CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN.

Have Self-Confidence. One talent utilized in a single direct tion will do infinitely more than ten talents scattered. A thimbleful of pow-der behind a ball in a rifle will do more execution than a carload of powder un-confined. The rifle barrel is the purpose that gives direct aim to the powder, which otherwise, no matter how good it might be, would be powerless. The poorest scholar in school or college often, in practical life, far outstrips the class leader or senior wrangler, simply because what little ability he has he employs for a definite object, while the other, depending upon his general ability and brilliant prospects, never con

centrates his powers. "A sublime self-confidence," says E. "A sublime self-confidence, says E.
P. Whipple," springing not from selfconceit, but from an intense identification of the man with his object, lifts
him altogether above the fear of danger and death, and communicates an almost superhuman audacity to his will."

It is fashionable to ridicule the man

of one idea, but the men who have changed the front of the world have been men of a single aim. No man can make his mark in this age of specialities who is not a man of one idea, one supreme aim, one master passion. The man who would make himself felt on this bustling planet, who would make on this bustling planet, who would make a breach in the compact conservatism of our civilization, must play all his guns on one point. A wavering aim, a fattering purpose, has no place in the twentieth century. "Mental shiftlessness" is the cause of many a failure. The world is full of unsuccessful men who spend their lives letting empty buckets down into empty wells.

who spend their lives letting empty buckets down into empty wells.

"Mr. A. often laughs at me," said a young American chemist, "because I have but one idea. He talks about everything, aims to excel in many things; but I have learned that, if I ever wish to make a breach, I must play my guns continually upon one point." This great chemist, when an obscure of a pine knot in a log cabin. Not many ye rs later he was performing experi-ments in electro-magnetism before English earls, and subsequently he was at the head of one of the largest scientific institutes of this country. This man was the late Professor Henry, of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington.

Douglas Jerrol tonce knew a man who was familiar with twenty-four languages, could not express a thought in one of them.

should guard gainst a talent which we cannot hope to practice in perfection, says Goethe. Improve it as may, we shall always, in the end, when the merit of the matter has become apparent to us, painfully lament the loss of time and strength devoted to such botching. An old proverb says: "The master of one trade will support a wife and seven children, and the master of seven will not support himself."

A Light Heart Under Failure.

A light heart under failure is another condition of success which may be writ-ten down as an essential. No one should need to be warned against the deleterious effects of the blues. Nothing deadens the heart of enterprise, or unstrings the nerves of action, like a fit of the blues. In one of those beautiful prayers which Robert Louis Stevens prayers which Robert Louis Stevenson wrote for us, in his Samoan household, he prayed for "courage and gayety and a quiet mind." A man who backs up his brains with these three gifts has all the odds in his favor. It is next to impossible that he should fail in what he undortakes to accomplish

undertakes to accomplish.

Gayety is the essence of power.

What is there in a failure or two to cry what is there in a failure of two to cry about, or in a dozen failures, when you know you are bound to get there? Success is not an external trophy, not something you have to hunt or ensnare, like a bird. Success inheres in oneself, told him to go to the brook whenever like a bird. Success inheres in oneself, or in every true piece of work one does. Not the most powerful opposition, not the bit erest or meanest underestimation, can do more than delay any success we really deserve. Ultimately, we and our work must be assessed at its proper value: and, though we may be dead when the time comes, we shall have succeeded none the less. Every day we hear of men succeeding in their graves. hear of men succeeding in their graves. or beating some of the smaller neighbor-But that only means that the world was slow to see that they had succeeded years ago, while they were living and working with us. The men themselves, we may be sure, though robbed of the shall of sullenness and brutality meant a part of the boy's life which she shudder d to contemplate. Harshness we may be sure, though robbed of temporary rewards, knew, deep in their hearts, that they had succeeded, and confidently left their work behind to "report them and their cause aright," when the time should come for its value to be understood. To be misunderstood, to be vilified, to be laughed at, to die poor and unregarded, is not to fail. So long as you know, without a shadow of doubt, that your work is real, and that the very universe is committed to take care of it, and compel its recognition. you can afford to die with a smile on your lips, or the sunshine of success filling your heart.—Richard Le Gallienne, in Success.

Friendship and Success.

In one terse sentence Emerson thus epitonizes the value of friendship: "A friend makes one outdo himself." Outside one's own power to make life a vic-tory or a defeat, nothing else helps so much towards its success as a strong, true friendship.

The friend whose thought runs paral-

The friend whose thought runs parallel with mine, who sympathizes with my aspirations, recognizes my strength as well as my weakness, and calls out my better qualities and discourages my meaner tendencies, more than doubles my possibilities. The magnetism of his thought flows around me: his strength is added to mine, and makes a well-nigh irresistible achievement-force. irresistible achievement-force.

