

The door of the sewing room was open; and, before he got to the landing Ray could hear the noise of the sewing-machine. 'Bzz, bzz, bzz!' it said. Ray stood and listened. Mother looked up at the end of her seam, and called to him to come in. 'Well little boy, you look pretty mournful, it seems to me. What's the matter?' she asked cheerily.

'I want somebody to play with me mamma, 'cause kitty scratched me, and I don't like her any more; I'm not having any fun at all. Katie's making cake, and the egg-beater says 'Busy' all the time; and papa's cutting the grass, and the mower says 'Busy'; and now your sewing machine says 'Busy' too; and I guess I'm the only one in town that isn't busy!'

'Poor little son!' answered mother, stroking back the tangled hair from his forehead. How would you like to take a note to Aunt Mary for me and bring me back an answer? You can get your velocipede, and ride down.'

'Oh, that would be fun,' said Ray. And in a few minutes he was speeding off over the pavement on his little tricycle. As he rode along the wheels rattled on the stones, and a familiar sound came to his ear, 'Bzz, bzz, bzz!' 'Why, he cried, 'I guess I'm busy too, just like everybody else! That's why I feel so good!'—Northern Messenger.

Playing in the Puddles.

On the birthday of Napoleon Charles, son of Louis Napoleon and Portense, and a child whom the Emperor Napoleon meant to make his heir, he and his mother were seated at a window in the palace which opened upon the grand avenue. A heavy shower had fallen, and the avenue was full of pools of water. A group of bare footed children were out there wading in the water and playing with little chip boats. The young prince, richly dressed, in a splendid hall and surrounded by his elegant and costly birthday presents, turned carelessly away from his toys and watched the children with eager interest.

"So, then, my son said his mother, "you are not grateful for your presents?"

"Oh, yes," replied the young prince, "but I am so used to toys. Look at those little boys mamma!"

"Do you wish for money to give them?"

"Papa gave me enough this morning."

"Well what ails you my child? What do you want?"

"Oh," said the young prince, hesitatingly, "I know you won't let me, but if I could go out and play in those beautiful puddles, it would amuse me a hundred times more than all my elegant toys. Oh, please let me go!"

So the real enjoyments are not always the most costly, and poor children enjoy liberties unknown to some rich one and besides the barefooted boy playing in the puddles find a comfort and health which he can not find in the palaces of kings.

The earth is the great reservoir of electrical and magnetic force; and he whose bare flesh comes in contact with the moist soil at once partakes of the electrical equilibrium which exists in nature. Immediately nervousness and restlessness cease and calmness and steadiness ensue.

If rich people's children had more privileges on the ground and if some of our nervous fidgety, and fretful grown people would sit on the ground, work with bare hands among the weeds and flowers, and go barefoot among the puddles or on the sea-beach, or in the soft soil of the furrowed fields, they would have less nervousness, less sleeplessness, better health and better temper; and would be healthier in body and happier in soul.—Courier Journal.

Only a Cup of Tea.

A group of bright-faced young women were chatting together in the parlor over their afternoon tea when a distant knocking caught the ear of the pretty girl hostess.

"Excuse me a minute, please," she exclaimed, springing to her feet. "I mustn't leave that knock unanswered, for I suspect it is mother's washer-woman bringing home our clean clothes."

The surmise was quite right. Mrs. Knott, the washer-woman, stood at the back door with a heavy willow basket in her arms. She was a slight little woman, who always looked too frail for the hard work she was obliged to do. This afternoon her lips were almost colorless and there were dark rings under her eyes. She was almost breathless from her long walk with her heavy burden, and her chest heaved spasmodically.

"Come in and sit down while I get the money," said the girl, sweetly.

She stepped into the adjoining room for her purse, and as she came back the white face of the woman at the door stirred her sympathetic heart to a sudden quick pity.

"How tired you look!" she said; "wait and I'll get you a cup of tea."

She had flashed out of sight in an instant and was back again before Mrs. Knott had recovered from her surprise. On a dainty tray she carried a delicate china cup from which rose a tempting fragrance.

"Drink this," she said. "I'm sure you'll feel better."

The woman's hardened hand trembled as she took the cup and hastily drank its contents. The warmth seemed to spread through her chilled, exhausted body. Yes, her heart, too, felt the comfortable glow. A minute before she had been worn out, discouraged, hopeless. Now a new courage stirred within her. As she had climbed the steps she had thought how sadly insufficient for her needs the pay for her work would be. Now she thought of the necessities it would purchase for her children, and her face grew bright. She went out into the dusk and dampness of the late afternoon with a step that was no longer hopeless.—Forward.

The Young People.

EDITOR

All articles for this department should be sent to Rev. A. T. Dykeman, Fairville, N. B., and must be in his hands one week at least before the date of publication. On account of limited space, all articles must necessarily be short.

A. T. DYKEMAN

Officers.

President, Rev. H. H. Roach, St. John, N. B.
Sec.-Treas., Rev. G. A. Lawson, Bass River, N. S.

Our Aim

"Culture for Service."
"We study that we may serve."

Delegates.

Don't forget to appoint delegates to the Maritime B. Y. P. U., which meets in Truro Saturday, Aug. 20th, at 9 o'clock in the morning. At that meeting a new editor for this department, as well as other officers, will be elected. Be sure and be present at 9 o'clock sharp. See Sec'y-Treasurer's notice in last week's issue.

Prayer Meeting Helps.—August 21st.

THEME: Standing Alone for God. Romans 8: 31-39.

HOME READINGS.

Monday—Testing Time for Faith. Numbers 13: 1-10.

Tuesday—Elijah at Mt. Carmel. I Kings 18: 17-22.

Wednesday—Paul on Shipboard. Acts 27: 20-36.

Thursday—Dare to be a Daniel. Dan. 6: 4-24.

