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OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

One of God's Little Heroes. The patter of feet was on the stair As the editor turned n his sanctum chair and said—for weary the day had been; Don't let another intruder in."

But scarce had he uttered the words before A face perped in at the open door, And a child sobbed out: "Sir, mother said I should come and tell you that Dan is dead." "And who is Dan?" The streaming eyes Looked questioning up with strange sur

prise.

Not know him? Why, sir, all day he sold
The papers you print, through wet and cold

"The newsboys say that they cannot tell The reason his stock went off so well. I know, with his voice so sweet and low Could any one bear to say to him 'No?'

And the money he made, whatever it be, He carried home to mother and me. No matter about his rags, he said, If only he kept us clothed and fed. "And he did it, sir, trudging through rain and

Nor stopped till the last of his sheets were But he's dead-he's dead--and we miss him And mother she thought you might like to

In the paper next morning, as "leader" ran A paragraph thus: "The newsboy Dan, One of God's little heroes, who Did nobly the duty he had to do— For mother and sister earning bread By patient endurance and toil—is dead." -Margaret F. Preston.

Cheerfulness and Song.

If you would keep spring in your hearts, learn to sing. There is more merit in melody than most people are aware of. A cobbler who smooths his wax-ends with a song will do as much work in a day as one given to ill na ture and fretting would effect in Songs are like sunshine ; they run to cheerfulness-to fill the with such buoyancy that for the time being you feel filled with June air, or like a meadow of clover in blossom.

Did You Ever Think

That a kind word put out at interest brings back an enormous percent age of love and appreciation? That, though a loving thought may

not seem to be appreciated, it has yet made you better and braver because That the little acts of kindness and thoughtfulness, day by day, are really

greater than one immense part of goodness once a year? That to be always polite to the people at home is not only more ladylike, but

more refined, than having "company That to judge anybody by his per-

sonal appearance stamps you as not only ignorant but vulgar? That to talk and talk and talk about yourself and belongings is very tire-

some for the people who listen?

A Deed of Gold. Some time before the birth of our Blessed Lord, a strange sight was to be

large lion standing in the door, completely blocking the way. Poor Androclus did just what the young readers of this would have done; he, simply did not do anything, being paralyzed with fear. And if he could have run—which he could not—there was no place to go. His hair stood up and his teeth chattered, and he was frozen with horror at the thought that he would soon make a meal for his

On came the lion, walking on three legs and holding up one paw; and al-though he looked so fierce at first, when he drew near Androclus saw that he was in pain and very, very un-happy indeed for a lion. The slave began to recover the use of his limbs, and to wonder what the matter was with that poor foot which the lion held up to him so pitifully. He took it in his hand, thinking that its owner could do no more than eat him; and saw that it was inflamed and swollen, and that, imbedded fast in the flesh, a and that, imbedded last thorn was sticking. As tenderly as possible he drew the offender out, and when that was done the lion fawned at his feet and licked the hand which had done so kind a service.

From that hour the two were fast friends; and it was with real sorrow that the slave, some time after, said good-bye to his companion of the desert

and went his way.
Several years passed by. The great Colosseum at Rome was crowded with a vast assemblage which had gathered to see the prisoners given to the lions. Of these Androclus was one. Poor fellow! he had escaped the jaws of the wild beast to fall into the hands of more cruel men, and was to be put to death. He seemed stolidly resigned to his fate,

Audroclus did not see him well : a film seemed coming over his eyes, so soon to be shut to all earthly things. The lion with a great roar sprang forward toward his prey, and then he-grovelled at the feet of the slave and overed him with caresses! It was his friend of the desert, knowing and oving him after all those years; and one kind act had again saved a human

When Androclus, in answer to the command of the Emperor, told the story of his first meeting with the grateful lion, there was a mighty revulson in the throng, and they cheered and screamed until they were hoarse; and then they gave Androclus not only his freedom, but the lion that had so well remembered a golden deed.

They both lived long after that, growing old together in the city's streets; and then died, true to each other until the end.

And this is the story of a poor heathen slave who learned that love is the most powerful conqueror of all. Francesca in Ave Maria.

True Courtesy.

The charm of a gracious manner is a subject that has often been commented on. Abler pens than ours, have portrayed in fitting words, the power that courtesy gives to the plainest personality; yet, in response to the invi-tation extended to the readers of this department, we have essayed to con-tribute an article touching on this sub

It has been our lot in the course of a somewhat limited career, to meet, on our daily rounds, people in all conditions and ages of life. To day we come in contact with the man of culture and refinement; to-morrow, perhaps, the poor, wandering Jew will cross our path. Poverty and wealth, intelligent but untutored minds come and go, linger for awhile, then pass on, backward or forward, as the case may be.

