

With the issue for June 4, 1887, *Our Youth*, Methodist Book Concern, New York, enters a wider field. Henceforth illustrations of a high grade of excellence will form a prominent feature of the weekly numbers. Under the care of the Editor, Dr. J. H. Vincent, the standard of this paper as a "bright, clean, Christian" journal for young people and their teachers will be maintained and improved. We heartily commend it to our readers. Subscriptions received at Methodist Book Rooms, Toronto, Montreal and Halifax, \$1.50 a year. Special rates to clubs.

The July *Cosmopolitan*, which is to be issued in New York hereafter, will be considerably enlarged and greatly improved. It will contain eighty pages of reading matter and be handsomely illustrated. The wood cuts by Velten and other first-class engravers, and the pen drawings will compare with the best work in any of the illustrated magazines. The new cover is very striking and handsome. It was designed by Mr. Stanford White, of New York, who has won a national reputation for this kind of work. The publishers of *The Cosmopolitan* sent him a draft of \$500 for it.

### Sunday-school Mission Work in Toronto.

A VERY fair audience of Sunday-school teachers assembled in the lecture-room of the Metropolitan Church, the occasion being the meeting of the Methodist Sunday-school Association. The first subject discussed was

#### TEMPERANCE IN SUNDAY-SCHOOLS,

which was introduced by Ald. Boustead, who gave a characteristic Temperance talk, illustrating the manner in which he introduces the Temperance subject in the Metropolitan school, of which he is superintendent. He was followed by spirited five minute addresses from teachers and Sunday-school workers in the different schools. The next subject, Sunday-school work

#### AMONG THE NEGLECTED CHILDREN,

was introduced by Mr. George H. Flint. This paper was followed by one read by Mrs. Sheffield, who is doing an important work in St. James' Ward. She said:—This subject is one of the most important that can come under our notice from whatever standpoint we may view it. The lowest motive that can actuate us in giving early attention to it, and yet one that cannot be ignored, is that of self-defence. If we fully realised the condition of things we would stand appalled at the prospect before us. Here we have the coming criminals and beggars of our city and country unless now, while they are still young, something be done to counteract the pernicious domestic and street education they are receiving. This work is more hopeful now than it ever will be in the

#### FUTURE OF THESE YOUNG OUTCASTS.

There is no time to lose, and thoughtful Christian men and women should not be satisfied until all are provided with the means of rising from their sin, degradation and poverty to self-respect, good citizenship and usefulness in the community. Speaking only of cases that have come under the writer's observation, in the centre of this city, where may be seen daily on our street corners scores of girls and boys selling papers, sweeping crossings, cleaning boots, etc., the lives of these poor little wails are scarcely better than those of domestic animals. To speak of the houses they live in as "home" is cruel irony. There may be one or both parents, but drink, that curse of our country and age, destroys the comfort and peace that should be found there. Filth and brawling make the place hideous, and the street, with its cold and wet, is preferable. These children early learn to swear, lie and steal. It is impossible for those who have never mingled with them to imagine the cunning and utter disregard of truth which is habitual with them. You really cannot be sure, as a rule, that anything they tell you is true. But this is not all; it is

#### THE HIGHEST AMBITION

of some of them to be burglars, as was shown by one little fellow, only about seven years old, who boasted to the writer of having robbed a safe of \$200 and of tucking the bills under his vest until, as he said, "he stuck out all around." He told of this purely imaginary exploit before a number of other boys, one of whom he honoured as an accomplice, but this lad refused to be considered a partner in the transaction, and declared the whole story a fabrication. Our young hero, whose name is Johnnie, then said, "Well, we broke into a peanut stand and stole peanuts." This assertion the other did not deny, but admitted the theft. The ability to obtain and imbibe a large quantity of whiskey is

#### CONSIDERED ANOTHER ACCOMPLISHMENT.

One Sunday little Johnnie made an effort to secure the admiration of the assembled boys by saying that he drank a bottle of whiskey the day before. When he failed to convince the teachers of his statement on this point, at least as to quantity, and was expostulated with on the terrible future he was preparing for himself, he was undaunted and unabashed. On being asked what he wished to do when a man, meaning what occupation he would prefer, he replied, "To bum the streets," whatever that may mean; I fear it is nothing very praiseworthy. He claimed to possess 30 cents on the day he drank the whiskey, with which he bought it. That boy preferred to buy whiskey to either food or clothing, although he was in a most ragged and filthy condition in midwinter. He has three brothers, one of whom appeared in the Police Court a short time ago, and it was said of him that he had been in the habit of stealing ever since he knew how to use his