

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

A May Blossom. In my dim room, above the city street. I sat at work. . . yet, all about me grew bright reaches of the fields, so cool, so sweet;

A Quick Temper. What did you say? That you had a quick temper, but were soon over it; and that it was only a word and a blow with you sometimes, but you were always sorry as soon as it was over?

A Hero of Our Day. Many years ago there was a great fire, which burned down a large part of the city of Chicago. Hundreds of homes were swept away, and many strange events occurred while the flames were raging.

Consult Your Parents, Girls. Girls should never forget for one moment that no being on earth takes so deep and true an interest in their welfare as does their father or mother.

Keep Young, Girls. "Mother wants to keep me a baby until I am twenty," pouted a girl of fourteen, whose mother wanted to have her retain the loosely-flowing locks and the youthful simple garments suitable for her years for a couple of seasons longer.

Childish Faith. A pretty little story comes from Baltimore. At a fair held there for the benefit of a church a little girl named Rose had worked very hard while the fair was in progress to sell various things that were entrusted to her.

A Touching Friendship. Perhaps one of the most touching instances of apparently ill-sorted friendships is that of the well-known lioness which died at an advanced age in the Dublin Zoological Gardens in 1876.

Men Who Read. Risen from the ranks. Poor boy becomes rich man. Little schooling, nevertheless — statesman! Cooper, Greeley, Lincoln, — the procession is endless. We have them paraded before us to excite our emulation.

did not disturb the rest of his mistress." —New York Post.

A Lesson in Politeness. The following anecdote, culled from an exchange, illustrates the power of a kind word uttered in recognition of the simplest service:

Several winters ago a woman was coming out from a public building where the heavy doors swung back and made egress somewhat difficult. A little street urchin sprang up to the rescue, and as he held open the door, she said "Thank you," and passed on.

"D'ye hear that?" said the boy to a companion standing near him. "No; what?"

"Why, that lady said 'Thank ye' to the likes o' me."

Amused at the conversation, the lady turned and said to the boy: "It always pays to be polite, my boy; remember that."

Years passed away, and last December, when doing her Christmas shopping, this same lady received exceptional courtesy from a clerk in Boston, which caused her to remark to a friend who was with her:

"What a great comfort to be civilly treated once in a while—though I don't know that I blame the store clerks for being rude during the holidays."

The young man's quick ear caught the words, and he said: "Pardon me, madam, but you gave me my first lesson in politeness a few years ago."

Only two words, dropped into the treasury of a street conversation, that they yielded returns most satisfactory.

What to Read. Are you deficient in taste? Read the best English poets, such as Thompson, Gray, Goldsmith, Pope, Cowper, Coleridge, Scott and Wordsworth. Are you deficient in imagination? Read Milton, Akenside, Burke and Shakespeare.

How Much Are You Worth a Pound? How much is your body worth to you? If you are a millionaire you are very likely to answer that your body is worth wealth untold.

Demand the Best in Yourself. None of us expect enough from ourselves. Excuses for our own lacks and mistakes are easy to find, and we usually find them. How can we expect our lives to become strong and excellent when we deal with them in this fashion—which to speak bluntly—is lazy and cowardly?

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These men read. Their fund of information was not gathered at the corner grocery, but from the great books of the world. Their ideas were not contracted to the fashion of the cross-road neighborhood or the tenement block; their vision of the world was not shut in by Black Bass creek or the limits of a parish; their knowledge of man was not confined to a ward election or a county fair, but their conversation with books made them masters of the wisdom of other times and other places; the familiars of the great thinkers, teachers, philosophers, wits, and statesmen whose ideals, successes, and wisdom they made part of their own experience.

In that manner they gathered ideas and purposes of their own. They were thus inspired with ambition, and the wisdom to work upwards to the ends they sought. This will appear from a close study of the lives of truly successful men. Books did a great deal for them. A taste for reading was the most valuable element of their education, whether their education stopped at the common school or projected beyond it.

The moral is that a people's institutions fall in a very important respect if this element in the intellectual and moral up-raising of the people is deficient.—Exchange.

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN.

To be at work, to do things for the world, to turn the currents of things about us at our will, to make our existence a positive element, even though it be no bigger than a grain of sand in this great system where we live—that is a new joy of which the idle man knows no more than the mole knows of sunshine, or the serpent of the eagle's triumphant flight into the upper air.

A Place to Fill. There is always some place that every young man can fill better than any one else, and he may fill it in his own way, by being always true to himself and to his God.

Don't. Don't go around looking for trouble unless you really want to find it. Don't talk too much; a stiff lower jaw is as useful as a stiff upper lip.

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Are you deficient in judgment and good sense in the common affairs of life? Read Franklin. Are you deficient in sensibility? Read Goethe and Mackenzie.

Are you deficient in political knowledge? Read Montesquieu, the Federalist, Webster and Calhoun. Are you deficient in conscience? Read some of Newman's, Manning's and Hanoi's works.

Are you deficient in anything? Read the Bible with the aid of a good Commentary.

