MY FATHER'S BUSINESS

HIGH IDEALS FOR DAILY SERVICE OF THE ALMIGHTY.

VOICES THE CHILD HEARS

Calls to Duty, Life Work For the Mas ter, Come Very Often to the Little Ones, and Should Be Heard and Prayerfully Considered-Their Elders Should Be Diligent and Fervent, and Serve Him In Their Daily

Entered according to Act of Parliament of Can-ada, in the year 1906, by Frederick Diver, To-ronto, at the Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Los Angeles, Cal., April 29.-In this Los Angeles, Cal., April 29.—In this sermon the preacher takes us back to that wonderful period of life when the mind of the child, emerging from the mysterious twilight land, first begins to think independently. He warns us to respect these visions of childhood. The text is Luke ii, 49, "Wist ye not that I must be about My Father's business?" Without doubt one of the most satisfactory pictures ever painted of Jesus Christ is that of Hoffman, called "Christ the Boy Talking With the Doctors In the Temple." We have seen scores of pictures of Jesus Christ. The Parisian Louvre is full of them. The Parisian Louvre is full of them. The Vatican is full of them. The art gal-leries of Antwerp and Brussels and Berlin and Venice are full of them. But, though the greatest artists have But, though the greatest artists have exhausted their genius to reproduce for us an inspired idea of the Saviour's face, yet most of them have come far short of the ideal. They either make Christ's face too effeminate, as did Bida, Da Vinci and Steinle; or too much of a Hercules, as did Rubans and Vandyke; or too grotesque, as did Tintoretto and Rembrandt and Guido; or too mercenary, as did Bernardo, Strozzi an Plockhurst; or too stern, as did Dore and Abbrecht Durer; stern, as did Dore and Albrecht Durer: or too agonizing, as did Bouguereau and Correggie; or too lachrymose, as did Ary Scheffer. But toward Hoff-man's picture there is no division of epinion. We are here a unit in our approbation. When we see Hoffman's youth standing among the doctors in the temple we at once say: "Yes, that is my idea of Jesus the Child. That child looks just as I supposed Christ looked as a box." looked as a boy."

looked as a boy."

The eyes are big and intelligent. They seem to be looking far off. They truly seem to be catching an inspired vision of his Father's business. The hallo about the head, the beautiful curls falling in graceful curves about those shoulders, show the human and the divine commingling. The robe about his lithe form is as pure and spotless as his life. He seems to stand there as a child, and yet he seems to be reaching for our late the fathers. far out into the future. All worlds, all ages, seem to be his. In contrast to this beautiful face, with its wonderful features, are the astonished and puzzled countenances of the baldheaded,

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound Cures features, are the astonished and puzzied countenances of the baldheaded, learned sages, who were not accustomed to debate with youths, but only with their compeers in the sanctum sanctorum of the Hebrew sanhedrin.

And yet, as I stood watching the beautiful face of that Divine Child, this question came to me: "Why should those Hebrew rabbis wonder at that boy's intelligence? Should not all men and women stand in awe before the average boys of the present day? Do not most youths and maidens of twelve summers have inspired visions from God, as Christ had an inspired visions from Does not God call to them at this critical age to be about their Father's business?" He does. I want you to study with me this morning some of those childhood visions. Men and women, too, have their times of reaching out to think chiefly of those bright imaginings of youth. This age, the twelfth year, is to me the most important of the call age to be about their Father's business?" The does. I want you to study with me this morning some of those childhood visions. Men and women, too, have their times of reaching out to think chiefly of those bright imaginings of youth. This age, the twelfth year, is to me the most important of the call and the side of the control of the call and th too, have their times of reaching out to things unseen, but this morning let us think chiefly of those bright imaginings of youth. This age, the twelfth year, is to me the most important of year, is to me the most important of life. May we be very careful how we deal with our children when they are entering the sacred portal of their early teens! The way they tread the path of life will in all probability decide the way they shall tread these paths through time and through eternity. Why do I put such an emphasis upon the age of twelve? Because it is about the year when the child for the first time lets go of his parent's or guar-

