

and didn't know he would need a recommendation of good character. He went down town among the large stores and went from door to door asking for work. By-and-by he came to a large counting-house. "Who recommends you, youngster?" asked the gentleman. "Nobody recommends me," said the boy, "but I go to Mr. Smith's temperance meeting every Monday night." "Good! I'll take you." The man was pretty sure that the boy's brain would be clear if he went to a temperance meeting every week.

But this sin against the body reaches farther still, for it destroys the soul too. A sin against the body is a threefold sin; remember that. It destroys the body, the mind, and the soul. The drunkard "cannot inherit the kingdom of God." Have we not a right to call whiskey, beer, wine, cider, brandy, or any kind of strong drink a sin-water? Let us remember the Siamese teacher's name for it. When we see the great beer-wagons going through the city with their heavy loads we will say, "There goes a load of sin-water." When we meet men and women in filthy clothes, with bloated faces and red eyes, we may say, "Alas, poor people, they have come to grief by drinking sin-water!" And when we see the forlorn, dirty, ragged children, so hungry they are ready to steal from the grocers' stands at the corners, we pity them, for we know their parents spend all their money for sin-water.

Oh, how much trouble and sorrow this sin-water causes! Dear children, if you don't take it, and your parents do not, thank God.

If you do sometimes take it, dear little reader, because your parents have it or because you like it, beware! It is sin-water. The vile stuff will fill you with sin through and through. Never touch it again, any more than you would eat poison or put your hand in the fire or throw yourself into the sea. Let the sin-water alone, now and for ever and entirely alone.—HELEN E. BROWN in the *Child's Paper*.

FOR BOYS.

A publication called "Science" tells us that in an experimental observation of thirty-eight boys of all classes of society, and of average health, who had been using tobacco for periods ranging from two months to two years, twenty-seven showed severe injury to the constitution and insufficient growth; thirty-two showed the existence of irregularities of the heart's action, disordered stomach, cough, and a craving for alcohol; thirteen had intermittency of the pulse; and one had consumption. After they abandoned the use of tobacco, within six months one half were free from all their former symptoms, and the remainder had recovered by the end of the year. Well, why not put that cigarette aside, and let it stay aside?

OIL YOURSELF A LITTLE.

Once upon a time there lived an old gentleman in a large house. He had servants and everything he wanted; and yet he was not happy, and when things did not go as he wished, he was very cross. At last his servants left him. Quite out of temper, he went to a neighbor with the story of his distress.

It seems to me," said the neighbor, sagaciously, "t'would be well for you to oil yourself a little."

"To oil myself?"

"Yes and I will explain. Some time ago, one of the doors in my house creaked. Nobody, therefore, liked to go in or out of it. One day I oiled its hinges, and it has been constantly used by everybody ever since."

"Then you think I am like a creaking door," cried the old gentleman. "How do you want me to oil myself?"

"That's an easy matter," said the neighbor. "Go home and engage a servant, and when he does right praise him. If, on the contrary, he does something amiss, do not be cross; oil your words with the oil of love."

The old gentleman went home, and no harsh or ugly words were ever heard in the house afterwards. Everybody should