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The more money a man can produce each year the more valuable, of course, is his body to him. The less money a man can produce the less valuable is his body. The railroad president's body is worth a vast fortune. On the other extreme, the body of a tramp, a criminal, a lunatic or a beggar is worth literally less than nothing.

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falls to come up to them. In character and achievement he expects much from himself, and is too brave to make excuses for his own failings that he would not make for his neighbor.

It is healthful to be uncharitable with ourselves. There is no habit more pernicious and demoralizing than the one of self-excusing. It is a tonic to our self-respect to require the utmost of our lives, and to deal faithfully with ourselves when we fall short of the mark. To believe in ourselves, and to exact from ourselves the best, is a source of inspiration and strength. He who expects little from himself will attain less.

Resorts for Young Men. "Some organized effort should be made by the reverend clergy to keep our boys together after leaving the parochial school. Literary institutes possess little attraction for lads between fourteen and eighteen years of age. Besides, these societies are primarily instituted for full grown men. Societies, indeed, are doing a great amount of good among our young people, but pious guilds which hold meetings only once a week do not appeal with any special force to a certain class which we should be most anxious to hold.

What is particularly needed for our boys—call them young men if you will—is a spacious and well-appointed building in each parish where they may congregate every evening under the supervision of a priest possessed of patience, tact, earnestness, good temper, cheerfulness. There the work of the school may be continued by organizing classes in commercial arithmetic, bookkeeping, stenography, etc. These habits of neatness and gentlemanly deportment may be encouraged and youthful energies directed into proper channels, there a taste for good reading may be cultivated and a real love for knowledge and literature engendered; there rational amusements may be indulged in and hours spent pleasantly which might be otherwise not fully employed.

These boys will assemble in crowds somewhere, and it should be our aim to furnish them with a meeting-place where their religion and morals may be safe-guarded. The boy of to-day will be the man of to-morrow, and the man of to-morrow will exert a mighty influence for good or evil. The work of providing these evening homes for our boys will involve the outlay of money and will demand unremitting labor on the part of the clergy, but such a work must be undertaken and successfully carried on if we would save numbers of our boys to society and the Church. The organization of alumni associations such as 'leakage' will do much to arrest the 'leakage' which undoubtedly exists.—The Catholic Columbian.

A Millionaire's Advice. Mr. John D. Rockefeller gives this advice in an address to some young men:

"I have brought with me to-night to show you young men a little book—the first ledger I kept. The practice of keeping a personal ledger by young men just starting in business, and earning money and requiring to learn its value is, I think, a good one. In the first struggle to get a footing I kept my accounts in this book, and also some memoranda of little incidents that seemed to me important. In after years I found that book and brought it to New York. It is more than forty two years since I wrote what it contains. I call it Ledger A, and now I place the greatest value upon it. I have thought that it would be a little help to some of you young men if I read one or two extracts from this ledger. When I read it through it brought to my mind remembrances of the care with which I used to record my little items of receipts and disbursements—matters, I think, which many of you young men are rather careless over. It does not look like a modern ledger, does it? But you could not get that book from me for all the modern ledgers in New York, nor for all that they would bring. It shows largely what I received and what I paid out during my first year of business. It shows that from Sept. 26, 1855, until Jan. 1, 1856, I received \$50. Out of that I paid my washerwoman and the lady I boarded with, and I saved a little money to put away. Among other things, I find that I gave a cent to the Sunday-school every Sunday. That is not a very large sum, is it? But that was all the money I had to give for that particular object. I was also giving to several other religious objects, and what I could afford to give, I gave regularly, as I was taught to do, and it has been a pleasure to me all my life to do so.

"I had a large increase in my revenue the next year. It went up to \$25 a month. I paid my own bills, and

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SCREAMED WITH ECZEMA. Baby's Skin Red and Raw. Doctor's Medicine was Painful and Useless. CUTIGURA Cured in a Month.

My six-months-old daughter broke out with Eczema. A doctor pronounced it "Moist Eczema," and prescribed for her. She screamed when I put the medicine on her, and I stopped using it. Her skin was all red and raw, and moisture coming from it all the time, and was very painful. I got CUTIGURA SOAP and CUTIGURA (ointment), they entirely cured her within a month, and her skin is as fair as alib.

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ways had a little something to give away, and the happiness of saving some. In fact, I am not so independent now as I was then. I did not make any obligations I could not meet. I lived within my means; and my advice to you young men is to do just the same!"

After asking how many men present were country boys, and finding from the upraised hands that they made three-fourths of his audience, he congratulated them upon having had the study, practical uprearing that fitted them for hard work and gave them much better chance of success than city boys. He expressed his pleasure at seeing them there, and said that the associations of such a place had done much for him in his early life, and then he returned to his first subject, and added: "Keep a little ledger as I did. Write down in it what you receive, and do not be ashamed to write down what you put away. See that you pay it away in such a manner that your father or mother may look over your book and see just what you did with your money. It will help you save money, and that you ought to do."

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