

ONLY.

ONLY a seed but it chanced to fall
In a little cleft of a city wall,
And, taking root, grew bravely up,
Till a tiny blossom crowned its top.

Only a flower but it chanced that day
That a burdened heart passed by that way,
And the message that through the flower
was sent,
Brought the weary soul a sweet content ;

For it spoke of the lilies so wondrously
clad,
And the heart that was tired grew
strangely glad
At the thought of a tender care over all,
That noted even a sparrow's fall.

Only a thought—but the work it wrought
Could never by tongue or pen be taught ;
For it ran through a life like a thread of
gold,
And the life bore fruit a hundred-fold

Only a word, but 'twas spoken in love,
With a whispered prayer to the Lord
above,
And the angels in heaven rejoiced once
more,
For a new-born soul "entered in by the
door."

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Pleasant Hours:

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

Rev. W. H. WITHROW, M.A., Editor.

TORONTO, OCTOBER 22, 1881.

REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY, TO KEEP IT HOLY.

LET me talk to you a little about Sabbath-keeping. In the first place *Remember!* Do not forget the Sabbath day when it comes. You are very busy, I suppose, in your studies or in your sports. That is right. But when Sunday comes, remember that it is a day for sport to be laid aside, a day for Bible study. Your common duties and pleasures have no business on the Lord's day. So *remember* the Sabbath day.

It is the Sabbath, that is, it is a rest day. Young people do not feel the need of rest, beyond the ordinary sweet sleep of the night, so much as grown people do. But still the Sabbath rest is a blessing to children. It would not be good for them to go on the year round with study and play, week after week, with no intermission. But rest does not mean mere idleness. Sleep is good in its place, but activity of body is needed as well as sleep. Rest is most truly gained through change of occupation. Thus if you have been studying your usual lessons diligently during the school days, it will rest your mind if on the Sabbath you study the Bible. It will make your mind much fresher on Monday than if you were simply idle all the Sunday

through. So if your leisure hours during the week have been full of sport and play, it will rest your body to give over your running and jumping and all those various activities you are so fond of, and take a more sober and quiet method for one day.

Then the great thing is—to keep the Sabbath holy. It is God's day. It is not a holiday, as so many make it. It is a holy day. It is a day for religious worship. We ought to be religious, of course, every day. But the Sabbath is the special day for religious worship.

C. L. S. C.

WE have pleasure in submitting the following appeal to Canadians, by James L. Hughes and L. C. Peake, Esqs., Toronto, who will give any further information desired:—

The necessity for literary culture is widely felt. There is scarcely a village or school section in Canada in which there are not a few people who have a longing for the establishment of a Mutual Improvement Society of some sort in their neighborhood during the winter months. This desire shows itself in the Literary Societies, Debating Clubs, and Young People's Associations started, at one time or another, in connection with every church, school-house, and temperance society throughout the land.

Unfortunately, however, these societies usually languish and die after a short existence. The moving spirit in connection with them is often the minister or the teacher, and when he removes from the district, the society is given up. Each association stands alone, receiving neither inspiration nor direction from any other; each works on its own line, without the advantage of the experience of others, and so the work done is not continuous nor systematic.

To organize all such societies into one, to bind them together by the common ties of interest and emulation, to direct them in prosecuting their work from one central department, would surely be one of the grandest educational reforms of the age.

The Rev. Dr. Vincent conceived the idea of accomplishing this great work, and by founding the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle, has established a simple and effective means for the accomplishment of his noble purpose. The special features which adapt it to the circumstances of all communities are:

1. Its course is broad, and the books to be read are standard works in their respective departments.

2. The course can be read with ease by those who determine to follow it, whatever may be their position.

3. While local circles for mutual aid, drill, and discussion are very desirable, they are not essential. Even one person can prosecute his reading independently.

4. Where local circles are formed, every possible variety of literary exercises may be conducted in direct connection with the prescribed course. Debates, discussions, reviews, essays, &c., may all be based upon the books recently read, and as every member will be familiar with the subject from his recent reading, all will be able to take an intelligent part in such proceedings.

The attention of ministers, teachers, S. S. superintendents, and all interested in the wider diffusion of intelligence through good reading is specially directed to this great movement.

