

standing near, her face became as pale as death and she fell senseless to the floor. Her son raised her up and laid her on the lounge. After a time she opened her eyes and said! Oh my son you have broken my heart. She felt that she had lost her boy and in his stead had a wicked reckless man. Soon he again left home and with many tears and kind words his mother bade him good bye. At the first port at which he stopped after leaving home he received a letter from his aunt telling him that his dear mother was dead. Immediately he threw himself upon his knees in the cabin and asked God to forgive him and help him to lead a different life. His habit however had become so strong that with great difficulty he broke away from it. With God's help he overcame and gained a victory. I would give everything said he if I could only speak once more to my mother and tell her my sorrow and remorse. But she is silent in the grave.

Children remember as you read this story it is easy to form a sinful habit and when once formed it is not easily broken. And oh if any of you are guilty of this sin ask God to help you to break from it.

Sweating is an ungentlemanly, unmanly, degrading, and sinful habit. Never practice it nor keep company with those who do. When you cannot get out of the reach of profane swearers earnestly send up the petition to God, Hallowed be thy name. It is a shame to dishonour your dearest kindest and best friend.

HOW THE QUEEN OF MADAGASCAR BECAME A CHRISTIAN.

At the opening of the Palace church at Antananarivo, Madagascar, the Prime Minister sat, on behalf of the Queen, his wife, that, "It was not through any human instrumentality the Queen first became a Christian, but through the influence of the Word of God, blessed by the Holy Spirit; and," he said, "I will show you the very Bible by which she was led to believe." He then took from a table in front of the Queen a not very cheap copy of the Bible, printed by the British and Foreign Bible Society in 1865 and holding it up said, "This Bible was in the house of Rasohierina (the Queen who succeeded Radama II. and preceded the present Queen), and was considered of no importance. It received no honour of

any kind, and whoever had any time to spare might take it up and spell through a verse or two and put it down again. When Rasohierina died, the present Queen remained within the palace, as is customary at a time of mourning, and she took up the Bible and read it; and as she had a great deal of leisure at that time of sorrow, she read it frequently. That very Bible," he said holding it up again, "was blessed by the Spirit of God to change the mind of the Queen and make her love the praying; and the word in Isaiah iv. 11 was accomplished, which says: 'So shall My word be that goeth forth out of My mouth; it shall not return unto me void; but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereunto I sent it.'"

STERN LAW AGAINST SMOKING.

The progress of smoking in South Australia has been so great within recent years that it has been thought advisable to attempt to check its growth among the youth. A measure has therefore been introduced into the House of Assembly to the effect that any person, under the age of eighteen who shall smoke any pipe, cigar or cigarette shall be guilty of an offence, and on conviction, shall be liable to a penalty of not less than 5s, nor more than 5s; and, in default of payment, may be imprisoned for any time not exceeding one month. Whenever any person shall be charged, the onus of proving the age shall be in all cases lie on the person so charged. One half of every penalty imposed is to be paid to the informer, the remainder to the treasurer for the public use of the province.

THE DEATH OF DR. LIVINGSTONE.

Dr. Livingstone died on May day morning, 1873. He had been very ill since October. He marched slowly on account of sickness. The swollen rivers and marshy ground hindered him. At Christmas he came to the River Zambesi, and offered this thanksgiving: "I thank the good Lord for the good gift of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." As they went on, the weather grew worse. The country was so flooded, that they could only distinguish the rivers from their banks by the currents. There were long stretches of grass