

they be in there. Reg'ler old crank the one that talked to me was. I wouldn't work for him at no price."

"Don't they pay enough, Jim?"
 "Dunno; didn't come to money matters at all. The old man jest looked me over an' said I didn't suit. Wonder what he wants in a boy, anyhow. Wore my best clothes, too, so as to make a good impression."

"You *look* all right, Jimmy; but mebbe you ain't big enough to suit."

"Oh, well; I don't care much. only—say, be you goin' in to try your luck?"
 The new-comer nodded his head.

"Well, you can save your breath. I've jest come out, an' they're lookin' for a reg'ler saint, or a man instead of a boy, so no use of your tryin', for you ain't as big as me by long odds."

The boy stood irresolute for a minute, but the thought of his need and a sort of natural bent for doing what he set out to do overcame his timidity and he started on.

"Hullo! goin' to try it after all?"

"Why, yes; that's what I came for, and I can't more than fail, anyhow."

"Well, if you want to be looked through an' through an' git snubbed 'fore you've said half your say, then go on. I've give you fair warnin'. I wouldn't go in agin for ten dollars, nor work for 'em if they begged me."

But in spite of this discouragement the boy went on and entered the office door with cap in hand and a courteous bow and "Good morning"

"I heard that you wanted a boy, and I called to see if I could get the place, if you please."

"Yes? Well, we do want a boy, we've had several applications, but none of them seemed to just suit. Are you at work anywhere now and want to make a change?"

"Oh no, sir. I've always been to school, but now pa's dead, and so— and so—"

"Yes, I see, you are going to take his place as bread-winner as well as you are able. Our work isn't hard, but it requires attention and trustiness. Have you references?"

The boy produced two, one from his day school teacher and the other from his Sunday-school teacher

The gentleman read them and said: "These are satisfactory. I know one of these writers very well indeed."

After a little more talk the boy was engaged at fair wages, and was asked

to begin his labour the next morning, to his great delight and also to his surprise.

"Thank you, sir. I'm so glad, for I didn't much think I'd get the place."

"Why not? Had you tried so many?"

"Oh no, sir; but a boy just came out of here saying it was of no use, and he was larger and stronger than I."

"That had nothing to do with his rejection. Shall I tell you what was the reason he was refused? He came in and slammed the door, stood with his hat on his head and hands in his pockets, and talked loudly and slangily; and, as part of the work we want done is errands to other offices, such manners would not do at all. So you see he earned his dismissal, and your acceptance; and if you enter other offices as politely as you did ours you will be a credit to us as well as yourself.—*The Golden Rule.*

A CHILD'S MORNING HYMN.

Jesus, keep me all this day
 When at school and when at play;
 When I work and when I rest,
 Bless me, and I shall be blest.

Keep my body free from pain,
 Keep my soul from sinful stain,
 Bread supply for daily need,
 Help me on Thy Truth to feed.

May I do all things I ought,
 May I hate each evil thought,
 Let no false or angry word
 From my lips this day be heard.

Faulty I have often been,
 Pardon, wash me, keep me clean,
 Give to me a holy heart,
 Never let me from Thee part.

Keep me in the narrow way,
 Neither let me slip nor stray,
 Guide Thy little Pilgrim band,
 Bring us to the promised land.

May I serve Thee here below,
 Serve Thee when to heaven I go,
 Serve and love and trust in Thee,
 Now and through eternity.

—*Rev. Newman Hall, D.D., in S. S. Times.*

A POCKET COMPANION.

KEEP good company or none. Never be idle. If your hands can't be usefully employed, attend to the cultivation of your mind. Always speak the truth. Make few promises. Live up to your engagements. Keep your own secrets if you have any.

When you speak to a person look him in the face.

Good company and good conversation are the very sinews of virtue.

Good character is above all things else. Your character cannot be essentially injured except by your own acts.

If anyone speak evil of you, let your life be so that none will believe him.

Drink no kind of intoxicating liquors. Ever live (misfortune excepted) within your income.

When you retire to bed, think over what you have been doing during the day.

Make no haste to be rich if you would prosper.

Small and steady gains give competency with tranquility of mind.

Never play at any game of chance. Avoid temptation through fear you may not withstand it.

Earn money before you spend it. Never run into debt unless you see a way to get out again. Never borrow if you can possibly avoid it.

Do not put off till to-morrow what should be done to-day.

Do not marry unless you are able to support a wife.

Never speak evil of anyone.

Keep yourself innocent if you would be happy.

Save when you are young, to spend when you are old.

Carry these maxims in your pocket and read them over at least once a week.—*Selected.*

THE *Kindergarten Magazine* for December comes out with a beautiful Christmas frontispiece, "St. Anthony and the Child Christ," and the sweet story of the wonderful vision. The papers and serials of the entire number ring with the Christmas "joy to the world." This magazine is strikingly in the lead of the ideal publications of America and in its Christ-like doctrine of education it reaches down to the simplest mother with her babe on her knee and up to the highest educators of the land. The *Kindergarten Magazine* is handsomely gotten up, and its moderate price (\$1.50 per year) brings it within the reach of every mother and teacher. Kindergarten Publishing Co., Chicago.

ALL truly wise thoughts have been thought already, thousands of times; but to make them truly ours we must think them over again honestly, till they take firm root in our personal experience.