

## Children's Corner.

## How God Called Frank.

Frank, a boy from the city, had been picking raspberries in the woods. As he was on his way home a violent storm arose. It began raining and lightning, and to thunder fearfully. Frank was very much frightened, and crept into a hole in an old oak tree not far from the roadside. He did not know that lightning is very apt to strike a hollow tree. But all at once he heard a voice that called: "Frank! Frank! come quickly!"

Frank jumped instantly from the tree; but he had gone scarcely a hundred feet, when the lightning struck the oak. The ground quaked beneath the terrified boy, and it seemed as if he was standing in the midst of fire. But he was not hurt at all, and exclaimed, with raised hand: "That voice came from heaven! Thou, O dear Lord, hast saved me!"

But on a more the voice was heard: "Frank! Frank! do you not hear?"

He looked around, and saw a peasant woman who was calling. Frank ran to her and said: "Here I am. What do you want of me?"

"I did not mean you, but my own little Frank," the woman replied. "He was watching the geese by the brook. See! there he comes at last, out from the bushes."

Frank, the boy from the city, related how he had taken her voice as a voice from heaven. Then the peasant folded her arms devoutly, and said: "O my child, do not thank God any the less that the voice came from the mouth of a poor peasant woman. It was He who willed that I should call your name, although I knew nothing about you."

"Yes, yes," said Frank; "God served Himself by your voice, but my escape came from heaven."

Always remember, dear readers, that safety depends, not on accident or chance, but on your Heavenly Father.

## "Would You Dare Tell God That?"

Mary is a thoughtful little girl. She is very careful about what she says. Her brother is quite unlike her in this respect. She thinks before she speaks, while he speaks and thinks afterwards—and very often, when too late, he is sorry for or ashamed of what he has said.

One day he came home very angry with a schoolmate about something which had happened on the play-ground. He told Mary about it, and the more he thought and talked of it the angrier he grew, and he began to say terribly harsh, bitter and unreasonable things about his comrade. Some of the things he said Mary knew were not true; but he was too angry and excited to weigh his words. She listened for a moment, and then said, gently:

"Would you dare to tell God that, Ralph?"

Ralph paused as if some one had struck him. He felt the rebuke implied in her words, and he realized how wickedly and untruthfully he had spoken.

"No, I wouldn't tell God that," he said, with a red face.

"Then I wouldn't tell it to anybody," said Mary.

"Oh, that's all right for you to say," said Ralph; "but if you had such a temper as I've got—"

"I'd try to get control of it," said his sister, gently. "When it's likely to get the upper hand of you, just stop long enough to think, 'Would I dare tell God that?' and it won't be long before you'll break yourself of saying such terrible things."—*Young People's Paper.*

## Playing like a Christian.

The spiritual intuition of children is often as accurate as it is impressive. Here is an instance named by a speaker when addressing a Sunday-school. He said: "I once heard of two little children, a boy and a girl, who used to play a great deal together. They were converted. One day the boy came to his mother and said:

"I know that Emma is a Christian."

"What makes you think so, my child?"

"Because, mother, she plays like a Christian."

"Plays like a Christian!" said the mother. The expression sounded a little odd.

"Yes," replied the child, "if you take everything she's got, she doesn't get angry. Before, she was selfish; and if she didn't have everything her own way, she would say, 'I won't play with you; you are an ugly little boy.'"—*Ec.*

## To Him That Overcometh.

BY REV. THEODORE L. CUYLER, D. D.

There is a glowing list of promises in the New Testament "to him that overcometh;" they are enough to fire every Christian heart, and more than satisfy his highest aspirations. God's promise to the victor in the spiritual warfare that he shall have eat of the tree of life in paradise; that he shall have the white stone, inscribed with the new name; that he shall be clothed in white raiment; that he shall become a pillar in the celestial temple; that he shall become a sharer in the glory of his triumphant Saviour and King. These are the splendid final rewards of all those who, through Jesus Christ, come off conquerors. These are the crowns laid up in heaven.

But the fighting and the crown-winning have got to be done down here in this world. Conversion by the Holy Spirit does not end the warfare; it really only begins it. Converting grace is a free gift, but it is not a crown. Just as soon as you give your heart to Jesus you are enlisted for a conflict, and a conflict that will continue until the last blow is struck. You will not get to heaven before your time. When we enlist for Jesus, He furnishes us our weapons, and commands us to put on the whole armor; if any part is left exposed to the enemy, the point becomes the point of danger.