time lets go of his parent's or guar-dian's hand and begins to climb the heights of the unseen world and to think for himself. That is the time when he begins for the first time on his own account to ponder about God and what God wants him to be. Be-fore that age the child for the most part is completely under the control of the father and the mother, but at the twelfth year the parent is astonished at the strange questions which the boy puts. Suddenly, and seemingly without any preconceived thought, the boy will break out with such questions as this: "Mother, where was I before I was born?" "Mother, where shall I go after I am dead?" "Mother, how can I live In heaven when my body is buried in the earth?" "Mother, last night when I was lying awake in bed I made up my mind that Jesus wanted me to be a preacher. like Paul and Timothy. at the strange questions which the boy a preacher, like Paul and Timothy, about whom we studied in our Sunday school last week." These questions or statements seem to spring from the lips almost involuntarily. When he first speaks thus you look at him in amazement. Then you say "Who he have been to be a present of the property of the prope almost involuntarily. When he first speaks thus you look at him in amazement. Then you say, "Who has been talking to you, my son?" He answers simply. "No one, mother; no one." Ah, yes, some one has been talking to him. Like Christ, the boy in the temple, he hears a strange voice. He sees strange visions. These visions are not of earth, but of heaven. He cannot see those visions full orbed; but, like Christ the boy he can see them in their dim outlines. He hears the divine voice, and in his faint way he is saying, "I must be about my Father's business."

Has your boy never astonished you by his strange questions and answers, as Christ astonished the lawyers and doctors in the temple when but twelve years of age? Some time ago an anxious mother said: "When my children were very young they were mine. I could say to them, "Children, sit down!" and they would sit down! I could read to them a book and explain to them the pictures, and they would accept my statements as true, because mother said the my boy's hand loosening its grasp upos



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some day we turn our eyes to see where the children are. Then, much to our

to be realized. God is giving to him the same kind of vision that he gave to the boy Jacob, and to the boy Joseph, and to the boy Samuel, and to the boy David, and to the boy Christ. These ancient boys as well as the modern boys of twolves.

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eign missions long before he was out of the short trousers of the schoolroom Oh, the visions of youth! How Imof the short trousers of the schoolroom Oh, the visions of youth! How important they are for the development of the child. In the book of Proverts we read, "Where there is no vision the people perish." That means when the people perish." That means when the people have no ideals hovering before them, where the sculptor cannot see a more perfect statue in dim outling standing beside the stone he has chiscled, and the musician cannot hear a sweeter song than that which he has composed, and the reformer cannot see a more perfect. Utopia than that in which he lives, then the development a more perfect Utopia than that in the which he lives, then the development of those people is retrograding instead of advancing, involuting instead of evoluting. But, my friends, if it is essential for the developed man to have perfect visions ever before him, how much more important is it for the undeveloped child to have visions before him! These visions, when they come from God, are not like the unaccount-in the fowledges of the form of the developed child to have visions before him! These visions of the twelfth year.

Beware how you sneer at those visions of the dwelfth year.

of the twelfth year.

Only hope is Ferrozone, an instant blood-maker, blood-make some day we turn our eyes to see where the children are. Then, much to our surprise, they are not by our side. Then, we look up the mountain heights, There we see our boys and girls beginning to climb. Along the dizzy precipioes they go. Over the dangerous rocks, higher mount or balance. They are climbing up the mountains of original research. They are climbing up the mountains of free climbing up the mountains of the climbing of twelve feel the inward as well as the outward callings of the future, as and see their boys and girls disappear among the cloudlands as they pray:

"O God, guide my children!" O God a more realistic character than do some children when they look into the dim future ana by reason of their physical and mental and spiritual tendencies picture themselves as some day being law-

that in their minds there is no doubt as to that call coming direct from the throne of God.

But we must not stop here in the discussion of this mighty theme. It is very important to have the visions of youth, but it is just as important to have the child developed aright after those first visions have come and gone. These first visions of childhood always seems to me like the little green shoots which spring up out of the ground. Care for them. Give them plenty of sunlight, and let not the winds handle them too roughly, or the cold freeze them, or the droughts parch them, and they will change themselves into the saplings, then after awhile into the stout young trees and then into tegan to the visions of childhood to which I would draw your attention. They may come to a boy or a girl at a time when the parent thinks the child is toryoung to have any appreciation or any thought of his own. They may come and go so quickly that, like the humming birled drinking out of the hones cups of a garden, you can hardly whether they are truly hr whether they are truly hr go and after awhile in the forever, but b

these first visions may be postponed for months—aye, for years—do not be suprised or skeptical. Those first visions of youth, if they have been welcomed aright by the parent and the child, will all be realized. They will all be fulfilled if they were true visions from God.

baby or a sickly boy. Every part of him to me was that of a well-rounded, perfectly-formed child. He was a boy who was the life of his home, a boy who

Now, it was a custom of air the Islander elites ordained by the Mosale law to attend the feast of the passover once a year. This feast took place in the springtime. It was a combination, if I might use the simile, of our Thanksgiving day and Fourth of July. It was other boys of Nazareth climb the hills first time is going to see a great city

Then in rapid and the miracles, he Jordanic baptism and the miracles, then the Easter resurrection and the ascension. Ah, did Christ's vision of boyhood come true? So, my friends, I want to tell you that the fulfillment of your child's visions, if they are of God and you welcome them aright, will come true, though they may be many years hidden away in a Nazareth oblivion. Beware how you sneer at those visions of the twelfth year.

