

# PLEASANT HOURS

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLK.

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## The Underland.

BY CATHERINE YOUNG GLEN.

When I was, oh, so much smaller,  
And so much nearer the ground,  
The dear, queer things I could hear  
and see!

The wonderful things I found!  
I mined on the mole-hill mountains,  
I tolled in the valleys of sand,  
And the gems untold and the  
pebble-gold,  
I shut away in my hand!

When I was, oh, so much smaller,  
Whenever I chanced to pass  
I saw the ants and the little brown  
bugs  
Climb up on the blades of grass!  
I travelled, I and the little brown  
bugs,  
Through a forest vast and sweet,  
Whose shadowy glades I know no  
more,  
Because it is under my feet!

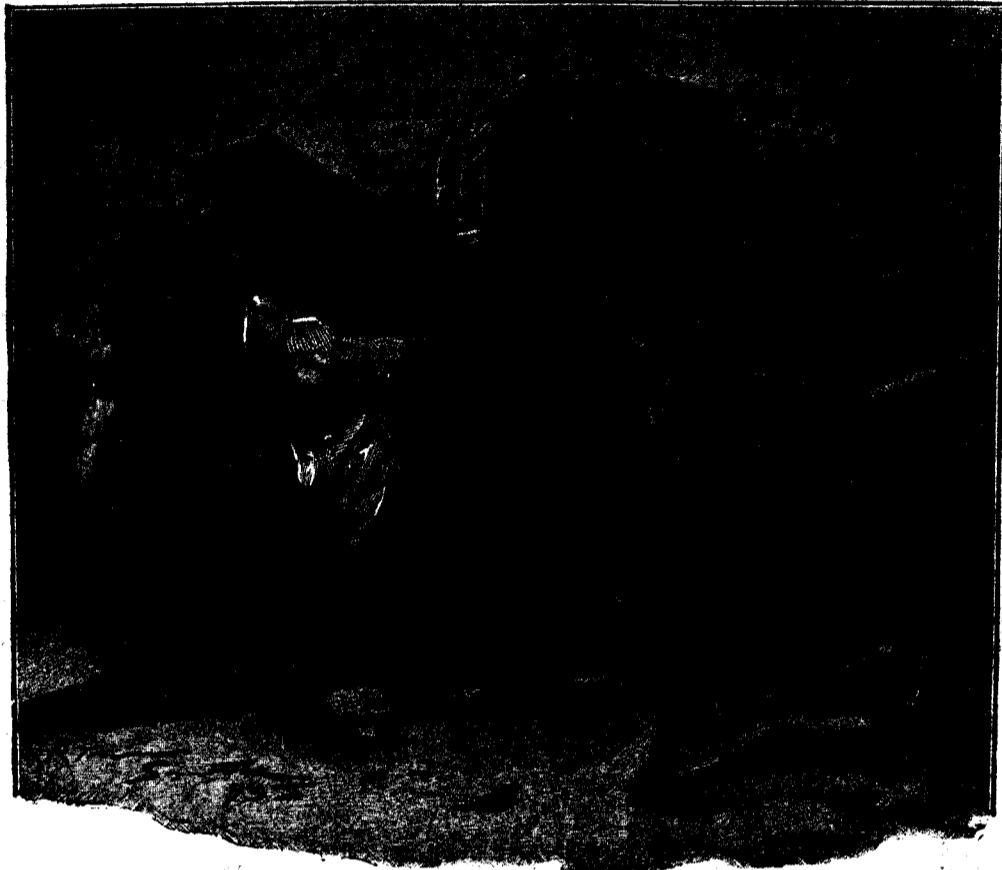
When I was, oh, so much smaller,  
And so much nearer the floor,  
The leagues of its carpet prairie!  
The flowers that scattered it o'er!  
The lamps were moons hung in  
heaven,  
And the big folks giant-high;  
Away up on father's shoulder,  
I could reach clear into the sky!

I'm glad I am coming up taller!  
We can't stay close to the ground!  
Yet I think, oh, often and often,  
Of the wonderful things I found!  
Of the hills, and the pleasant  
valleys,  
Of the byways, memory-sweet,  
The land that I left behind me,  
When I grew away from my feet!

## CHILD-LIFE IN JAPAN.

Japan is said to be the paradise of children. The Japanese fathers and mothers are very kind to their little folk. They will nurse them, caress them, and play with them by the hour. They provide all manner of games and entertainments for their amusement. It is quite a common sight to see grown men flying kites and playing with toys for the amusement of their children. We think none the worse, but all the better, of them for that. A people who are fond of children, and fond of flowers, as the Japanese pre-eminently are, are a people with noble traits of character, a people worth saving by the ministry of the Gospel of Christ.