Let Canada be in advance!

STUDIES FOR 1881-82.

The course for 1881-82 comprise readings in:—1. History; 2. Literature; 3. Science and Philosophy; 4. Art; 5. Religion.

The required books for the year, which will be sent post-paid upon receipt of price, by Wm. Briggs, 78 & 80 King Street East, Toronto, Ont., are as follows:

1. *History*.—Man's Antiquity and Language. Dr. M. S. Terry. Price 10 cents.

Outline of General History. Dr. J. H. Vincent. (Chautauqua Text Book.) Price, 10 cents.

Mosaics of History. Selected by Arthur Gilman, Esq., of Cambridge, Mass. (Chautauquan).*

Mackenzie's Nineteenth Century. Books I. and II. Price, 15 cents.

2. *Literature*.—Art of Speech. Part II. "Oratory and Logic." Dr. L. T. Townsend. Price, 50 cents.

Illustrated History of Ancient Literature. Oriental and Classical. Dr. Quackenbos. Price, \$1.10.

English History and Literature. Chautauqua Library. Vol. 3. [To be ready in 1882.]

3. *Science and Philosophy*.—Popular readings concerning Mathematics, Political Economy, Geology, Chemistry, Laws of Health, and Mental and Moral Philosophy. (Chautauquan.)

4. *Art*.—Outline Lessons on Art. Miss de Forest. Price, 10 cents.

A Short History of Art. Miss de Forest. Price, \$1.50.

5. *Religion*.—God in History. (Chautauquan.)

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6.—*Additional*.—(For students of class of 1882.) *Hints for Home Reading*. Dr. Lyman Abbott. Boards, 75 cents.

The Hall in the Grove. Mrs. Alden. (About Chautauqua and the C.L.S.C.) Recommended, but not required.

INITIATION FEE.

To defray the expenses of correspondence, monthly reports, &c., an annual fee of fifty cents is required.

* The *Chautauquan* is a monthly magazine containing a portion of the "required" reading. Ten numbers for the year. 72 pages a month. Price, \$1.50 a year. Address—Lewis C. Peake, Drawer 2539, Toronto, Ont.

A YOUNG man was recently found in the Mersey drowned. On a paper found in his pocket, was written: "A wasted life. Do not ask anything about me; drink was the cause. Let me die; let me rot." Within a week the coroner of Liverpool received over 200 letters from fathers and mothers all over England, asking for a description of the young man, and saying that the boy they loved had been drawn away into the shining halls of sin and drink. O boys! never take the first glass and you will never cause your parents such sorrow as that.



AT THE DOOR OF THE MOSQUE. (See next page.)

OBEDIENT. ✓

ROGER SHERMAN was one of the old-fashioned great men which Connecticut was in the habit of producing some eighty or a hundred years ago. He was brought up to fear God and honour his parents, then considered essential traits of a good education.

After Mr. Sherman had become a great man, his widowed mother came to live with him. One morning, at family prayers, a little son of Mr. Sherman's, refusing to stop misbehaving, was boxed on the ear by the father.

The old lady was childish in her love for her grandchildren, and their punishment always roused her. Rising from her seat, she hobbled over to where her son was reading from the Bible, and giving him a slap on the ear, said,—

"If you box your child, I'll box mine."

Mr. Sherman went on reading the Scriptures, as if nothing had occurred. But to his own children his quiet manner was a most impressive lesson in obedience to the Fourth Commandment.

A correspondent writes us that during the visit of Gen. S— at the White House, an incident happened which exhibited Gen. Garfield as an obedient son.

It was the practice of the President to run his eye over the morning papers while eating his breakfast. On the morning after Gen. S—'s arrival, while at breakfast, the President, treating his guest as an old familiar friend, began reading the newspapers.

The customary act annoyed his venerable mother, whose notions of courtesy are of the old-fashioned sort. "James! James!" she exclaimed, "put away the papers. Gen. S— is with us."

"Yes, mother," smilingly replied the dutiful son.

"Yes, James," continued the old lady, "Gen. S— does not come every day, and the papers do."

The papers were not read that morning at the breakfast table.