

each other names, till they got a-going and couldn't stop. They will separate with black eyes and bloody noses.

There is a young man sitting late with his companions at the gaming-table.— He has flushed cheeks, an anxious look, a despairing countenance. He has lost his last dollar. He began by playing marbles in the street, but got a-going, and couldn't stop.

See that young man with a dark lantern, stealing from his master's drawer. He is a merchant's clerk. He came from the country a promising boy. But the rest of the clerks went to the theatre, and he thought he must go too. He began by thinking he would only go once, just to say that he had been to the theatre. But he got a-going and couldn't stop. He has used up his wages, and wants more money. He cannot resist the temptation when he knows there is money in the drawer. He has got a-going. He will stop in the State prison.

Hark, do you hear that horrid oath ! It comes from the foul mouth of a little boy in the street. He began by saying by-words, but he has got a-going and can't stop.

Fifty young men were some years ago in the habit of meeting together in a room, at a public house, to enjoy themselves in social hilarity, where the wine-cup passed freely around. One of them, as he was going there one evening, began to think there might be danger in the way. He stopped and considered a moment, and then said to himself, "Right about face!" He turned on his heel, went back to his room, and never was seen at the public-house again. He has become rich ; and the first block of buildings which he erected was built directly in front of the place where he stood when he made that exclamation. Six of the young men followed his example. The remaining forty three got a-going, and couldn't stop till they landed in the ditch, and most of them in a drunkard's grave.

Beware, then, boys, how you get a-going. Be sure before you start that you are in the right way, for when you are sliding down hill it is hard to stop.  
—*Christia at Work.*

### A SHORT SERMON.

My text is in these words,—*Mind your business.* And each word shall form a division of the sermon.

1st. *Mind your business.* I assume you have a business—a lawful business of some sort. If you are an idler, you will probably be a tattler and busybody in other men's matters, and have no business in the world. The world was not made for vagabonds. *Mind your business.* Be sure it is something useful. If it be hurtful, it is none of your business and you had better leave it alone. If the thing be wrong, the busier you are, the worse it will be for you. If you do not mind your business, you may be certain that Satan is contriving some mischief, and will promptly set you to work.

2nd. *Mind your business.* Have nothing to do with Satan's business. It is always improper work. A certain man, it is said, made his fortune by minding his own business. Yet, your business may have something to do with your neighbour. "Am I my brother's keeper?" was Cain's question. Thou shalt in any wise reprove thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him. It is part of your business to bear another's infirmities and burdens. The text does not say, mind his business, but mind your business. Destroy the weeds in your field as well for his sake as for your own. It is not intermeddling to pull his ox out of the mire. Christ himself said 'I must be about my Father's business,' and thus he made it his business.

3rd. *Mind your business.* Study to do your own business. Keep your mind upon it. "Not slothful in business" is linked with "fervent in spirit, serving the Lord." Push your business. Do not suffer it to push you. Remember the ancient rhyme about the 'busy bee'. Do your business with all your might. Do not go about it grudgingly and fretfully. Let your thoughts be, "I delight to do thy will." You ought to be something more than a pair of hands. Keep your mind upon your business, but remember worry is not work. Be diligent in business. In one word, be a busy body, and yet be not a busybody.

In this paradox endeth both the text and the sermon, with a benediction.