CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

PUT AWAY THE HAMMER

Put the hammer in the locker, hide the sounding board likewise; Anyone can be a knocker; its easy to criticise. Cultivate a manner winning, though

it hurts your face to smile
And seems awkward in beginning be a booster for awhile.

Let the blacksmith do the pounding, that's the way he draws his

You don't get a cent for hounding

day. Cultivate a winning manner, give your grumbling tones a shake, And with grim determination throw your hammer in the lake.

saint and sinner night and

A SOLEMN THOUGHT

To a follower of Christ the New Year comes with a sacredness that quite awes him. It moves him to take thought with himself about the journey he had been making; how much of it had been walked with Christ on the plain, straight way, and how much in the devious paths where he did not serve God and where the grace of God did not accompany him. It is a reproachful thought, but a salutary one. And if a man is in earnest in regard to the welfare of his soul, such a meditation, momentary as it may be, is sure to start him off right on a fresh journey and with a determination to seek

first the kingdom of God.

The New Year brings with it a certain grace. It dins into a man's ears the warning that with him this year may be his last, that already he has turned the corner of the street that leads to eternity and to judgment. A solemn thought is this, perhaps gloomy; but, after all, the verities of life, the verities of the soul are more solemn than the most serious-minded of us can imagine. If we bring me of this solemnity into our con sideration of the New Year, the day is bound to be happy, even if the world seems to frown upon us.—N. Y. Catholic News.

FORGET JEALOUSY

Jealousy knocks out the working gears as emery cuts the works out of

a delicate machine.

Jealousy stops the wheels; it is

If the other man is outstripping

out of the running.

Abraham Lincoln had two political rivals who were jealous of him. They were Seward and Stanton, both

But Lincoln was not jealous of He appointed Seward, secretary of state, and Stanton, secretary He then told them to forget their

jealousy and get down to work. They did so, and now they are big men in history. Had they not mastered their jealousy, they would be unknown today

If you are jealous of the man highoody so that you will have a chance

Jealousy whips you by taking out of you the inspiration which is so necessary for good work. The very church. fact that it is hard to locate jealousy stopped makes it all the more dangerous. Statistics would probably show that a majority of the failures of organizations can be directly traced to jealousy within the organizations .-Roger W. Babson.

experiences of life.

thing will awaken them to life, reproducing them as perfect as when the standard and scorn might have charged as they seen the poor little crouching figure, weeping so bitterly over that very scene, their disgust and scorn might have charged as the standard and scorn might have charged as t producing them as perfect as when imprinted upon the sensitized page. Oftimes the pages are so boldly en-

ortimes to be constantly recalled. Sometimes the impression is so slight as to be scarcely legible, but the impress of the message is there; the impress of the message is there; to to rnothing written in the book of remembrance is wholly lost. Memory binds together the pages of our days ed by the cruel awakening. and gives conscious continuity to

have lived, it points the way and encourages us as we face the unknown, influences in seasons of perplexity. Makes friendships enduring, and garners our true riches beyond the fear of corrosion or loss.

or the are so faithfully kept, and as from it we shall be judged for weal or woe, for we are writing therein every moment of time; ought we not to bear in mind constantly the fact, that every deed and desire, every improve thought or word is irreproachly inpute, delignory of her soul Hard.

ories that like rare gems fill the obliged to work to earn food for her- a cathedral, on the high tower of

pages of this book of remembrance. It must certainly banish all pessimism, filling one with a broader humanity, and leniency for other fallings, a pity for the shams, the false glitter, the things that lure the pleasures so fleeting, the worldly riches that are as Dead Sea fruit to the touch, and so are only dross, after all.

that were worth the living; those gems so safely garnered in the treasury of the heart. Those things that nearest touch the soul, lifting it above all ordinary surroundings.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

BE IN TIME

Be in time for every call, If you can be first of all-If your teachers only find You are never much behind, But are like the dial true,

They will always trust in you-Never linger ere you start ;

Set out with a willing heart-In the morning up and on, First to work and soonest done This is how the goal's attained, This is how the prize is gained.

Those who aim at something great Never yet were found too late Be in time. Life with all is but a school We must work by plan and rule,

With some noble end in view, Every steady, earnest, true— Be in time. Listen, then, to wisdom's call;

Knowledge now is free to all-Be in time Youth must daily toil and strive, Treasure for the future hive; For the work they have to do, Keep this motto still in view-

Be in time.

