

## Children's Work.

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## A Mountain Lesson.

BY CHARLES N. SINNET.

We had written our names on the mountain-top,  
When we saw to our great surprise,  
Our little Marian standing alone,  
With a happy look in her eyes.

"Don't you wish your name written here?"

Asked her papa with a smile.  
"I'll carve it there on that highest rock,—  
It will take but a little while."

"I've tried to leave a tiny mark,"  
Said Marian wise and slow;  
"I've planted a mountain cranberry vine,  
And God will help it to grow."

"And when the folks from the cities far  
Here on the mountain stand,  
I hope they'll see how He keeps wee things  
In the hollow of His hand."

"I forget His loving care sometimes,—  
With others it may be so;  
And the vine will help them to see  
God's hand."

I am sure he will make it grow."  
Dear trusting girl, we shall not forget  
The lesson that to us came,—  
How she cared so little about herself,  
If men but read God's name.

Andover, Mass. —From S. S. Times.

I have been wondering for some days what I could write about this time in our column, which would have the remotest chance of interesting any one, and between being very busy and not very well, it looked a little doubtful. It is true I have been receiving some very kindly written letters, and all more or less express interest in our work, but they were none of them intended for publication. I enjoyed receiving them; have answered some, and have not forgotten the others. Thanks for them all.

Last week I received a long letter from Sister C. F. Payson, giving me a glowing account of their annual meeting held in Lord's Cove, New Brunswick, but the part of her letter of special interest to us, is that in addition to the two bands already in existence in the Maritime Provinces, they now have four. At their annual meeting the subject of the children's work was brought forward, papers read on it, and a superintendent chosen to take charge of it for these provinces. So now they stand, just where we stood when our work was organized in 1889. The special work they have chosen for themselves is the adoption of a child in the Japanese Mission. I am sure this will please us all, and as they have already become interested in our boy in China, we will in turn share their interest when they have an adopted child to provide for. There is only one reason why I regret this step, and it is a very selfish one; I was looking forward to the future, when with their help we should be able to take up more work in connection with the Ontario bands, but I am sure they have done wisely for themselves; I am also sure you will all join with me in wishing "God speed" to the new undertaking, and we shall be always glad to hear of their success. It costs sixty dollars per annum to adopt a child in Japan, I think, so that the four bands in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia will need to be busy this year. That will be a heavier undertaking than for us to try to raise \$200 in over sixteen bands, which looks to us like a difficulty. I am convinced it can be done though, if we make up our minds that we will do it.

J. E. L.

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## Jimmie State, and the Little Bird's Prophecy.

BY AGNESS.

## CHAPTER II.

CHORE BOY.

So Jimmie was installed chore boy at Mrs. Anderson's, at one dollar a week. You city people, who, by turning a tap, have a lake at your disposal can scarcely estimate the labor it is to pump enough water to satisfy the demands of half a dozen horses, as many more cows; calves and sheep, innumerable; nor do you know how many steps it takes to feed pig, look after hens and hunt up wandering turkeys and their broods, nor how much racing and shouting is necessary to turn out breachy cattle that will get into the hay meadows.

Weeding and thinning out carrots, onions and beets was hot work, but the pigs appreciated the refuse; "piggy salt," Mr. Anderson called the mixture of weeds and vegetables that was given them. Sometimes when Jimmie lay down at night he thought, when he had time to think, "I've covered a thousand miles of ground to day, I do believe, I'm that tired." But the morning found him fresh as a lark. He grew slim and straight as a sapling, and almost as tough; ate like a plowman and slept like a dormouse.

The States had so little kitchen garden that Jimmie had not much work of that kind to do at home; most of his time was spent at Mrs. Anderson's. He learned many things there; among the first, to wash his hands and face thoroughly and to comb his thick hair till it looked orderly, and to take off his hat respectfully when he came into the house.

Many a quart of strawberries and raspberries did Jimmie gather in the large, well-cultivated fields, and as they saw he could be trusted, he was allowed to harness Charlie, a staid old nag, and drive into town with fruit, vegetables, eggs and butter for the private customers. He felt quite like a man going up to doors taking orders for next week's supplies, and receiving money for what he delivered. He made a little order book for himself of the backs of old letters, and used envelopes which he fastened with a pin. "It isn't up to the style of the nob's in stores," he explained to Mrs. Anderson, "but I guess it will serve my turn." Even the "nobs" at the stores took notice of Jimmie, and remarked that he was a bright, promising lad.

