## CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

It Couldn't be Done

Somebody said that it couldn't be done, But he with a chuckle replied, That "maybe it couldn't," but he would

be one
Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.
o he buckled right in with the trace of

On his face. If he worried he hid it, He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done—and he did it!

mebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never

do that—
At least no one ever has done it;"
But he took off his coat, and he took off his hat. And the first thing we know he'd

With the lift of his chin and a bit of grin,
Without any doubting or quiddit,
He started to sing as he tackled the

thing
That couldn't be done—and he did it

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done, There are thousands to prophesy fail-

ure; There are thousands to point to you, how, one by one, There are dangers that wait to assail

you. But just buckle in with a bit of a grin Then take off your coat and go to it: Just start in to sing as you tackle the

That "cannot be done"-and you'll

CURSING

Every one knows, or should know, that cursing is the wishing of an evil to a person or thing. Further, the one who does the cursing asks God to do the punishing.
Where is the satisfaction?

If an angry person gave some one a rap there would be a certain amount of satisfaction, but to ask some one else to do the rapping is cowardly. This is precisely what one does who curses. He wishes God to do what he himself is

too cowardly or unable to do.

Cursing affects two distinct objects, the one who curses and the object

A third may come in—one who hears the cursing. Here is where scandal is given. Beware of giving scandal, especially to the young. It is one of the greatest crimes that can be committed, as often it starts a young innocent one on the way of sin. The consequences are traceable to the scandalquences are traceable to the scandal-

giver.

Let parents be most careful in this, as there are numerous instances of the parents' curses resting upon the chil-dren.

In every instance cursing is the effect of downright ignorance. With some, more than with others. Cursing always shows something of the scummy, rowdyish, and riff-raff. Those who have only a small vocabulary curse to emphasize their weakness. The better educated curse to be on a par with their less for-tunate companion—lack of character.

The well trained who curse do so after having lost that finer sense of right and No one is respected because he can spin off ugly curses. It is anything but

No one is respected because he can spin off ugly curses. It is anything but manly.

Young and old should quit this cowardly vice.

Nothing is more beautiful or Christlike in the character of the young than a kind and gentle regard for the old. They whose failing footsteps are slowly

THOUGHTLESSNESS

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It is clear to all students of life and people that thoughtlessness is at the base of a good bit of the unhappiness that makes the world such a bitter place at times. We do not take enough careful thought as to what we do, or what we say, or even, if one might so put it, as to what we think! for thoughts blossom out into actions at the most unexpected moments. Well did the Psalmis say—"Set a guard upon your lips," for it is so easy to give offense by a careless speech, or to hurt some one unwittingly because of a little lack of thought.

thought.

Tactful people are always careful in speaking, and while tact is an inborn instinct in most people, it can and should be cultivated where lacking. embarrassing subjects of conversation who always steers a course into mid-channel where no hidden shoals are apt to give the conversational boat an un-

velcome jar.

Lack of thought is also responsible for many a contretemps in everyday life. Busy about matters of larger moment, one is so apt to overlook an apparently trivial matter, which may in the end have an important bearing on some part of your life. It is not too much to say that lives and even souls have been that lives and even souls have been wrecked because of lack of thought in wrecked because of little things.—True Voice.

