

SUNDAY SCHOOL BANNER

for
TEACHERS
AND
YOUNG PEOPLE.

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"Save the Boy."

See the Cataract! foaming madly,
Rainbow-wreathed, sweep thundering
down;

Whirling, crushing giant branches
Once the forest monarch's crown:
Nought can stay it, nought control it,
Vain man's power or skill, or steam;
How it flings his fetters from it
Like the fancies of a dream!
See the rock is worn and wasted,
Yet it turns not from its course,
In our feebleness and weakness
Let us trace it to its source.

Here it frets, and foams, and eddies,
Through the rapids rushing on;
There it spreads out placid, peaceful,
Mirroring the morning's dawn.
Backward! backward! 'ere the stream-
lets—

Flashing right and flashing left—
Feed it with their rolling riches,
From a thousand ravines cleft:
Now it glides a gentle river,
'Twixt its low banks, clad in green:
Yachts with snowy sails sweep down it;
What a peaceful, happy scene!

Backward still! Far up the mountain,
Nestling amid flowers and leaves;
Oozing, dripping, falling softly,
To its fountains close it cleaves;
And the feeble foot of childhood,
Nay,—the faintest finger touch—
Might divert the wondrous Cataract
That hath awed the world so much.

Hence the moral. Who may read it?
Read it right! its lesson scan,
Read and learn and act: well-knowing
"The child is father to the man."

Fathers! Mothers! train your children,
Moulding them with greatest care;
Living, acting, (not poor seeming);
Lives with records true and fair:
Just such lives your boys can proudly
Follow where your footsteps go;
Just such lives that you can truly
Say, I wish their manhood so!

Save the boy! If love can save him,
'Tis so hard to save the man;
Save the boy so nobly generous,
From the tempter's blight and ban.
Save the boy!—not at your boy only,
But the stranger in your land:
Meet him with a kindly greeting,
And a warm clasp of the hand;
Guide him where he may be useful,
Where his life-work may be joy;
God and conscience both approving,
While you strive to "save the boy."

ISABELLA.

St. John's, Nfld.

One of the best lessons any young person can learn is self-dependence. Too often the affection of parents becomes hurtful in overhelping children, making life too easy for them. It is better far for them that they be trained to depend upon themselves. "The chief want in life is somebody who shall make us do the best we can."—Westminster Teacher.