

SUNDAY SCHOOL BANNER

for
TEACHERS
AND
YOUNG PEOPLE.

Vol. XXXIII.

MARCH, 1899.

No. 3.

Lost—A Child.

Lost!—in the shadow of the street;
Lost!—on the highway and the
plain,—

A child of God! If you should meet
To-day again

The poor, marred face, the aimless feet,
The clouded eyes that haunt your sleep
at night

With dreams of burned-out suns, all
ashen white,

Lost from their orbits: derelicts of time,
Dismantled, drifting in the ways of
crime,—

Turn, turn, thou brother of the poor,
And touch him with thine eyes, thy
hand,

Thy voice, that so the sunken shore
Of that lost land

He knew long since, but knows no
more,—

The heaven of his infancy,—may rise,
Holding enshrined in calm his mother's
eyes,—

The room, the home, the garden, and the
gate,

From which he wandered far and long
and late.

He holds no more the golden clew;

He saw it tralling in the dust

Last night in dreams, its heavenly hue
Dulled with red rust.

But take the hand he cannot give, and
you

May lead him to the door of that dim
room

Wherein his mother's eyes light all the
gloom,

(Hark,— through the years long dead!)
"Thou little child of God," she crooning
said,

"I bind thee,—bind thee with this golden
thread,

And angels wind and wind the ball that
brings

The children home from all their wander-
ingsc."

Sabbath School Work.

Mr. D. Torrance Fraser, of Canada, has called attention to the fact that the Government census represents only fifty-one per cent. of the Presbyterian school population as attending Sabbath-school. In other denominations, the ratio of attendance is as high as eighty per cent. The comment of Mr. Fraser may well cause Presbyterians in our country to look into the question whether the children of our families here are all gathered into the Sabbath-school.

The present is the season for a suggestion whether a large number of rural Sabbath-schools, which have been in the habit of disbanding in the autumn, may not wisely be kept open this winter. True, the smaller children may be kept at home by stress of weather, but the older ones do not stay in the house. They go to the day schools, they go to parties, they go hunting. Why should the weather keep them away from Sabbath-school all winter long?—Christian Observer.

With the day the light, with the road
the strength to tread it.—Johnson.