THE LITTLE ACOLYTE

After vespers, our little acolyte, who had made his First Communion curse of factory, church and that morning and who was radiantly happy, had gone down to the other end of the village bringing a ray of his gladness into his grandmother's

The creaking of the Tabernacle you and you are sore about it, the soreness is beating you. Jealousy is a form of rheumatism that puts you greater part of the day "telling her beads" for him and upbraiding her aged limbs for their inability to carry her to church to see her little godson make his First Communion.

After a pleasant visit with grannie and cookies and goodies to his heart's content, he started for home, his exuberant joy showing itself in his very walk, his smiling face and snatches of the morning's hymns which now and then spontaneously burst forth, but village roads are generally quiet and no one noticed our little lad as he walked quickly in the vain endeavour to reach home before the darkness of night, that er up, that soreness will keep you before the darkness or night, that or up, that soreness will keep you bugsear of childhood, should overtake him; but time waits for no man, be he ever so juvenile, and little by little the streets grew so little by little the streets grew so dark that finally the boy shouted for very joy when he came in sight of his home, a low old fashioned cottage, situated but a few steps from the church. A moment or two later, he stopped abruptly, his face clouded, the song died on his lips, his gladness vanished like a dream, slowly and sadly like one grown prematurely old he dragged himself along until he reached the porch of his home and there gave way to a very paroxysm of grief. . H s sobs were drowned by a drunken voice raised More wonderful than all the written works is the book of remembrance. The pure white pages, the brance and blashemy sounding even more terrible as it broke the calm peaceful stillness of the parties. The pure white pages, the mystic sensitiveness of the soul can be a supported by a drunken voice raised in anger and blashemy sounding even more terrible as it broke the calm peaceful stillness of the perfect which had taken place in the church. mystic sensitiveness of the soul, connight. Fierce blows resounded makstantly storing the mind with a transing the furniture shake and the cendent resume of human knowledge dishes dance with a discordant note. that is abiding; for whatever is written there is a minute record of the their disgust at the revolting sounds, reperiences of life.

The things written there can never haps had they seen the poor little

tenderest pity. . . The boy heard all while his tears flowed more abundantly and an awful feeling of sadness and loathing heaven; today, his First Communion day, and his soul was sorely wound

The culprit was his father, one of those habitually drunken creatures Memory furnishes us rich settings in whom only the brute nature for treasured experiences, which we have lived, it points the way and en he could easily have earned a com Then if in this book the accounts of life are so faithfully kept, and as from it we shall be judged for weal or woe, for we are writing there. band, she has preserved intact the innate delicacy of her soul. Her patient dignity which no circumstance could ruffle had inspired in her husband a sentiment strange in such a depraved being; respectant new or would it not be well if in our box. pear when again I meet it in the book of remembrance?

The would it not be well, if in our busy life we would halt for a season occasionally and recall the pleasing membrance it to strike her who is that of "the Virgin of Albert."

A War legend of a pleasanter kind gotten himself to strike her who is that of "the Virgin of Albert."

A life to work to earn food for her a cathedral, on the high tower of the control of the property to earn food for her a cathedral, on the high tower of the control of the control of the property to earn food for her and the control of the pleasanter kind is that of "the Virgin of Albert."

self and her child. Great care on her part had been and was still neces-sary in order to guard her child from the perpicious influence of his father's example. Thanks to the energy and devotedness with which this truly Christian mother watched cheasures so fleeting, the worldly iches that are as Dead Sea fruit to the touch, and so are only dross, after all.

It would recall seasons and events

It would recall seasons and events

nearest touch the soul, lifting it above all ordinary surroundings.

It would show us how the tender hand of the Almighty has ever led us by paths of safety and peace, into tranquil havens. That God and our reverence for Him have been the only things worth while. They are all there, engraven in the book of remembrance.—Winfield Lionel Scott.

