

great advantage. "A little wine, a little brandy is good for you," Satan says, "what a pleasant time you will have if you only take a little." Yes, a little water trickling out of the mill-dam unheeded rapidly widens the breach and soon a roaring torrent will carry all before it as it rushes down the valley. The beginning of sin is like the letting out of water. A tiny germ grows to a big tree; a little leaven leavens the whole lump. The first glass of beer may lead to eternal ruin. The first cigar may lead to a poisoned and enfeebled frame, mental weakness, and an early grave. A trifling disobedience may have tremendous results. A little fruit cost our first parents the pleasures of Eden and entailed a world of misery.

Then a craving after unknown things is also a source of great temptation to boys and girls in their teens. Satan stimulates the vanity of many to boast of their misdeeds that the young listener may be charmed to follow the same vice; one who thinks that he has a larger experience by living a fast and loose life often awakens unholy desires in the minds of his companions. The boy is often measured by his shrewdness, his wit and wisdom. There is a glamour about knowing more than our neighbours, and forbidden ways are sometimes chosen to acquire wisdom. In the books they read the youth of his generation are beset by temptations on every hand. Satan has willing agents in diffusing an unhealthy literature, and thereby it sometimes finds its way even into the libraries of our Sabbath schools. Nothing will dwarf your mind and unfit you for the duties of life like giving yourself over to the intoxication of following the hero of a dime novel. Boys and girls may think that these things are "to be desired to make one wise," but they do not reckon the fearful cost of such wisdom. These three temptations: The lust of the eye; appetite; and a thirst for unlawful knowledge, are as bad in their results to-day, as they were at the world's beginning, and the prince of evil is constantly urging us on to our ruin. Little do we know how many unseen agencies are at work drawing us into the wrong way; and were it not that there is a greater power than Satan's, and a new and living way opened by Him who could not be tempted, and who has promised that in every temptation He will make a way of escape for us "that we may be able to bear it" we might despair. These better influences leading to the right way will be the subject of our next paper.

Not long ago, a South-Sea Islander was dying. As he was talking about heaven, he said to the missionary who was standing near: "When I get to heaven, I shall, first of all, praise and thank Jesus for having saved a poor creature like me. Then I'll tell him about you; for it was you who first told me the way to heaven. Then I'll look about and see where the door is through which the spirits go up; and, if I find such a place, I will sit and wait for you. When you come, oh, what a happy day that will be! Afterwards I'll take you by the hand, and lead you to Jesus, and say to him: 'Jesus, Jesus, this is the man I told you about.'"