CARDINAL NEWMAN'S DEFINI-TION OF A GENTLEMAN

Such a masterpiece of truth and of style is the great English Cardinal's definition of a gentleman that it has be-come a classic on the subject. Says His Eminence: "It is almost the definition of a gentleman to say he is one who never gives pain. He carefully avoids whatever may cause a jar or a jolt in the minds of those with whom he is cast all clashing of opinion or collision of feeling, all distraint or suspicion or gloom. He tries to make every one at ease and at home. He has his eyes on all the com-pany. He is tender toward the bashful, gentle towards the absurd. He can gentle towards the absurd. He can resollect to whom he is speaking; he guards against unreasonable allusions or topics that may irritate; he is seldom prominent in conversation, and never wearisome. He makes light of favors while he does, and seems to be receiving when he is conferring. He never speaks of himself except when compelled; never defends himself by mere retort. He has no ears for slander or gossip, is scrupulous in imputing motives to those who interfere with him, and he interprets everything for the best. He is never mean or little in his disputes; never takes an unfair advantage; never mistakes personalities or sharp sayings for ts, or insinuates evil which he dare net say out. He has too much sense to be affronted at insult. He is too busy to remember injuries, and too wise to bear malice. If he engages in wise to bear malice. If he engages in controversy of any kind, his disciplined intellect preserves him from the blundering discourtesy of better, though less educated, minds, which like blunt weapons, tear and hack instead of cutting clean. He may be right or wrong in his opinion, but he is too clear-headed to be unjust. He is as simple as he is forcible, and as brief as he is decisive."

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and advancing years being an increasing tendency constitution. The corrective they need is

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descending the sunless slope of age have but one consolation as the years speed by them, and that is the tenderness and consideration of those on whose lives the beauties of the morning are breaking. Age is a season of physical infirmity, of mental retrospection, of shattered dreams and earthly disappointments. No more for the old is there a glamor in the rolling stars, no more a triumph in the rolling stars, no more a triumph in the years. The thousand melodies of the present sound far off to their aged ears and the eyes whose tears fall on the graves of old affections. Treat them gently, for by their travail and their sacrifices are yet the presence not only sacrifices are ye the possessors, not only of existence in the world in whose splendors ye exult, but also for the prosperity and bappiness ye thoughtlessly en-joy. Never mind if she and he be old and feeble and of humble garb—they look to you in their helpless years to aid with gentle courtesy their tottering steps. God's blessing will reward you if you do.

## OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

KEEPING HIS WORD On the corner of Dearborn and First street, in Chicago, there is a newsstand, which is occupied every evening between 4:30 and 6 o'clock by a poor newsboy. His full name is Andrew James, but for His full name is Andrew James, but for short the other newsboys usually call him Andy. During the day he is at home caring for his younger brother, while his mother is working. The little money that he makes by selling newspapers helps to support the family. After selling his papers he usually can be found studying in one of the many night schools in Chicago.

One evening last October a gentleman walked up to Andy's stand, bought two papers and gave the boy a one-dollar bill. Andy could not make the change, but said, "You wait here and I'll have the change for you in a moment."

He ran into a nearby clothing store, got the necessary change, and came back to the stand with the 92 cents for his patron, but the latter was gone. Search as he could about the stand Andy could not see him nor did he remember having met him before. "Why, he's a lawyer in the Randolph building," he concluded

That place was nearly five miles fro the boy's stand, but when his work was finished he boarded a street car and went to the mentioned office. e of an hour he reached his destin course of an hour he reached his destin-ation and was admitted to the lawyer's presence. Andy held out his hand, in which the silver and pennies glistened, and said: "Here's your change, sir. I got back as quick as I could, but you were gone, and I had trouble finding out who you were."

who you were."
"Bless me!" exclaimed the lawyer, "I waited a moment until a friend spoke to me, and I forgot all about the change. But for your honesty you may keep the money and add these \$20." Andy was thunderstruck. He thanked the lawyer s hest he could, and made his exit.

there was great rejoiting. Potates, meat, oranges, apples and many other delicacies, which they had not had for quite a while were bought. The rent was paid and the money seemed to last forever. The next evening Andy went to work with a hanniar heart that even

Church reached their high degree of sanctity at an early age.

St. Peter of Verona was an eloquent prescher at fifteen. St. Catherine of Sienna was a zealous tertiary at the same age. St. Paschal Baylan convert ed the herdsmen of Aragon when he was but a lad in his teens. St. Aloysius was a saintly child before he was nine years old. When a boy at school St. Dominic sold books to feed the poor during the famine then raging, and he offered himself in ransom for a slave when he was but fifteen. St. Louis of Brignolles, nephew of King Louis, was devoted to the glorification of God, and the mortification of self at an early age. It is recorded of this child that he would steal out of his royal bed and sleep upon the

corded of this child that he would steal out of his royal bed and sleep upon the floor in memory of the king who had nowhere to lay his head.