"Who is this boy?" asked a gentleman, standing in a store one day. Jimmie had been buying some groceries for Mrs. Anderson.

"That's Jimmie State," said an old man with a face like a withered winter apple; "son o' one o' them State boys; there was four ov 'em, unfortunite family I ever seen, not one ov 'em got spunk enough left to scare a hen. This here boy is the only boy among 'em, the rest ov the States has nothing but gurls."

"Gurls won't get into trouble, anyway," said the gentleman with a faint sigh.

"Dunno 'bout that, sir. I read once, somewheres in a paper, 'a daughter is a tetchy and careful possession,' well, mehbe," scratching his head perplexedly, "that ain't the way 'twas printed, but anyways all wimmin is tetchy, and land knows, you've always got to take care ov 'em. Gim'mie boys, and when there growed, turn 'em afieid and let 'em gallop. My old woman, now, she'd like a gurl, but my gurls is boys," and the old man grinned with pride as a stalwart young fellow drove up. The gentleman who had listened with polite interest to this long speech, sighed again, but why he sighed and how he concerns Jimmie and his fortunes must be told in another chapter.

## Young People's Work.

FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH.

The Committee on Young People's Societies of the Co-operation of Disciples of Christ in Ontario: W. W. Coulter, Chairman; Reuben Butchart, A. Johnston.  
Everything intended for insertion in this column should be sent to W. W. Coulter, St. Thomas, Ont.

## Character Building and Evangelization.

The supreme objects of the Christian Endeavor movement are character building and evangelization. It is especially adapted to the babe in Christ. It recognizes in the young a power for good that was almost lost sight of by our forefathers. It recognizes in them a desire to do right when rightly directed. It sees in them buoyant enthusiasm, great earnestness, tender sympathies, coupled with powers of mind as yet in embryo, but which will be developed for good or evil, according to their environments. It seeks to instruct and build up these young people by a systematic study of the Scriptures, constant attendance at the various church services, participation in these services—especially at the young people's prayer, meetings—to fully establish them in the truth, and to promote their growth in all the Christian graces.

It purposes then reaching the young through the young. Disciplined in this school of Christian Endeavor and armed with the whole gospel armor, it encourages these young soldiers of the cross to become imitators of the apostles in bringing others to Christ; in fact, to become real, active missionaries, ready to go out into the highways and byways to invite strangers in, and through its various committees to visit the sick and the sorrowing, reclaim the fallen, distribute good literature, and by all lawful and legitimate means make the world "brighter and better for their presence."

"Delightful work, young souls to win,  
And turn the rising race  
From the deceitful ways of sin  
To seek redeeming grace."

The following, clipped from the St. Thomas Journal of Sept. 20th, explains itself:

The missionary social given last evening by the Endeavorers of the Church of Christ was a decided success, both socially and intellectually. Papers on missions were read by Miss Price, Mrs. Coulter, and Mr. Ferguson. A series of questions bringing out the salient points of the mission field and our duty to missions were responded to by the Endeavorers. The choir, consisting of Mrs. Roberts, Miss Price, Misses Stevenson, Miss Hicks, Miss Trott and Messrs. Sinclair and Ferguson, rendered choice music throughout the evening. At the close of the programme the Social Committee served peaches, cream and cake. After singing "Hest be the tie that binds," the Mizpah benediction brought the evening's entertainment to a close.

W. W. C.

## C. E. Notes.

GEORGE FOWLER.

OCT. 22nd.—*Christian Courtesy*.—Rom. xii. 10-16, Phil. ii. 2-5.

As Christians there is a relation existing between us and our Master—Jesus Christ. He commands, we obey, willingly, lovingly. We are weak, He is our strength. He is the shepherd, we are the sheep. He gave Himself for us. We love Him because He first loved us.

