

THE YOUNG MAN AND HIS PROBLEM

By James L. Gordon.

This page is devoted to the things that interest young men. The editor has a genuine desire to help men of this class, and shall be glad if they will write him about themselves. He does not promise to answer every question, but he will do what he can in the space allotted to him.

The Young Man and His Religion.

"The reason why the young man's religion is important is obvious. The young men of England are to rule England in a few years. They will have the spending of England's money and the selection of her rulers, the making of English character. Is England to be a merely selfish, worldly power during the twentieth century or is she to be a missionary of Jesus Christ, an apostle of peace, an embodiment of the grace of God?"

Dr. Marshall speaks for every nation in these ringing words. A young man's religion is important, because the future of his country depends upon his attitude to it. The christian young man asks, how much of purity, nobility of character, can I put into the world? Everyone else asks, "How much can I get out of it?"

Paul said, "I am a debtor," i.e., I owe the life of God that pulsates in me to every one I meet. As the young men are to-day, the country will be to-morrow. So the question of one's religion is important. Is it pleasure, or politics, or drink, or what? A religion is the thing that finally decides a man's life. Young men should choose their religion quickly; but let it be a choice that shall link itself with God in His work of salvation.

Choice of a Career.

Student writes: "I am a student and nearing graduation. I shall be obliged to seek a position in the commercial world; but after studying for three years, I find a growing dislike to a business career."

The case of Student is by no means exceptional. His state of mind is one to which every student is exposed when he has tasted the culture of the schools. But even a student must live, and to live one must have bread and butter. If your desires run to teaching, get a position by all means as a teacher; failing that, get work at anything that comes your way. A student's mind is very apt to be full of vagaries. He lives in a world that is not vitally real. It is not always safe for him to decide his calling while he is in college.

The self-made merchant says, "The fact of the matter is, that we're all in trade when we've got anything, from pork to poetry, to sell, and it's all foolishness to talk about one fellow's goods being sweller than another's."

Manners as an Asset.

The following is from Success:

"We find a great many men and women side-tracked all along the pathway of life because they were not taught the value of good manners and of a fine, gracious courtesy in their youth. The result is they have grown up hard and coarse and repulsive in manners, and have not been able to win favor or attract trade or business. Their bad manners have handicapped them in their careers."

We publish the above because it cannot be repeated too often to young men. A habit of speech, a dialect of leaving off an h, or the prominence of a mannerism are small in themselves, but they are fatal to success. There are big salaries awaiting the young fellow who knows how to approach people in the right way. No good business house will send a tradesman out on the road unless he has good manners. The traveller who gets the best orders is usually the fellow who is pleasant. Large corporations are eagerly seeking the boy who has a pleasant and refined deportment. All thy getting, get good ad-vice, for it is a better capital than

Church Union.

Simon S. Roberts writes: "I observe that there is an idea of holding union meetings of a religious nature during this summer in Winnipeg. It seems to be in the minds of some people that by all the churches uniting in this sort of thing they will appeal to so-called unconverted people."

"Now, what I want to ask is this. If the churches can unite in these meetings, why can't they unite for good and all? If they can work together in a tent, why can't they do so in the regular ways of worship? I believe many young men would like to ask questions such as these."

We received the above letter too late to enable us to make any extended remarks. We shall reserve a discussion of the subject until another issue. In passing it may be said, however, that the proposed union meetings for evangelistic work will be a general blessing. It is perhaps a suggestion of the larger union that church prophets predict. Mr. Roberts' letter brings up the subject of church union which is not yet consummated; but if he has any conviction

that have very attractive prospects, in electric power plant, also coal and oil stocks in the West. I am compelled to live in the Southern States and find it hard to decide. I will be glad of your opinion on these matters."

It is not within the scope of this department to advise young men where to invest their money. We must leave that, for those whose business it is to be posted upon the financial affairs of the West. I would, therefore, advise you, to get into touch with some reliable house, to whom you may confide your intentions. It can confidently be said, however, that there is a large field of operations opened to you in the West. Almost every town is growing, and to a man of means there are openings innumerable. You will be safe in looking up Canadian investments.

To be Successful Rise Early.

The members of a flourishing metaphysical sect believe that in rising and setting to work with the sun and retiring when his beams vanish lies the smooth and easy road to the universally desired success in one's chosen work. Great and famous men of many kinds and in many ages have practiced or expressed similar convictions. Early rising, of course, must be relative, regulated by common sense, and the hour of retiring, but there are many who believe that the early hours of the day are those in which good work may be most easily performed.

A Manly Man.

It is said that all the world loves a true lover, and in much the same way everybody loves a manly man. There is nothing grander or sweeter in life, unless it be a womanly woman.

