

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN.

Determination counts for more than anything else in character-building, as it does in other forms of effort.

There is nothing else, to-day, besides honesty, that is in such sharp demand as vim.

One of the commonest excuses for the lack of self-culture and attention to other duties is the lack of time.

The truth is that an earnest purpose finds time or makes it. It seizes on spare moments and turns larger fragments of leisure to golden account.

Teachers must have tact to manage the little willful souls that are under their care, and often the parents of these little ones as well.

Salesmen who should go out on the road without tact do not use tact with customers who do not use tact with them.

Banking requires as much tact as capital. The insurance business is built up by tact. A lawyer, both in dealing with clients and in presenting his cases in court, is a failure without tact.

Care in Choosing Friends. No thoughtful person who has lived to middle-life can ever fail to note the effect upon the character and career of young men by those whom they choose as their early companions.

Life's Duty. Every life has its purpose and consequent duties. That this is not always made manifest in its course only argues the blindness and recrocity of the one who is content to exist and not live in the best sense of the term.

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much fatigued that he resolved to rest for the night at a small wayside inn which was at hand, and early in the morning to retrace his steps, and acquaint the lady with the mistake she had made.

When a young man first goes out into the great world and is thrown among other men of all characters, habits and professions—especially if he is away from home and has had little training in social intercourse—he is apt to many blunders if he be at all forward.

He should lay down certain principles for his own guidance, so as to be benefited by these meetings with other men, so as to establish a reputation for nice manners and good sense, and so as to participate in no evil by any of the ways in which that may be done.

1. Deference to superiors. First of all, the well-bred young man will be respectful toward age, superior wisdom and high station. The failure to show this reverence is due to a false notion of one's own importance.

2. Slowness to express opinions. When a young man is in a company largely composed of his elders, it is a mistake for him to act as if he "knew it all." Even if he be a college graduate and his acquaintances be poorly educated, they know more than he does of the wisdom that is garnered in the great university of life.

3. Avoid detraction. Very often in the company of men the absent are spoken of disparagingly. Besides the sinfulness of this proceeding, it is also the failings of others. Say nothing, as a rule, behind a man's back that you would not say to his face.

4. Have tact. Fine manners are the finest of the fine arts, and they are based on a desire to please. Beamiability, courteous, sweet-tempered and unselfish. You will have your reward in the affection of your friends.—Catholic Columbian.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS. THE LACE VEIL.

CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.

"Stop here, and welcome, child," she said; "but as to the payment don't trouble me. It will be time enough to think of that when you're a rich man, as we'll see you, perhaps, one of these days."

"The next morning, after taking leave of the Cotters, he went, at the appointed hour to Mr. Mason; and having received his commission and instructions from the foreman, he set out on his travels.

One morning, with a more valuable cargo than had hitherto entrusted to him, comprising several richly wrought veils and collars. When about ten miles from the city, he came to a large house situated in a handsome park. James rang at the gate, and having received permission to show his goods to the ladies was admitted into the hall.

Having tied up his lace, James walked away; and after he had gone several miles without meeting any customers, he sat down under a shady tree in order to rest.

could such a thing have found its way into a furze brake? But, mamma, do you know it reminds me of the boy to whom I so carelessly gave a five-pound note the day before we left home.

"Well, said Mrs. Stevens, 'when I drive into Limerick to-day, I shall not fail to make inquiries about it; and, Mary, I will take this veil; it may have belonged to him.'

"I did not succeed in selling it," replied James; "people thought it too dear, as it is not folded among the collars."

"I don't see it," said the clerk. And after an anxious search on the part of James, it was evident that the veil was not forthcoming.

"You had better confess at once what you have done with it," said the clerk severely.

"I remember showing it to the ladies; but then—a sudden light broke upon his mind—"Oh! cried he, 'I must have left it on the grass under the tree where I was folding all the things, and—

"As he spoke, the clerk was eyeing him keenly, and suddenly taking him by the arm, said, 'What makes your waistcoat project on at the side?'

"The clerk's tale was soon told, and so was poor James; but the latter seemed so improbable, that Mr. Mason did not hesitate to discharge the boy, telling him he might consider himself very fortunate in not being lodged in jail.

"Oh, sir," said James, "when Mrs. Stevens returns she can prove my innocence about the money; as to the veil, I must have left it on the grass, when I was so confused at discovering the note; but I would gladly work day and night to make it up to you."

"Well," said Mr. Mason, "I shall be very glad if you are ever able to prove yourself innocent; but in the meantime, I must forbid your approaching my warehouse."

"With a bursting heart, poor James withdrew, and poured out his sorrows into the sympathizing ear of good Mrs. Cotter, his only remaining friend.

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"It is needless to record James's answer. The fondest wish of his heart seemed likely to be realized; and aided through the lady's benevolent aid by a liberal donation from Mr. Mason, he was placed at a good school, no exertion on his part was wanting to profit by the instruction he received.

"When, in some years, by the blessing of God on his exertions, he had realized a competence, the first use he made of it was to establish Jim and Mrs. Cotter in a small freehold farm, which he purchased for them.

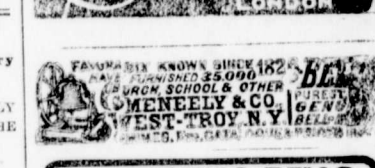
"And now, Robert, go and ask mamma whether Carlo's talent for finding and carrying handkerchiefs and gloves can by any chance be a hereditary gift derived from his grandmother."

"Ah, I now see the whole story," said Alice. "You, papa, were once James the lace boy, and mamma was Mary Stevens—how curious!"

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