

THE CHILDREN'S RECORD.

profit, but for service to God and in doing good to our fellow men.

The Sabbath was made for man, not for his pleasure, but for his good, for rest of body and mind, for works of necessity and mercy and worship, for learning of God and Christ, and the way to heaven, for learning how to live here, and to fit for life hereafter.

Neglect of the Sabbath, using it for their own pleasure, has led many a one astray. Many a young man has dated his ruin from the time when he began to go pleasuring on the Sabbath day.

A FRIENDLY GAME OF CARDS.

The crimes of one year, having their origin in gambling, have been gathered from the papers of 1890, by Anthony Comstock, agent for the Society for the Suppression of Vice.

One hundred and twenty-eight persons were either *shot* or *stabbed* over gambling games. Six attempted *suicide*, twenty-four committed suicide, and *sixty* persons were *murdered* in cold blood, while two were *driven insane*. Sixty-eight persons have been ruined by pool-gambling and betting upon horse-racing.

Among the crimes committed to get money to gamble with are two burglaries, eighteen forgeries, and eighty five embezzlements, while thirty-two persons holding positions of trust in banks and other places of mercantile life *absconded*.

The enormous sum of \$2,888,372 is shown by this same record as the proceeds of the embezzlements and defalcations. To these crimes must be added a long list of thefts, robberies, embezzlements, larcenies, and defalcations which are never known except to immediate friends or persons especially interested.

Add to these, the neglect of home, abandonment of families, cruelty to wives and children, robbery of the poor, swindling of strangers and country people coming to the city, the shame and disgrace of decent and respectable people who are inveigled into the toils of gamblers, stripped of everything, and driven out disgraced, dishonored, and broken in spirit, to face their friends who feel and share the shame they have brought upon them; and then look beyond and see the perdition that awaits the robbers, murderers, swindlers, criminals, and suicides caused by this vice, and you can see what follows "a friendly game of cards."

An excellent thing to say in answer to an invitation to join in "a friendly game of cards" is, "I do not know one card from another"; and a good answer when urged to sit down to a card table is, "I do not know how to play cards, and I have no desire to learn." *Missionary outlook.*

MOTHER'S APRON STRINGS.

"Charley, Charley!" clear and sweet as a note struck from a silver bell the voice rippled over Hadley Common.

"That's mother," cried one of the boys, and he instantly threw down his bat and picked up his jacket and cap.

"Don't go yet! Have it out!"

"Finish this game! Try it again," cried the players.

"I must go—right off—this minute. I told her I'd come whenever she called."

"Make believe you didn't hear!" they exclaimed.

"But I did hear."

"She won't know you did."

"But I know it, and—"

"Let him go," said a bystander. "You can't do anything with him; he is tied to his mother's apron strings."

"That's so," said Charles, "and it's to what every boy ought to be tied, and in a hard knot, too."

"I wouldn't be such a baby as to run the minute she called."

"I don't call it babyish to keep one's word to his mother," answered the obedient boy, a beautiful light glowing in his blue eyes. "I call that manly; and the boy who does not keep his word to her will never keep it to any one else—you see if he does," and he hurried away to his cottage home.

Thirty years have passed since those boys played on the common. Charley Gray is a prosperous business man in the great city, and his mercantile friends say of him that his word "is his bond."

We asked him how he acquired such a reputation.

"I never broke my word when a boy, no matter how great the temptation, and the habits formed then have clung to me through life."

Published by Authority of the General Assembly of
The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

The Children's Record.

30c. yearly, in advance. In parcels of 5 or more, 15c.

The Presbyterian Record.

50c yearly, in advance. In parcels of 5, or more, 25c.

Subscriptions at a proportionate rate; may begin at any time, but must not run beyond December.

Please order direct from this office, and remit by P.O. order or registered letter.

EDITOR: REV E. SCOTT.
Office, Y.M.C.A. Building, Montreal.