The faculty of attracting others, of forming enduring friendships in what ever environment one may be placed, is one whose worth in the struggle for existence can hardly be overestimated. Apart from its spiritual significance and the added joy and happiness with which it illumines life, friendship has a business value, so to speak, which cannot be overlooked.

In a recent contest for the best de-finition of the word "friend," a London paper awarded the prize to the candi-

date who submitted this one: "The first person who comes in when the whole world has gone out."

It has not an erudite, dictionary sound, but could there be a better definition? The man who has been saved from financial ruin, tided over some great emergency or fateful crisis in hi business by a friend, will appreciate its significance

Sobriety More General.

The employee who begins by practicing sobriety during office hours is apt to continue it after office hours. Afterdark drunkenness is not conducive to easy labor the next day. Furthermore, the young man soon finds out that the pleasures of alcoholism are not up to the alvertisements. Seen in the green light of the next day, they have a curi usly unreal and fantastic effect. humors of the cup are very much like the magnificent visions one has in dreams. They can't be remembered the next day. Perhaps to the general sense of disappointment are added a headache and a positive conviction that one has

swallowed a mule by mistake.

Everything, therefore, conduces to sobriety in our day. The number of men who driuk nothing at all is increasing.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

One of the Waifs.

Miss Annerly rather liked to work in unfavorable soil. There was no credit in growing things that grew naturally, she would say with one of her odd, whimsical smiles; but take something, that others had passed by, and coax or magarite to to success and well the urge it on to success, and-well, that was work, that was worth while.

And this theory brought out many surprising results from the bare spots of her few rocky acres. Neighboring farmers looked and smiled, and looked again, and pursed their lips into low suppressed whitles of astonishment Marshes, that they would have passed by as hopeless, gradually evolved into cranberry bogs; fields of cowslips and shallow brooks became submerged gar-dens of water cress; and sandy bits of hillside, that the most sanguine of them would not have looked at the second time, were found by this experimenter to be just the places for watermelors, and those very early grapes, which brought first prices in market.

And even more surprising—to them at least—were the practical results of

the theory as applied to her help. She had a preference for obstinate soil even here, and her boys were the dregs of a neighboring poor house, or the cinders which had sifted through the meshes o the surrounding farmers and been found wanting. But they turned out very much as had her bleak hill-sides and waste marshes. Judicious experiment-ing and encouraging had given equally ood results, and where one of her boy: had proved a failure, she had sent a dozen out into the world, to acceptably

fill better positions than she could offer. But when she took furtive-eyed Stub Green—not from the poor house or a gutter, but directly from serving a sent-ence in the penitentiary—they all decla ed that it was the last straw. Nov she would inevitably rue her temerity and foolhardiness.

And after a month of continued fail-

are and exasperation, Miss Annerly her self almost came to the same conclusion There did not seem to be a single soft spot in the whole armor of Stub's de-pravity. His eyes remained furtive, and the corners of his mouth continued to droop in sullen defiance. She wen farther with him than she had with the other boys, and only taxed him with the lightest work and simplest duties. She tried to draw him into long walks, and

to him would have been understood, but bindness was something, so utterly loreign to everything he had known, that

he could only meet it with suspicion.
So it went on through September and
October and November, until one morning in early December, when she went to his room to call him he was not there. As soon as the neighbors heard it, they shrugged their shoulders and asked how much he had taken, and when she declared, that she had not missed anything they looked incredulous. A week passed, and nothing was heard of him; and she was planning, regretfully, to hunt another boy, when one morning she found Stub crouched on the doorstep, half frozen and, with pitiful, beseeching eyes utterly different from the defiant

ones she had known.
"Why, you poor boy!" she cried compassionately, as she picked him up, in her strong arms and carried him into the sitting room, and laid him tenderly upon a lounge, "why didn't you knock?"

"I dassent," in a weak, scared voice,
"I took something, and I come back to

tell."
"Oh no, you didn't take anything,"
soothingly, "you are just tired and cold.

Deafness Cannot be Cured

by local applications, as they cannor reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed coadition of the mucous liming of the Eustachian Tul. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, Deafness is the result, and unless the inflamm, tion can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever, nine cases out of ten are caused by Catarrih, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces;

We will give One Hundred Dollars for aix case of Deafness, (caused by catarrh) that cannot I'e cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure, Send for circulars, five.

Sold by al

THE WELL-GROOMED MAN

CAMPANA'S ITALIAN BALM

and chaps. sc at your druggist's. 35c by mail. Free sample E. G. West & Co., 176, King Street E.

