Vor. XIV.]

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AN AUTUMN SCENE.

No doubt many of our readers in their Jaunts to the country this fall looked upon a scene like that we give on this page. Indeed we have not known a fall for many years when the forests put on such a gorgeous hue as this one. Some trees looked almost like huge bonfires, so bright was their colour, and yet as you looked they were not consumed. It makes one feel sad at times while rambling through the way feeling and to the woods to see the leaves falling and to hear the autumn winds sighing through the trees. It will not be long until the trees will be bare of their bright leaves, and then the snow will remind us that we have passed from autumn to winter.

FOR THE BOYS AND GIRLS.

BY ROSE CLARKE.

"A LITTLE boy," so a Junior said on the subject of "Evil Habits," "had a habit of holding his thumb in his mouth. Who he grew older he was ashamed of this practice, and tried to break himself of it, but he could not, so he had his thumb cut off." This story filled our little

Juniors with consternation, but it had its effect on their young minds.

If one can cling so tenaciously to early formed habits, why not encourage the youth to form "churchly" habits—habits of considering religious things? So the of considering religious things? So the pastor and the senior young people thought as they set about forming a junior society.

The junior society has committees as the seniors do. They are: Look-out, Prayer-meeting, Sunday-school, music, Sunships, and social committees. Sunshine committee member seemed deaple in each arms something that seemed as the sunshine committee work done by each. At one of these meetings a Sunshine committee member seemed deaple in each arm something that she deeply grieved over something that she wanted to tell. When asked to speak she said: "Why, Miss Clark, no one has been sick this month." Her duty was to take flowers or fruit to the sick.

The inner society may be a wonderful

The junior society may be a wonderful Christian character builder. But we would beware of starting a society without fully understanding the work to be done. Disrespect for God's house; careless handling of sacred books, or jesting uses of divina respect for God's house; careless handling of sacred books, or jesting uses of divine words, are readily learned by the young. Habits may be formed that serve to harden the heart and to set the will against sacred things. Better never, never, NEVER have a child attempt a sacred ordinance than to let him carelessly perform it.

There are some boys and girls that, if not led to respect sacred things while young.

led to respect sacred things while young. can never be won for Christ after; like "the wild olive tree in Palestine, if grafted when young it is a good tree; but if left to the fruiting time, it is good for nothing but fuel"

To interest the boys most effectually in this work, we believe in making them responsible for an organization of their own—and, in junior work only, not have boys and girls in the same meetings, for, quoting Rev. Fatheringham's words "Boys like to have their own meetings. They are at the age when they despise girls for what they have not, and haven't come to appreciate them for the charms they have. They are sheepish and boisterous (I don't speak of well-bred, gentlemanly boys, but of the average unregenerate embryo man) when girls are present, and will not act or speak freely, except in purely masculine company. To interest the boys most effectually in freely, except in purely masculine company. The leader, too, must talk to them in a different fashion from what he would employ in a class of girls of the same age.

It is wonderful how susceptible these young minds are to religious truths. Impressions are made when they are mat to-



gether that are carried home with them and gether that are carried home with them and affect their future thought and action. At one meeting the superintendent was reviewing the pledge. She talked to them of the necessity of keeping a promise made to anyone, especially one made to God. Several days after she learned of several ways the juniors had taken to remember ways the juniors had taken to remember and keep the pledge. One had tacked her pledge-card on the footboard of her bed, that when she should awake she could fulfil

The father of one of the juniors (who was The tather of one of the jumors (who was not a church member) had been very sick all day. On the following morning his daughter received an affirmative reply to augnter received an attirmative reply to her questions as to his health—he felt much better—at which she responded quietly, "I knew you would, papa, for I prayed for you last night." Is not this an example of perfect faith?

One little member said that she does not ask God for the same thing in the same way every night; if she does, she does not feel what she says

It is one of the rules of the superintendent of this society to say nothing to a junior about joining the church. If, in her judgment, she is convinced that a member is prepared for such a relationship, she speaks to the pastor of that one. The society has been organized about ten months. time two have been baptized and taken into the Church.

After our short experience in this work, we are more deeply impressed than ever before that this junior work is the solid foundation upon which to build a Church whose influence will circle the globe.

A German baron had a don were

A German baron had a deep ravine near his castle which he changed into a huge Eolian harp. He stretched wires across his castle which he changed his castle which he changed his Alolian harp. He stretched wires across it. In the gentle breeze it was silent; but when great storms blew down the ravine the air was filled with sweetest music. So with those who begin in childhood to cultivate Christian graces. As fierce adversity touches the strings of their life experience, their Christian characteristics will fill the air with Raptice Union

HAVE YOU DECIDED?

Who can help admiring the noble character of Joshua? He had such a courageous spirit; he made up his mind as to what was true and right, and then he stuck to it, and no one could turn him. See him, to it, and no one could turn him. See him, the old grey-headed warrior, gathering together the elders of Israel at Shechem, and calling on them all, princes, judges and rulers, to hesitate no longer, between the strange gods of Canaan and the one true God—"Choose ye this day whom ye will serve." But, whatever their choice, it will make no difference to Joshua—"As for me and my house, we will serve the for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."—Josh. 24. 15.

Sometimes you see a lad in a school or a workshop following this noble example, and letting his companions know and see that he has decided for Christ. I wish there were more such. But I find so many who want to wait a little longer—they can't

make up their minds just yet.
"There is plenty of time for me," says a young girl as she comes away from the Bible-class on Sunday afternoon. "Teacher wants us to decide at once, but surely there is no such hurry—I must think about it some day, I know, but not now—I can't decide."

decide."

Take care, young people! Take care, boys and girls! Your life is just like that falling raindrop—just like that rushing stream. You can't decide which way

ing stream. You can't decide which way your life shall go, but all the time it is going on. Is it going towards heaven or towards hell? Do you not know? Haven't you decided yet which way it shall go? If you don't choose now, suppose the time should come when you can't choose! He would be a foolish captain who should start on a voyage without making up his mind where to go to. Suppose another vessel meets him, "What ho? "brain, whither bound?" "Don't know." "Well, but do you know where you are steering for!" "Don't care." "Why, if you don't look out, you will be among the icebergs presently." "Oh, never mind, perhaps I shall change my course." Absurd as this seems, isn't it a true picture? picture?

Out on an ocean, all boundless, we ride, Borne on the waves of a rough, restless Borne o

but, whether we are going east or west, or north or south, or going to the bottom, we cannot tell. We have not decided.

decided.

I can't think what you young people are waiting for. Do you expect your hearts to get softer? I fear you will find the world a hard place, and the longer you are in it the harder your hearts will get. Do you expect it to be easier, by-and-bye, to become a Christian than it is now? It is become a Christian than it is now? It is easier to bend the sapling or the oak tree? Just ask any of your friends who were converted late in life and see what they say. You won't find so very many, for comparatively few are brought to Christ in old age. Or do you only mean to wait a little longer? But what right have you to think that God will wait any longer at all?—T. B. Bishop.

HUSHED be the storms of strife, The waves of discord still: Once more these words of life
"Peace upon earth, good will."
Oh, may this Christmas be A time to draw us nigh By Faith to sing and see "Glory to God on high."

-W. Blake Atkinson.

THE Lord's best blessings are often things