With eyes that are constantly being opened to the lessons which life instil, we see exemplified in this great mass of varying humanity, oftenest among God's poor and ignorant people, the truest spirit of good manners. And we have frequently observed that no matter what his station in life may be, the man of delicate instinct and refined feeling, is the man who bows in obedience to the commandment given age ago, yet new to-day: "Love one an-

other."
"Good manners," as some one has tersely said, "are the reflections of They can not be assumed tovirtue. day and laid aside to-morrow. are growing, day by day, of the inner, moral life, and have their foundation in character which is something more than the mere charm of a winning

personality. The Biblical injunction, "Do unto throne of grace, where, these earthly deeds of love are transformed by will ing hands into sheaves of immortality.

THE CHURCH AND THE SPIRIT OF PROGRESS.

We are positively sick of the teach ings of those who speak of the expedi-ency of the Church conforming to the "spirit of progress," especially in the matter of education. These miserable renegades forget that the Catholic Church has been the mother of the arts and sciences, as a great writer has expressed it: "If the Catholic Church had done nothing more than to preserve for us by painful solicitude and un-rewarded toil the precepts and intellectual treasures of Greece and Rome, she would have been entitled to our everlasting gratitude. But her hierarchy did not merely preserve these treasures. They taught the modern world how to use them. We can never forget that at least nine out of every ten of all the great colleges and universities of Christendom were founded by monks, bishops and archbishops. This is true of the most famous institutions in Pro-testant as well as in Catholic countries. And equally undeniable is the fact And equally undentable is the fact that the greatest discoveries in the sciences and in the arts (with the ex-ception of Sir Isaac Newton) have been made by Catholics, or by those who were educated by them." In fact, who were educated by them." In fact, the electric light owes much of its success to the science and experiments of an Irish Catholic priest, the Rev. Dr. Callan, Professor of Natural Philosophy in St. Patrick's College, Maynooth. -American Herald.

and did not appear to move a muscle as the people in the galleries cried: "To the lions with the victims! To the lions!" He knew there was no hope for him.

Suddenly a hush fell upon the assembly. Even the cheers and cries of the men and women, hardened by the frequent sight of blood, ceased to ring around the amphitheatre; for the king of the forest that appeared from an opened door was a sight to quench mirth and silence the boisterous. Poor

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN. poor alike is to have a definite purpose in life to be pursued notwithstanding any difficulties or temptations that may

The Boys.

Written for the CATHOLIC RECORD,
Here's to the lad
Bright, young and cheery,
Whose dimpled hands
Leave not one task undone;
Whose blue sparkling eyes
Ne'er look sad or weary,
Whose smile is as bright
As the new rising sun.

Here's to the lad, Joyous and merry, Whose voice sweetly sounds Like a song bird on high; Whose lips are as red As the dew sprinkled berry, Whose heart beat is as calm As the rill winding by.

Here's to the lad,
Honest and truthful
Who climbed Life's steep hill
To distinction and fame;
Whose heart remains kind
Ever loving and cheerful,
Whose spirit is bright
Both in joy and in pain.

Then up with you, lads! Toil hard! Don't tarry! Start at the bottom And mount the steep hill; Take on the burden All you can carry—
Then onto Life's journey (battle)
With a firm, steady will.
—J. William Fischer.

Fix in your mind that as you can learn to walk by walking, so you can only learn to live nobly by acting nobly on every account that presents itself. If you shirk the first trial of your manhood, you will come so much weaker to the second; and so, inevitably, you will sink into baseness.

Definite Purpose.

The aim of all men is success in life. They have many different ambitions, but all want to succeed in some wayin acquiring money, in obtaining social distinction or in winning fame and high place-and a few are content if they can become good citizens and do their duty. Whatever their ambi tions may be, it is essential to success that they should have a definite pur pose and pursue it with an unchang ing intent. When a sailing vessel is bound to port against a head wind its captain is obliged to tack in order to When a sailing vessel is maintain his onward course. He some times appears to the novice to be sailing away from his destination, but h is only going about to get a long reach for his goal. He does not sail this way and that in blind confidence that after a time he may strike a favoring breeze that will carry him to his destination, his will.

Sometimes men also appear to have seen in the streets in Rome; being no less than a man going about leading a lion by a string, just as if he had been a pet dog. The man had dark skin and curly hair, and his name was Androclus. He had been a slave in Africa but his master treated him so harshly that he ran away; and as there was no safe place to fies to but the desert, he went there, and hid in the depths of a cool cave. His journey had been long over the burning sands; and, worn out and weary, he lay down and was soon asleep, not caring very much, I fear, whether he ever awoke again or not.

But nature was strong even in that poor abused slave; and when he was rested he awoke, feeling like a new forman. But to his amazement and horror, as he was about to leave the cave to seek a safer place, he saw a large lion standing in the door, completely blocking in the door, completely blocking in the washing readers of this would have done: he was a standing in the door, completely blocking in the washing readers of this would have done: he was a standing readers of this would have done: he washed shaded and horror, as he was about to leave the cave to seek a safer place, he saw a large lion standing in the door, completely blocking it he way. Foo Androclus did just what the young readers of this would have done: he washed the less than a manufacture of the moral large that the summand the purpose has alary that the summand the purpose has alary that the summand the purpose has alary that the purpose has alary the purpose has alary the purpose has alary that the purpose has alary the purpose has alary the purpose has alary that adopted the tactics of the captain sailing against a head wind. They diprovided he does not lose sight of his purpose, but makes all his studies tend purpose, out makes an ans studies tend toward the same object. If, however, he should have no definite purpose, he may be led first into art, then into literature, then into science and end by being well informed on many subjects, but distinguished in nothing.

