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## Sunday School Banner.

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W. H. WITHROW, D.D., EDITOR.

TORONTO, MAY, 1893.

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### After the Revival.

THE great work of the Church of God is the conversion of souls and training them for Christian service. Whatever else our schools and churches do, unless they do this they fail of their great object. We rejoice to know that in this object they do not fail—that year by year many thousands in our schools and in our churches are brought to God. The Metropolitan Church, Toronto, has been favoured under the blessing of God, and through the labours of those devoted evangelists, Messrs. Crossley and Hunter, with a blessed revival. Hundreds have been led to decide to be on the Lord's side, to become His faithful soldiers and servants. Among these were many veterans in sin, many victims of intemperance and those who had wandered far from God. Of these not a few were gray-headed men rescued like brands from the burning.

But the most numerous class, and the brightest and most beautiful conversions were the boys and girls and young men and young women brought up in our Sunday-schools. This is what we might expect and what we should desire. Faithful and loving teachers

brought their scholars to the feet of Jesus and counselled and prayed with them, and were rejoiced at their conversion to God. They had been instructed in the Scriptures, their hearts were like a garden in which the good seed had been sown, and under the influence of the Holy Spirit it took root and bore fruit.

These are the brightest auguries of the future of our churches—the boys and girls who have a long life before them which they may spend to the honour and glory of God as teachers in our Sunday-schools, as members of our churches, and not a few of them, we trust, as leaders and official members of the Church, and some of them as ministers and missionaries of the Cross. A great responsibility rests upon the churches and the Sunday-schools for the nurture and training of these young converts. We beg, therefore, in this connection to call attention to the following article which we have pleasure in reprinting from the *Bible Teacher*:

#### THE TRAINING OF THE CONVERTS.

The rich harvests of the winter's revivals are ever followed with duties as important as that of first winning men to Christ. The work of training them to a true, earnest, and steady religious life demands the intensest vigilance and constancy. When Jesus called His disciples, there were many to respond promptly to His voice and to join the company of His followers. But it required years of patient training before they could be left to assume the duties He was preparing for them. Very much of the fruit of revivals is often lost through the insufficiency or almost total lack of subsequent care.

And since a large proportion of the converts are the children of the Sunday-schools, it will not be at all amiss to teach them something of a warm and even admiring loyalty to their own church. There need be no fear of teaching a child narrow denominationalism or blind sectarianism. The following well spoken words of Bishop Phillips Brooks, quoted by the *Pilgrim Teacher*, are here just in point: "A child knows nothing of all that. His denomination is like his nation or his home. It is his because he was born there. It is dear to him with the unquestioning sense that he belongs to it and it to him. The child may freely glory in his own church, and yet be no sectarian; may accept his creed from the lips of others, and yet be no dogmatist. The true parent, the true teacher, will try not merely to make the child love God, but to make him love his own church as the place where he knows God and where he finds God always."

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It is a great thing to love Christ so dearly as to be "Ready to be bound and to die" for Him; but it is often a thing not less great to be ready to take up our daily cross and to live for Him.