

earth. She could not, could not, take it, and fled swiftly back into the house. But the six sisters remained in their laural bushes. They felt sure she would revoke, and they did not watch in vain. An hour elapsed, in which her father urged her, and in which conscience seemed to drag her forwards. Once again did the anxious sisters see Betsy emerge from the house, with more faltering steps this time, but still inwardly praying, and slowly, tremblingly, they saw her take up the watch, and the deed was done. She never afterwards regretted it.

THE MODERN NEWSPAPER.

We sometimes meet with the individual who boasts that he has no use for a newspaper whatever. And what kind of a specimen of the genus homo is he? A man with narrow ideas; of meagre culture; of small public spirit; of little genuine knowledge of to-day; who is forever being taken advantage of in all his business transactions because he is ignorant of market value and ruling prices and has no knowledge of industrial opportunities. Such a man is universally poor, and will always remain so. He will be a plodder, living in ruts, and moving only in well-worn grooves.

It is impossible to keep pace with the world of to-day without the newspaper, which is as much a factor of modern progress and modern intelligence as the public school. Without it of what small value would be those modern inventions, the telegraph and the great ocean cables, which register the pulse-beats of the world. The man who can do without the newspaper, is a selfish man, caring little for the well-being of the community, interesting himself not at all with the needs and wants of others; content with the simple management of his own little affairs, believing, perhaps, that "the sun do move," but that it is no affair of his. So long as bread and butter are plenty upon his table, and his crops ripen to abundance, or his business brings him enough of necessities he does not trouble himself farther.

The newspaper—the honest and legitimate journal of the present—is also the best friend of the law, order and morality that the public possesses. It is unhesitating in its courage in laying bare the evils which exist in society and which demand extermination. The man of crime fears it as he does the avenger of blood, or he knows that it will not hesitate to hold him up to public execration and punishment. It is the sleuth hound of justice, which never sleeps and never rests. It is the friend of the innocent, doing all in its power to further his cause and bring him relief. It is the aide-de-camp of science, bearing to the general public the marvel of its latest discoveries and flashing their light across the world. And in the time of war, when mighty armies are struggling on bloody battle-fields, with what a keen eye it scans the contest, and how swift it is to give tidings of defeat or victory. The lightning press then seems instinct with woe or rejoicing, for it holds the epitome of human life everywhere, and the thinking and progressive world of to-day could no more do without it than it could dispense with the light of the sun. If there are here and there men who feel that they could do without it, they belong to a genus which is neither numerous nor flourishing, and for this we may well be thankful.

The picture is not overdrawn, for the man who would keep pace with the world of to-day must keep himself in touch with it, and possess a sympathetic knowledge of its ever-varying changes and needs. And there is no other power in the universe of man that will enable him to do this but the daily newspaper, which is the mirror of the world's life and the apostle of its progress. To the really intelligent man it is as actual a necessity as his food and raiment, and he would as soon think of dispensing with the one as the other. It is impossible to live to-day the isolated life of the past.—*Los Angeles, California, Times.*

Our Young Folks.

LITTLE DUTIES.

I dare not pass them over,
The little duties mine,
Nor think the least unnoticed
By him, our Lord divine.

The task however humble,
He gives my hands to-day,
Most gladly for the present
All nobler tasks outweigh.
Enough to know he orders,
Enough to win his smile;
Then most distasteful duties
Grow beautiful the while.

All lowly, loving service
To me seems strangely sweet,
Since the King, Creator, Saviour,
Once washed disciples' feet.

It must be grand and glorious
To do great things for him—
We might see great in little
Where not our faith so dim.

I watch vast fields of labour,
Which other workers fill,
With deep and earnest longing
Like them for Christ to till.

Perhaps my single acre,
Some precious seeds may yield,
Which stronger hands will scatter
Upon a larger field.

God knows, and I am leaving
My life work in His care;
Without His aid and blessing
No fruitage can it bear.

But O, to know my duty,
Then never from it swerve,
Nor heed it great or little,
So I but truly serve!

—*Mrs. Mitchell in Christian Observer.*

SMOKING BY BOYS.

That the essential principle of tobacco, that which gives it all its value to the smoker, is a virulent poison, is universally admitted. It is agreed also that its primary effect is upon the brain and spinal cord, with a paralyzing tendency.

Even Beard, who defends the moderate use of tobacco, admits that its effects are disastrous on some classes of persons. It withers some, he says, while fattening others; causes in some dyspepsia and constipation, while upon others it has a contrary effect. It is soothing to some, but induces in others all the horrors of extreme nervousness. He adds that among the brain-working class of our population the proportion of those who can use tobacco with impunity is yearly diminishing, as a nervous tendency more and more prevails among us.

Now, whatever may be urged in favor of moderate smoking later in life, all intelligent persons who have given the subject attention unite in condemning the use of tobacco by the young.

Young persons do not know whether or not they belong to the class most liable to be injured by tobacco. No one denies the danger of its excessive use, and the young have neither the intelligence nor the self-control to resist the tendency of smoking to grow into an uncontrollable habit. Farther, the brain and nervous system of youth are especially susceptible to the baneful influence of the poisonous principle of tobacco.

The commanding medical authority, the London *Lancet*, says, "It is time that the attention of all responsible persons should be seriously directed to the prevalence and increase of tobacco-smoking among boys. Stunted growth, impaired digestion, palpitation, and other evidences of nerve exhaustion and irritability have again and again impressed the lesson of abstinence, which has hitherto been far too little regarded."