So saintly was the childhood of St. Charles Borromeo that his singular virtues caused his elevation to the cardinalate at the age of twenty-two. St. Stanislaus Kostka was but seventeen when he died, after a life which, though but short, had its every minute devoted to God. St. Lawrence O'Toole was a model of virtue at the age of fourteen and be-But somehow or other most of these at the age of twenty-two. St. Stanislaus Kostks was but seventeen when he died, after a life which, though but short, had its every minute devoted to God. St. Lawrence O'Toole was a model of virtue at the age of fourteen and became abbot before he was twenty-five. St. John, the beloved disciple, was only a boy when our Lord called him to follow Him. St. Louis, the Crusader, King of France, was but twelve when he ascended the throne and voluntarily vowed to make the defense of God's honor the aim of his life.

St. Agnes, St. Cyril and a host of other child martyrs gave up their lives for the holy faith. These young saints needed not the maturity of years to teach them the better way.

Sanctity and genius, though often revealed at an early age, are occasionally

of slow development. Some do not know themselves until the world has tried them. St. Francis Xavier, St. Augustine, St. Ignatius, St. Alphonsus were among those who found the heavenly path amid the tangled ways of earth.

Each one's life is his own to do with as he will. The qualities of heart and mind which God has given him must be used for God and man—the earlier the better, for we are not all set right when we make mistakes at first. Early virtue and early knowledge are sure to bring early reward.

A DOG STORY

A DOG STORY

Some one has written a pretty tale about a dog, which we are told is a true story. One day when the famous poet Whittier was celebrating his birthday. he was visited by a lady who was a fine singer. On being asked to sing, this lady seated herself at the piano, and began the beautiful song called "Robin Adair." White she was singing, Ar. Whittier's pet dog came into the room, and, seating himself by the lady's side, he listened with unusual attention to her song. When she had finished he her song. When she had finished he came and put his paw very gently into her hand and licked her cheek. "Robin has taken that song as a tribute to him-self," said Mr. Whittier, "for his name is also 'Robin Adair.' "

also 'Robin Adair.' "
The dog having heard his own name in the song seemed to think that it was all for his benefit. From that moment during the lady's visit, he was her devoted attendant. He kept at her side while she was indoors, and when she went away he carried her satchel in his mouth with every evidence of distress. mouth with every evidence of distress.

WHY HE WAS CHOSEN

The sign, "Boy Wanted," appeared in a certain window. In the course of a week a number of boys applied for the place. One was flually engaged, and when the storekeeper was asked why he had chosen him instead of the others

and clean from head to feet. His hands had been washed and his shoes polished. Then he rose when I spoke to him. A lady going out of the store dropped a parcel. This boy saw it, picked it up and politely returned it to her. I judge a boy by his manners and by little things almost too small to mention. I things almost too small to mention. I have not made a mistake in my choice of

Little things too small to mention often prove the turning points in life, To take one's hat off when one meets an older friend : to lend a hand to some one who is carrying a heavy suit case; to be accommodating and obliging, and to rise when an older person comes into the room, seem little things to the average boy, but they are worth thinking about.

THE WELL-BRED GIRL The girl who is well-bred never finds it necessary to announce the fact to the world. Good breeding is as natural to her as breathing, and as necessary, too. best he could, and made his exit.

When Andy came home that evening about her friends. This sort of conver-

The well-bred girl seldom apologizes the well-bred girl seldom applograme— ti s not necessary for her to do so, because she is always careful of other people's feelings, and she never talks of her private affairs.

The well-bred girl never makes herself

forever. The next evening Andy went to work with a happier heart that ever before. He made a resolution that he would always follow the old provers. "Honesty is the best policy."—S. D. Flottemesch in Father Dune's Newsboys' Journal.

CHILD SAINTS

Many little children imagine it is so hard to be good, the effort is not expected of them until they are older. Yet some of the greatest saints in the Church reached their high degree of sanctity at an early age.

