

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

THE NEED OF GOOD MANNERS

Now, if one gets into a habit of disregarding the small rules of etiquette, it is one's own fault for a scold, drink out of one's finger-bowl, reach over somebody's head for a glass of wine, all the kind hearts and simple faith in the world will not keep you in the company of well-bred people.

It is foolish to appear to despise the little rules that govern the conduct of life. This appearance of contempt for observances which have become part of the everyday existence of well regulated people, arises either from selfishness or ignorance.

A young man may think it a fine thing to be independent in social matters. He will soon find that he cannot afford to live to be independent of anything except an evil influence.

PARABLE OF THE OXEN A rather sporty young fellow got a position with a man who believes in exacting a full day's work from his employees.

"Once upon a time there were two oxen, one a hard working ox, the other a shiftless animal who preferred resting to working."

"Does the master know that I have been away?" he asked. "I believe so," he asked.

STICK TO IT Some very interesting items have appeared here and there in the newspapers lately about men who have kept steadily at their occupations for an unusually long time.

Colonel Oliver Houghton, of Welmouth Massachusetts, was appointed on the police force there forty-eight years ago. He is now ninety years of age, and is said to be the oldest police officer in the country.

A DOG WITH A BANK BOOK And when you have heard the story of Billy, for that is his name, I think you will all agree that he deserves to have a bank book.

These items are something more than mere curiosities; they are samples of a class of men that give stability and backbone to the country. Vacations are all right; sometimes the best thing a boy can do, when he has made a mistake, is to get out of one occupation and take another.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

ST. BERNARD

Bernard was born at the castle of Fontaines in Burgundy. The grace of his person and the vigor of his intellect filled his parents with the highest hopes, and the world lay bright and smiling before him, when he renounced it forever and joined the monks of Clairvaux.

Do you think that Billy lay down then and took the rest he had well earned? If he had been able to talk he might have said, "I've done my whole duty, I've saved my master. The other man kicked me when I was trying to do him a favor, now he may take care of himself the best way he can."

Although the gallantry of our life-saving service is not only constant, but great, there are occasional acts of heroism so unusual that they stand out brightly even in the records of that famous corps.

SUCCESS One of the best examples of the value of education that I ever met is the work of a boy, a neighbor, who used to come into my house occasionally to play chess.

But when he was fourteen he came into possession of an old bicycle, and with his parents' consent left the factory for a job as a telegraph messenger at a summer resort a short distance away.

He remained there two years, studying and saving his money. Then he went to Ann Arbor, Mich., and studied chemistry until his money was gone. He then took his small savings and started to school. In this way he had the full four years' course at practically no cost, working at odd times enough to pay for his clothes and books, and to recompense his parents in a measure for his board.

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THE HOUSE OF GOD

We are getting to be utilitarians with a vengeance—that is in some things. We read so much about the economic value of what was formerly discarded as waste that we begin to cast suspicious eyes upon everything about us and reckon up its value in dollars and cents.

Do we sufficiently realize the helpfulness that is stored up for our daily use in the daily thought of heaven? Do we not, alas! too often think of death as a rending and sundering of dear human ties, and as the passage to an unknown and untried future, when it is really the pathway to our true home and our dearest friend, and to supreme and absolute joy?

HELPFUL THOUGHTS OF HEAVEN

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