

"Mamma!" Rufy's voice was a little hurt. "What is it, please?"

"I'd rather you would find it out yourself, dear. Besides now it is time to get the kindlings and a pail of water. It is almost supper-time."

"Oh, I don't like to get kindlings one single bit!" Rufy grumbled, softly. "Besides, there aren't any chopped mamma. I didn't chop a kindling yesterday or day before."

"No, dear, I know."

"And the pump's so far off! I wish one grew in our door-yard! Oh, dear, and I s'pose you'll say it's feed-the-chickens-time, too!"

"Yes, dear."

But Rufy did not move. In a minute more he had forgotten all about chickens and pump and kindlings. When he thought of them again he was in bed.

"Oh, I'm so sorry!" he cried out suddenly. "I didn't mean to let mamma do it!" For he remembered that mamma must have chopped the kindlings and fed the chickens and got the water. Then he remembered something else, too, that mamma had said she would rather he would find out for himself. There in the dark, all alone, Rufy "found out." He sat up in bed and uttered a little exclamation.

"Oh, I know, I know! And—it's so!" he cried out in shame. "She meant I was afraid of—work!"—Youth's Companion.

How Frank Won.

A prize of one hundred dollars, to be used for educational purposes, was offered in a school for boys. Among the contestants was a boy of seventeen, named Frank Harlow. He did not succeed in winning the prize, and a day or two later, one of his school-mates, named Harry Murks, said to him, "Didn't get the prize, did you, Frank?"

"No, I did not," replied Frank, cheerfully.

"Feel kind o' cut up over it, don't you?"

"No; not particularly."

"Well, I'd hate to make as hard a fight as you made to win that prize and then fail."

"I don't think that I have failed, Harry."

"Well, I'd like to know why you haven't failed! Didn't George win the prize?"

"Yes, I know that he won the money, but I won just as much as George in that which comes from hard study. But you know, Harry, if you'll excuse me for saying it, your failure has been most marked."

"My failure! Why what do you mean? I didn't go in for the prize at all. I made no attempt to win it."

"I know it," replied Frank, and then he added: "They fail, and they alone who have not striven."

"Oh! I see what you mean," said Harry, rather soberly. "I suppose that there is something in that."

"There is a good deal in it," replied Frank. "It is true that not one of the eighteen boys who competed for the prize may be said to have failed. All of us won the prize that comes from honest effort, and it was a pretty big prize for most of us. I thought at first that I would not compete for the prize, for I felt quite confident that some of the other boys were so much further advanced than I was that I had very little chance of winning in the contest. But one day I came across this verse:

"Straight from the Mighty Bow this truth is driven;

"They fail, and they alone, who have not striven."

"That's a fact," I said to myself, and I went straight to work and did my very best."

"You stood next to George Dayton at the examination too," said Harry. "No Frank, you did not fail after all."

Harry was right. How could Frank fail to be a winner, after the honest effort he had put forth?

"High Heaven's evangel be, gospel God-given;

"They fail, and they alone who have not striven."

—Christian Uplook.

Before it is Too Late.

If you have a gray-haired mother
In the old home far away,
Sit down and write the letter
You put off day by day.
Don't wait until her tired steps
Reach heaven's pearly gate—
But show her that you think of her
Before it is too late.

If you've a tender message,
—Or a loving word to say,
Don't wait till you forget it,
But whisper it to-day.
Who knows what bitter memories
May haunt you if you wait?
So make your loved ones happy
Before it is too late.

We live but in the present,
The future is unknown—
To-morrow is a mystery,
To-day is all our own.
The chance that fortune lends to us
May vanish while we wait,
So spend your life's rich treasure
Before it is too late.

The tender words unsoken,
The letter never sent,
The long-forgotten messages,
The wealth of love unsent,
For these some hearts are breaking,
For these some loved ones wait—
So show them that you care for them
Before it is too late.

—Selected.

The Young People

EDITOR

A. T. DYKEMAN.

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.

