

**THE WAY LOST AND
FOUND: A BOOK FOR THE
YOUNG, ESPECIALLY
YOUNG MEN, PP. 1-281**

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The Way Lost and Found: A Book for the Young, Especially Young Men, pp. 1-281 by Joseph F. Tuttle

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A BOOK FOR THE YOUNG,

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BY THE
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PREFACE.

To win the young to a life of virtue and happiness by winning them to the cross is the main purpose of these pages. If it shall seem to some that undue prominence has been given to the external virtues and their contrasted vices, let it be answered that this is an important means of leading one to see precisely what he is and what he needs. As this volume is given to the press for the instruction of young people, it is with the prayer to Him who alone can give the increase, and whose alone is "the excellency of the power," that he may own the work and bless it in its mission.

WABASH COLLEGE, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IND.
March 12, 1870.



THE WAY LOST AND FOUND.

CHAPTER I.

LOST THE WAY.

A YOUNG man at the West was once making his way through the forest to a farm some miles distant. The day was cloudy, and in a little time he became bewildered and lost. He could not tell which way was east, or which was north, or whether he was going toward home or away from it. The sensation is not an agreeable one, as those know who have experienced it. Suppose some skillful woodman had previously told the young man the curious fact that "*the moss is to be observed on the north side of forest trees,*" that here was a guide which the Indians and hunters will follow for miles and not be deceived. Ought not the young man in

such a case to look for this guide to determine his direction by finding out which way was north? Or suppose his father had put in his hands a little pocket compass, telling him if he were ever lost in the woods to consult that honest guide which always pointed north, now that he is lost ought he not to do as he was told?

The young are just entering a world in which a great many people have "lost their way" in a sadder sense than the young man lost his in the woods.

For example, a certain strong-minded man had fallen into skeptical society. He was a man of great mechanical ingenuity and he had read many books, "but as concerning the faith he had made shipwreck." As the years passed away his skepticism increased, and yet his success in business engrossed his mind too much to allow him to see whither he was tending. At last he gave up business to enjoy his old age undisturbed by the distractions which hitherto had made up so large a part of his life. With leisure came an unwelcome visitor in the form of anxiety about the future. "What am I? Is there a state of existence beyond the grave? Is death the end of man? Whither am I going?" Such ques-

tions as these gave him trouble, and he was as much bewildered and lost as one could be in the trackless forests of Canada. He had thrown away, or at least ceased to feel confidence in, the only compass that ever yet was a safe guide to man, and now in his old age he was wandering about in a distracted way, like a lost man, not knowing what to do or whither to go.

Another man, whose faith in Christianity and in the Bible had been insidiously undermined by a companion, when the shadows of life's afternoon began to lengthen said to a friend: "I would give all I have to believe the Bible to be God's book, but I cannot." He said it sadly and not captiously, and as he spoke his friend thought of one who has lost his way and is unable to find it.

Sometimes we see a man so completely bewildered as in a sort of blind despair to cast himself into the arms of the Papal Church. The father of such an one originally was a member of a Congregational church, but left it for another communion in which his son was educated. All the influences about him apparently were of a kind to help him onward in life and usefulness. After he was ordained the writings of the "Fathers" eclipsed the Bible, and the essential truths