

## Young People's Work.

FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH.

COMMITTEE: W. W. Coulter, H. L. McKinnon,  
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### Faithful Still.

I cannot do great things for Him,  
Who did so much for me,  
But I would like to show my love,  
Dear Jesus, unto Thee,  
Faithful in every little thing,  
Dear Saviour may I be!

There are small crosses I can take,  
Small burdens I may bear,  
Small acts of faith and deeds of love,  
Small sorrows I may share;  
And little bits of work for Thee  
I may do everywhere.

And so I ask Thee give me grace,  
My little place to fill,  
That I may ever walk with Thee  
And ever do Thy will,  
And in each duty, great or small,  
May I be faithful still!

### Using the Single Talent.

READ AT THE HARWICH C. E. UNION AT  
NORTHWOOD

The amount of talent we possess depends very largely on ourselves. A single talent rightly developed will prove of much greater value than ten talents laid idly by. And one talent cultivated and improved will, like a tree, branch out and grow until the dimensions are surprising. It is well to feel our responsibility for the gifts we possess; but the matter of our responsibility does not end there. The man who hid his talent in a napkin no doubt thought he had performed his whole duty when he brought back his talent unimpaired. But the Master did not look at it in that way. We are to be held responsible, not only for the talents we *have*, but for those we *might have*. A too common excuse for declining to perform manifest duty is that we have no natural talent for it. Talent will never develop itself unaided; but any one may be surprised to find how many natural gifts he does possess when his various duties toward his fellow-men open to him, and what can be done in the way of cultivating and expanding such talent into great powers will prove still more surprising. Really it is hard to say what can not be turned into a talent, if only it is used in the right way. Whatsoever we can do that is our talent. If we can do more than one thing well, so much the better; but the great thing needed is for us to do *as we can do* and *what we can do*. That is making use of talents. The parable man who buried his talent had not learned this lesson. Let us be wiser. Above all let us not be stand-

stills and do-nothings, but improve our talent, remembering that what we have is not ours, but God's. It was put into our hands by God in order that we might use it for Him, and we must give account of it to God as His stewards. One of the hardest lessons to be learned in life is that of adaptation to our particular place and line of work. It seemingly appears as though our capabilities should have been greater, our sphere of action wider, and our life work of more importance than it is; and, do our best, advancement is slow and uncertain. It is not so much *what we do* as *how we do it* that forms the standard of worthy and well performed labor. God apportions the work, and what may seem an ill adapted or unprofitable choice is often clearly His ordering. We believe God calls men and women to do great work in the world—a Moses, a Paul, a Victoria, a Lady Somerset; but it is a trifle harder to realize that He also calls the commonplace people in the every day walks of life. The *ordinary* people of earth far outnumber the *extraordinary*. Never but one Moses. Never but one Paul; and the secret of their great talent lay in their earnestness in filling the places God designed for them. Paul himself declares, "I therefore run, as not uncertainly; so fight I, as not beating the air." Having resolved to perform a great work, he bent all his talent in that one direction.

History, too, tells us that all the men and women who have amounted to something in the world have aimed at something; while the do-littles and do-nothings have but drifted, as it were. We often hear such persons bewailing their lack of opportunity; but to wait for great opportunities that may never come is to miss the little within our reach. We are to make the most of ourselves as we are and our opportunities as they come to us. Using opportunities multiplies them.

We never know what we can do until we try our best; and we should not only make the most of ourselves *as we are*, but *as we hope* to be. Laziness means buried talent. The great majority occupy but ordinary places in life, yet the man with one talent occupying what men call an obscure place is as much an object of God's notice as the man of many talents in a place of prominence.

How much of the commonplace it would take out of our lives did we but

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realize that we have been called of God just to fill each our respective places. Our whole duty then lies in performing our every day duties as though we were rendering service to Him and were required to give account of our talent, not forgetting that "To him that hath shall be given, but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath." And, though we may not all hope to become great as the world styles greatness, yet we have the Master's assurance that "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful in much," and whosoever does his lowly, humble work day by day and hour by hour is pleasing God just as well as he who accomplishes great things. Nothing is small in God's sight which is done for love to Him.

Great men came far with their wealthy offerings for the temple treasury. There were gifts of gold and gifts of silver. The very smallest offering that day was the gift of the poor widow, who came, most likely, sandals, wearing tattered garments and bearing the stamp of hard, grinding poverty. Her gift was so small that it would hardly be counted among the great gold and silver coins that were poured into the treasury. But Jesus sat by, and watched how men cast in, and He said that she had done more than they all.

Our Lord still sits over against the treasury. He is still watching to see how we cast in our gifts or use our talents, and the single talent given or used for His honor and glory may represent the deepest love and greatest self-denial, and, therefore, be most precious in His sight.

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### Obedience to God.

Obedience to God involves faith in God, and we should have faith in God. Whoever is changeable, God is the same. Whoever is false, God is true. Whoever may deceive us, God will remain faithful to us. He is in one mind, and none can turn Him. He will abide by His Word. He will make good His promises. We may therefore trust Him, yes, in the darkest night. In the day of trouble, in the hour of temptation, we may trust Him, and we should trust Him. He has given us His Word on purpose, and he brings us into trouble to see how we will act. As God is faithful to us, let us be faithful to Him; and we ought to obey God. Let men say what they will, let the flesh argue or plead as it may, we ought to obey God. It may expose us to ridicule, persecution or temporal

loss for a time, but, whatever it may cost us, we ought to obey God. If we obey Him, we shall be strictly honest, scrupulously truthful, kind hearted and holy. Obeying God, we shall enjoy the testimony of an honest conscience, win the confidence of the Lord's people, and silence the people of the world. God's law is plain. His precepts are easy to be understood. Disobedience, therefore, is generally from dislike and not from ignorance.

B. C.

### Local Endeavor Union.

The quarterly meeting of the local C. E. Union was held, Monday, in the new Disciples' church. There was a good attendance of those interested in the "Good Citizenship" movement—the subject of the evening—the church being crowded to the doors. After the usual opening exercises, the chairman, Mr. W. W. Miller called upon the Rev. A. W. Ross for the address of the evening. Mr. Ross based his remarks on Good Citizenship on scriptural teaching, pointing out the relation which the Christian religion bears to citizenship, and instancing some of the good work already done. The Christian, he thought, ought to take an active interest in many matters of municipal and general politics, particularly in questions affecting political morality. Rev. J. Munro opened the discussion, emphasizing and enlarging upon some of the features referred to by the first speaker, and was followed by the Rev. P. Wright. The topic proved one of great interest, as the large attendance and close attention evidenced. The musical part of the programme was led by a Union Endeavor choir.—*Portage Liberal*.

### An Important Office.

To properly fill its office and functions, it is important that the blood be pure. When it is in such a condition the body is almost certain to be healthy. A complaint at this time is catarrh in some of its various forms. A slight cold develops the disease in the head. Droppings of corruption passing into the lungs bring on consumption. The only way to cure this disease is to purify the blood. The most obstinate cases of catarrh yield to the medicinal powers of Hood's Sarsaparilla as if by magic, simply because it reaches the seat of the disease, and, by purifying and vitalizing the blood, removes the cause. Not only does Hood's Sarsaparilla do this, but it gives renewed vigor to the whole system, making it possible for good health to reign supreme.