Officers.

President, Rev. H. H. Roach, St. John, N. B.
Sec'y.-Treasurer, Rev. G. Lawson, Bass River, N. S.

Our Missionary's Salary.

	PLEDGES.
Main St.	\$25.00.
Windsor,	40.00.
Woodstock,	25.00.
Germain St.,	25.00.
Springhill,	25.00.
Middleton,	50.00.
Rev. J. W. Manning,	25.00.

NOTE. Send your remittances to Sec. Treasurer Lawson through your regular church Treasurer.

Reports From Societies.

Tryon, P. E. I.

Perhaps a few words from our society will not be unwelcome. The meetings held during the year have been helpful to us as young Christians, two of our associate members have joined as active, we now have a total membership of 66.39 active and 27 associate, the average attendance is about forty. A missionary committee is appointed every six months whose duty it is to prepare a missionary programme for conquest meeting, we hope thus to increase the missionary spirit amongst the members.

We are still supporting Kanchema a native Indian Bible woman, collections for this purpose are taken quarterly. At each conquest meeting the secretary reads a report of the meetings held during the month. At our semi-annual business meeting held Dec. 29 officers for coming six months were elected as follows: President, Henry Callbeck; Vice President, Luta Foy; Sec'y Treas., Mrs. John Clark; Organist, Florrie Gamble; Ass't Organist, Mrs. H. Callbeck. LUTA M. FOY, Sec'y.

Daily Bible Readings

Monday—Source of Temptation. James 1:13-15.
Tuesday—"Whole Armor" Necessary. Eph. 6:11-18.
Wednesday—Avoid Evil Associates. Prov. 4:14-27.
Thursday—Paul's Victory. 2 Cor. 12:7-10.
Friday—Watch and Pray. 1 Pet. 5:6-9.
Saturday—Peter's Failure. Mark 14:66-72.
Sunday—Temptation of Jesus. Matt. 4:1-11.

Prayer Meeting Topic.—January 17.

How may I overcome my temptations? 1 Cor. 10:12, 13. Heb. 4:14-16.

How to overcome temptation is a matter of the utmost practical importance. It concerns all men, for all are subject to temptation. It matters not what the condition or circumstances of a man's life may be, he cannot escape being tempted.

Temptation reaches men in palaces and in cottages, in the crowded city and on the lonely prairie. It comes to the educated in one form and to the illiterate in another. No one is free from the intruder. The tempter comes to every one, and comes to conquer if he can. Even Jesus Christ, when he came to share the common conditions of human life, was repeatedly and severely tempted to sin.

I. FROM WHENCE DOES TEMPTATION COME?

If we would be successful in overcoming temptation we must know something of its character and of the source from which it comes. To meet it in the dark, without any knowledge of its origin and character, means to be vanquished and led by it into the pit of destruction.

1. TEMPTATION DOES NOT COME FROM GOD.

No evil can emanate from the "Father of lights." "God is light and in him is no darkness at all." God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempteth no man." (1 John 1:5. James 1:13, 17.)

2. TEMPTATION COMES FROM SATAN.

The same great adversary who tempted Jesus and who desired to "have Peter that he might sift him as wheat," is constantly seeking to destroy all men (Matt. 4:1-11. Luke 22:31. 1 Peter 5:8.)

3. TEMPTATION COMES FROM OURSELVES.

Because of our fallen condition we have within us that which causes us to sin. "Every man is tempted when he is drawn away by his own lusts and enticed." (James 1:13.)

4. TEMPTATION COMES FROM THE WORLD. (1 TIM. 6:9.)

We are tempted by those who are living in sin and constantly exerting an evil influence. Temptations come to us from the world, the flesh and the devil, "and a threefold cord is not easily broken." (Eccl. 4:12.)

