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CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN.

Do not try to be somebody else. Do Do not try to be somebody else. Do not dream of great far away opportunities; do the best you can where you are. Open your petals of power and beauty and fling out the fragrance of your life in the place that has been assigned to you. If you find yourself bound within a narrow sphere by acced perceive. you.

a narrow sphere by aged parents or crippled, dependent brothers or sisters, or weighted down by a mortgage on the home, do not say, "What is the use of home, do not say, "What is the use of wasting my life in this life in this limited environment?" Some of the grandest characters in all history have blosed and borne magnificent fruit in just somed and norne magnineent truit in just such limited fields as you now think yourself in. The potency, the virtue of the opportunity is in the man who can see and use it.—Success.

Master One Work

All young men should have a distinct line of work that they can master and grow proficient in. Young men that go drifting about from trade to trade and basiness to business, looking for some-thing to turn up but having but a smat-tering of this or that, are not likely to be in demand.

Character is Everything. A youth should resolve, at the very outset of life, that he will hold his honor too dear for purchase, beyond all barter, priceless, and if he retains this he will always be rich, though he has nothing else—yea, though he live in a poorhouse. Millions look contemptible by the side of character; money is every thing with character; money is every-thing with character; nothing with-out it. When the soul has lost its most precious jewel, the pearl beyond price, all merely material riches are out empty mockery. It is vain to exect happiness or true contentment, while one juggles with honor and hon-esty. As well might a man expect to

walk through mire unspoiled, as to re-tain his dignity and self-respect, to en-joy his wealth and the position he has on through unscrupulous means, while all the time he stands condemned be-fore the bar of his own conscience. Where honor is concerned there is no middle course. There can be no temporizing, no compromises.

Worth Cultivating.

Admiration is a faculty worth cultivating, even, if not chiefly, as a measure of self interest. For though admiration can not make greater those who receive it, it is bound to enlarge the rise and example the self-or and example the s the vision and expand the soul of those who proffer it. It is so natural to grow like what is habitually contemplated that the wonder is that all men are not hero-worshippers merely as the expedi-ient of good policy. If the perfect goodness in heaven is a large factor in

our idea of its perfect happiness, why obscure such anticipations of it as are vouchsafed us here on earth by filling our outlook with the spectacle of the world's wickedness, of the faults and weaknesses of our neighbor? There is so much goodness on every side, so much courage and patience and generesity, that the vision that beholds it has no room for the uglier aspects of life, and no sympathy with the point of view that deliberately chooses them for

Bent Tell Your Troubles to Everybody The Guidon offers the following good advice. "Train yourself to keep your troubles to yourself. Don't pour them out upon acquaintances or strangers. It isn't these fault if you kave troubles, and they don't want to hear of yours because they have so many of their

contemplation.

The Secret of Success "To come up again and wrest triumph from defeat." That is the secret of the success of every brave and noble life that ever was lived.

Perhaps the past year has been a bitter disappointment to you. In looking it over you may feel that you have been a failure, or at best have been plodding along in medicerity. You plodding along in medicerity. You may not have succeeded in the particular things you expected to do; you may have lost money when you ex-pected to make it; or you may have lost friends and relatives who were your business, and even your have lost your business, and even your home may have been wrenehed from you because you could not pay the mortgage on it, or because of sickness and consequent inability to work. A serious accident may have apparently robbed you of power. The New Year may present a very discouraging outlook to you. Yet, in spite of any or all of these misfortunes, if you refuse to be conquered, victory is awaiting you farther on the

A little boy was asked how he learned to skate. "Oh, by getting up every time I fell down," he replied. This is the spirit that leads men and armies to victory. It is not the fall, but the not getting up, that is defeat.—O. S. Mar-den in Success.

Keep up Your Courage, There is first the belief that we are well and capable of continuing so. That is nothing more than faith in our own human powers. It is a faith that every self-respecting person should have. Do not abuse the organs of the body, and then there will be no necessity of thinking of them and wondering if they are working all right. By dwelling too nuch upon some weakness we can always aggravate it through nervous reaction. This in some cases can become such a confirmed habit that serious troubles

will be induced. "Be Not so Solicitous."

