

SOMETHING FOR BOYS TO REMEMBER.

A few days since a man, who had been for years in a position where he employed a large number of men, suddenly passed away.

Among those who came to look upon his quiet face was a young man, who seemed to be much affected, and when he was going out of the house he turned to one of the members of the family and said: "I have lost one of my best and truest friends.

"When I was a little boy I carried water to the men on the public works. I naturally disliked my occupation and shirked it as often as I could. I carried the pail of water in such a way that half of it was spilled out. I should have been discharged, had it not been for that friend, who took me aside and told me if I ever wished to be an upright workman, I must do my work in the best possible way, even if it was distasteful to me.

"I was a poor boy and my mother needed the money I earned to help her to keep her family together, and he kindly told me this and offered to try me again. I began to feel an honest pride in my menial labor and did my best carrying the water; soon I was promoted to laying the brick, and again I became careless and tumbled them in without regard to good workmanship. They were laid in sewers, and what matter how they went in as long as they were out of sight, but my elderly friend talked with me again about my poor workmanship, and told me he could not pass on my work as good work when it was not. Its being out of sight only made the slight of greater importance.

"Putting his hand on my shoulder, he said: 'My boy, there is plenty of poor work done in the world, but as long as you live be determined to do your very best, whether it is open to inspection or not. Be upright and true in all your dealing and you will find that you will always be wanted for a responsible place in life.' Now I am an inspector of that very kind of work and those early words of counsel have enabled me to do my work and see that others did it in a right manner."

We all know that it requires patience and perseverance to do a piece of work properly, and that the temptation to shirk it, especially if there are other things we wish to do much more, is very strong. Now boys, every time you do your work in the best manner, when you are tempted to slight it, you gain a victory over your spirit, which strengthens your character and makes you feel the satisfaction of being a boy who can be trusted with important duties. Fidelity, honesty and integrity are three characteristics much needed in this age of corruption and dishonest money getting.—S. T. P.

TOTAL ABSTINENCE.

A LITTLE SPEECH FOR A LITTLE BOY.

Perhaps you think a little boy
Can hardly understand

The message that the temperance folks
Would send through all the land.

But this I know—that want and woe
In drunkards' homes are found;
And places where they buy their drinks,
Are open all around.

For liquor and tobacco, too,
More money goes, they say,
Than all the people in the land
For bread and meat now pay.

Some think a little does no harm,
It makes them feel so nice;
But, ah! it is more dangerous
Than skating on thin ice.

A little makes you soon want more;
And more and more you crave.
At last, to alcoholic drinks,
You find yourself a slave.

The chains begin to bind your soul,
When first you take a drop.
Before you take a single drink,
That is the time to stop.

The people of St. Petersburg will abandon all entertainments this winter, and devote to the famine relief fund the money thereby saved.

It is a noteworthy fact that the suicides in the French army are nearly double what they were two years ago. Absence of all religious belief is bearing its fruits.

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