

SUNDAY SCHOOL BANNER

for
TEACHERS
AND
YOUNG PEOPLE.

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The Bible.

THE light of the Word shines brighter and brighter.

As wider and wider God opens my eyes;
My trials and burdens grow lighter and lighter,
And fairer and fairer the Heavenly Prize.

The wealth of this world seems poorer and poorer.

As farther and farther it fades from my sight;

The prize of my calling seems surer and surer,
As straighter and straighter I walk in the light.

My waiting on Jesus is dearer and dearer,
As longer and longer I lie on His breast;
Without Him I'm nothing, seems clearer and clearer,

And more and more sweetly in Jesus I rest.

My joy in my Saviour is growing and growing,
And stronger and stronger I trust in His Word;

My peace like a river is flowing and flowing,
And harder and harder I lean on the Lord.

My praise and thanksgiving is swelling and swelling.

As broader and broader the promises prove;
The wonderful story I'm telling and telling,
And more and more sweetly I rest in His love.

—Edwin S. Robbins.

Opening the School.

A CORRESPONDENT from the Halsey Street M. E. Sunday-school, writes:

We do not know how extensively the bell is being used in Sunday-schools, but in our school it is a thing of the past, and we think it should

be so in every school in the county. After a tap on the bell is sounded, it usually takes a school that is in commotion some little time to quiet down, and quite often two or three taps are made before perfect order is secured. The sound of a bell is of too short duration to accomplish the end desired at once. Sometimes superintendents hammer away at the bell until it has secured a question who could stand it the longest, the superintendent or the bell.

A great improvement over this was the plan used for several years in the Halsey Street Sunday-school. Promptly at the time of opening, the organist selected some short piece of lively music and played it through. The school understood that when the music ceased they were expected to be in order and ready to begin the exercises of the afternoon. Under this plan there was seldom any difficulty experienced in beginning promptly when the music ceased. This plan is at present followed at the close of the lesson, with the same pleasant result.

The plan now in use at the opening of the school, however, is what may be called the honour or self-ruling system. The superintendent has thrown it upon the school that a half-past two (the time of opening), each officer, teacher and scholar shall be in place, and when the minute hand of the clock reaches the appointed time, perfect quiet prevails, and the school is ready for the duties of the session. It is seldom that the superintendent has to call attention to any neglect of this rule, or, if he does, it is only a word that is required. This is the pleasantest of all ways we have heard of, and works to the pleasure and profit of the entire school.—*New Jersey Sunday-school Messenger.*

LET us then live and die with Him who came to show us the true way to heaven; and let our only fear be lest we should not finish our sacrifice on the same altar whereon His was consummated.—*Fenelon.*