I'll get you some hot soup to drink, and

then you must take a long nap. After that you'll feel better." She bustled away into the kitchen and presently returned with a steaming

bowl of soup.
"Here, drink this, Stevie"—she had called him this from the first, for she said it was a prettier name than Stub.

"I dassent," he repeated, trying to push away the bowl with his hand. "Not till I tell. I swiped your pocket "Oh, no you didn't, Stevie," trium

phantly, "I've got it here in my pocket now. See," "Not that one," eagerly, "the one upstairs in the chist drawer." At first she looked nuzzled, then a of her mouth.

of her mouth.

"Ob, that one," she said. "Well?"

"It had a 50 cent piece an' a

\$1.00 bill in it," he went on hurriedly.

"I spent the 50 cents, an' was goin' to
blow in the dollar when I—I found this," holding up a slip of paper which she took with a recognizing smile and nod. "For Stevie's Christmas."

"It was meant for me," in a weak, awed voice, "for my Christmas. I never had nobody give me nothin' afore you, an' I thought them fishin' pole and things was some kind o' game. But when I got off in the city an'—an' found this, I knowed it was me—me." He was sobbing pitifully, now, and clinging to her hand, as though he feared she would draw it away.—Frank H. Sweet.

The Child and the Angels.

Valerie had been ill for many days. side, the children were making merry, but she did not seem to heed them. Her patient mother had never left her side, and, as she sat there, almost in the solemn hush of midnight, the little one, waking from a short slumber, stirred gently, and smiled. For she had heard the angels singing, and this is what they sang:

"Do you hear them, mamma?" asked

'Hear whom, my darling?"

"The angels, calling me?"
"No, child, you have been dreaming."
"No mamma, I am wide awake—the No manma, I am what awake—the angels are singing. It is like the choir in the church, only more beautiful. Or like a serenade, only far more heavenly. The angels are all around us. I can even hear the flutter of their wings;

"Surely you heard them, then amma?'

"No, my darling. I heard nothing.
Try to sleep now."
"But they want me; they are calling ne. Hark! Hark!"

Come to us, innocent child With heart so pure, and speech so mild. We are weaving for thee a crown of gold. And a garment spotless in every fold. Come to us, sister! Come!

"Mamma, I must go with them, I must

"But where, my darling?"
"To heaven. They are saying, 'Come,
Valerie, come.'" " It is only the wind sweeping through

" No, mamma, they are playing on silver harps. I can see them, and hear them. And there is a wondrous star above them—the star of Bethlehem.

Come to us, child most dear. Borne on our wings, thou need'st not fear,

"Hear them, mamma. I must go;

"Dear child, you rave! Try to sleep so that in the morning you may wel-come Christmas," "I shall be in heaven then. Good-by,

amma, good-by.'

"But you are better, dear. The doctor said to-morrow, Christmas-day, you might sit up a little while, and if

Valerie said no more. She stretched out her little hands to her mother, who took them in her own. For a long time the poor woman sat thus, till, tired and the poor woman sat thus, till, tired and weary with watching, her head sank on the pillow beside the child, and she fell asleep. When she awoke the dawn was breaking; and in the distance the Christmas bells were pealing forth their first joyful carols of welcome to the new

hrst joyful carols of welcome to the new-born king. Valerie's hands were still in her's. But they were cold—very cold. The child had gone with the Angels to keep Christmas in heaven.—Mary E. Mannix.

> You cannot possibly have a better Cocoa than

PPS'S

A delicious drink and a sustaining food. Fragrant, nutritious and economical. This excellent Cocoa maintains the system in robust health, and enables it to resist winter's extreme cold.

and 1-lb Tins.

0000

Wanted as

Brakemen and Firemen Salary \$75 to \$150. Study a few hours a day for eight to ten wee and we guarantee to assist you in getting a position on any railway in Canada. We teach and qualify you by mail. Write us for booklet and full particulars.

The Daminion Railw y School Winnipeg, Man. Dept. N.

heir duties. They achieve notoriety

as walking parsons or balloon ng par-sons or golfing parsons. They come b fore the world as botanists, philatel-ists, numismatists, archaeologists. This I think is because the average English mind considers that religion is a proper

phere for the amateur.

Because Protestant virtues are gener-

ally commonplace. Catholic virtues, on the other hand, often have a note of dis-tinction, not rarely advanced into the heroic and are always inspired by the most lofty sentiments. The inspiration of i rotestantism is not of such a high

order: so that conduct and feeling tend

move accordingly on a lower plane.