"The melancholy event of yesterday reads to us as an awful lesson against being too much troubled about any of the objects of ordinary ambition. The worthy gentleman who has been snatched from us at the moment of the election and in the middle of the conelection, and in the middle of the con-test, while his desires were as warm and his hopes as eager as ours, has feel-ingly told us that shadows we are and shadows we pursue."

These words were spoken, more than These words were spoken, more than a century ago, by Edmund Burke, during a parliamentary election at Bristol, wherein one of the candidates died, in the midst of the canvass.

Men are every day, in a less noble and dramatic way, enacting the same futile struggle. In the midst of efforts to build up a fortune, or to found a re-

putation, or to achieve some transient end, death comes; and very often quite suddenly, and some times due to over-exertion, over-vexation or despondency and despair. The good advice of the great Teacher of mankind, "Be not solicitous for the things of this world," is emphasized. We are such are such things as dreams are made of the and over little lives are made of; and our little lives are rounded off by sleep. A true humility in the presence of the Infinite is the highest wisdom for us -Catholic Citi-

Some Helpful Thoughts.

It is the man who goes straight to his goal, obstacle or no obstacle, that com mands our respect, gets our confidence and gets to the front. He is the man who is sought in an emergency, not the man who is afraid of obstacles, who magnifies difficulties.—Success.

Kind words are the music of the world. They have a power which seems to be beyond natural causes, as if they were some angels's which had lost its way, and came on earth and sang on undying, by smiting the heart's of men with sweetest wounds, and putting for the whole an angel's nature into us. - Father Faber.

We ought to set a great value on time. Every minute is precious. We do not go through life throwing away our pennies, — at least, we don't do so if we have common sense. We know that the pennies make the dollars. So, too, the minutes make the hours, and the hours make the years. Let us remember this important fact.

The reputation for straightforwardness has given many a poor youth cap-ital with which to start in business for himself.-Success.

He who can take an optimistic view of life in its varying aspects is a happy man. Our lives are what we make them, and our circumstances depend largely upon ourselves. The optimist enjoys all the good things that come to him to day without fear for the morrow. His star of hope is ever in the zenith, lighting him over troubled waters and guiding him into peaceful harbors. The optimist not only keeps his own mind serene and happy, but radiates hope and cheer to all about nim.

Good manners are the blossoms of good sense, and, it may be added, of good feeling, too; for if the law of kindness be written in the heart it will lead to that disinterestedness in little as well as in great things — that desire to oblige, and attention to the gratification of others, which is the foundation of good manners.

"What message will you send the family?" was asked of a good man dying in a strange land. "My life is my message," was his reply. He had suf-fered many losses, trials, bitter disap pointments, and a long, wasting illness, and was now being cut off in a far country, but he was, to the end, every inch and fiber, a man-high hearted,

Intellectual culture and development may point out to man the avoidance of evil, but they do not necessarily develop character, and that is what counts.—Rev. D. J. O'Sullivan.

Let us rest while we work. All the worry and fret which addle our brains have either origin in unfaith or forget-fulness of God. As a familiar story teaches. He managed the world before we came into it; He will be here to take care of it after we quit it. It is even possible that He can get along with it while we are in it.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS. STORIES ON THE ROSARY

By Louisa Emily Dobres. Carriage of the Cross. LUCY'S CARRIAGE.

Lucy read the letter slowly, then putting it into Mrs. Madison's hands and signing to her to read it, she went away with a white drawn face and locked herself into her own room. The fire was burning brightly, and as she glanced round, she was struck by her trunks and the signs of the journey on the morrow. The sight of them seemed to make her realize all that her mother's letter meant, and as she went and stood by the fire, she felt she could never endure to exchange the delights of her present life for the life her mother had so plainly sketched out for

Hard, bitter thoughts came crowding into Lucy's mind. Constituted so that her heart craved for affection, more perhaps than does that of many people, her mother had never shown her any her mother had never shown her any of that natural love which seemed her right. She had been neglected and uncared for, and then when she had taken root in new surroundings and had won the friendship of the mother and daughter now so dear to her, she was to be torn from them. Taken away not because her mother loved her and wished to have her with her, but because she could be of use in a home where hitherto she had never had a welcome.

