

Our Young Folks.

March.

March! March! March! They are coming
In troops, to the tune of the wind;
Red-headed woodpeckers drumming,

A Girl of Stars.

The next evening, when the moon is on
the other side of the sky, and our side is
full of stars, ask your papa or mamma,

The sky is to us like a vast globe, only
we seem to be in the center of it, and to
look up into it, instead of down upon it.

The fixed stars always keep the same
relative places with regard to each other.

The heathen people who lived many
hundreds of years ago, and who worshipped
the gods and goddesses of Greece and Rome,

It is of one of the star-heroes that I wish
to tell you. Ask your teacher to point out
to you the constellation called Andromeda.

There is an almost straight line of four
brilliant stars, beginning with a very beautiful
one called Almach, about fifty degrees
from the North Star.

The stars which I have mentioned are
easily traced; and if you look very sharply,

Now, I suppose you would like to know
why poor Andromeda was left chained to a
rock.

She had a very vain mother, Cassiopeia
(whose star-picture, according to astronomy
is also in the sky, north of her daughter).

Terrible was the punishment that over-
took poor Cassiopeia. A great flood began
to pour its torrents over the fields and

When the ignorant heathen people of
those old times and lands were in trouble
they used often to send to consult certain
oracles.

It was a fearful answer that was brought
back to the waiting queen. Neptune was
not to be satisfied unless the Princess Andromeda

seemed very hard that an innocent girl
must suffer so cruel a death; but as the
choice was between the loss of her one life
and that of the lives of many people, she

Just as he was about to seize, a gallant
youth, named Perseus, came along through
the air, and, seeing the beautiful maiden,

You may imagine that he felt very brave
after his feat. He had the gorgon's head
still in his hand when he came to the place

As I said, he fell in love with the beauti-
ful Andromeda; but he was a business like
young man, and he was determined to
have the bargain clearly made before he

Perseus and Andromeda were married,
and "lived happy ever after," and when
they died, they were turned into stars and

Some people don't believe this story, but
there are the stars!—Eliza C. Durgin, in
St. Nicholas for March.

The Duty of Forgiveness.

Is there a duty which we call forgive-
ness? Or is it something purely imaginary
to which we assign this name?

There was a time when forgiveness was
real. Jesus provided for it. He taught us
how necessary it would be for the peace

And yet, there seems ground of reason-
able doubt, whether many who claim to be
the friends of Jesus know anything about
a forgiving spirit.

Yes, and this very person who thus
glories at his chance to inflict punishment,
professes at the very time to have the love
and tenderness of Christ in his heart!

But the practical mischief that this un-
forgiving spirit works, no tongue can tell.
There are many who commit wrong, who
refuse to make amends, because they

In thinking of these things, one can but
sigh for a return of those days which we
know in some parts of the land twenty
or thirty years ago.

A PRESBYTERIAN church has been organ-
ized at Yedo, Japan, with 19 members bap-
tized on confession of faith. According to
the latest reports, a spirit of earnest in-
quiry is prevailing in the young Presbyter-
ian churches at Yedo and Yokohama.

Religious State of Spain.

It must be admitted that indifference is
the prevailing sentiment in regard to reli-
gion. We have conversed with lauded
proprietors in country districts, and with
professional men in the towns, and almost

The clergy in Spain are now paying the
penalty for having so long neglected the
instruction of their flocks. The people
whom they had ruled with despotic power,
and who had regarded them as flesh of
their flesh, now curse and forsake them.

Meanwhile, nothing can be sadder at the
present moment than the religious confu-
sion (desarroi) of this people. One day we
saw the viaticum (the consecrated wafer

Shall we despair of this people? We
think not, because they have remained
idealistic and noble, and because the ap-
parent want of religion now prevailing is

They have introduced a regular postal
system, and use postage stamps.
They have conformed their calendar to
the European, commencing the year with
the first of January.

The Omissions of Scripture.

How pregnant with meaning may that
be which appears at first sight only an ac-
cidental omission. Such an accidental omis-
sion it might at first sight appear that the
Prodigal, who while yet in a far country

Recent Changes in Japan.

The whole constitution of the Govern-
ment has been remodelled in accordance
with the monarchical forms of civilized na-
tions—with a Ministry or Council of State,

They have also adopted the Code Napo-
leon as the law of Japan, organized courts,
and modelled the whole judiciary system
after the most approved modern forms.

They have thrown aside the bow-and-
arrow, the spear, sword shield, and armor,
for the most improved implements of mod-
ern warfare, organizing, clothing and drill-

They have workshops thoroughly fur-
nished with all kinds of machinery of the
most approved kind, for building ships,

They have printing-presses and a type-
foundry, several daily newspapers, and are
busy in preparing and publishing diction-

They have introduced the decimal system
of coinage; have erected a mint furnished
with the best machinery, and coin gold,

They are changing their style of build-
ings, adapting them to European models,

They have forbidden the promiscuous
bathing together of the two sexes, no long-
er leucous prostitution, and enacted laws

They have suppressed two-thirds of the
Buddhist temples, seized their property and
revenues, severed all State connection with

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They shut up their custom houses and
all the public offices on the Sabbath day,
and observe it as a day of rest or holiday.

A modern newspaper is among the fore-
most wonders of the world. It is a worthier
and a nobler monument of human capaci-

Besides a newspaper is the cheapest thing
on earth. Just look at a single number
with its multifarious contents; think how

Religious news ought to possess the high-
est interest for all who are really pious and
moderately intelligent. When any man or

commonwealth with delight, and awaken
new joy among the angels of God.

Religious newspapers are often dropped,
simply because they have never been atten-
tively read. A person who has been taking

Among the charms of a good religious
newspaper is the fact that it may be read
with interest by all the family. In the

But the benefits that may be derived
from a religious newspaper would form an
inexhaustible theme. We close with some

There is scarcely any form of Christian
effort by which a person may be so sure
of doing much good in a little time, as by

Those who are tempted to abandon a
good religious newspaper, had better con-
sider to try it another year, and see if they

Every subscriber who renews, and every
new subscriber, helps to make the paper
better for all the rest.

So then friends, subscribers heretofore,
for the sake of your fellow subscribers, for
the sake of your church and Sabbath-school,

Missionary Notes.

THE Roman Catholics, despite the low
level of Christian civilization among their
converts, numerically form an important

MEDICAL missions have nowhere attained
to such importance as in China. The
work was commenced, as the Foreign

The spread of the Gospel in East Africa
depends in the outset on the extirpation of
the slave trade. The good work has begun

But for those are substituted others which
can scarcely be called private ones. Any
trader can sell as many as he pleases upon
his own land, provided he surrounds it with