Because the petty parochialism of

Anglicanism irritated and wearied me.

peculiarities not possessed by the religion immediately contiguous.

Because Catholicism is very largely

INFLUENCE OF BOOKS. TOO MUCH CARE IN THE SELECTION O READING MATTER CAN SCARCELY BE EXERCISED — THE MASTERPIECE OF

THOMAS A KEMPIS. Some one has said books are our best friends. Friends for the most part fail us in the hour of adversity, and true, inleed, are the lines of Shakespeare:

Friends may fail us, but a good book

The Anglican Church is not merely a network of parishes, it is a network of What wise old Polonius said about a true friend, "grapple him to your soul with hooks of steel," I venture to say parish religions each of which possess about a good Look. We are all of us a reading people nowadays, and there is searcely a home in which you do not find a book of one kind or another, but I am nature. When an authority sets up to direct the intimate details of our lives, sorry to say the general tendency is to take into the home the sensational novel, books dealing with questions antagonis. books dealing with questions antagon is working. This knowledge Catholictic to faith and morals, and to exclude altogether books calculated to impart imstruction, books in which there is some useful lesson conveyed. As nothing is more injurious to the morality of the instruction, to the morality of the instruction of absolute the process of the only people who make any sort of successful attempt to practise the victor of absolute. dividual, the nation as a filthy press, an immoral book, so nothing is more con-Immoral book, so nothing is more conducive to their well being as a healthy press, a good book. A good, wise man reads only those books in which he finds something useful, books of travel, his-Because when I was a clergyman the office I held and the cloth I wore won tory, science, or a well-written novel containing a moral, and hence the man who is given to reading such books is an entertaining man. First containing man. bis or her peculiar likings and dislikings and more to present to the world an in the matter of books, but there is one ideal of a religion which argues upwards book after the Holy Scriptures which we from man to God. Catholicism on the should all like and have, and that book other hand presents us with a religion is the Imitation of Christ. There is no which argues downward from God to book written equal to it, always excepting, of course, the Holy Scriptures, and still small voice of a progressive revela-

us now see what some of those great minds outside the church thought of the Imitation. Dr. Samuel Johnson, and he

no doubt was well qualified to judge. His opinion of the author of the Imita-tion was that he was the best of social

philosophers, and that his work was replete with the wisdom which men required on their way through life. He knew the Imitation by heart. Thomas Carlyle, whom some one named "the

Cariyie, whom some one named the sour sage of Chelsea," speaking about the Imitation, says: "Master the Imi-tation of Christ, and then you know all the philosophies of the ancient and modern world. He recommended a

Kempis to all young men who came in contact with him. Not very long ago

came across a beautiful appreciation of

the Imitation in the pages of an English journal edited by a notable nonconformist minister, and among the remarks on

the work was this one: "No home ifurnished without the Imitation."

Auguste Comte, founder of the school of positivism, recommended with no waver-ing, no uncertain voice, all his follow-ers to master a Kempis. Yes, the Imita-tion should be found in every home,

Catholic and Protestant alike, for it is

the duty of us Catholics and Protestants to look for the best in men and books.

Truth, beauty, simplicity of language, and a wisdom that is found in no earthly philosophy, all these breathe in every line of the Imitation. As a Kempis felt, he spoke and wrote, and as we read that

beautiful work we feel that a Kempis

wished us to bring home to ourselve this lesson most of all: "What doth

profit a man to gain the whole world and in the end suffer the loss of his im-mortal soul."—Intermountain Catholic.

THE STORY OF A CONVERT

me a Catholic. Among them the fol

Because what information I could gather about the Greek church con-

firmed me in the conviction that it was no branch of the true Church. The Erastianism of the Rus-

sian Church is nothing more or less than

shameless.

Because Catholicism walks reverently

with bowed head, amongst mysteries.
When you come to Protestantism, the

mystery has gone. The Faith has undergone a process of rationalisation and nothing is left but what can be

served out from the pulpit in a verbal discourse. I for one will not believe

that the great mystery which is Chris

tianity can be reduced to a mere matter

Because the man of the world respects

while he fears, the Catholic priest, but for the parson—I make no apologies for

him-he has nothing but a good-natured contempt.

Because Catholic priests generally

become known, if known they become, for devotion to their duties. Anglican

parsons, in England at any rate frequently become known for something not of

lowing reasons:

of words.