In this age of the world men who would succeed must be specialists, but they can scarcely become great specialists unless they have broad general knowledge, acquired while they have kept in full view the use they intend to make of it. In early youth one cannot with safety and surety decide upon a definite purpose. A few trials may have to be made before he is sure of his bent. But before he has reached manhood he should make up his mind what his aim is to be and he should keep that aim in view at all times, no matter how persistently adverse winds may force him to tack.

Poverty is generally the chief obstacle to the prompt realization of one's ambition, or seems to be; but in reality poverty is very often a blessing in disguise. If the definite purpose in life is strong enough, poverty serves only to stimulate one to exertions that have a distinct educational value. The great painters, sculptors, authors and statesmen of the world have not been men who had their paths made easy for them by wealth, but struggling students with nothing to help the but a definite purpose in life and a determination to succeed. It is not absolutely necessary that one should pe poor in youth that he may achieve distinction in old age, but it is necessary that he should have a definite purpose and make sacrifices for its attainment. Many poor youths succumb to the difficulties they encounter—difficulties that help to train those who succeed; but there are difficulties of another kind that beset those whose paths are made too easy for them. They sometimes loiter by the wayside or are diverted from their purpose by the temptations they encounter.

The saving principle for rich and

present themselves. It is in the over coming of these difficulties and tempta tions that men are made strong and fitted to do the greater work that gives them distinction when they have at tained the end for which they aimed

On Bearing Defeat.

There are a few people who can not bear prosperity. That is, with success they lose their heads. But there are many more who can not bear defeat. They sink under their troubles and be come worthless drones in a work-a day world. Now this is very silly, if it is no criminal. To fight manfully to the end even if our closing hours are shrouded in gloom, is true heroism, and he who does this, in a good cause, is sure to win a crown far more enduring than any of earthly manufacture. Our lives are so short that to give way to despair is a piece of feelishness that one would think no sensible person would perpet rate. Live as long as we may, the consciousness of the brevity of human existence is always present. When the hour comes for us to quit this earth, with its deceptive pleasures and illusory joys, we will find that the time of our stay here has been all too brief to accomplish many of the projects that we had planned. This should not discourage us, for if we have done our best, heaven will demand no more of us, no matter what the false judgments of men may be.

There is no man who is not constantly meeting defeat in some enterprise upon the success of which he has set his heart. If our daily experiences offered no obstacles he would become effemin-ate pleasure seekers, and suffer all those pangs of satiety which are often more depressing than difficulties which arise in the path of energetic endeavor. There is a pleasure in overcoming re s stance which can not be obtained in indolence or inaction. Hence many of our sports are really hard work. Even fishing, which the gentle angler Izaac Walton, has immortalized in iterature, derives its chief charm from the fact that we are the victors of the fish that we may have at the end of our lines. And of all recreations angling calls for the least endeavor of body or mind. Let us not cry over our defeats if they have not been brought about by our own laziness or negli-gence, but let us offset them with triumphs as soon as we can, if it be possible. And if it be not, what shall we do then? Simply keep putting one but he tacks with a purpose, and that purpose is to control the wind that opposes him and make it subservient to

Success, however, in some department usually comes to the man who keeps at it, as the saying goes. If he necessary to the development of an artist. He may then wisely take a new tack and seek intellectual culture, to be even more on his guard than he is in adversity, for eternal vigilance is the price we have to pay for high posi-tion. And with social, professional or business elevation come cares that do not affect those in lowly stations. Many a man has arisen to place and power only to wish he was once more at his old humble occupation. I heard two distinguished men talk

ing one day. One was an eminent scholar, critic, and literary man, the other was a merchant prince. They had known each other in the days of small beginnings, and they had pre-served their friendship through all the vicissitudes of life. Well, as to their conversation, to which I have just alluded. The merchant said to the savant: "George, don't you wish you were back at your old trade as a wheelwright?" 'Yes, indeed I do," was the earnest reply, with the continuation: "And how is it with you, Frank!" The man of business answered: "If I could return to my youth and my former occupation as a tinsmith, would willingly renounce all the pampe that have attended my career as a prosperous banker and trader."

My boys will see from this that people who have climbed very high have worries that do not bother those who only stepped over few rungs of the ladder. The men to whom I have referred were defeated in securing the happiness that they thought their worldly progress would bring. The merchant had worthless children who had been spoiled by wealth, and who were a constant source of anxiety to him, and the scholar had a wife who made his life a burden.

Bear defeat bravely then, my young friends, for you are sure to have it in one form or another, and remember that there is no defeat in another and

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Diabetes also. Therefore, I contend, I have good reason to sing their praises. I shall never cease doing so." -John B. Jones.

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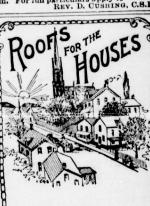
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