To watch him gettly swaying the witch him gettly swaying the store of which is voice coming from out the sanctuary. This morning of his First Communion especially she gazed upon him with mingled joy and pride as he led the happy band, himself the closest to the altar. During this time of unutterable delight for mother and son the father was drinking in some saloon, blaspheming the ing in some saloon, blaspheming the God who was giving Himseli to his son, and predicting the no distant hour when the patriots would take possession of the churches amid the ruins of alears forever overturned Late in the evening he returned home in an intoxicated condition, giving way to a passion of anger, using foul language and repeating in a loud voice his threatening impre It was this the little Com municant heard, this which overcame him with such fear and loathing, that he dared not enter his home, but went back to the church and entered by opening the side door the key of which he had inadvertently

kept and which was such a comfort to him now. Only the dim flickering light of the cancituary lamp lit up the sacred edifice but the child was not afraid. After a fervent prayer before the Tabernacle he went to the Blessed Virgin's altar and lying down at the

Suddenly, he was awakened by a strange noise as of breaking glass driven out of Albert, as part of the great offensive that settled their great offensive their great offensive that settled their great offensive that settled their great offensive the great offensive their great offensive the great offensive their great offensive the great offensive foot of her statue fell fast asleep. he saw a shadowy form standing near the Tabernacle with his hands raised as if about to open the door. 'A robber" instinctively thought the child, but instead of hiding, fearing that this wretch was about to pro fane with his criminal hands the ciborium from which he had been given the host of his first com-munion and in which Jesus still abode in other pure white Hosts resting therein, he instantly fol-lowed the spontaneous impulse of

door deadened the sound of his foot-steps, but when the robber turned to descend the altar steps, holding in his hand the golden ciborium, he saw the figure standing close to him and drew back in alarm. With one bound and a cry full of anguish, the boy with superhuman strength threw himself against the robber and twined his fingers around the ciborium, the thought of whose profanation exalted his faith and overcame his timidity. The robber, whom surprise and the darkness prevented from recognizing the weakness of his adversary, raised the chisel with which he opened the Tabernacle, struck heavily at the figure and from a deep wound in the boy martyr's forehead a stream of blood gushed forth; but the fingers of this new Tarsicius only tightened more closely around the ciborium. The robber frightened by this new crime disappeared in the darkness, the boy remained motionless for an instant then fell at the foot of the altar, holding close to his breast the precious treasure for which he had for-

The following morning the first priest that entered the church found him lying there, a beautiful smile on his lips, his rigid fingers still clasped about the ciborium while around his head a large blood stain seemed to and the sublime death of the little acclyte, deep emotion reigned throughout the village. All day the inhabitants came in great numbers to view the remains of the heroic victim, looking so angelic in his First Communion clothes, his deep

wound partly concealed by flowers. Oh the day of his funeral his com panions who had eaten with him for the first time the "Bread of Argels" carried his coffin, before which like a choir of angels with white veils and hands full of flowers walked the little girls who had also made their

First Communion with him.
Universal sympathy was shown the
poor mother who with her usual staunch loving faith, seemed to see even amid her tears the heavenly beatitude enjoyed by her child. The unfortunate father also walked in the funeral cortage looking the very personification of sorrow and remors As the coffin was consigned to earth a cry of anguish escaped him and he fell unconscious close to the open grave. When he recovered he was a changed man. His conversion was sincere and lasting. How could it be otherwise when from heaven his little angel watched over him, and helped him fight the good fight against old sinful habits, helped him daily and hourly until he too was ready to lay down his life in defense of the Eucharist.—The Sentinel of the Blessed Sacrament.

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which stood a large statue of the Virgin. When the Germans invaded a sting behind. France in 1914 one of their shells struck the Virgin. She did not fall completely down, but hung at an extraordinary leaning angle, held by the iron stays, which had only partly

Albert became part of the Hinden burg line and was occupied by the Germans for nearly four years. During all this time the Virgin remained in her leaning position. The people of the town came to look upon the statue as an omen. They be lieved that the war would end when the Virgin fell, but she must fall through no effort of theirs.

The townspeople watched the statue and took care that none of their own number should move the supports or do anything to bring it

fate. As they were retiring one of their big shells hit the leaning Virgin and brought her down com-The end of the war was then in sight and the belief of the townspeople was entirely justified.

Seldom is a smooth tongue without



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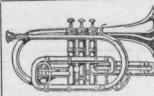
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of Johnny who was lost in the Catacombs.

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