

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN.

Cheerfulness Increases Earning Capacity.

This article is not intended for the homely poor, for those who are doing their level best to improve their condition; but it is meant for the idle, the purposeless, for those who are bringing only a small part of themselves to their task, who are using only a small percentage of their ability, for those who think themselves down and who hold themselves down by their pessimistic, discouraging, depressing thoughts, talk and actions.

You may think you are doing your best. Just take an inventory of yourself and see if you are bringing out the best in you, if you are doing all you can to make a place for yourself in the world. You may find that you are really using only a small part of your ability to gain an independence.

Each Has His Place.

We have our own place to fill in this world and there is no one else who can fill it. We have our own duty to do and there is no one else who can do it. God has laid upon us obligations which He has laid on no other person.

The true secret of reform in the world lies in the heart of the boy or girl. There is the future enclosed just as truly as a forest is wrapped in an acorn cup. How that heart is cared for and treated will determine whether the world grows better or worse.

Of course, you boys and girls are not the kind who forget to say "Thank you" when any one does you a favor. When you were very small, before you could so much as talk plainly, father and mother taught you these two little words, and ever since, I trust, you have been careful about using them at the right time.

There are many people who are careful to say "Thank you" when some one passes them the bread at dinner, or lends them a book to read, but who receive other and greater kindnesses without saying a word.

"Where are my gloves?" cried Jack, as he is about to start for school some cold morning. "O dear! I wish folks would let my gloves alone!" "Here they are, Jack," mamma says, quickly, as the sound of the impatient voice comes to her ear.

And perhaps Jack says "Oh!" and perhaps he says nothing at all. It is not likely that he says "Thank you." We fear his mother is used to it, however. Many mothers are.

How many boys and girls think of saying "Thank you" for the hours spent mending their torn clothes, or for her care of them when they are sick, or for any of the little sacrifices she is making all the time? If they want any help in their lessons, mother gives it as a matter of course, and they usually forget that it is anything for which to thank her.

Start this very day to say "Thank you" whenever mother does you a kindness. Perhaps you will be surprised to learn how many chances there are in a day to use those little words. And you will be even more surprised to see how much it means to mother that you do not forget them.

Want of constancy is the cause of many a failure, making the millionaire of to-day a beggar to-morrow. Show me a really great triumph that is not the reward of persistence. One of the paintings which made Titian famous was on his easel eight years, another, seven. How came popular writers famous? By writing for years without any pay at all; by writing hundreds of pages as mere practice work; by working like galley slaves at literature for half a life-time with no other compensation than fame.

Poetry does not mean only the clothing of beautiful thoughts in harmonious language, it means also the spiritualizing of life, the tingling every common object with the warm sunshines of sympathy and love. Just as on rainy days the slush and grimy mud are swept away and put on one side, so the sunshiny nature will naturally dismiss all mean and sordid thoughts, and turn to what is true and noble and pure, as "the sunflower turns to the face of its god."

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

A Boy's Reading.

When the fact comes to the boy or girl that the reading they do before they are twenty-one years old, has more influence on their life and character than all the reading they do afterward, it should be a matter of great importance to them what they are reading. If it is the trash of the day, to that level they are likely to come; no higher.

So we invoke their attention to this matter now, and impress upon their minds that unworthy books will spoil their whole lives. This caution is especially necessary now, when society is going mad on its reading and devoting itself to a literature that adds not a filament to the mental or moral fibre of a person.

Another Protestant Impression of Pope Pius X.

One of the readers of the Lamp (Protestant Episcopal) writes to that publication, the following description of a recent audience with the Pope: "The Holy Father was very kind to me, personally. . . His goodness impresses one and his earnest pastoral love of his people. For example, after my audience I had the privilege of going with him into a large room where he received some poor children, who had that day made their first Communion in one of two of the smallest parishes of Rome. Here he was at once in his element. He loves the poor and he loves the children and as he was entering the room he turned to one of his secretaries and said earnestly, 'You haven't forgotten the medals for my dear children, I hope.' He beamed with kindness and pleasure, as he looked at and spoke to them. He went about saying a few kind words to each individually, giving each his blessing and a medal by which to remember the occasion. Then he made a short but very earnest and touching address to them on the subject of the great event of the day—their first Communion. So the Pope impressed me not only with his personal goodness and holiness but by his character of a true shepherd of Christ's flock, one who loves the souls which God has committed to his care."

