The Grain Growers' Sunshine Guild

I am going to write this week on a subject that is very near my heart-beys, between the ages of twelve and seventeen, when they do those things which they ought not to do and leave undone those things which they ought to do. I love boys at this age and it hurts me dreadfully to hear them scolded for laziness when they are only weak physically, and branded as bad when

they are only mischievous.

There was a little brother who came into our family when the next youngest was eight and our love for him taught many things about boys generally There was a day when your editor released this little man at thirteen summers from some household task to follow a magnificent steam engine which was puffing down the street. He came back to me with shining eyes and, looking up into my face, said, "You seem to know some way, Francis, just how a fellow feels." That is one of the few compliments I have tucked away in my

memory for keeps.

Perhaps it was the echo of these words that made me understand years afterwards when I found Billy, the office boy, in a toy shop enraptured with the steam engines. He was a big boy for his years and he slunk away when he for fear of being ridiculed. When we met in the office again he avoided my eyes and would have harried by, only I stopped him at d said, "Weren't those

engines splendid, Billy?

He looked at me in amazement for a moment and then be said, with the joyousness of one who has discovered a fellow spirit, "Say, they were all right, weren't they"

That afternoon he came and leaned over my desk and in one shy and nagnificent attempt to express his gratitude for my understanding he said, "My, but you've got pretty hands."

But returning again to the little brother

who, for some time, was in my charge. One evening, smelling smoke, I went down to the cellar and finding the small man there alone, I instantly grasped the explanation of the smoke.

"What do you want?" he asked,

"Why I thought I smelled smoke, but I guess I must have been wrong," I answered, innocently, and went upstairs and picked up a book.

Presently I felt a pair of shy young arms steal about my neck and a boyish voice said wistfully, "You mad mit me?"
"No," I said, pleasantly, "Why?"
"You know very we'l why," he said

Then I put down my book and slipped my arm about his shoulders and he snuggled up to my side. "Yes, laddie," I answered, "I do know why. I don't like smoking because it is not a very elean habit and it often makes men self sh and it is said to make growing boys very dull at school. So I would rather you would not smoke; but you are nearly a man now and you must decide fer yourself. Cnly don't think you have ever got to hide things from me, sonny If, when you have thought it over, you

decide to go on smoking, do it at home."
That was all, but he never smoked again. Looking back on these things today it seems to me that it is pitifully easy to win the confidence of these boys. Just a kind word, a little sympathy and understanding and they are your slaves for life. What I have said and done to win the affection of the boys who have been my friends has been so very little compared with what I might have done that I am ashamed to think of the rich harvest of gratitude I have reaped. I know very well now that it was not because my kindnesses were many or great, but because the poor little chaps were so hungry for affection and under-

Won't you, who are parents of boys at this trying age, strive hard to give the laddies the he'p and sympathy they need to tide them over the breach between boyhood and manhood?

FRANCIS MARION BEYNON.

DESIRES POSITION AS COMPANION

Dear Miss Beynon:- I have read the different letters in your columns from

time to time and though I am not a subscriber, I am living on a farm where your paper is taken, which makes me reluctant in asking the favor. My desire is to ask if you would kindly assist me in obtaining a berth as companion to a lady or child. I may say that previous to leaving England, I was constantly with the blind teaching in one of the leading institutions, and I thought your columns would be the most suitable for such a case as mine.

MISS TEACHER. I don't like to discourage you, but I must say that positions as companion

are about as rare in this country as orange groves.

A FICKLE RECIPE

Dear Miss Beynon:-We have taken The Guide for some time and I find it a great pleasure and help reading the Sunshine and Country Homenakers' pages. I often thought I would like to write, but like many other busy mothers I find there is so little time to spare, so this is my first letter.

Here is a nice pickle recipe Boil five good sized beets till tender, peel and chop with one head of raw white rabbage, one cupful of brown sugar, one teaspoonful each of allspice and cinnamon, salt and pepper to taste, put in a crock and cover with cold vinegar. This is very good and will keep a long

I will now close, wishing your readers editor all happiness and success. I will kign myself

JUST A MOTHER.

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