Make your blood nutritious and you'll have lots of strength. Your only hope is Ferrozone, an instant blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-purifier, blood-purifier, blood-maker, blood-purifier, blood-puri

from God.

Let me illustrate my thought by the Let me illustrate my thought by the life of Jesus Christ. I love to think of the journey which this Divine Child took to the capital of his great ancestor, King David. Jesus up to this time was nothing but a boy, "Tis true, he was a perfect boy, but he was a boy, with all the healthful desires of childwith all the healthful desires of child-hood. He was not a boy with the char-acter of a girl, but a boy, a healthful, beautiful, noble boy. He could romp and play like other boys. In the games played between his companions and himself I have aiways thought there was no laugh merrier than his and no rollicking joy more full and hearty. I can never think of Christ as a frail baby or a sickly boy. Every part of

was loved by every one.

Now, it was a custom of all the Isragiving day and Fourth of July. It was a time when the Hebrews assembled in Jerusalem to thank God for their liberation from Egyptian slavery. In the spring of each year from the little village of Nazareth, among the Zebulon hills in the far north, the men and women would start on their sacred pligrimage. The children were left behind as a rule on account of the length, the fatigue and the danger of the journey. Methinks I can see Christ and the other boys of Nazareth climb the hills other boys of Nazareth climb the hills to watch their fathers disappear in the distance. But one year Christ does not mingle with the boys. He has come to the sacred age of twelve. This is the year that all Hebrew boys are allowed to join the caravan. Thus as he walks along with his parents I see his cheeks flushed with excitement. This is most natural. Christ the boy for the first time is going to see a great city.

around that great capital, with its waiss and palaces and temple and its thou-sands of inhabitants and visitors, there rises before him the dim vision of who he is and what God wants him to do. The vision is there dim in outline, but it is there. He naturally drifts to the temple and talks with the learned rabtemple and talks with the learned rab-bis, who sat there to teach and an-swer questions. The thought that he was the Messiah whom the Jews were expecting was probably in his mind. He wanted to learn what was the idea that the doctors had of that being, and his inquiries showed so much intelli-gence that they marvelled at him. He had had a vision, but neither they nor his parents, when they came, under-stood it. What became of that vision? For ten, fifteen—aye, for nearly twenty For ten, fifteen—aye, for nearly twenty—years the world hears nothing more about this strange boy. Like so many other youthful prodigies, he seems to disappear forever. He not only goes back to Nazareth, but instead of being a messenger of God he seems to become nothing but a carpenter. But nearly a score of years afterward we see this Christ in Cans, by Lake Gall-

collidren when they look into the dim future ana by reason of their physical and mental and spiritual tendencies picture themselves as some day being lawyers or doctors or ministers or merchants or bankers or inventors or musicians or statesmen or poets or songsters or reformers. These children by such visions hear the call for future works or influence of God, be the filled in the prace of God, be fulfilled now or inventors or musicians or statesmen or poets or songsters or reformers. These children by such visions hear the call for future work. They hear it so clearly and distinctly that in their minds there is no doubt as to that call coming direct from the throne of God.

Christ the boy is going to the capital of his country. Were you not excited when your father, a farmer, took you to the city for the first time?

But as Christ the boy wanders around that great capital, with its walls and release and temple and its flow. work of the commission,

> "And you are ready to forgive your daughter for eloping with me, sir?" "Yes. I'll treat her kindly. The poor

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Edmonton, Alta., May 4.—In the estimates the Government provides \$25,000 for undertaking preliminary work to establish a provincial-owned telephone system. Attorney-General Cross, at the same time, notified the House that he would bring in a bill empowering the municipalities to engage in the telephone business. The Government propose establishing a love distance systems.

poses establishing a long-distance sys-tem, leaving the local lines to muni-

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Chamberlain Is Confident. London, May 4.—(C. A. P.)—A meeting of the Tariff Commission was held yesterday, Mr. Chamberlain presiding. He congratulated the commission on the work accomplished, and avowed that the general election did not turn on the preference, and expressed absolute confidence in the ultimate success of the movement. Resolutions were passed providing for the continuance of the

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woman so earnestly desires; they uproot disease, and bring strength that
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