

## Our Young Folks.

### IT ISN'T FAR TO JESUS.

It isn't far to Jesus:  
If you only knew how near,  
You would reach Him in a moment,  
And banish all your fear.

He is standing close beside you,  
If only you could see;  
And is saying—could you hear Him—  
"Let the children come to Me."

Don't you know He never changes,  
As your little friends do here?  
He is always kind and ready  
For to comfort and to cheer.

And the very best about it is,  
He's always close at hand,  
And will always listen to you,  
And always understand.

It matters not how little,  
Or how very young or weak;  
And if you have been sinful,  
It was you He came to seek.

There is nothing that need hinder  
Your coming to Him now;  
So you surely will not linger  
Until you older grow.

You really must love Jesus  
When you think of all His love  
In coming down from heaven,  
That happy home above;

And lying in a manger,  
And suffering so much woe,  
That you and all dear children  
To that bright world might go.

### OUR ECHO.

You remember the story of the boy who went out into the woods and cried out "Hello!" and echo said "Hello!" The boy got mad, thought he was being made fun of, and he said, "I hate you!" Echo said, "I hate you!" His anger increased, and he cried out, "I'll hit you!" Again Echo says, "I'll hit you!" The little fellow, indignant, went into the house and told his mother that a boy out in the woods was going to hit him, and that he hated him, and so on. The mother saw the secret, and said to him, "Now, my son, if you will go out into the woods and cry out, 'I love you,' you will find that the boy says he loves you." So out he went, and said, "I love you!" and Echo immediately replied, "I love you!" When we go out into church, into the world, with this life of love in us, producing harmony of all our faculties, we can project into our environments or circumstances this life of love, and by it make men love us, and beget in the lives of men this life of love.

### GROWING UP.

This is the same spirit which minifies everything that is near us, and magnifies the remote. The townspeople say of the distinguished preacher, or the well known lawyer, or the distinguished politician about whom every one is talking, "Why, that is little Johnny A——" I used to know him when he was a freckled-faced boy, and it's his mother who lives in the little house up on the turnpike. And yet, in spite of the fact that Mr. John A—— was born in Squashville, and that it is his mother who lives in the little brown house on the turnpike, he may be the distinguished senator or the well-known preacher. Human nature has changed little during the centuries. The chief reason that many would not believe on our Lord, we remember, was the absurd reason that he was the one whose father and mother they knew. In the household the father is slow to acknowledge that the son who overtops his own gray head may be quite as good a farmer or mechanic as he is himself. He is still little Johnny, the boyish, the frivolous. He grew so gradually and right before the father's eyes, in such a way that he never realized when Johnny put away childish things and became a man. The mother can scarcely bring herself to believe that Mary, too, is grown up, that she is no longer to be regarded or treated as if she wore pinafores, but is a woman like herself, with a grown woman's rights, and privileges and opinions of her own that such are to be respected.

Much unhappiness comes into families just by reason of this inability to recognize growth and advancement in those nearest us. It would be well for every father and mother to bear in mind the discovery that the genial Dr. Deems made at a recent convention of young people, "that a young man of to-day who is twenty-five years of age is just as old as he was himself when he was twenty-five years of age."

### THE HAPPY CHILD.

Bishop Ryle, of England, says the happiest child he ever saw was a little girl eight years old, who was quite blind.

She had never seen the sun, nor moon, nor stars, grass, nor flowers, nor trees, nor birds, nor any of those pleasant things which have gladdened your eyes all your life. More trying still, she had never seen her father or mother, yet she was the happiest child of all the thousands the bishop had seen.

She was journeying on the railway this day I speak of. No one she knew was with her, not a friend nor a relative to take care of her; yet, though totally blind, she was quite happy and content.

"Tell me," she said to some one near by, "how many people are there in this car. I am quite blind and can see nothing."

And she was told.

"Are you not afraid to travel alone?" asked a gentleman.

"No," she replied, "I am not frightened; I have travelled before, and I trust in God, and people are always very good to me."

"But tell me," said the bishop, "Why are you so happy?"

"I love Jesus, and Jesus loves me; I sought Jesus and found Him," was the reply.

The bishop then began to talk to her about the Bible, and found she knew a great deal about it.

"And how did you learn so much about the Bible?" he asked.

"My teacher used to read it to me, and I remembered all I could," she said.

"And what part of the Bible do you like best?" asked the bishop.

"I like the story of Christ's life in the Gospels," she said, "but what I like best of all is the last three chapters of Revelation."

The bishop read to her, as the train dashed along, Rev. xx. xxi., xxii.

### FRETTING AND WORKING.

Two gardeners who were neighbours had their crops of early peas killed by frost. One of them came to condole with the other on this misfortune. "Ah," cried he, "how unfortunate we have been, neighbour! Do you know that I have done nothing but fret ever since? But you seem to have a fine, healthy crop coming up already; what are these?"

"These," cried the other gardener—"why, these are what I sowed immediately after my loss."

"What! coming up already?" cried the fretter.

"Yes, while you were fretting I was working."

"What! don't you fret when you have a loss?"

"Ye; but I always put it off until after I have repaired the mischief."

"Why, then you have no need to fret at all."

"True," replied the industrious gardener, "and that is the very reason."

### TWO SIDES OF A STORY.

"I declare, I believe I'll never speak to Jack Crane again. He's the meanest fellow in school. He cheats in all his lessons, he never plays fair in any game, and he's the biggest tell-tale I ever saw."

Harry Crowell said this all in one breath as he flung his books in one chair and himself in another on his return from school.

"Are you entirely discouraged in your efforts to make Jack a better boy?" asked Mrs. Crowell. "Have you tried every way you can think of excepting this?"

