

KEEP AT IT.

NE, up and then another,  
and the longest walk is ended;  
One step and then another,  
An the largest rent is innoned,  
One tick upon another,  
and the highest wall is made;  
Or flake upon another,  
and the loopest snow is laid.

so the little choral-workers,  
By their slow and constant motion,  
Have built those pretty islands  
In the distant dark-blue ocean,  
And the noblest undertakings  
Man a wisdom hath conceived,  
By oft-repeated effort  
Have been patiently achieved

Then, do not look disheartened  
On the work you have to do,  
And say that such a mighty task  
You never can get through  
But just endeavour day by day  
Another point to gain,  
And soon the mountain which you fear  
Will prove to be a plain!

—Treasure Trove.

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Pleasant Hours:

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLK:

Rev. W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor.

TORONTO, MARCH 20, 1886.

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FOR MISSIONS

For the Year 1886.

A FIVE-MINUTE SERMON.

"Remember now thy Creator."—Ecc. xii. 1.  
Boys and girls, you are here told first to remember. You must do this in order to succeed in anything. Of what use is it to study unless you recollect your lesson? You can no more become wise without remembering, than you can carry water in a sieve. What only goes in at one ear and out at the other may as well not go in at all. It is what we keep, not what we get, which makes us either rich or knowing. It is not the boy who recites the most lessons, but the one who forgets the fewest of them, that excels as a scholar.

Neither can you be useful unless you remember. If your mother sends you to the store for starch, and you forget and bring home sugar, you

hinder instead of help her. She cannot use sugar on your collars and aprons. They need to be stiffened, not sweetened.

You cannot be good without using the memory. If told by your parents to do this and not to do that, you are wicked if you disobey, even if you do cry out, "O, I forgot!" It is your duty not to forget. Then, again, though you may remember your lessons and errands, and what your parents say, that is not enough to make you truly good. Listen to the text "Remember now thy Creator. He is your best friend, and should be in all your thoughts. He warms you with his sunshine, and feeds you from his great farm, and offers you his helping hand. To remember him and think upon his goodness is to love him, for he is "altogether lovely."

Notice another word in the text, "thy" Creator. He is not the God of the big folks alone, but of the little folks as well. You sometimes think, perhaps, that while he may like to hear your father and mother and uncles and aunts pray, he does not care to hear you. That was what Peter and James and Matthew and Luke thought when they tried to drive the boys and girls away from Christ; but when Jesus saw it he was much displeased, and making the disciples stand one side, he called the children to him, and "took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them." So each of you can look upon Christ as "thy" Saviour.

There is one other word in the text which you should mark. It is N-o-w. That means right away. Not next month, or next week, or even to-morrow, but to-day. Not when you reach your 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, or 15th birthday, but at once. "Now is the accepted time. Did you ever read Nebuchadnezzar's dream? He saw in his night vision an image. Its head was gold, its arms silver, its thighs brass, its legs iron, and its toes partly clay. That head of gold is like to-day; it is a golden chance to seek religion and to begin remembering thy Creator. You can repent and pray, and commence to love Christ more easily "now" than you ever can again. Next week will be like the arms of silver, and next year like the thighs of brass, and at last will come the times which resemble the legs of iron and toes of worthless clay. As the months pass on, your play-notes, and school-notes, and lessons, and home duties, and society pleasures, will make it harder to "remember thy Creator." Why not do as a little nine-year-old girl did, who, when invited by her pastor to love Jesus and join the Church, did so, saying, "I have put it off long enough."

READ YOUR BIBLE.

DEAR children, read your Bible, lay its truths up in your hearts, and practice them in your lives. Don't let it tell you that you haven't opened it for a month—aye, for a day, but read it at least every morning and evening. Meditate upon it during the day, and take our word for it, the coming generation of men and women will be holier and purer than the one that preceded it.

STRONG drink is not only the way to the devil, but the devil's way into you.—Dr. Adam Clarke.



RUSSIAN FARM HOUSE.

DON'T FORGET THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AID & EXTENSION FUND COLLECTION

REVIEW SUNDAY—MARCH 28.

It will be remembered that the General Conference directs that this collection be taken up in all the Sunday-schools of our Church on the Review Sunday either in September or March. Some schools, it is to be feared, neglected to take it up in September. That is the best time. For then all the schools are open. In March those schools that close in winter have not yet come out of winter quarters. But we specially

request that the direction of the General Conference be carried out by all those schools which may have neglected it in September. The ministers are all asked at the May District Meeting if this collection has been taken up; and, if it has not, the ministers often pay it out of their own pockets. Now, no school desires this to be the case. The ministers cannot themselves take up the collection, for few of them can be in the schools. It is the duty of the superintendent of the school to see that it is duly taken up and handed to the minister of the circuit.

Two-thirds of the crimes which come before the courts of law of this country are occasioned chiefly by intemperance.—Lord Chief Baron Kelly of England.

Intoxicating wine is the physic of fools.—Jewish Essenes, B.C. 200.



RUSSIAN SLEIGH.