

## TWO BRAVE BOYS.

Two young boys, sons of a minister, living in Cincinnati, O., went, not long ago, with their father to visit the Soldiers' Home in Dayton. After a while the minister left his sons in charge of an officer who was to show them the sights. Presently the soldier began :

"Now the old man has" —

"We do not know any old man," interrupted the elder of the boys.

"Now that the old gentleman"—said the soldier.

"We do not know any old gentleman," once more interrupted the boy; "he is our father."

A little while afterward the soldier began to swear. The younger brother looked up into his face, and said:

"Please don't use such words."

"Why not?"

"Because we do not like to hear them; we are church folks."

"Oh!" said the soldier, as he gave a whistle.

But he did not swear any more, and he guided those boys around the grounds as respectfully and attentively as if they had been the sons of Queen Victoria. — *Scl.*

## TWO ENDS.

When a small boy, I was carrying a not very large ladder, when there was a crash. An unlucky movement had brought the rear end of the ladder against the window. Instead of scolding me, my father made me stop and said very quietly:—"look here, my son, there is one thing I wish you to remember; that is, *every ladder has two ends.*" I never have forgotten it, though many years have gone. Do we not carry things besides ladders that have two ends? When I see a young man getting "fast" habits, I think he sees only one end of the ladder, the one pointing towards pleasure, and that he does not know the other is wounding his parent's heart. Ah! yes, every ladder has two ends, and is a thing to be remembered in more ways than one. — *Pacific Christian Advocate.*

## WHAT SMOKING DOES FOR BOYS.

A medical man, struck with the large number of boys under fifteen years of age whom he observed smoking, was led to inquire into the effect the habit had upon the general health.

He took for his purpose thirty-eight, aged from nine to fifteen, and carefully examined them. In twenty-seven he discovered injurious traces of the habit. In twenty-two there were various disorders of the circulation and digestion, palpitation of the heart, and a more or less taste for strong drink. In twelve there were frequent bleedings of the nose, ten had disturbed sleep, and twelve had slight ulceration of the mucous membrane of the mouth, which disappeared on ceasing the use of tobacco for some days.

The doctor treated them all for weakness, but with little effect until the smoking was discontinued, when health and strength were soon restored. — *British Medical Monthly.*

## HOW TO READ.

When a boy I began to read very earnestly, but, at the foot of every page I read, I stopped and obliged myself to give an account of what I had read on that page.

At first I had to read it three or four times before I got my mind firmly fixed. But I compelled myself to comply with the plan, until now, after I have read a book through once, I can almost recite it from the beginning to the end.

It is a very simple habit to form early in life, and is valuable as a means of making our reading serve the best purpose. — *Macaulay.*

## PRECEPT—PROMISE—PRAYER.

Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Prov. 6: 6.

The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing; but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat. Prov. 13: 4.

Let none that wait on thee be ashamed; let them be ashamed which transgress without cause. Ps. 25: 3.