"Why, I don't know," said Harry slowly, "as we have exactly—tried at all. He ought to be good himself."

"Is that any reason why you other boys shouldn't help him?"

"I suppose not, but we don't like him. He has never been anything but mean since he came to our school. We don't have any more to do with him than we can help."

"Indeed! I should say you were responsible for a good deal of his meanness then. How does he cheat in his lessons?"

"If we have hard arithmetic lessons he copies the answers out of a key."

"What do the rest of you do?"

"We work our examples together honestly and help each other."

"Do you ever ask him to join you?"

"Of course not, because we don't like him."

"In playing games, if there is any dispute, does any one ever side with him?"

"Not very often."

"If you don't tell tales on him, do you ever try very hard to get him out of a scrape?"

"Don't try at all. Now, mamma, do you suppose if we did all these he would be any better?"

"Try it and see."

If there is more than one Jack Crane, we advise other schoolmates to "try it and see."

### CONSIDERATE CHARITY.

It is true charity to give in such a way that the recipient will not feel under any obligation to the giver, and, if that cannot be done, to give as kindly as possible.

A coal-dealer in the suburbs of Boston was called upon at his office by a poor, hard-working woman, and requested to send a basket of coal to her home.

"We do not deliver so small a quantity," was the merchant's reply. "It is our invariable rule never to deliver less than a quarter of a ton."

"But I cannot pay for so much," was the pitiful confession, "and I have left my children at home in a fireless room. What am I to do?"

"Well," replied the dealer, a kindlier light beaming in his eye, "I cannot depart from my rules as to quantity." Then turning to his clerk, he continued, "John have a quarter of a ton of coal sent to the woman's address as soon as possible."

"But I cannot pay for so much," she expostulated.

"I already understand that you can't, so I will charge it to the children. Give yourself no more uneasiness about the debt than they will be liable to do. Good morning!"

## UNIQUE PREMIUMS

For Securing Subscribers to

## THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

COMMENCE WORK AT ONCE!!

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN is now issued in greatly enlarged form, the added space being equal to nearly Fifty per Cent. This will give us room for several contemplated improvements, which shall be carried out just as soon as pending arrangements are completed.

In order to reward friends who are willing workers for their old favourite family paper, we offer the following inducements:—

## THE "PEERLESS" TEACHERS' BIBLES!

Have Been Imitated but Never Equalled!!

## DESCRIPTIONS OF THE VARIOUS EDITIONS.

Pearl, 24mo. Edition; Size 3½ x 4½.

French Morocco, yapped, elastic band, round corners, gilt edges, beautiful gilt title on side and back; maps; "Aids to Bible Students," etc. Regular price \$2.

London Weekly Review: "Up to date in all its details."

Will be sent postage free paid to any person sending us the names of three new subscribers at \$2 each.

Ruby, 8vo. Edition; Size 6½ x 5½.

French Morocco, yapped, elastic band, round corners, gilt edges, beautiful gilt title on side and back, maps, and all the "Aids to Bible Students." Retail price \$2.50.

Christian World: "A model and masterpiece; we cordially recommend it."

This "Peerless" Bible will be forwarded to any one sending us the names of four new subscribers at \$2 each.

Minion Crown, 8vo. Edition; Size 7½ x 5½.

French Morocco, yapped, elastic band, round corners, gold edges, gold title on side and back; maps, and all "Aids to Bible Students." Retail price, \$3.50.

Glasgow News: "The student's indispensable *vade mecum*."

A copy of this "Peerless" Teacher's Bible mailed to any address, postage prepaid, for the names of seven new subscribers at \$2 each.

## A SUPERB GIFT!

THIS EDITION PRINTED ON BEST INDIA PAPER.

India Paper is a name recently given to a species of paper soft and pleasant to the touch, of extreme toughness and durability, and of an agreeable tint most restful to the eye, while its opaqueness is such that the printing on one side of the leaf does not show through while the other is being read. The texture of the paper is so fine that the volumes are reduced to the smallest bulk which can possibly be attained, and therefore this series is specially valuable to Ministers, Sunday School Teachers and Bible Students generally, the thickness being only about one-half that of a bible printed on the ordinary paper.

These qualities, combined with the evenness and beauty for which the Queen's Printers are so widely known, give the India Paper editions precedence over all others.

Minion 8vo. India Paper Edition; Size 7½ x 5½ x 1½ inches. Weight 1lb. 9½oz.

Levant Morocco, yapped, elastic band, round corners, best red under gold edges, lined calf panels, sewn with silk. The strongest, most flexible, and best finished binding yet produced. Retail price, \$7.50.

Aberdeen Free Press: "To the teacher above all price."

This splendid book forwarded to any one sending us the names of twelve new subscribers at \$2 each.

## "PEERLESS" VARIORUM BIBLE:

Authorized Version, Revised, Yet Untouched.

Variorum "Peerless" Bible, Printed on India Paper With the Queen's Printer's Teacher's Aids.

Levant Morocco, yapped, elastic band, best red under gold edges, lined calf panels, silk sewn, maps, etc. Retail price \$8.

The London Christian: "The footnotes 'give the sense' of hundreds of passages more or less obscure, and save time and labour in referring to commentaries."

This superb edition of the "Peerless" Bible will be mailed to any one sending us the names of fifteen new subscribers at \$2 each.

The books are the best of the kind ever produced, and as no better premium than the Book of books can be offered, we trust that hundreds, all over the Dominion, will avail themselves of this opportunity to secure a copy without the expenditure of a cent.

Go to work without delay. Send us names as secured, and say they are for "Peerless Bible Club."

Each Club in each case must be composed of names not now on our list. Registered letters at our risk. Address—

PRESBYTERIAN PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY  
5 JORDAN ST., TORONTO.