Many considerations made and keep

this is the universal opinion or rather, tion, Protestantism keeps one ear converdict, of those qualified to know, men of deep learning, and men differing widely in religious cult. It is a spiritual masterpiece. Great saints like met and knew the Catholic Christian. II Cardinal Bellamine, and a host of the deepest sincerity, the most compel-Catholic divines are loud in their praise of it. Among the Catholic laymen who made this book their constant study, I never met a man whose character remarked this book their constant study, I never met a man whose character reflected or reproduced the Christ-type will mention two names—Sir Francis as I conceived it until I met a certain carnest, sincere, good and great man who was also a Catholic prelate. Because every generous sentiment I of Killowen, lord chief justice of England one of the greatest lawyers and string of heart, every spiritual land one of the greatest lawyers and Catholic divines are loud in their praise ling earnestness, the widest charity, but

land, one of the greatest lawyers and stirring of heart, every spiritual judges of the past century. The latter carried the Imitation about with him in ried me onward without break or halt his pocket, and was in the habit of read or perplexity to the firm conviction, ing a chapter out of it every day. Let

Professional.

U. R. STEVENSON, 391 DUNDAS STREET London. Specialty—Surgery and X-Ray Work.

DR. P. J. MUGAN, Physician and Surgers. Office, 720 Dundas street. Hours—11 to 12 a.m.; 1 to 3; 6 to 8 p. m. House and Office Phones.

JOHN F. FAULDS, Barrister, Solicitor, Notacy Public, &c. Money to Loan. Robinson Hall Chambers Opposite Capt Moves, London, Canada Telephone 907.

JOHN FERGUSON & SONS 180 King Street

The Leading Undertakers and Embalmers. Open Night and Day. Telephone-House, 373. Factory 543-

W. J. SMITH & SON UNDERTAKERS AND EMBALMERS 113 Dundas Street OPEN DAY AND NIGHT

THE RESERVE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF

D. A. STEWART Funeral Director and Embalmer

Charges moderate, Open day and night, Oundas St. Phone 459
GEORGE E. LOGAN, Assistant 104 Dundas St.

The Catholic Confessional

By Rev. Albert McKeon, S. T. L. 15 cents post-paid

Average Sales, 2,000 Copies per month

The Catholic Record

LONDON, CANADA

All the Cancelled Postage SAVE All the Cancelled Postage Stamps you can get; Particulars; Bethlehem 222

SEND \$1.00 . SOUTHCOTT & CO., 9 Coote Block, London Canada.

the spirit of Catholicism is the spirit of Truth, a perpetual evolution from the mind and heart of God.

H. K. GORNALL, M. A., Cambridge,

The censure of those that are opposite to us is the nicest commendation that can be given us.—St. Evremond.

AMBEROL RECORDS for The FDISC



The greatest improvement in sound-reproducing instruments was made when Mr. Edison invented Amberol Records for the Edison Phonograph

No one thing has added so much to the pleasure of the Edison Phonograph as a Record which plays more than four minutes, and reproduces the melody or voice so clearly and perfectly that the illusion almost defies detection.

Edison Amberol Records are the same size as the ordinary Edison Records. They can be played upon any Edison Phonograph by the addition of an attachment which any dealer can supply and any dealer can affix.

Longer selections are now available for the Edison Phonograph than have ever been available before for any sound-reproducing machine, and these selections are better

No Edison Phonograph outfit is complete without the attachment to play Edison Amberol Records.

You can hear these new Records at any dealer's. Learn about the attachment and equip your Phonograph with it today. If you haven't an Edison Phonograph, you can now buy one which plays both styles of

Records—the two-minute and four-minute. We will be glad to send to anyone, however, a booklet describing the new attachment, describing the Amberol Records, giving a list of the music now available on these Records and giving all the other information necessary to make it possible for you to get more than twice as much enjoyment out of your Edison Phonograph as you are

now getting.

We Desire Good, Live Dealers to sell Edison Phonographa in every town where we are not now well represented. Dealers having established stores should write at once to

National Phonograph Company, III Lakeside Avea , Orange, N. J., U.S.



them fo dical hi a single all the You ma

your tronly to all; na a few da tumph to grief an dren le loved he the government de tended saw the youth, forced t while t

n Edinb

Lishmen

might

attempt fand, to from the

is the gr Scots Co

Bisho

the pos-who have Franco-ashamed game of a few ce

generall of the C of relig

excuse if few rene Church

tory was

queen a

afternoo mar, an before I

priest congreg altar rai

mar is mot ma Catholic

in the d

The U

new ove istar of

in quest

Edinbur

marring Church

Hand.

parishio

amongst when he

burgh.

THE PO

pilgrims of then

Andrie

French which

by Carl

sorrow

have to

and of a

separate

all, and

and whi

asking

beholdi

main by

as vest consola desolati

mever c

Follow

Es that I

by your

thas offer while i

truly the

of deed of Frat

mopes of from the the Ch

affered