

know the meaning of ethics and ethical duties, God and righteousness, so that our religion may be of a practical sort.

Again, our young people need to learn the great value of heroism in every-day life, that will be a power for what is right, whether people favor it or not. There is nothing we need so much to-day in our land as that faithfulness in loyalty to duty where you have to stand like a rock for it. See Toni again. I will call him Ben this time. School—boarding-school. Six young fellows take a smoke. Ben—"No, I don't smoke." "You don't smoke?—well, all the other fellows do, and you will, too"—twisting their cigarettes and lighting them and puffing them; and Ben says, "Well, I don't smoke." "Well, you will; all the fellows do; we have not a fellow here who doesn't smoke a little; we will see if you don't; I will give you six weeks; I will give you six days." "Well," he says, "you may give me six weeks or six days or six years, but I'll not smoke"—and he has a look about it that the fellows half-believe him, but only half; and sometime after they happen to meet Ben in the same place. "Smoke, Ben?" Says he, "I don't smoke"—looking with such positiveness and firmness that one of the fellows said, while he was smoking his cigarette in a careless way, he said, "Ben, suppose you tell us why you don't smoke?" Says he, "I will give you three reasons why I don't smoke. In the first place, I heard a physician say one day—our physician at home—that whatever might be said of the use of tobacco for men, nobody under twenty-one could use tobacco without injuring nerves, digestive power, and running a great deal of risk in two or three other directions; and I made up my mind that I would not be a fool to be going around every day doing things that only hurt me, and I said, 'I won't do it,' and I don't smoke. In the second place, I have a great liking for handsomely bound books; and I made up my mind every day—and I do it every week now—to put into a little stone jug all the money I would have spent if I had smoked cigarettes like some other fellows, and every week I put in so much, and I find out how much different fellows spend, and I strike an average, and every week it goes in. At the end of the year I am going to have an edition of Macaulay or an edition of Scott—at least a part of it—handsomely bound; I am going to buy and add all through the years. About twenty-five years from now, if we are alive, I would like you to come and look at my 'Smoke Library.' I don't smoke; and the third reason is this: I have got the best mother that ever lived; and the day I left school she was afraid, may be, I would, and she took me aside, and said, 'Now, Ben, I want you to make me one promise; will you do it?' 'Well,' I said, 'I don't know whether I can do it or not, I don't like to make promises;' but she said, 'I know you can keep it, and I simply ask you if you will make me a promise that I know you can keep easily.' Well, I remembered she was my mother, and how good she had been, and I said, 'Yes, I will keep it; what is it?' and fellows, she put one hand