

## A New Starting-Point.

A HEARTY New Year's greeting to all co-workers and readers in every part of the Dominion.

Rejoice with us in the outlook of another year : for great is the honor conferred upon us that we are put into the ministry of God for the children.

Let us seek to enter on the varied labors of the year aright. As one has said—

*Begin humbly*—as those who feel the responsibility of such a trust.

*Begin trustfully*—as those unto whom are given "exceeding great and precious promises."

*Begin cheerfully*—as those who can sing, "The Lord of hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge," as those who feel a pride in the Eternal Name, and in wearing the livery of the Eternal King.

*Begin prayerfully*—lifting up earnest hearts "unto Him that is alive for evermore," knowing that without Him we can do nothing.

Beginning in this spirit we shall undoubtedly be blessed in our work.—S. S. Teacher.

## Slipping Away.

THEY are slipping away—these sweet, swift years,

Like a leaf on the current cast;  
With never a break in their rapid flow,  
We watch them as one by one they go  
Into the beautiful past.

As silent and swift as the weaver's thread,  
Or an arrow's flying gleam;  
As soft as the languorous breezes hid,  
That lift the willow's long golden lid,  
And ripple the glassy stream.

As light as the breath of the thistle-down,  
As fond as a lover's dream;  
As pure as the flush in the sea-shell's throat,  
As sweet as the wood-bird's wooing note,  
So tender and sweet they seem.

One after another we see them pass,  
Down the dim-lighted stair;  
We hear the sound of their steady tread,  
In the steps of the centuries long since dead,  
As beautiful and as fair.

There are only a few years left to love;  
Shall we waste them in idle strife?  
Shall we trample under our ruthless feet  
Those beautiful blossoms, rare and sweet,  
By the dusty way of life?

There are only a few swift years—ah, let  
No envious taunts be heard;  
Make life's fair pattern of rare design,  
And fill up the measure with love's sweet wine,  
But never an angry word!

—Selected.

## Opening and Closing Services.

## FIRST QUARTER.

## OPENING SERVICE.

I. Silence.

II. Responsive Service.

*Supt.* I was glad when they said unto me,  
Let us go into the house of the Lord.

*School.* Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

*Supt.* Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:

*School.* Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.

*Supt.* For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

*School.* Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee.

*Supt.* Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces.

*School.* For my brethren and companions' sake, I will now say, Peace be within thee.

*Supt.* Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.

III. Singing.

IV. Prayer.

## LESSON SERVICE.

I. Class Study of the Lesson.

II. Singing Lesson Hymn.

III. Recitation of Title, Golden Text, Outline, and Doctrinal Suggestion by the school in concert.

IV. Review and Application of the Lesson, by Pastor or Superintendent.

V. The Supplemental Lesson.

VI. Announcements (especially of the Church service, and week-evening prayer-meeting).

## CLOSING SERVICE.

I. Singing.

II. Responsive Sentences.

*Supt.* O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!

*School.* How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!

*Supt.* For him, and through him, and to him, are all things.

*School.* To him be glory forever. Amen.

III. Dismission.