

## DO YOU THINK TO PRAY?

WERE you left your room this morning  
Did you think to pray?  
In the name of Christ, our Saviour,  
Did you sue for loving favour  
As a shield to-day?

When you met with great temptations  
Did you think to pray?  
By his dying love and merit  
Did you claim his Holy Spirit  
As your guide and stay.

When your heart was filled with anger  
Did you think to pray?  
Did you plead for grace, my brother,  
That you might forgive another  
Who had crossed your way?

When sore trials came upon you  
Did you think to pray?  
When your soul was bowed with sorrow,  
Balm of Gilead did you borrow  
At the gates of day?

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## Pleasant Hours:

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLK:

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

TORONTO NOVEMBER 29 1884

## A NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL RECITER.

**N**OTWITHSTANDING the great number of reciters in the market there is still a demand for something especially suited to Sunday-school needs. Most of those in vogue are too secular, too silly or even more objectionable. Our friend, C. W. Coates, of Montreal—a gentleman of long and varied Sunday experience, and the best conductor of Sunday-school entertainments we ever knew, has been for years collecting the material for the new Reciter, which he calls the "Acme S. S. Reader and Reciter" (pp. 192; price, paper, 35cts Methodist Book Rooms Toronto, Montreal and Halifax). It meets our approval better than any other that we know. It is not a mere collection of funny stories, though it is not without humour. But most of the pieces are marked by distinct moral purpose, either by direct religious teaching, or by heavy blows directed against drinking, dancing, smoking, idleness, etc. There are pieces for S. S. anniversaries, Christmas, missionary and other meetings. Some of them are quite touching, and several are adapted for introducing singing—in the way of echoes, refrains or the like. We believe that this book will add greatly to the pleasure and profit of Sunday-school gatherings.

## OUR SUNDAY-SCHOOL PERIODICALS FOR 1885.

**I**N order to meet in the fullest degree the need of the enlarged number of readers of these periodicals, resulting from the union of all the Methodist Churches of Canada, a new departure, and a great improvement in several of the periodicals, will take place. Neither money nor labour shall be spared in making them the best, the most attractive, and the cheapest lesson helps and Sunday-school papers in the world.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL BANNER, while retaining the same general features as heretofore, will be greatly improved. It will be printed in somewhat smaller, though very clear and legible type, so as to make room for a still fuller treatment of the lessons, and for the introduction of matter of special importance to Sunday-school teachers. The black-board and other illustrations will be more full than heretofore, and occasional illustrations of Bible scenes and themes will be given. The Rev. A. Andrews, Sunday-school Agent of the Guelph Conference, will prepare a special series of

## NORMAL CLASS EXERCISES,

which, it is believed, will be greatly helpful to teachers in the prosecution of their work. Every possible improvement will be adopted to keep the *Banner* in the very foremost rank of lesson helps. In order that every teacher in every school of the Methodist Church may have the aid of this unsurpassed teacher's monthly, its price will be uniformly sixty cents a copy, whether taken singly or in any number. This gives the individual teacher an equal advantage with the school which can take a large number. Thus

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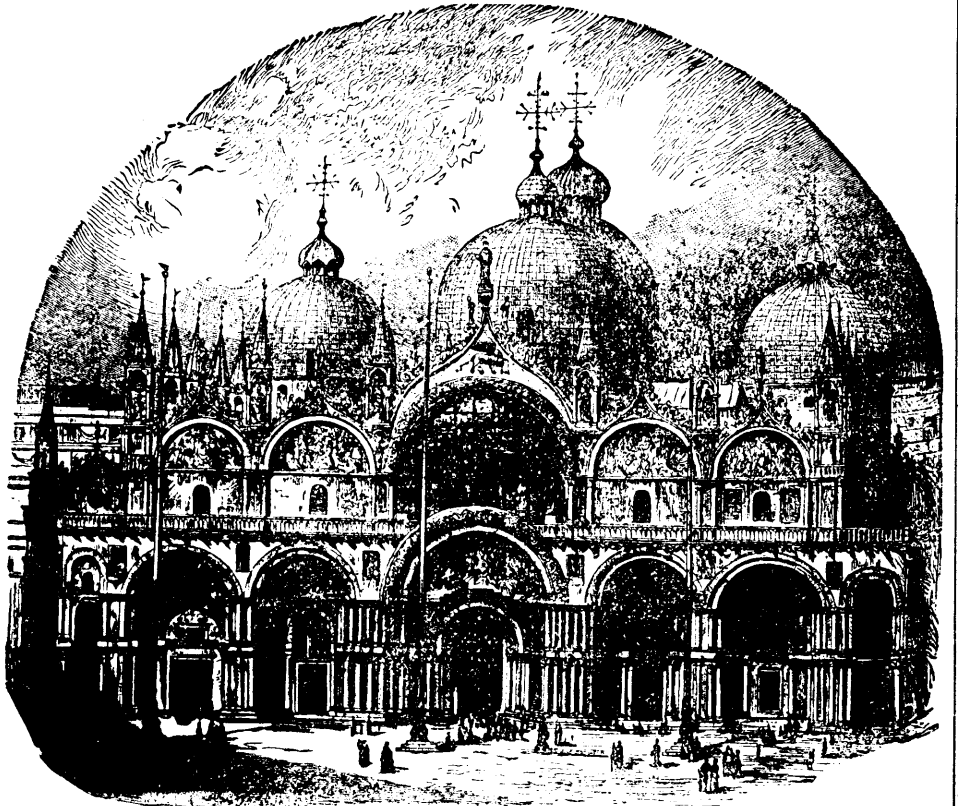
## THE BEREAN LEAF

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ST. MARK'S CATHEDRAL, VENICE.—(See next page.)

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The duty of itself being resolved on, the mode of doing it may be easily found.