A Rock-Built Church. A well-known English divine says: "What attracts me to Rome is its strong logical and consistent theory about religion. Not only comprehensive and profound, but in full operation and fruitful of good results. . . And then the immense amount of self-denial and devotion, the surrender of home and family among the clergy as well as the resolute abandonment of the world. Her priests would regard it as a mortal sin to neglect a summons to a poor creature afflicted with a loathsome disease, because their religion commands them to watch for the contrite sigh of a dying sinner, and offer it to Him Who pardoned a penitent on the cross. They interpret literally the promise, 'He that loseth his life for My sake shall find it,' and thus they make no sacrifice too great to offer the love divine, the love unfathomable, that love which for love's sake was slain.—The Missionary.

A traveller stopped at a bakery the other day, and as she was eating some cake two little urchins entered the open door. One of them bought a loaf of stale bread for two cents; but the sight of the lady standing there eating those delicious looking cakes seemed to fascinate the two little boys, and they stood quite still, watching her with wistful eyes.

Finally one little fellow spoke up to the girl behind the counter. "I'd like one of them," he said. "Two cents," said the girl, taking a cake from the pan. The little boy looked frightened. "I—I haven't any money," he stammered. "It will give me great pleasure to lend it to you," said the lady, gravely, holding out two pennies. "You may pay it back when you are a man with a bakery of your own."

The little fellow refused to accept it at first, but finally took it and bought the cake. Instead of dividing the cake with his companion, he grabbed the paper bag and dashed out of the store. "Well, I declare!" exclaimed the lady. "If I had known he was such a selfish little rascal I wouldn't have given it to him."

"They're a bad lot," said the girl. "Please, 'm," said a voice at the lady's elbow. "Please 'm, he isn't a rascal, an' he isn't selfish." It was the other little boy who spoke. "I didn't want none o' his cake. He wanted it for Jinny?" "And who is Jinny?" called the lady as the other boy started for the door. "Jinny's his little sister what's lame," replied the boy, starting on again. "Here—wait a minute," called the lady. Then as the boy stopped she

CATHOLIC UNITY.

On the admirable unity of religious sentiment which prevails among Catholics everywhere, and especially in the British Isles, the Liverpool Catholic Times of Sept. 28 has these interesting reflections:

Adversity has its uses, and though they be not always sweet, they serve unto profit. Never have the Catholics of these islands—yes, of the whole world—been drawn together in such a firm, compact, resolute union of sentiment as during recent times. If we turn to the pages of history, we find that here, even in days when their numbers were small and few, and dangers surrounded them at every hand, there were differences and misunderstandings and bickerings. That deeply interesting book, "Lord Acton and His Circle," which has been so admirably edited by Abbot Gasquet, gives us an insight into the cleavages of opinion that prevailed in connection with questions dealt with by the Rambler and the Home and Foreign Review. Now all differences have disappeared. The Catholic Truth Society south of the Tweed and the Catholic Truth Society north of it speak as if with one voice. The hostility shown towards our schools by the present British Government and above all the anti-Christian campaign in France have brought the Catholics into serried ranks and the strong and manly indignation voiced by both Conferences against the proceedings in France, which the Archbishop of Westminster did not hesitate to call all inhuman in so far as they affected the religious, will prove to the Holy Father, to the French Bishops and laity, and let us hope, to the French persecutors, that if the enemies of the Church are violent and bitter, they have arrayed against them a world-wide and unyielding host.

I find myself confronted with my own dear God. I know His arms are around me and will not let me go, and the more He has spared me in the past, the more will I love him now. —Father Dignam, S. J.

Proclaims Its Merits.

It is with gratitude and heartfelt thanks from these lines: My wife had lost all control of her nerves and could not speak at times, and was in a very low condition generally. She commenced using Pastor Koenig's Nerve Tonic August 4th and a few days afterward she could come into the parlor and sing to the music and execute the sole part of hymns alone, in addition to do work about the house. I am sorry that I did not hear of this wonderful remedy sooner for I could have bought twenty-five or more bottles for what I paid the doctor here, just to come and look at her, for he did no further good whatever. Pastor Koenig's Tonic will be a blessing to all, and I can strongly recommend it. I send today for another bottle for my wife, and also for one for another lady whose nerves are weak, and whom I told what your Nerve Tonic had done for us. JOHN MITCHELL.

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