

While he was enjoying this sport, Mr. Mercer drove up in his carriage, and passed Charley on his way into the store. The boy released the cat, and, following the gentleman in, respectfully presented his references.

"These do very well," Mr. Mercer said, returning the papers to Charley. "If I had not seen some of your other references I might have engaged you." "Other references? What do you mean, sir?" asked Charley in astonishment.

"I drove past you this morning when you were on your way here, and saw you diverting yourself by teasing two little children. A little later a dog passed you and you cut him with the switch you had in your hand. You shied a stone at a bird, and just now you were delighting yourself in tormenting another defenceless animal. These are the references that have decided me to have nothing to do with you. I don't want a cruel boy about me."

As Charley turned away crestfallen over his disappointment, he determined that wanton cruelty, even though it seemed to him to be only "fun," should not cost him another good place.

TIMELY WISDOM.—Timely wisdom is shown by those who keep Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry on hand. It has no equal for cholera, cholera morbus, diarrhoea, dysentery, colic, cramps and all summer complaints or looseness of the bowels.

FAR AWAY.

Many, long miles away from big cities and pleasant homes, lived the Missionary's little girl; in a very humble house. Great, tall Indians would come in the door, sometimes, and frighten her. But one day something better came! What do you think it was? It was "Victoria," the pretty doll which Mamie had sent in the ladies missionary box. Do you remember? And if Mamie could have seen how happy little Grace was, as she hugged and kissed her doll, I am sure she would have been more glad than ever, that God had put it into heart to send her very best.

"Papa! papa!" cried Grace, as the missionary came in, "do see the lovely doll, some little girl sent me! How did she know papa? how could that little girl know that I never had a dolly, and how very much I wanted one?"

The Missionary held Grace in his arms, and said: "You know if a little girl tries to be good and patient, and helpful, if she goes without things and does not complain, if she is cheerful with what she has, God sees it all, and sends His Holy Spirit to whisper it to other people. Perhaps I can find out the name of that kind little girl who sent the doll, and you may write her a letter.—*The Shepherd's Arms.*"

WHAT TO TEACH BOYS.

A philosopher has said that true education to boys is to teach "them what they ought to know when they become men."

1. To be true and to be genuine. No education is worth anything that does not include this. A man had better not know how to read—he had better never learn a letter in the alph-

abet, and be true, genuine in intention and in action—rather than be learned in all sciences and in all languages, to be at the same time false in heart and counterfeit in life. Above all things, teach boys the truth is more than riches, more than earthly power or possessions.

2. To be pure in thought, language and life—pure in mind and in body.

3. To be unselfish. To care for the feelings and comforts of others. To be polite, to be just in all dealings with others. To be generous, noble, and manly. This will include a genuine reverence for the aged and for things sacred.

4. To be self-reliant and self-helpful even from childhood. To be industrious always, and self-supporting at the earliest proper age. Teach them that all honest work is honorable, and that an idle life of dependence on others is disgraceful.

When a boy has learned these four things, when he has made these ideas a part of his being—however poor, or however rich, he has learned the most important things he ought to know when he becomes a man.

Best care for colds, cough, consumption, is the old Vegetable Pulmonary Balm. Cutler Bros. & Co., Boston. For 50¢ large bottle sent prepaid.

EARLY DECISION FOR CHRIST.

Many years ago, a group of little boys were being taught a Bible lesson by their elder brother, a lad of eleven. He had been speaking of the appeal of Joshua to the children of Israel, "Choose you this day whom you will serve," and was impressing on the little boys the necessity of being on the Lord's side, when six-year-old Francis said gravely, "I think it should not take any one long to make up his mind about that." The mother, who happened to overhear the lesson, inquired, "Wouldn't it take you long, Francis?"

"Mother dear," answered the little fellow—his eyes brimming over with feeling—"I thought you knew! I have been serving the Lord, at least I've tried to, ever since I was quite a little boy."

The boys grew up, and were scattered. Only this year the mother received a letter from Francis, now a young man of twenty-two, and an active worker in the Church, telling her that he had been trying to live nearer to God than he had ever done before, and, for the sake of those around him who were not Christians, to lead a holier life; and that his Saviour had so revealed Himself to him, that (as he put it) "I feel a peace and joy such as I have never known before; words cannot express it; it is glorious!"

The mother wrote us that Francis had always lived a singularly pure and lovely boyhood and youth, and that this later experience was only "the natural outcome, through Divine grace, of the simple faith that had led the little six-year-old child to begin 'serving the Lord' when he was 'quite a little boy.'"

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