

A Cheerful Giver.

We do not mean just a giver of alms, but a cheerful giver of anything. The most difficult of all, perhaps, is the giving up of one's own will for that of another.

You gave the obedience due from a boy to his mother, to be sure, when she asked you to put away your book and do an errand for her; but every one in the room knew, by the way you slammed the door, that you did not give it cheerfully.

You stopped and washed Emma's face at mamma's request, while Nellie was waiting for you to go down town; but although you gave your time, Emma's screams at your unsisterly scrubbing testified it was not cheerfully given.

How many times have we seen acts of charity performed in such a sullen or ostentatious manner that the deed, really good in itself, was spoiled in the giving, and a source of mortification and pain to the one who was intended to receive the benefit.

In church or school you may give your attention, but in such a careless, indifferent manner that you receive no benefit yourself, and are a stumbling block to others. In our devotions, in our work or play, a half-hearted, lukewarm manner kills all enthusiasm, and renders everyone discontented and dissatisfied. If you do not wish to do a thing, decline courteously, but firmly; and if you consent, do it with your whole heart, "not grudgingly, for God loveth a cheerful giver."

By the simple intention of doing all things, whether little or great, to the Lord, and from love to Him, even the smallest things become important, and earth is turned into gold.—Anon.

Tommy Tilton's Verse.

Tommy Tilton was to go to church for the first time one bright Sunday morning. His heart was full of sunshine as was the day, as he walked along with grandpa and grandma toward the village meeting house. Grandpa carried a book; so Tommy must have one, too. The book was almost as big as he, but what did he care for that? He was almost a man to-day.

Tommy walked into church very soberly, and tried to keep very still. But he was a tired little boy that went home at noon; for the seats were not made for little fellows like him, and Tommy was not used to sitting still.

But the boy learned one thing that day he never forgot. It was the short verse: "I love them that love Me, and those that seek Me early shall find Me."

"Why," said Tommy, as with bright eyes he told his mother of all the doings of the morning, "the minister said it over so many times, it wouldn't go way."

"Why, yes," said grandma, "that was the text."

Tommy went with grandma every Sunday after that.

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BOULTBEE.—Died at Waterdown, on Tuesday night, Aug. the 5th, the Rev. Arthur Boultee.

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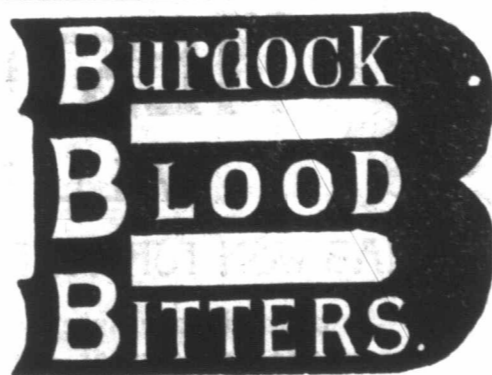
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