II. THOSE WHO TRUST IN GOD CAN OVERCOME TEMPTATION.
"God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted

above that ye are able, etc." The Prophet Elisha, the King Hezekiah, the Apostle Paul and many others have testified that those who trust in God belong to the conquering party. (2 Kings 6:16. 2 Chron. 32:7, 8. Rom. 8:31.)

TRUSTING IN GOD I MAY OVERCOME TEMPTATION

1. By cherishing pure thoughts, letting the mind dwell upon subjects that have a tendency to uplift and strengthen moral character.

2. By training my will so that I shall be able to say "No" to the tempter with such emphasis that the world can understand what I mean.

3. By exercising all my powers of mind and body in doing good. "An idle brain is the devil's workshop." It is the stagnant pool that becomes corrupt.

4. By watching against evil and praying for wisdom and strength to enable me to do right. The greatest Teacher the world has ever seen said to his disciples, "Watch and pray lest ye enter into temptation." (Mark 14:38.)

5. By trusting in One who has overcome every temptation and who is willing and able to deliver all who are tempted. "For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted." (Heb. 2:18, 4:15.) W. M. SMALLMAN.

Illustrative Gatherings.

(Selected by the Editor.)

THEME:—Temptation.

"Tis one thing to be tempted,
Another thing to fall. —Shakespeare.

What more harmless than temptations, this fiery dart launched by Satan's hand, that flaming arrow from his bow—if they fell like sparks into water? Alas! they fall like a blazing torch flung into a magazine of combustibles.

—Dr. Guttrie.

Devils soonest tempt, when resembling spirits of Light.
—Shakespeare.

Satan seldom comes to Christians with great temptations, or with a temptation to commit a great sin.

—John Newton.

Temptation will give oil and fuel to our lusts—incite, provoke and make them rage beyond measure. So dealt it in carnal fear, in Peter: with pride, in Hezekiah; with covetousness, in Achan; with uncleanness, in David; with worldliness, in Demas; with ambition, in Diotrephes.

Owen

Lie in the lap of Sin and not mean harm?
It is hypocrisy against the Devil;
They that mean virtuously, and yet do so,
The devil their virtue tempts, and they tempt heaven.

—Shakespeare.

No sooner was Christ out of the water of baptism than in the fire of temptation. So David after his anointing was hunted "as a partridge upon the mountains." Israel is no sooner out of Egypt than Pharaoh pursues them. Hezekiah no sooner had left that solemn passover than Sennacherib comes up against him. Paul is assaulted with vile temptations after the "abundance of his revelations;" and Christ teaches us after forgiveness of sins to look for temptations to pray against them.

—Trapp.

The Poison of Pleasure.

By DR. A. C. DIXON.

A gentleman in Paris desired to buy a ring, and, as he tried on several rings in the jeweler's store, he noticed one that was set with tiny eagle's claws. The next day his hand began to swell. The doctor told him he was poisoned, and on inquiry he found that the old ring came from Italy, and was once used for poisoning an enemy. For 400 years that particle of poison had remained between the eagle's claws. Watch the rings of pleasure which the world offers, there are within them the eagle's claws with the poison.

I Cannot Feel Saved.

Martin Luther, in one of his conflicts with the Devil, was asked by the arch-enemy if he felt his sins forgiven. "No," said the great reformer. "I don't feel that they are forgiven, but I know they are, because God says so in His Word." Paul did not say, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt feel saved," but "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."

Ask that man whose debt was paid by his brother, "Do you feel that your debt is paid?" "No," is the reply, "I don't feel that it is paid. I know from this receipt that it is paid, and I feel happy because I know it is paid."

So with you, dear reader. You must believe in God's love to you as revealed at the Cross of Calvary, and then you will feel happy, because you may know you are saved.

A dear old Christian, on hearing persons speaking of their feelings, used to say, "Feelings! feelings. Don't bother yourself about your feelings. I just stick to the old truth that Christ died for me, and He is my surety right on to eternity; and I'll stick to that like a limpet on the rock."

Be my feelings what they will,
Jesus is my Savior still.

—Cumberland Presbyterian.