

and show how even the little ones may please and serve Jesus.

Thus, little May is a real missionary, because she can provide a Christian teacher. Will she not grow into a deeper piety and love for the heathen as the years pass on? And will not her dear mother be likely to train her for missionary service?

But you say, "My father is not rich enough to give me twenty-five dollars."

Now, please listen: Just want to be a missionary, and want it ever so much, because you are so sorry for children who will never know how to be good unless somebody is sent to teach them, and then go and tell Jesus, asking him to direct you what to do for Him while you are young.

Every child cannot do what this little girl did; but there is a work which God will give you, and which no one else can do quite as well.

Can you not talk with some of your mates, and persuade them to join you in forming a little mission band, a berry or sewing circle, to earn money for the Board of Missions?

Many little children, as well as older ones, throughout Canada might greatly help the cause of missions by employing their spare time in doing work that could be turned to good account.

WILD OATS.

They who sow wild oats will reap wild oats. Our young people do not believe this, but it is true, whether it be believed or not.

Boys often begin this sowing at an early age, without any thought of the reaping. They have an idea that it is "sponey" to be good; that it is "soft" to be careful to keep clear of all that is wrong; that it is manly to chew, to swear, and to swagger; that it is "smart" to be careless as to what parents and teachers wish.

Young men fancy that they are proving

their independence by staying away from the Bible class, and throwing out doubts about Christianity. They pride themselves on being out of leading-strings; on their ability to choose their own company, and to judge for themselves how they will spend their evenings, and where they will pass their Sabbath. Their noses take an upward curl at the mention of the pious young men who hold on to Sunday school and prayer-meetings. They have gotten beyond this!

Now, in their heart they know that the saints are right and they themselves wrong. They have no idea of going on in the neglect of God and religion all their lives; they expect to have a good time while young, and later in life to turn over a new leaf, and to come out all right in the end. They are sowing their wild oats.

But who is to reap what they are sowing? And what will the harvest be?

"Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap."

Character is forming. It is formed in youth. Men at thirty and forty are commonly what they were at twenty, only ripened and hardened; and at twenty they are apt to be what they were at fifteen, only more set. From the quarries that are dug under Jerusalem, a fine, creamy limestone is cut, that is soft to the knife or chisel when first taken out, but that hardens into solid rock when exposed to the air. So it is with us. In youth we readily take shape under the influences which we invite; in manhood we find our characters are set. We stamp our souls while young and plastic with the impress that they are to bear in after life. Let our young men understand that sowing wild oats in youth means a harvest of sorrow and sin. Even if repented of the old seeds are there, to be fought and bewailed as long as life lasts. Better—far better—is it never to sow seeds of evil. No man ever regretted that he began to serve God in his youth.