Our General Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Carman, during last summer paid a visit of several weeks to the Empire of Japan. He travelled a great deal, kept his eyes open, and his mind alert. He is one of the most wide-awake travellers we know. What he does not see and



"THEY DRAGGED HIM FROM THE CHAIR."

note is not worth seeing. Dr. Carman has kindly promised to write, for the benefit of the Methodist people of Canada, in our connexional monthly, his impressions of his recent visit. These will be very fully illustrated by a number of engravings like the above.

## ROMANCE OF MISSIONS.

Few subjects are more full of romance and heroism than the story of Christian missions. The missionaries have been the pioneers not only of religion but of civilization in many of the dark places of the earth. They have braved the greatest perils with intrepid courage; they have endured hardness as good soldiers; and many of them have died as martyrs for the cause of God. We purpose making in Onward and our connexional monthly the stirring story of Christian missions a very prominent feature, and have arranged a programme of illustrated papers by Canadian writers on such heroic characters as Bishop Heber and David Brainerd and Griffith John. Also articles on Zenana Life and Child Widows in India, Women and Missions, etc. The accompanying cut is one

of the characteristic illustrations of this series.

## IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The odd-looking animal in our picture represents one of the beasts of burden in use in the Philippine Islands. The tinkling bell on his back warns the people of the approach of this peddler of good things. Whether the odd-looking headgear of the animal is worn by way or ornament or not we will leave our readers to decide. "Among the Philippines" will, in The Methodist Magazine and Review, describe the interesting people of these islands, their manners and customs, and the possibilities of missionary work among them.

## IF I WERE A BOY.

If I were a boy, says Bishop Vincent, with my man's wisdom, I should eat wholesome food and no other; and I should chew it well, and never "bolt it down." I should eat at regular hours, even if I had to have four regular meals a day. I should never touch tobacco or chewing-gum; never once go to bed without cleansing my teeth; never let a year go by without a dentist's inspection and treatment; never sit up late at night unless a great emergency demanded it; never linger one moment in bed when the time came for getting up; never fail, every day, to rub every part of my body with a wet towel, and then with a dry one; never drink more than three or four tablespoonfuls of ice-water at one time. All this takes will-power—and that is all it does take.

If I were a boy I should keep my own secrets, except as I revealed them to my father or mother, for the sake of securing their advice.

I should put no unclean thoughts, pictures, sights, or stories in my

memory and imagination, and no foul words on my tongue.

I should treat little folks kindly, and not tease them; show respect to servants; be tender toward the unfortunate—all this I should strive to do for the sake of being a comfort to people, a joy to my parents, and a help to the next century.

If I were a boy, I should play and romp, sing and shout, climb trees, explore caves, swim rivers, and be able to do all the manly things that belong to the manly sports; love and study nature; travel as widely and observe as wisely as I could; study hard and with a will when the time came for study; read the best literature—works of the imagination, history, science, and art, according to my taste and need; get a good knowledge of English; try to speak accurately and to pronounce distinctly; go to college, and go through college, even if I expected to be a clerk, a farmer, or a mechanic; spend my Sabbaths reverently; try to be a practical, everyday Christian; help on every good cause; never make sport of sacred things; be "about my Father's business," like the Boy of Nazareth; "use the world and not abuse it;" treat old men as fathers, "the younger men as brethren, the elder women as mothers, the younger as sisters, with all purity;" and thus I would try to be a Christian gentleman, wholesome, sensible, cheerful, independent, courteous.

## LOOK OUT.

The river is so still, smooth, glassy, that it seems frozen, but it is rough enough a little way ahead where the water goes over the dam in a turmoil, where the heavy logs are rushed along like chips. And, halloo! there are Tom Young and Will Frye, off in that clumsy, lazily drifting boat! Do they notice that the sleepy stream is not asleep after all? that it is headed for the dam, and it will whirl that boat with a crash on the rocks below as easily as a tornado would sweep a leaf away. Look out, boys! And Tom, Will, what about the other current you are trusting yourselves to, that beer-sipping habit? "A smooth stream and no danger," you cry; but the whole thing is wrong. The current is heading for the falls, and over will you go in a pitiful wreck. Turn about! drop the beer-mug! head the boat the other way!

A Tamil native Christian in Ceylon, "conductor" on one of the tea estates, recently invested 1,000 rupees in a magic lantern and slides representing the life of Christ, and goes about the tea plantations showing the pictures to the coolies and speaking to them of salvation.



CHILD-LIFE IN JAPAN.



BEAST OF BURDEN IN THE PHILIPPINES.