

## OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

### SAVIOUR, TEACH ME.

Saviour, teach me, day by day,  
Love's sweet lesson to obey;  
Sweeter lesson cannot be,  
Loving Him who first loved me.  
With a childlike heart of love,  
At Thy bidding may I move;  
Prompt to serve and follow Thee,  
Loving Him who first loved me.

Teach me all Thy steps to trace,  
Strong to follow in Thy grace,  
Learning how to love from Thee,  
Loving Him who first loved me.  
Thus may I rejoice to show  
That I feel the love I owe;  
Singing, till Thy face I see,  
Of His love who first loved me.

### WHY HE BROUGHT THEM BACK.

A small boy with an intelligent face went into a fruit-dealer's store and, depositing a box of grapes on the counter, stood looking down.

"I don't want the grapes, my little fellow," said the dealer. "I've got as many now as I can sell. Take them away."

"They are yours," the boy said, looking up. "Mine?"

"Yes, sir. Yesterday morning I came along here and took this box of grapes from the stand at the door. I knowed it was stealin' an' my mother always told me not to take anything that did not belong to me, but I couldn't help it. Just before I left home my little sister that was sick said, 'Oh, if I had some grapes like them I saw down town. I could eat 'em.' We didn't have no money, an' nobody knowed us 'cause we had just moved into the house. Mother washed clothes, but when sister got sick, she had to quit. When I took the clothes home the lady told me to come next day for the money, but when I went there the house was shut up and the people was gone, so we didn't have any money to get grapes with. Mother said, 'never mind, we would get some money after a while.' I saw her go into the other room, an' when I watched her, she had her face buried in a pillow, and was prayin'. I come away down town an' stood aroun' a long time waitin' to git a chance, an' after a while, when you wasn't lookin', I took a box an' ran away with it."

"But why did you bring it back?" the dealer asked.

"Because," replied the boy, choking down a sob, "when I got home the little girl was dead."

### THE LAMP THAT LIGHTS THE WORLD.

A venerable minister smiled down on his congregation, composed of Sunday school boys and girls, and said:

"Dear children, can you tell me what a lamp is?"

And they looked at him and at one another, and murmured, some of them, confused answers, and hung their heads shyly.

"What! Does nobody know what a lamp is?" he exclaimed with surprise.

All at once he heard a voice:

"Something to hold a light, sir."

"That's just right," was the minister's glad reply. "An empty lamp is of no use in the dark. Can you repeat a text which mentions the Bible as being like a lamp?"

Without waiting a moment the same young voice rang out again:

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet."

"Ah, yes," said the aged minister. "The Bible is a lamp giving light to the whole earth. And how about the light, children—where shall we find that?"

"In the Lord Jesus He said, 'I am the light of the world.'"

Again it was that same voice.

"One child answers well," said the minister, as he scanned the sea of faces to discover who it was.

A little girl told him it was blind Arthur.

Yes it was blind Arthur Beatty who answered so correctly about God's glorious lamp. The minister told his little hearers never to try to go, even a few steps, on life's journey without their precious lamp, or they would stumble into trouble and sin. He asked them, as I also ask you, dear children, to learn all they possibly could of God's Word, so that they might not at another time be so unready with their answers, and more than all, because the light shines brightest on the path of those who study the Lamp and know it the best.

### BOYS SHOULD LET IT SEVERELY ALONE.

Dr. G. Decaisne has made some interesting experiments with a view to determine the effect of tobacco upon the organs and systems of boys. He had in his charge thirty-eight youths from nine to fifteen years of age, who were addicted to smoking, and has made known some interesting results concerning his observations. The extent to which tobacco was used, varied, and the effects were of course unequal, but were very decided in twenty-seven cases. With twenty two of the boys there was disturbance of the circulation, palpitation of the heart, imperfect digestion, sluggishness of intellect, and to some extent a craving for alcoholic stimulants. Twelve patients suffered from bleeding of the nose; ten had constant nightmare; four had ulcerated mouths; and one became a victim of consumption. The symptoms were most marked in the youngest children, but among those of equal age the best fed were least affected. Eleven boys stopped smoking, and were cured within a year.

### THE LION AND THE ANIMALS.

Martin Luther was fond of young folks. He knew how to amuse and instruct both old and young. Here is one of his fables which young people can easily understand. It contains a lesson that even some old people could learn with advantage:

The lion commanded many animals to pay their respects to him in his den, wherein there was a horrible smell, arising from the half-consumed flesh and bones. When he asked the wolf how he was pleased with the royal resi-

dence, he answered "It is a very good situation, but the stench of the place is suffocating." The lion was indignant, and, springing upon the wolf, tore him to pieces.

Turning to the donkey he asked how he was pleased. Being alarmed by the fate of the wolf, the ass thought it best to play the hypocrite, and replied, "Oh your majesty, the place is beautiful, and the odour is delightful!" The lion knew that he lied, so he slew him instantly.

He then asked the fox how he was pleased, and how the odour seemed to him. So Reynard answered craftily, "Oh your majesty, I have such a bad cold; I cannot smell at all!" As though he would say, "It is not expedient always to reveal whatever we feel, and we should learn from the misfortunes of others a prudent reserve, and how to hold our tongue."

### CONVENIENTLY.

A lady went into one of the large stores in Boston, where there are a number of young girls who act as saleswomen, and asked to look at a boy's hat. Not being quite sure what size she needed she said, after looking at several, "I will look at a number six and five-eighths, if you can find one conveniently," thinking the girl might have to search through a pile of them, and regretting the trouble it was causing.

The face of the young girl brightened, as she said, with real gratitude, but with a pathetic tone, "No one ever says to us, 'if you can find one conveniently.'"

Alas, that we forgot to be polite! We say he or she is hired to wait on customers, and we do not say, "Thank you," or acts as though we appreciated anything done for us. That person makes many friends who goes through life with a smile and a kind word.

### DON'T BE BABYISH.

If you have backache or headache, don't often complain about it. If a lesson is to be learned, a journey to be taken, or a piece of work to be done, don't grumble, but do it bravely. "Don't you dread to do it?" said one person to another, in our hearing, recently. "If I have a duty to perform, I go ahead and never stop to think about it," was the reply. The boy or girl who cannot overcome obstacles does not deserve success. Easy pathways, as a general thing, make very weak persons.

### A FAITHFUL MOTHER.

A very pretty little story comes from a neighbouring town, and it is true. A nest of the orchard oriole was discovered by the owner of the lot, whose child wanted the young birds. The nest was taken home, and the fledglings were placed in a cage outside the house. One day the mother-bird discovered her lost children, and fed them through the wires of the cage. This proof of parental affection was continued, till at length the person who had removed the nest and put it in the cage was moved to restore it to its place on the tree, with the young birds in it.