



THE WAGES OF SIN.

Solomon says "The way of the transgressor is hard." And here is a picture which illustrates the saying of the wise man. The man sitting at the desk is a Magistrate, and the person who holds the staff is a bailiff, who has just brought a boy before the Magistrate to be punished for some crime he has been committing. The boy is sitting upon the floor with his hands and his feet tied to keep him from running away, and the other boy, who stands holding his hat has been brought as a witness against him. Now what one of our young readers would like to be in such a situation? The boy has probably committed some crime for which he will be sent to jail, or some other place of punishment; or perhaps he will be hanged.

Let our young friends remember that disobedience to parents, idleness, Sabbath-breaking, and drinking intoxicating liquors, are generally the beginning of that course of sin which leads on to such sad consequences in the end; and all these should be carefully avoided if we wish to escape the miseries which they will sooner or later bring upon

us. The scriptures teach us to shun the very appearance of evil."

Evil Thoughts and Hasty Temper.

Evil thoughts are worse enemies than lions and tigers; for we can keep out of the way of wild beasts, but bad thoughts win their way everywhere. The cup that is full will hold no more. Keep your head and heart full of good thoughts, that bad thoughts may find no room to enter.

Fight hard against a hasty temper. Anger will come, but resist it stoutly. A spark may set a house on fire. A fit of passion may give you cause to mourn all the days of your life.

LITTLE FACTS FOR LITTLE FOLKS.

"I wish I could mind God as my little dog minds me" said a little boy, looking thoughtfully at his shaggy friend; "he always looks so pleased to mind, and I don't." What a painful truth did this child speak! Shall the poor little dog thus readily obey his master, and we rebel against God, who is our Creator, our Preserver, our Father, our Saviour, and the bountiful Giver of every thing we have?