

# THE YOUNG ACADIAN.

L

WOLFVILLE, N. S., MAY 1883.

No. 2

## POETRY.

### BOYS MAKE MEN.

When you see a ragged urchin  
Standing wistful in the street,  
With torn hat and kneeless trousers,  
Dirty face and bare red feet,  
Pass not by that child unheeding;  
Smile upon him. Mark me, when  
He's grown old he'll not forget it:  
For, remember, boys make men.

Have you never seen a grandsire,  
With his eyes aglow with joy,  
Bring to mind some act of kindness—  
Something said to him a boy,  
Or relate some slight or coldness  
With a brow all clouded, when  
He recalled some heart too thoughtless,  
To remember boys make men.

Let us try to add some pleasure  
To the life of every boy;  
For each child needs tender interest  
In its sorrows and its joy.  
Call your boys home by its brightness,  
They avoid the household, when  
It is cheerless with unkindness,  
For, remember boys make men

## Miscellany.

### MARTIN THE BLACKSMITH.

In the middle of the night, Signor Girolamo, a rich honest merchant of Milan, was returning from the street. As he passed the smithy of a certain blacksmith whom he knew, he was astonished to hear the smith going, just as if it were day.

"How is it that you work so late, friend Martin?" he inquired, entering the shop. "You toil hard all the day; it is impossible that you are not able to gain your bread without staying up all night?"

"Signor Girolamo, you are quite right," said Martin, taking off his cap. "In the day I can earn what is good for me, but you must know that my mate Lassar has had his house burnt down, and he and his wife

and children are without the necessities of life. To help them, I rise two hours earlier than usual in the morning, and go to bed two hours later at night, so that at the end of the week I have done the work of exactly two days. The earnings of these two days, I give to my unfortunate friend. I have no other way of helping him, and this only gives me a little additional work.

The Signor was astounded at this goodness on the part of the blacksmith.

"Bravo, Martin!" said he; "you act most nobly; all the more so, since your mate is not likely to be ever in a position to repay you this debt."

"As to that," cried Martin, "it may be a bad thing for him, if he is never able to repay me, but it will not matter to me if he cannot. I am sure he would do the same, and more, for me were I in his place."

Signor Girolamo wished him good night, and went away quite moved to think how this poor workman managed with only two hands to help his neighbor while so many rich people, who could have done it without the least personal discomfort, did nothing of the kind. The next day, therefore, meaning to reward him for his generosity, he came back carrying a hundred crowns, which he presented to him.

"Here," said he "take this. You are a good man, and deserve it. You can buy iron with this money; enlarge your shop; provide better for your family, and put by something for your old age."

The blacksmith thanked Signor Girolamo warmly but said:

"This money I must ask you to excuse me taking. As long as I am able to work, it is not right for me to take money which I have not earned. If I want to lay in a stock of iron, my credit will enable me to do so, for an honest workman who is punctual in his payment can always find some one to give him credit. If, however, you would allow me to make a suggestion, I would beg you to give this silver to my mate Lassar. He would thus get out of his difficulties, and resume his work, while I should have a few hours more sleep."

Signor Girolamo acted on Martin's advice, and at the same time he related to every one in Milan the tale of the blacksmith's generosity, so that for some time every one talked of it. What was the result? All who needed a blacksmith went to Martin instead of to anybody else, so that soon he had a most flourishing business. Thus, with no other help than his own skill and honesty, he secured for himself and his children a sure and moderate competence.

CARLO VERRI.

An Irish agricultural journal says that potatoes should be boiled in cold water.