It cites a case which lately came before the coroner for Liverpool—death from a fatty change in the heart due mainly to smoking cigarettes and cigar ends—and adds:

"This of course is an extreme example. It is, however, only a strongly colored illustration of effects on health which are daily realized in thousands of instances. Not even in manhood is the pipe or cigar invariably safe. Much less can it be so regarded when it ministers to the unbounded whims and cravings of heedlessurchins."

COURTESY TO CHILDREN.

All the training and disciplining in the world, if given in the form of arbitrary directions and commands, will not make children well-bred and agreeable. Mothers sometimes think, or act as if they thought, that courtesy in the home must be entirely a one-sided affair. The small boy must not interrupt conversation, he must step softly, speak gently, remove his hat on coming in, spring to restore what some older person drops, run his little feet off on errands, always say thank you, and never indulge himself in the least expression of irritation, but nobody is obliged to be equally polite to him. Ordered here and ordered there, snubbed as if he was not as sensitive to wounds and as easily hurt as his elders his pursuits regarded as of no importance, his convenience overruled or set aside at the caprice of his tutors and governors, the little fellow often has a very hard time of it while he is growing up. Parents who are intensely proud of their children often refrain, from a mistaken idea that praise is injudicious, from commending them for what they do well, while blame is swift to leap out and scorch the memory on any slight occasion.

The child who will be most courteous through life is the child who has been treated with courtesy, who has spent the formative years of life in a sweet and genial atmosphere, and been moulded not so much by military rules brusquely enforced as by the genial influence of serene tempers and the blessedness of good examples.—*Harper's Bazar.*

WILLIAM CAREY.

No name deserves to be held in more lasting remembrance than that of the foreign missionary, William Carey. He saw born in the village of Paulerspury, in Northamptonshire, 17th August 1761. Edward Carey, his father, was a weaver by trade, but filled the combined offices of parish clerk and village schoolmaster when William was about six years old. He was a good-natured man, and under his instruction the school gained a high place in the esteem of the people of the district.

Young Carey was very small for his age, and not by any means strongly built. When quite young he showed a great delight in Natural History, and made it of some use by storing the school-house garden with choice plants. Loving nature as he did had much to do with the geniality which made him known many years after as the "cheerful old man." Books were very scarce in the country and could hardly be got even on loan, but he had a hunger for books, and devoured such as fell in his way.

He was apprenticed to a shoemaker in Hackleton, nine miles from his home, at the age of fourteen. This engagement would have settled the future career of any ordinary boy, but with Carey the thirst for knowledge grew with years, and made his ambition rise beyond making shoes. He did not shirk his work for all

that, but was such a good workman that his master kept a pair of shoes made by him, as a model of what shoes ought to be. He was not ashamed of his occupation, as is shown by an incident in after years. At a dinner given by the Marquis of Hastings, the general officer of India inquired of one of his staff whether Dr. Carey had been a shoemaker or not. "No, sir," replied Carey; "only a cobbler."

Carey's conversion took place when he was about eighteen years of age, through the influence of a young fellow-workman with whom he often debated on religious matters. About this time a small church was formed in Hackleton (Carey's place of business), consisting of nine members, in the list of which Carey's name came third.

He was married on the 10th June, 1781, to Dorothy Plackett, his employer's sister-in-law, and afterwards succeeded him in business. Carey was very poor. He attended an Association meeting all day, fasting, because he had not a penny to buy a dinner. On this occasion he became acquainted with some friends belonging to another village, called Earl's Barton, which brought about an engagement to preach to a small congregation there. This continued for four years, till he went to reside at Moulton. It was here that missions first took shape in his mind. The reading of "Cook's Voyages," and the study of a map of the world, showed him what a small portion of the human race had any knowledge of the Bible. He soon arrived at a conclusion that something must be done to spread the gospel among the heathen, and that speedily.

At a meeting of ministers, presided over by the elder Ryland (there were two of them, and it was the younger who baptized Carey in the Nen, in Nottingham), Carey proposed that they should consider at the next meeting the "duty of attempting to spread the gospel among the heathen." In 1789 he removed to Leicester, to the small Baptist Church in Harvey Lane. Here he became more than ever anxious that something should be done. He could wait no longer, and at last published his famous "Enquiry into the Obligation of Christians to use means for the Conversion of the Heathen."

On 31st May, 1792, it fell to his lot to preach the Association sermon at Nottingham. The result of this sermon was that the Baptist Missionary Society was formed with a fund of £13, 2s. 6d. In April 1793, Carey, and Thomas, a ship surgeon, sailed for India. Carey never saw England again.

The first attempts at settlement proved a failure, but the experience thus gained was of great value to them afterwards. Carey saw that more than preaching was required, but not till he had finally settled in Serampore did he begin the work of translating the Bible into the native languages. Before the end of the first year the first convert was made, Krishna, a carpenter.

Lord Wellesley, Governor-General of India, established a college at Calcutta, called Fort William College, in 1800. Carey was appointed teacher of Bengali, Sanskrit, and Mahabatta, for which he received £600 annually. Later on, he was made professor with a salary of £1,500 a year. He was now enabled to do more for missions, and under his supervision the Serampore Mission issued above 200,000 Bibles, or portions of it, in about forty Oriental languages or dialects, besides a great number of tracts and other religious works in various languages.

The old man's health began to give way now, and his end drew near. Alexander Duff, the Scotch missionary, was among the last to see him. He died on 9th June, 1834.