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## Sunday School Banner

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

TORONTO, JANUARY, 1903.

### On the Threshold.

AS we stand on the threshold of the New Year, before we lift the latch and enter in, it is wise to pause and think and pray for guidance and protection. What its issues shall be of joy or sorrow, of weal or woe, no wisest mind can forecast. Let us, therefore, put our hands trustfully in that of our blessed Saviour and Lord, and follow him whithersoever he leadeth, knowing that he will guide the trusting soul into all truth, into full salvation, into everlasting blessedness.

For six months the attention of the Sunday School world, embracing over twenty million teachers and students of the Word of God, will be focused upon the life and labors of St. Paul. St. Paul and Moses, whose characters we have been studying, stand out prominently, as we think, the greatest teachers of the age, and men who more than any others have

moulded the thought and mind of Christendom. We shall in our various periodicals devote special attention to St. Paul, the noblest figure of the Christian centuries. In our connexional monthly two finely illustrated articles, one on "Rome Revisited," the other on "The Footprints of St. Paul," will be of great interest to all Bible students.

For the second six months we shall resume the study of those grand heroes of God, the judges and early kings of Israel. In following their footsteps we shall learn many lessons from that olden life of three thousand years ago that will help the guidance of our lives to-day. It is a liberal education of no ordinary character to follow faithfully these Bible studies, for the teachers as well as the taught will derive untold benefit therefrom.

### Arrows from the New Year Bow.

IT is the season for aim-taking, for laying plans, for making resolutions.

At this and that mark people let fly their arrows. The air just now is as full of good purposes as a storm-atmosphere of snowflakes. Diogenes from his tub may look out and laugh at all this, but a good resolution, an arrow sent from the New Year bow at a worthy mark, has its value in spite of the sneer of Diogenes. All action dates back at a purpose. It will make a vast difference in our life and the lives of others because we took up the New Year bow and sent an arrow toward a good mark. Let us aim thoughtfully, in submission of our will to Christ's in a childlike trust. There may be a serious fault when people make their resolutions. There may be the expression of a hasty impulse. The arrow is shot carelessly. Sight your arrow carefully, and taking all strength from Jesus, send it out. We must not despise the hour when we sit down and, in the shadow of the cross, say, "I will."

What are some of the arrows we may well send out, some of the resolutions we may satisfactorily make?

Arrow one.—The Sunday School shall receive our special attention this year. No matter what we did in 1902, we will do more in 1903. No matter what we did not do; mistakes behind us shall not become Alps ahead of us. Let the past go. We will do more this year than ever before. Pull hard, send an arrow at that mark.