

## YESTERDAY.

Oh ! the deeds I might have done —  
Yesterday !

Ere the night obscured the sun  
With a deepening grey.

Father—had I only known  
I to-day should weep alone,  
I had made your cares mine own,  
Yesterday.

Oh ! the words I might have said—  
Yesterday !

Ere the light of love had fled  
With the waning day.

Mother--had my heart foreseen  
All that came our ways between,  
I to you had fonder been,  
Yesterday.

Words unsaid, and deeds undone  
Yesterday !

Friends I kept not—nay, not one :  
All have passed away.

Deeds undone, and words unsaid,  
Love that is to silence wed,  
Till its loved are lost and dead—  
Yesterday.

## THE BOY THAT WAS "FULL."

**A** SABBATH-SCHOOL boy had learned his lessons so well that he had many beautiful Bible verses in his mind. One day he was travelling alone. Two bad men agreed that one of them should try to persuade him to drink. The man went to him, and in a very pleasant manner invited him to take a glass of liquor. The boy said :

"I never drink liquor."

"Never mind, my lad, it will not hurt you," said the man :

To this the boy replied :

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging ; whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

But the man said : "I would not have you drink too much ; a little will do you no harm."

"At last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder," answered the boy.

"My fine little fellow," said the man, "I like

you. It will give me great pleasure if you will take a glass of the best wine with me."

The boy looked him straight in the eye as he said :

"If sinners entice thee, consent thou not."

The man then gave up his wicked attempt.

"How did you succeed?" asked his friend.

"Oh, the fact is, that little fellow is so full of the Bible you can't do anything with him."

If you will hide God's Word in your heart while you are young, it will help you all your life when you are tempted. —Selected.

## JOHN AND THE POSTAGE STAMP.

**J**OHN "lived out." Every week he wrote home to his mother, who lived on a small farm away up among the hills. One day John picked up an old envelope from the kitchen wood-box, and saw that the postage stamp was not touched by the postmaster's stamp to show that it had done its duty, and henceforth was useless.

"The postmaster missed his aim that time," said John, "and left the stamp as good as new. I'll use it myself on my next letter, and save a penny."

He moistened it at the nose of the tea-kettle and very carefully pulled the stamp off.

"No," said John's conscience, "for that would be cheating. The stamp has been on one letter ; it ought not to carry another."

"It can carry another," said John, "because you see, there is no mark to prove it worthless. The post-office will not know it."

"But you know," said his conscience, "and that is enough. It is not honest to use it a second time. It is a little matter, to be sure, but it is cheating. God looks for principle. It is the quality of every action that he judges by."

"But no one will know it," said John, faintly.

"No one?" cried conscience. "God will know it, and he, you will remember, desires truth in the inward parts."

"Yes," cried the best part of John's character. "Yes, it is cheating to use the postage stamp a second time, and I will not do it."

John tore it in two and gave it to the winds ; and so he won the victory. Wasn't it worth winning? It is often such little tests as these that reveal character.—*The Children's Friend.*