

years of age. 2. A prize for the best between nine and twelve years of age. 3. For the best between twelve and fifteen years. 4. Between fifteen and eighteen. 5. Between eighteen and twenty-one. 6. An additional prize will be given for the best essay of the whole.

X.

The conditions are the following. Each one must write his or her own essay. Get knowledge wherever you can, but compose and write it yourself. It must not be more than two hundred words. All essays must be mailed in time to reach here by the first of March. Do not write your name on the essay. Write your age upon it, and your name upon a separate piece of paper, and send it along with the essay. Give facts and figures as briefly and neatly as you can.

If this plan succeeds, I will give you something else to write about and some more prizes.

A queer I mean the Chick that the story on **chick**. page 26 tells about, and yet I think there are a good many such queer people among our young readers, and they are the good and happy ones who are going to make the good men and women in the world. "Vengeance belongeth unto me," saith God. But there is one kind of revenge that He allows us to take and that is "Chick's."

That Which Mrs. Wilkie tells about on **picnic**. page twenty, would have been a curious one to us. We would like to see it, but we would not like to live on its food, split peas, red pepper, garlic, potatoes, onions, all boiled together. Wasn't that a dainty dish to set before a-a-a, picnic. But they enjoyed it and it is because your missionaries have gone and put some new light and life into the dull sad lives of many that they are able to enjoy life's good.

The big Margaret McKellar M. D., one of **carrings**. our medical missionaries in India tells of one place that she visited where the women have holes made in their ears when

they are young. They keep putting something larger and heavier in as time passes by until at length the opening is so large that they can put their hand through it and the lower part of it hangs down on the shoulder. When the women become Christians they put off these great piles of jewelry to show that they have put away their heathenism, but they cannot get their ears back to their right shape. So if you allow bad habits and sins to come into your young lives, you may break them off in later years and be forgiven, but you can never get rid of the scars, the memories, that they cause.

A good On page 22 you will find a story **story**. which boys especially should read. Remember that there are a good many ways of gambling. All games of chance played for money, no matter how little, is gambling. You will see in the story how terrible is the power of the gambling habit. Never give it a chance to begin by having anything to do with it. The Bible says, "By their fruits ye shall know them." Judged by its fruits, gambling is one of the worst things that boys or men can indulge.

HOW TO DO GOOD.

You want to know how to do good, my dear?
Believe me when I say:
You can do more good by being good
Than in any other way.

"Now are ye light in the Lord," we read,
Then walk as a child of the light;
You will make this world of sin and need
With heaven's own glory bright.

The light of heaven, my dear, is love,
It shines like a golden sun;
It warms the cold, dead hearts of men
And quickens every one.

So open your heart to love divine,
Let it shine in first, my dear,
And then shine out to guide and bless
And purify and cheer.

If you grow like Jesus, sweet and pure
And kind and good and true,
Your ready hands and feet each day
Will deeds of mercy do.—Sel.