

A Youthful Violin-Maker.

There are many bright boys in the United States as well as in Canada. From his earliest days Henry Evans of Syracuse, N.Y., has had a love for music and musical instruments, and now that he is fourteen years old he has succeeded in mastering the extremely delicate art of violin-making.

Several months ago he finished his first instrument, and now he is at work upon the second. His first violin has been tried by experts, and is said to equal in workmanship and other qualities the in-



struments made in American factories and sold for large sums.

Henry Evans constructed every part of it. He even made his own tools, because he could not find any at the stores fine enough to answer his purpose. It took him six months to finish his first production, working outside of school hours. He was up every morning at four o'clock to get a good bit of work done before school. During the noon hour and at the close of school, when other boys were at play, Henry was busy in his work-shop. At the same time he made some money selling morning newspa-

pers. His were busy days, but he says he never enjoyed himself so much in his life before. The taste he has acquired for mechanical work had led him to plan for himself a course in mechanical and electrical engineering, and he is saving what money he can to pay his way through some good institution.

"I hope to accomplish something in mechanics," he said recently, "but I shall keep up my violin-making as a pleasure. How did I come to take up violin-making? Well, I was attracted to it because of the wonderful things musicians are able to do with the sweet and delicate instrument. When I began to study its mechanism I became so fascinated that I resolved to make one myself. From a book containing models and measurements I chose the one which seemed to me to be a masterpiece. As I had no tools of sufficient delicacy, I made a set of the kind required, myself. The wood I secured from Boston. I used sycamore for the back and sides, and spruce for the top.

"When the body of the violin was finished, I met with a difficulty. I found that it weighed too much to be within the standard of my model. I had to take it all apart and smooth and sand-paper the pieces, until the weight was reduced to the desired proportions. When the varnish was thoroughly dry, and I had put on the bridge, keys and strings, I was almost afraid to draw the bow across it, fearing that my violin might be a failure, and all my work wasted. I was delighted, however, to find that it gave a rich and mellow tone, of good volume, round and full, and capable of delicate shades of expression.

"In my second violin I am using some splendid wood, very well seasoned, at least 125 years old, with a beautiful grain, and I think it will be even more of a success than the first."—Young People's Weekly.

Steps to Success.

To almost succeed is to fully fail.

The greatest mastery is self-mastery.

The best in the world is intended for you. Get it.

Doing what you can do you will soon be able to do what now you cannot do.

Dare to be yourself. Act out fearlessly the best that is in you. As well as count one be one.