

## THE CHILDREN'S PORTION.

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*My dear young Readers,—*

I greet you again and hope you were interested in your portion last month and benefitted by it. One person writes that he liked it, but says that the selection I most wished you to ponder and pray over, namely, "our youth due to God," is "intensely true, but the style is a little too heavy for the ordinary child's mind." Perhaps he did not know that the author lived over two hundred years ago, but among you I have young men and maidens, and you who are not mere children would understand and profit by it I trust. I take leave to give you another short extract on the same important subject from the same old divine. This shows not only that youth is the *most favorable* time, but that conversions in youth are *less questionable*. He says: "A forsaking of sin when you are most capable of pleasure or honour by it, and a turning to God when you are most capable of enjoying the world, is a clear evidence of your conversion, for it thus appears that God is loved for Himself, and Christ is preferred above the flesh, and grace above the sweetest delights of the world." I might add, conversion in youth is also *more frequent* than in later years. Every day you remain unconverted your salvation becomes the more improbable. I once read and kept a note of the following record of Dr. Spencer:—Of 230 converts in his church, 135 were under twenty years of age, 65 between twenty and thirty, 22 between thirty and forty, 7 between fifty and sixty, and 1 over sixty years old. May the Holy Spirit, in view of this, enable you, if not already converted, to "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth." To-day, "arise, He calleth thee." Tomorrow it may be too late—too late!

"T." kindly sends us the following:—You ask for any stories or pieces we might hear or read. My minister in two sermons recently told us the following, which you can insert if you approve. 1. The first story was about a little boy who, it is said, placed a silver dollar before one eye, and closed the other, and because the dollar hid the sun from his sight, told his mother that the dollar was larger than the sun. This was to illustrate the anxiety which many christians have to become rich in the goods of this world. "The dollar" hides the Sun of Righteousness from their view, and they labor and toil for it as of greater value and of more importance than the Redeemer. 2. The other story was about a little girl four years of age, who was often seen and heard pray very earnestly. On being asked, "Why do you pray to God?" she replied: "Because I love to pray to Him, and I know He hears me." When asked again, "How do you know He hears you?" she placed her little hand upon her heart, and said, "I know He does, because there is something here that tells me so." This was to illustrate the faith Christians should have in the power and willingness of God to hear their prayers; and also the unspeakable satisfaction enjoyed by all fervent in prayer. True prayer increases faith, makes life enjoyable, and fills the soul with