This touched Lucy in her most vulnerable part, and there were other aspects too of the situation, which all

came to her mind.

Evidently Holmewood would be very uncomfortable and wretched. What a change from her present home!

There were two girls strangers to her, ready for her to teach them, and a nervous, delicate mother needing her care. Here she had perfect liberty to do her own will from morning till night, and a life which was in all respects suited to her tastes.

Then there was the thought of the living with strangers, her mother

living with strangers, her mother almost as strange to her as any of them, and last but not least all the dreams of going abroad so nearly realized to be

given up.

She could, not go down again, but She could, not go down again, but after a while she went to bed, though sleep was far from her eyes that night. Again and again she seemed to find herself back in the church, where she had been but a few hours before, hearing the voice of the priest as he went from station to station. She had followed that evening kneeling and standing with the rest as that most impressive devotion was being carried out.

Her heart had gone out to the words of each little meditation, and her eyes had rested on the incident in that awful No one denies that food is a blessing.

the necessary help to carry mine with perfect patience and resignation. "

Over and over again in her life she had would may use it as a step to the cellar, or you may carve out of it an angel that said those words or assented to them as they were being said, but never until then had she realized their meaning.

Those words are easy to say, and thousands who have them on their lips continually little realize their full meaning, and what courage they will need to "embrace all the tribulations" which may be their lot when they come. However, when Lucy thought the subject over while those words echoed in her ears, she went through a struggle in which grace came off conqueror.

For years past she had tried day by day to take up the cross, which through her mother's want of affection pressed so heavily upon her, and was felt by her so much more keenly than any one on earth could know. She had by frequenting the Sacraments and brace ing her will by denying herself and practising mortification quietly and secretly been helped in her endeavor, and now that the cross was put before her in another aspect, she was stronger than she could have imagined it possible for her to be. Those who would follow our Lord must do so on His con-ditions, which are that the cross should be taken up and carried. In all lives the cross is somewhere to be found as St. Thomas a Kempis says:

"The bearing of the cross with philosophical endurance and a stoical acceptance of the inevitable may be satisfactory to the pride of man, but to bear it as a Christian alters alike the intention and its eternal effect on the one who thus carries it after the one who first bore it for him."

Mrs. Madison, who felt more for Lucy than she could express, was astonished when the girl came in the next morning from Mass with a face lighter and brighter than, even in spite of their happy days, she had ever seen it. At the altar that morning Lucy had gained the strength she needed, and it was with calm, if not cheerful courage that she saw her friends off to Italy at Charing Cross and then started on her urney to Lichfield.

When she got there she found things even worse than her mother had described them. Mrs. Gregory had evidently married beneath her station in life, and her husband was in all respects a very unprepossessing individ-ual. The house itself was very tiny and adorned in a cheap tawdry fashion.
On every side Lucy's artistic tastes
were offended, and in a very short time
she discovered that the life she would have to lead would contrast in almost every detail from that to which for the two years past she had been accus

It needed all her courage and fortitraceded at her courage and forti-tude to listen patiently to all Mrs. Gregory's endless stories of how badly she had been treated, and to hear her continual discussion of her allments, symptoms and nerves. It required courage of another kind to have to put up with Mr. Gregory, who, unrefined and uncultivated, jarred upon her at

every turn.

Bella and Delia, aged fourteen and sixteen, were pert girls who thought that they knew much better than Lucy about most things, and much resented being taught by her. The few people the Gregory's knew were not of the kind with whom Lucy had much in common, and her loneliness as a Catholic was also very great.

TO BE CONTINUED.

IMITATION OF CHRIST.

I have not the face to say any thing, but this one word: (I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned; have mercy on me and pardon me.)

