mr. Bengough here puts his finger upon a serious evil. He says :

" During the school exercises outlined above, where are the parents of these scholars who have been handed over for the time to the care of these teachers? Probably they are talking or on a journey (for health, of course), or per-adventure they are sleeping and must be awaked. They show the utmost confidence in the ability, piety and watch-care of the teachers by letting them severely alone. Occasionally, on some special day, a few parents, having nothing better to do, straggle into the school room and ' patronize ' the performance, giving