

A Manly Boy.

TS a saying one often hears now-a-days and as often mis-applied. The first time I heard it, was while travelling in Eastern Canada in the winter of 18—. At a little way station not far from Montreal, a group of boys boarded the train and found seats in the same coach which I happened to occupy. They were a healthy looking lot of lads, all brund for their respective homes to spend the Christmas holidays. About a dozen, and their ages ranged, I should judge, anywhere from fourteen to eighteen years. A dozen boys and no noise, would be an impossibility ; as it so happened, such was the case this particular time, but only for a moment, for just then a loud cheer went up, and cries of "here he comes !" greeted the ears of a pleasant looking youth, who entered the car from the farther end. "Yes, here he is," came the reply to the greeting. "It would have been a disappointment to me had I failed to get away in time to be with you, boys." "We would have missed you," said a laughing faced chap, "we want to have that question we were discussing yesterday settled." "And how?" queried a nervous boy as he gazed at the empty seats on the opposite side of the aisle. "Just this way!" chimed in a shrill metallic voice that came from a tousled headed chap who had changed places half a dozen times, and with the same amount of noise as his voice conveyed. "What way can you settle it?" said an older boy, probably the eldest of the group ; and all was quiet again. This time it was the last comer who spoke, he had not taken a seat as yet, and standing erect (with his head on his shoulders, so to speak) holding his cap in one hand, while the other rested on the back of the seat near him, and after a few moments' pause, as no reply came, he continued : "In my opinion the only way to settle such a question at this, would be to place before the people the facts of the case, what such an act means to the country, and let the people decide." By this time the train had pulled up at the next station, where a number of the boys were getting off, and as the orator of the group passed out, a man of mature years who had also been an interested onlooker, remarked, "What a manly boy? I wonder who he is? It is a