

## OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

### WORK FOR LITTLE ONES.

There is no little child too small  
To work for God;  
There is a mission for us all  
From Christ the Lord.

'Tis not enough for us to give  
Our wealth alone:  
We must entirely for Him live,  
And be His own.

Though poverty our portion be,  
Christ will not slight  
The lowliest little one, so be  
With God be right.

Father, oh give us grace to see  
A place for us,  
Where, in Thy vineyard, we for Thee  
May labour thus.

### HOW GOD SENT THE BIBLE TO US.

Deut. vi. 6, 7: "These words which I command thee this day shall be in thine heart: and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children."

GOD sent these words mostly to fathers and mothers, but there is something in them for the children also to think about. But first let me tell you that God told each one of the Jewish people who worshipped Him to make two little black boxes about half as long as my little finger each way, and to put into each of them the three best things that were in his Bible. They called these boxes by a long name—phylacteries. God commanded that each man should often tie one of these boxes on his forehead as a "frontlet between the eyes," and the other as "a sign" on his arm. The one on the forehead was to make the man think often about God, and about what God had told him to do, and what God told him not to do. The box on his arm was to make him remember that he ought to do all he could for God with his arm, and with all his might. The man wore these boxes when he went to business or pleasure, as well as when he went to synagogue, that is, to church, so that he would think of God in work and sport as well as in worship. After a while some of the people grew so proud that they made the boxes very "broad" and large, and the straps to fasten them very wide, and Jesus told them that was not right, because it was making people think of them instead of God.

Now I must tell you what verses of the Bible were in the little boxes. Only a part of the Bible had been written then—only Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy—the books which God told Moses to write; not quite one-fifth as much as our Bible. But there were very many wonderful things in their Bible. Now, can you guess what three things in that little Bible God would choose as the best, and have the people put in their phylacteries? Well, one was the story of the passover, when each family killed a lamb at God's command, and sprinkled the blood on the outside of the house, beside the door, to save their lives from the destroying angel, who would kill one in every house where they did not obey God and sprinkle the blood. This was to teach the people that Jesus was coming, after a while, to be as gentle as a lamb, and to be punished in our stead by shedding his blood on the cross.

Another thing in each box was the great commandment, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart." The third Bible portion in each box was the verse which I read as a text, about teaching God's word to the children. "These words which I command thee this day shall be in thine heart; and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children."

One reason for putting that in was to make the parents think a great deal about the children, and about showing them how to do right and be happy.

Another reason for putting those words in the box, was to shew the children how much their heavenly Father—God—thinks about them, and how much He wants them to love Him, and to tell others about the Bible and the Saviour. God gave the Ten Commandments and a great many others to Moses to give to the Jews who were living at that time—very long ago. But God wished to have His laws taught to people who should live long, long after Moses should die, and in places far off from where Moses lived. How could God get His Commandments and His Bible carried far across the sea to children of England and America in this far-off time? I will tell you how God did it. He told Moses to have the fathers and mothers teach the Bible to the children, and to tell the children that when they grew up to be fathers and mothers themselves, they must teach the Bible to their children; and so the words of God have come down from long ago and far-off lands to us, through the children's hearts and hands. God gave His law to Moses for the Jews, but to the children for the world.

We ought to be very thankful for the Bible that God has sent to us by the children from so far away, and so long ago, and learn much of it by our memories, and love it very much in our hearts as our Father's loving letter, and tell others about it with our lips, and send it to others far away by giving all the missionary money we can next Sabbath. Let us thank God every day for the Bible which he sent us from heaven, to shew us how we can go to heaven.

"How precious is the Book divine,  
By inspiration given!  
Bright as a lamp its doctrines shine;  
To guide our souls to heaven."

### DO YOU THINK TO PRAY?

Ere you left your room this morning,  
Did you think to pray?  
In the name of Christ, our Saviour,  
Did you sue for loving favour,  
As a shield to-day?

When you met with great temptations,  
Did you think to pray?  
By His dying love and merit,  
Did you claim the Holy Spirit,  
As your guide and stay?

When your heart was filled with anger,  
Did you think to pray?  
Did you plead for grace, my brother,  
That you might forgive another  
Who had crossed your way?

When sore trials came upon you,  
Did you think to pray?  
When your soul was bowed with sorrow,  
Balm of Gilead did you borrow  
At the gates of day?

### "SOMETHING HAS GONE WRONG."

"WHY, that's not four o'clock! It cannot be so late!" exclaimed Minnie, starting from the seat on which she had been amusing herself with a book, while her work lay neglected beside her. "I looked at the great clock not ten minutes ago, and I'm sure that the long hand had not reached quarter past three."

"Oh, did you not know that something was the matter with the great clock?" replied her aunt, who, with her bonnet and shawl on, had just come down stairs, prepared to accompany her on a walk. "Since yesterday it has gone quite wrong; it strikes one hour and points to another. I think that the hands must be loose."

"Something has gone wrong, indeed!" cried the

child, with impatience, "and I will never trust it again."

She looked up, and saw a quiet smile on the face of the lady. "Aunt, what are you thinking of?" she said quickly.

Her aunt glanced down at the unfinished seam, from which the needle and thread hung dangling down. "Did you not promise to have that ready before four?" said she.

"Yes," replied Minnie, looking a little ashamed, "but—but—"

"But there is somebody, I fear, besides the great clock, whose hands are in fault; who is swift to promise and slow to perform; whose words say one thing, and whose actions say another. Shall I repeat your own words, Minnie, and say, something has gone wrong, indeed, and I will never trust her again?"

Dear young reader, ever keep this in mind, that our words and our actions should agree, as the hands of a good clock with the chime of its bells. Never make a promise rashly; but, if once made, let no pleasure, no feeling of indolence, tempt you for one moment to break it. Let no one ever be able to say, in speaking of the word which you had given, but not kept, "Something has gone wrong, indeed, and I never will trust him again!"

### THE LORD WILL PROVIDE.

A MOTHER, one morning, gave her two little ones books and toys to amuse them while she went upstairs to attend to something. A half hour passed quietly away, when one of the little ones went to the foot of the stairs, and in a timid voice cried out,

"Mamma, are you there?"

"Yes, darling."

"All right," said the child, and the play went on. After a little time the voice again cried,

"Mamma, are you there?"

"Yes, darling."

"All right," said the child again, and once more went on with her play.

And this is just the way we should feel toward Jesus. He has gone up stairs to the right hand of God to attend to some things for us. He has left us down in this lower room of the world to be occupied here for a while. But to keep us from being worried by fear or care, He speaks to us from His Word, as that mother spoke to her little ones. He says to us, "Fear not; I am with thee." "Jehovah-jireh," the Lord will provide.

### TO THE BOYS.

DO you fully realize what it is to be a boy, walking with rapid strides towards manhood in this stage of the world's history? Do you think how great is the present demand for the best, the noblest, and the strongest boy-material out of which men can be made? You long to be a man; but do you know how much the word "man" means, or should mean? Do you know that it is a grand and noble thing to be a true man? What boy's heart does not beat with high exultation as he looks forward a few short years to manhood? But do you know "the boy is father to the man," and that manhood is stamped with the characteristics and features which boyhood exhibits?

Are you such manly boys that your most intimate friends have no occasion to fear your becoming boyish men? Are you so obedient to all legitimate authority now, that you give promise of becoming law-loving men hereafter? Are you so truly noble and honourable in your dealings with your comrades while at play, that your honour will be above suspicion as business men in after-days?