All like a transparent character, but no one likes things which are covered up or concealed.

People who are uncertain of themselves, who are not sure of their characters, are always throwing up a defense to protect themselves against the close scrutiny of the world.

Frank people fling the doors of their hearts wide open, for they have nothing to conceal. They are what they seem, flaws and all; but secretive people whose histories have not been clear, who lack the self-confidence of true manhood, open their inner doors very carefully, very guardedly, lest others get glimpses of their unholy selves.

There is nothing which will help a young person to succeed more than a reputation for a clean, transparent, manly honesty and straightforwardness. We are afraid of people who are always on their guard, who do not quite dare to trust you to look into their inmost selves.—Success.

Chances for Young Men.

Why are there so many young men seeking a chance to demonstrate their ability—as they most always insinuate? And why are there so many that cannot find employment at all—as they insinuate? Surely there are opportunities galore. The trusts have not and never can monopolize them; nor have any of the other numerous conditions and insurmountable



By the River Side.

tions about the matter, he may translate them into work and push the proposed meetings.

How to Choose a Profession.

A. Y. Like writes: "I am twenty-three years of age and received a good education in England, but learned no profession, with the exception of a part of a year in legal studies. The large interest aroused in England by reports of Canada turned my mind in this direction, but I find myself much disappointed in conditions here. I have secured a position as conductor on the city tram but feel that I am equal to something better. Feeling that you have large opportunities for studying conditions here I will be glad of any advice you could give me."

My advice to all young men in like circumstances is to take any position they can get until a better one opens. A man must live. Probably the work you are now doing is the very best for you. It will be a change from the law office and supply you with the health which comes from outdoor work.

Wants to Invest.

H. D. Coolmead writes: "I am a stranger in this country with considerable money, which I would like to invest in a safe way. Several offers have come to me of lots in cities and towns, which are apparently very prosperous. I have also been looking at unimproved farm lands. In addition, I have had offers of stocks in several companies

Gladstone rose and began work early, as did Bacon. Everyone knows Franklin's homely couplet about 'early to bed and early to rise.'"

"Sleep little," says Locke; "great sleepers become brutalized."

Aristotle, anxious to overcome a habit of too long sleep, used to extend his hand, according to Diogenes Laertius, holding a brass ball, while in bed. The falling of his ball into a basin of the same metal was his self-planned alarm at certain hours. Frederick the Great, feeling that he lay too late in bed, issued orders that a wet towel should be thrown over his face at a given time. Until the end of his life he rose at 4 o'clock every morning, as did Henry IV. of France.

John Quincy Adams always rose early. Rockefeller, Russell Sage, and Mrs. Hetty Green are invariably up betimes, while several of the world's greatest money makers confess to an "unlucky feeling" if they lie late or oversleep. Thomas Edison can scarcely be said to rise early, since he only retires by snatches, and can pass a remarkably long period of time without rest. The metaphysicians, mental scientists, and occultists of the present day who so strongly advocate early rising and retiring, declare that the best magnetic conditions are thereby attained, and point with pride to the long list of renowned and distinguished men and women who have risen with the dawn.

What is said to be the first steamer launched under the Cuban flag since the independence of the island was launched last month at Belfast. She is a vessel of 1,300 tons, named the Regina.

Work! That one little word means rest to the weary soul—forgetfulness of heart-aches and disappointments—proof and protection against the temptations of an idle mind—hope for the despondent.

obstacles, mentioned by the numerous work-fearing army, any connection with the matter at all.

The whole trouble is, that where sufficient energy exists things move; where there is no energy things are stable. The demand for ability and good workers was never so great as now, while laziness, lashing and pool playing are a drug on the market.

There are chances and positions beyond number for competent men, but none for clock-ologists or the numerous phenomena that can do "anything." Whether a man is a day laborer or a king there is nothing to prevent him from doing his work well, and that is what brings, or in fact is, success.

All people are supposed to have genius for some individual thing, but unfortunately, that genius is frequently for doing nothing, or at least doing nothing thoroughly. Man, like water, will find his proper level—that is where the fault is. Without a knowledge of arithmetic it is folly to think of mastering geometry; but it is logical to shun work, boast, waste time and imagine one's self a paragon of ability (?).

There is one character familiar to us all—whom everyone knows; he is run down at the heels, seedy in appearance, penniless and in debt; his continual excuse is that he could make a fortune if such and such a thing did not prevent him. Then there are many others who can find no chances, partly through natural incompetence, though generally because of wilful neglect. With the man rests everything—his merit or demerit, his success or failure.—George Knapp.

It is said that the short fellows always like to stand on their dignity—if this be so they are certainly setting a worthy example to some of their longer brothers.