Friday—Moses at a Trying Time. Exodus 32: 19-26.

Saturday—Standing by his Convictions. John 9: 24-38.

Sunday—The Master Alone. Mark 14: 26-50.

The book of Romans is Paul's great doctrinal epistle. In the opening chapter he raises the question, How is righteousness to be attained? His answer is, not by works, but by God's gift through faith. The theme of the letter is, to use the apostles' language, the gospel the power of God unto salvation unto everyone that believes, both Jew and Greek. In chapters 6, 7, and 8: 1-30, Paul considers the changed relations of those that are justified to sin, and law, and death. In Romans 8: 31-39, we have the application of the doctrine to the believer. But what an application it is? There is in it the exultant note of victory. The battle is on between the believer and all the forces of evil but standing alone for God, he is more than conqueror. In the lesson Paul raises three great questions which we shall consider in order.

I. IF GOD BE FOR US WHO CAN BE AGAINST US. Vs. 31.

(1) God spared not his only Son but gave him in our behalf, vs. 32. (2) Granting this will he not freely give us all things, vs. 32. Paul employs here the logic of the less being continued in the greater. God's greatest gift to the world was the gift of Jesus Christ. This was the unspeakable gift for which the apostle lifted up his heart in adoration and thanksgiving. If this be so, it will follow naturally that God will give us the smaller blessings when we are in need of them. The believer may then well stand alone for God, because God stands with him, and he is not alone. God is the Unknown Quantity which gives strength and power to the believer. There is a spiritual arithmetic, by which, one and one, does not always make two; sometimes it make one hundred and two. If God be for us who can be against us! God and the believer are thirteen of every jury. God and the believer are the majority in every battle for the advancement of humanity. God and the believer are the victors, no matter how great the odds may be against them.

II. WHO SHALL LAY ANYTHING TO THE CHARGE OF GOD'S ELECT, vs. 33.

(1) It is God that justifieth, vs. 33.
(2) We worship not a dead Christ but a Living, vs. 34.
(3) A Christ enthroned in glory, vs. 34.
(4) A Christ who ever maketh intercession for us, vs. 34. There is in this no licence for evil, but on the contrary one of the greatest incentives to pure and holy living. No man can put forth his best energies in any undertaking, when he is doubtful of the issue. The doctrine of falling away from grace, leads to falling away from grace. The best moral fibre is developed in the man, in whose heart is fixed the eternal security against failure.

III. WHO SHALL SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF CHRIST, vs. 35.

(1) The apostle calls the roll of all the earthly ills that afflict mankind, vs. 35.
(2) He concludes that in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us, vs. 37.
(3) Next the gaze of the apostle sweeps an horizon that

takes in life and death, the present, the future, and the unseen world itself, vs. 38.

(4) Again he concludes that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord, vs. 39.

CONCLUSION.—Two great things at least may be said by way of application from our scripture lesson.

(1) It ought to make us heroic and whole hearted in service of God.

(2) I ought to fill that service with happiness.

PERRY J. STACKHOUSE.

Detroit Convention Gems.

"America needs Baptists to-day for the fulfilment of the purposes of liberty."—H. J. White.

"The enlarging life involves a wider sympathy, a deeper sense of kinship with all the human kind."—Henderson.

"Education is not a process confined to the schools and colleges. It is a process which begins with the birth moment, and is continued to the dying day."—Trotter.

"The problem of the B. Y. P. U. of America is to help the enthusiasm of youth develop into zeal of purpose."—Chapman.

"We can do well only that into which we put our whole soul's force."—Roselle.

"No matter what your pursuit is, remember that it is holy."—Bitting.

"A positive life is that life which brings the Christian into the enlarging sense of his duty to home and land and age."—C. H. Jones.

"When men talk of Christian Life that conceals itself within itself, they are talking of that which is not."—Crandall.

"A little less emphasis on imitation and more on incarnation in evangelism will give us more of the dynamics and less of the mechanics in soul-winning."—J. E. White.

"Life's great task is to gain the largest knowledge of God."—McNeill.

"He who is a co-worker with God becomes partaker of the universal."—Calley.

"One may have the plainest table; he may have a floor without carpet; may have walls without any decking whatever, and yet he may be living the richest life, and is not bound up with the things that he has or has not."—Geistweit.

An Important Question.

Do you take the MESSENGER AND VISITOR? Every young Baptist should subscribe for it, and read it carefully. Read these wise words from *The Evangelical Messenger*, under the caption "What the Church Paper Does."

"It gives all the news of importance occurring within the church."

"It advocates and promotes the interest and activities of the various institutions and enterprises of the church."

"It gives you the best thoughts of the best thinkers in the church. It gives you a general view of all important events in universal Christendom."

"It affords a mass of entertaining and instructive literature, stories, etc., for the family circle and for young people."

"It furnishes the best missionary news of the world."

"It discusses the live questions of a day and vital topics in church life, as well as current events in general."

"It keeps its readers booked on the best periodical literature and books on the market."

"In short it is indispensable to the church member who is loyal and aggressive, and to the wide-awake, intelligent, progressive Christian."

Witnessing.

By Emil M. Martinson.

Do you say you cannot witness
For Jesus the Christ and the King?
Do you say you have no fitness
His praise to suitably sing?
Do you say you cannot gather
Courage to plead with lost men?
Do you mean your Heavenly Father
Supplies not your greatest needs then?
Cannot? When Jesus has saved you!
Cannot? He gives you his word!
Cannot? The Holy Ghost hils you!
To fail him, you cannot afford!
Princeton, Ill.

Covetousness is a disease of the mind, and an unnatural thirst which is inflamed by that which should quench it. It is the thirst of a fever or of a drowsy; the more a man drinks the more he desires and the more he is inflamed.