Of one thing you may rest assured, and that is, that, in a genuine, earnest, Christian life, conflict is unavoidable; you cannot escape it if you would. Conversion to the core, which is the only conversion worth having, means a declaration of war. It is really a challenge to the devil. The only way to avoid a fight with him is to carry a dark lantern, and be content to creep along in a byway with soft moccasins under your feet. Even there Satan manages to discover the coward and the timewasters, and makes them ground arms and surrender. Out of the vast number of church-members in our country, I wonder how many there are who can report themselves every morning to their Master as "fit for duty." How many of them begin each day by grasping the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, and putting on the shield of faith by fervent prayer? We never know what day may be a day of special temptation and assault by the adversary, and the times in which we lay our armor off and overestimate our own strength are the disastrous days in our life record.

But, my dear friends, conflicts with sin and Satan are not only inevitable, they are actually desirable. We could not avoid them if we could. You cannot have a well-developed, robust, godly character without them. Oak-trees are not planted in hot-houses. Men are not made soldiers for Jesus Christ by putting on a handsome uniform and enrolling their names in a church register. In order to acquire spiritual stamina, and attain to any effective holiness (by which I mean not merely holiness for prayer-meetings, but for out-door, rough weather), you have got to meet temptation and fight for your life! Our blessed Master began His earthly ministry by going up into a wilderness place "to be tempted of the devil." Stout old Paul had his "thorn in the flesh" to encounter. In that prayer which our Lord teaches us, we pray every day, "bring us not into temptation," but that does not mean that we must ask God never to allow us to be tempted. The whole sentence must be read together. "Ering us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil." That petition asks our divine Leader never to let us encounter any assault, any trial, or any conflict without giving us the strength to overcome the adversary. To him that overcometh belongs not only the joy of victory, but the added spiritual sinew that fighting gives him.

Since conflict is both inevitable and is often desirable, how are we to overcome the adversary, and to turn temptation into glorious gain? Napoleon used to say that the secret of victory

was to be always able to throw a stronger force than the enemy could into the pivotpoint of the battle. The apostle John emphasizes the same idea in spiritual warfare when he says: "Whosoever is begotten of God overcometh the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." The word faith here signifies not an opinion, but the actual grip of the soul on Christ, and the vital union of our souls with Christ. When our Lord cautions His disciples against "the world," He refers to the sum total of the sinful influences that surround us. The selfishness that cares not for God, the covetousness that worships Mammon, the fashions that aim to tyrannize our consciences, the sheer godlessness that recognizes no Bible but a ledger, and no heaven but a fine mansion or a high social position, and dreads no hell but poverty, or obscurity, or the downfall of ambition—all these, and such as these, a soldier of Jesus must put under his feet. We must conquer worldliness or it will enslave us.

Dangerous as the devil is, dangerous as worldly amusements are, the most dangerous enemy that we often have to encounter walks in our shoes. That cunning, artful, smooth-tongued heart-devil self is the foe that needs the most constant watching, and subjects us to the worse defeats. "The flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh, and these are contrary the one to the other." Paul had a tremendous battle along these lines, beating down his carnal nature by hard blows, and the old hero was able at the last to shout: "I have fought a good fight; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness!" Whoever among my readers has, by God's help, laid his desires, his plans, his purposes, his property, and, above all, his own will, at the feet of Jesus Christ, is already one of the overcomers. He already begins to wear clean raiment, and the omniscient eye of God discerns on his brow the first flashings of the victor's crown!

## Religious News.

Meetings good especially St. Andrews. prayer meetings. Since my last report I think

three have been baptized at St. Andrews and one at Bayside. I exchanged with Bro. Sables Sunday, August 5th. I preached four times and drove over forty miles. He has plenty of work and is doing it well. I also went up the Tobique, spent five days with Bro. Sterling to over Sabbath the 12th inst., preached some six times and baptized, gave hand of fellowship to two candidates. Surely Bro. S. is doing a good work. I was at Brick Ridge, Long Island, and Sission Ridge, Reed Settlement, and in one fine house at Linton Corner, held four meetings, good congregations, and our cause is prospering up the Tobique and am so much pleased to find Brother Sterling hard at work, very punctual to his appointments and highly spoken of by all I met everywhere and by other denominations. Hope for better days on the Tobique.

J. W. S. YOUNG.

Work has begun on our TABERNACLE CHURCH, new church building, St. JOHN Haymarket Square. We

expect to occupy it the first day of January, 1901. When completed it will comfortably seat 500 people. The lot of land on which the building is to stand, although narrow for our purpose, is in a splendid location. St. John is rapidly growing in that part of the city and our church being the only church situated there, is sure to become numerically one of the strongest churches in the city. As our church is composed largely of poor people we are finding it the struggle of our life to raise the funds necessary for the completion of the building. Germain St., Main St., Carleton and Fredericton churches have been most generous in helping us. On August 19th I exchanged with Pastor Field of the Musquash and Dipper Harbor church. In response to an appeal they subscribed nearly \$50 towards the erection of our new church building. No more generous-hearted people can be found anywhere than on this field. My first pastorate in 94-95 was spent with them and I remember with gratitude the many acts of kindness they bestowed upon me. Pastor Field has entered on