Suffer me, therefore, that I may lament my sorrow a little; before I go. lament my sorrow a little; before 1 go, and return no more, to a land that is dark and covered with the mist of death. (Job. x. 20. 21.)

What dost thou chiefly require of a guilty and wretched sinner, but that he should heartily repent and humble himself for his sins.

himself for his sins.

In true contrition and humility of

heart is brought forth hope of forgive-ness, a troubled conscience is reconciled, grace which was lost is recovered, a man is secured from the wrath to come, and God meteth the penitent soul in the holy kiss of peace.

TRE BLESSING OF WORK.

IT IS THE EVANGEL WHICH LEADS TO

It is a truth, testified to by the true men and women of all ages, that happi-ness is the fruit of honest labor, and that no other tree will produce it in such profusion or perfection! And while the chief end and aim of human existence is not happiness, it is contrary to the wish of a God of Love and to the general welfare of His people tkat unhappiness should prevail. Happiness is the parent of so much that is good and beautiful and helpful that its principal source must needs partake of a nature well-nigh divine. Hence the blessedness of work! As with all things else, the unequal

division of labor and the fact that there are those who persist in overdoing and those who never fail to shirk their full and right portion rob it of its true stature in the sight of men. Instead of

tragedy of which each station treated. She seemed to see again the figure of the Holy One bowed with the weight of much or to little constitutes it quite the the cross.

"My most beloved Jesus! I embrace all the tribulations Thou hast destined for me until death. I beseech Thee, by the merits of the pain Thou didst suffer in carrying the Cross, to give me the received with the received the pain the paint the paint to give me with the receiver which with the receiver when we will be a sufficient to the receiver when we will be a sufficient to the receiver when we will be a sufficient to the receiver when we will be a sufficient to the receiver when we will be a sufficient to the receiver when we will be a sufficient to the receiver the receiver when the receiver th

Work is like a block of stone: you

and SIMPLE TRUTHS ABOUT PERSEC-UTION.

> Right. Rev. Wm. Strong. To be a Catholic is to be persecuted. Persecutions have been the lot of Catholics always and in every land. The divine Founder told in advance:
> "They shall persecute you" (St. Luke xxi., 12. What is surprising, however, is the deplorable fact that Catholics are accused of having caused many sanguinary persecutions against those who dissented from the doctrine. The Catholic Church, it is true, is implacable against error, but against the erroneous she uses, not the sword, but the weapon of St. Paul:
> "Preach the word: . . reprove,
> entreat; rebuke, in all patience and
> doctrine ("II. Tim. iv. 2.) Never did
> Pope or Council sanction the policy of vengeance or issue a degree of death or torture against those who for con-science sake differed from her belief. famous Spanish Inquisition was tate institution; the Church should ever be held responsible for the exof her children which she loudly mned. If there were cruelties as certified by history, not by the lying apostate Llorente, we denounce them with all our heart.

Catholic Missions, Protestant Revivals.

The Ave Maria insists upon the radcal distinction between Catholic mis-ions and Protestant revivals. "The revival is far and away more emotional than is the mission, and its emotionalism is based on a much weaker foundation than is the passionate earnestness of the Catholic exercise. There is more of persuasion in the former, more of iction in the latter. The preacher mission may make eloquent appeals to the feelings, but his most passionate exhortations are solidly based on the bed-rock of definite dogmas; the revivalist's eloquence is calculated to touch the heart rather than the understand-ing, and hence, while splendidly effective for the time, is less liable to pro-duce stable and durable results. We are not decrying Protestant revivals; on the contrary, we should be glad to see them common throughout the land, but they are not on a par with our

Many persons have learnt the true emptiness and nothingness of this world of its pleasures and gains and honors by being forced either to suffer them-selves or devote themselves to the care of the sick and afflicted who have claims upon them. It is less easy for such men to be deceived by the emptiness and hollowness which impose upon the frivolous and thoughtless worldlings round them.

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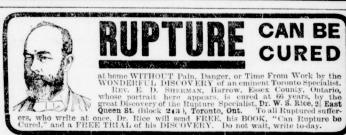
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