

"Only Me."

A LITTLE figure glided through the hall;
 "Is that you, Pet?" - the words came tenderly;
 A sob-suppressed to let the answer fall—
 "It isn't Pet, mamma; it's only me."

The quivering baby lips—they had not meant
 To utter any word could plant a sting;
 But to that mother-heart a strange pang went;
 She heard, and stood like a convicted thing!

One instant, and a happy little face
 Thrilled heath unwonted kisses rained above;
 And from that moment "Only Me" had place
 And part with "Pet" in tender mother-love.

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Pleasant Hours:

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLK.
 Rev. W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor.

TORONTO, MARCH 5, 1887.

\$250,000
FOR MISSIONS
FOR THE YEAR 1887.

REMEMBER
 THE
S. S. AID COLLECTION
 ON
REVIEW SUNDAY,
MARCH 27.

This collection, it will be remembered, is ordered by the General Conference to be taken up in each and every Sunday-school in the Methodist Church; and the Review Sunday on September is recommended as the best time for taking it up. If any of the schools have not taken it up last September they are especially requested not to fail to do so on March 27th. This fund is increasing in usefulness, and does a very large amount of good. Almost all schools

comply with the Discipline in taking it up. In a few cases, however, it is neglected. It is very desirable that every school should fall into line. Even schools so poor as to need help themselves are required to comply with the Discipline in this respect to be entitled to receive aid from the fund. Superintendents of circuits and Superintendents of schools will kindly see that in every case the collection is taken up. It should, when taken up, be given in charge of the Superintendent of the circuit, to be forwarded to the District Financial Secretaries, who shall transmit the same to the Conference Sunday-school Secretary, who shall in turn remit to Warring Kennedy, Esq., Toronto, the lay-treasurer of the fund. (See Discipline, §§ 354-356.)

WHAT RELIGION DID.

RELIGION helps children to study better and do more faithful work. A little girl of twelve was telling in a simple way the evidence that she was a Christian. "I did not like to study, but to play. I was idle at school, and often missed my lessons; now I try to learn every lesson well to please God. I was mischievous at school when the teachers were not looking at me, making fun for the children to look at; now I wish to please God by behaving well and keeping the school laws. I was selfish at home, didn't like to run errands, and was sulky when mother called me from play to help her in work; now it is a real joy to me to help mother and to show that I love her.—*Exchange.*

HOW HE FOUND GOD.

MORE than a hundred years have passed since a young lad in England, who belonged to a pious family, but was himself far from God, was to find God by a strange means. He had been the child of many prayers, but to all the entreaties of his pious mother and others, he answered by inwardly resolving not to become a Christian.

In the good providence of God, however, it happened to his mother and himself to be on a visit to Ireland, and on the Lord's Day they went to a place where a good man was going to preach. This good man was that day very earnest in his sermon; he put the question to the unsaved present, whether they would give themselves to Christ or remain rebels! Every time the preacher repeated the question, the young man said in his own heart, "I will not yield, I will not yield." His heart was hardened against God's grace. And at the close of the sermon it seemed to be harder than ever it had been. But when the sermon was finished, the minister gave out a hymn. It begins:

Come ye sinners, poor and wretched,
 Weak and wounded, sick and sore.



HUNTING TIGERS IN INDIA.

The congregation, stirred by the earnest sermon, sung the hymn with their whole heart. And what the sermon could not do, the singing of the hymn did. It broke the hard, unyielding heart. It forced a way into the very centre of the heart. It was the voice of God calling him through the hundreds of voices that day praising God. His pride, his hardness of heart, everything that stood in his way to God, gave way. And that very day the son who was in the far land found God, and gave himself to be a loyal soldier for God forevermore. And he lived to be himself an honoured preacher of the Gospel, and the writer of a hymn that has opened the way to God in a thousand hearts. He was Augustus Toplady, the author of the great hymn,

Rock of ages, cleft for me,
 Let me hide myself in thee.

POWER OF GOOD EXAMPLE.

A boy went home from a ragged school with his face washed clean. His mother hardly knew him, but his looks pleased her, so she washed herself. The father, pleased with the better looks of his wife and his son, did the same. So this cleaning up spread through the family and neighbourhood, until the dark and dismal alley, so long the abode of dirt and filth, became an amusing and instructive instance of what often follows from our disposition to copy the good we see in others. Let us set the example of clean bodies and clothes and homes and souls.

NOT YET.

"My son, give me thine heart."
 "Not yet," said the little boy, as he was busy with his top and ball; "when I grow older I will think about it." The little boy grew to be a young man. "Not yet," said the young man; "I am about to enter into trade; when I see my business prosper, then I shall have more time than now." Business did prosper. "Not yet," said the man of business; "my

children must now have my care; when they are settled in life I shall be better able to attend to religion." He lived to be a grey-headed old man. "Not yet," still he cried; "I shall soon retire from trade, and then I shall have nothing else to do but to read and pray." And so he died. He put off to another time what he should have done when a child. He lived without God and died without hope.

HUNTING TIGERS IN INDIA.

IN many parts of India, despite the utmost efforts of the Government, wild beasts render life hard indeed to the people, for one pair of full-grown tigers, with cubs, will destroy from four to six bullocks each week. Often, in pure wantonness, a tiger will kill two or three cattle when he wants only a small part of one. A family of tigers will kill in a week more animals than a family of farmers can eat in a year.

The panther and the leopard are also terrible cattle-eaters, and the leopard has a particular habit of carrying off the dogs which are expected to guard the herd from his attacks. The Indian wolf is noted for his audacity in seizing children. In India, animals have a character of ferocity which makes human life in some districts well-nigh insupportable.

CONVERSION.

THE old soldier's definition of true conversion was the word of command, "Right about, face!" It is to look a new way, ready to march in an exactly opposite direction. We have been going towards sin and hell; now we move towards holiness and heaven.

IN the reign of Edward I. (1285), it was enacted that taverns should not be open for the sale of wine and beer after the tolling of the curfew. Item, it is ordained that no man in Burg be founden in Tavernes of wine, aill, or beir after the straik of nine houres, and the bell that sall be rung in the said Burg.