Religion the Only Sure Cure Dealing with the problem of safe-guarding the boy, the Catholic North-west Progress says: "Save the boy, and you save the man. Many and varied schemes are proposed by earnest and philanthropic people for an achievement of this laudable aim. As remedial or preventive measures they are good as far as they go; but they do not go far enough. They do not reach down to the core of the situation, which is the lack

The Warts Disappeared Mr. Kingshaw Found the Right Remedy

It is certainly not for lack of so-called "Cures" that people put up with unsightly and uncomfortable warts.
But somehow or other most of these "Cures" fail to work.

of such moral and religious training as will educate the conscience and act as the surest deterrent to vice and crime. Raise The Crop That Never Fails

In the present wave of juvenile orime, we are but reaping the aftermath of godlessness in the home and school, and it is futile to hope for any great improvment until religion is put in its true place in both."

ALCOHOL AND BUSINESS

Speaking recently in the Mansicn House, London, Sir Thomas Barlow, President of the Royal College of Physicians, condemned the fallacy of believing that alcohol was in any way an aid in the performance of business

duties.

How many young fellows, he asked, who had taken no stimulants during their school life began to take brandies and sodas at their mid-day meal directly they entered the university or business? It was simply a custom copied from older men. If a man had a little nauses or stomach disturbance alcohol might temporarily relieve that discomfort, but it was not a real benefit. It

note, but it was not a real benefit. It was practically a mode of disguising nature's danger signals.

The most common of these intermediate refreshers was the eleven o'clock drink in the morning, he continued, and many men at their clubs were to be found drinking at five o'clock in the distribution. in the afternoon. The system of multi-plied drinks was far more disastrous piled drinks was lar more disastrous than an occasional debauch, and it resulted in wide-spread damage to the body. The law of self-sacrifice underlies the best endeavors and the best achievements of our lives.

Scientific experiments at Munich, which demonstrated the effect of alcohol

which demonstrated the effect of alcohol on the brain and body nerves, were referred to by Sir Thomas Clouston, expresident of the Royal College of Physicians, who said that some of the most distinguished living doctors in Germany had become abstainers on account of those experiments.

Dealing with the fateful period of adolescence, between the ages of fifteen and twenty-five he said that the con-sumption of alcohol was attended by an extreme danger to such a delicate organ as the brain. A certain amount of alcohol premoted happiness of a kind; it led to what they would call the organ-ic feeling of satisfaction, but it diminished self-centrol.

At this period it had a sad effect on the finer type of brain. Edgar Allan Poe spoiled his life entirely during an excess of alcohol taken in the adolescent period. Swinburne, who was also a vic-tim of this habit, and who might have tim of this habit, and who might have produced a great deal more and better work than he did, wrote poetry and literature of a kind which he greatly regretted in the latter part of his life.

"No man," he said, "should take alcohol until his beard has grown, and after it has grown he should not take it till he has reached five and twenty years and then he should he precious gareful

and then he should be precious with it." The Lord Mayor spoke of the period

sixty years ago, when he first went into active practise in London. It was a common custom then for a young man to have a glass of beer at 11 a. m. He (the Lord Mayor) steadfastly set his face against the habit, and inculcated the general principle of abstaining from alcoholic drinks until the time when they had their mid-day or evening meal.

A good pot of tea was more sustaining than a glass of beer when he was called

upon to do extra work. "If someone could substitute a non-injurious drink that would give that comfort to meals which some desired, then alcohol would almost altogether go to the wind."-Sacred Heart Review.

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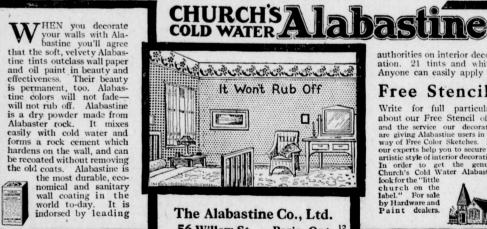
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