There is a relation existing between the followers of Christ. We are members of the same household. We have the same Heavenly Father; but, owing to a serious lack of consecration, we are selfish. We endeavor to think that we owe nothing to our brother in Christ; we would make answer with

Cain, "Am I my brother's keeper?" If we love Christ, we love our fellow Christians. The Saviour and His followers were inseparable, and so naturally should love for one another in Christ flow from the heart, that John, the beloved Apostle, has made it a test of discipleship. "By this we know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren."

Let our love be real, not feigned, as in the Revision. "Let love be without hypocrisy."

It is an easy matter to stand up in the prayer-meeting and other services of the church and profess to love the brethren.

What Christ needs are men and women who make this love real in daily life, acting with patience and charity in every detail and relation of life. Your profession becomes a mockery when you defraud your brother in the smallest transaction. You insult your brethren in "dishonor preferring self."

The secret of power is, "Let this mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus."

Some of the spiritual attributes needed by many professing Christians that will enable them to show courtesy to one another are:—

1. Humility. We must not think too highly of self. What a lesson in humility did our Saviour teach us, "And being found in fashion as a man He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." Let us empty ourselves of pride and haughtiness and become more like Christ.

2. Sympathy for the weak and the poor. There are hundreds of poor souls to be found inside of our large congregations who are yearning and dying for sympathy and love. When will we become more like the good Samaritan? Let us open the windows of our beings and let the warm sunshine of Christ's love and sympathy shine into our hearts and melt the iciness of our cold unsympathetic natures.

3. Charity leading us to see the good and praiseworthy in our weak brother. We are not to condone sin; but we are not to cast off our weak brother for his weakness, but encourage him for his good, and strengthen him by love to resist and overcome his weakness.

4. A love for peace and unity. "Let nothing be done through strife or vain glory." Let us strive after peace, and pray and work for union and harmony among God's people.

OCT. 29.—*Our responsibility for others*.—1 Cor. viii. 10, 11. Rom. xiv. 12-19.

Omniscience led God to create man with a free will. He has the power to choose for himself; but the power is so centered in other faculties of the mind that man is responsible for his deeds. He is an accountable being, and as such will have to answer to God for his conduct.

There has been, and is to day, a tendency to deny and overlook man's responsibility for others. The world is so intensely selfish that it endeavors to shut out all thought of the dire results to others which arise on account of our own actions. Man may say and think that we are under no obligation to our fellow-men, but God has so ordered it otherwise, and as Paul has said: "The wisdom of man is foolishness with God."

1. What is your responsibility, Christian Endeavorer?

First, you must answer for self. Every one must give an account of himself to God. This in a narrow sense is not denied. We have sinned, we need salvation. We find it in Jesus Christ; but in what way are we responsible for

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others? Do the Scriptures teach us that we are our brother's keepers? There is no lesson in God's Word more emphatically stated.

In Luke xvii. 1, 2, our Saviour teaches His disciples to beware of giving offence to His followers. We must be careful of our daily life. "It were better for him that a mill-stone were hanged about his neck and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones."

Paul says in Gal. vi. 2, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ." We are commanded as disciples to do everything possible that the weak may be made strong, and if any action of ours should be a stumbling block to any, or if it should add to the burden carried by some, we must give it up and so fulfil the law of Christ, which is, "Love one another as I have loved you." Christ's great love led him to give up everything for us. Ought we hesitate to give up moderate drinking, card-playing, dancing, theatre going or any other thing that may not only injure ourselves, but ruin some poor soul for whom Christ died? Do you think you can follow such things and please Christ? Hear what Paul says concerning such a simple thing as eating meat in the idol's temple: "But when ye sin so against the brethren and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ."

Review your life, search your heart and see if you in your Christian life are injuring some weak brother or sister. Let love be the actuating power of your daily life. Let us endeavor to comprehend the infinite value of a soul.

Estimate it by the fact Christ died for it, and with ourselves re-consecrated to God say with Paul, "If meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no meat while the world standeth." Let the spirit of brotherly love reign in all our social relations and life.

"Above all put on love, which is the bond of perfectness." "Though a man have all knowledge, without love it is nothing."

"Shall one who claims to be filled with Divine love insist on his right to do that which may destroy a brother for whom Christ died?"

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