



DON'T BE BABYISH.

If you have a backache or a 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 boy 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 make very weak persons usually.

TYRELL'S PIGEON.

Tyrell Moore thought the nicest thing among all his Christmas presents was a beautiful white carrier pigeon that his Uncle Henry sent him. It had been taught to carry letters around its neck.

The day after Christmas, Tyrell went over to his grandmother's house and took his pigeon over with him. He wrote a note to his mother and tied it around the bird's neck, and away it flew toward home.

Every day for a long time Tyrell used to take it out and send notes home. One day he went over to see Grandmother Moore, and after the pigeon had started for home it began to rain. The wind blew hard, and when Tyrell saw the lightning he began to wish he had not sent the poor bird.

As soon as he got home the next day he cried:

"Oh, mother, mother, where's my pigeon? Didn't it come?"

Mother shook her head. She was very

sorry; but she told Tyrell that she was afraid poor pigeon was lost.

In the afternoon Tyrell saw a bird at the window; but his eyes were so red with crying that he could not tell whether it was his bird or not, until he saw it had something tied around its neck.

"It's mine," he said. "It's my lost pigeon;" and he opened the window and it nestled on his arm.

It had been lost in the storm, and it was all wet and tired; and Tyrell says he will look at the sky before he sends it out again.

BOYS, DO NOT SMOKE.

Some of you think it a grand thing to have a pipe in your mouth; you think that when you grow old you will be quite a man if you can smoke. I want to warn you not to start this deed, for if you do you will be sad by and by. I can hear some of you say: "My friends smoke, why should not I do the same?" Let me tell you.

First—Boys who smoke do not grow well. I know you want to grow to be big, fine men; of course you would like to have strong arms and big legs; now, if you smoke, your arms and legs will not grow as strong as they will if you do not.

It may be you do not know that when men smoke they take in the blood a juice which has been known to kill a dog when a small lot has been put in the mouth. A boy one day took an old pipe to make soap balls; this juice was in the pipe; it came in the boy's mouth; in a short time he died.

You see men spit on the ground; what is thrown on the ground is good to help to change food to blood; and it is good blood which makes good bones and flesh. You want this, so do not smoke, and then you will not throw on the ground what is good to make blood.

Second—If you smoke you will spend much cash which you might spend in books or give to the poor. We laugh when we read of the folks in the East when they spend pence or gold to buy gilt things to burn on the graves of their friends. We say "How sad, and what a waste of good gold!" Well, now, is it not just as much waste when we spend pence and gold in a thing which is soon smoke, and that is all?

I read once of two boys who had ten cents each week to spend; one bought books, and his friend bought smoke, or what was soon smoke when he put it in his pipe and lit it.

The last one went to see his friend one day, and saw his shelves lined with good books. "Where did you

get all those books from? I have no cash to buy books."

"No, you buy smoke and I buy books; now, which is the better?"

"I think you are right, and I have been a fool; I will not buy smoke any more; I will buy good books."

Third—Boys who smoke may wish to drink.

I know you do not want to drink beer or wine or gin. I know you want to take all care to keep your pledge not to drink. Be sure of this: if you smoke you will find it more hard to keep your pledge than if you do not.

You can soon see how this may be. If you smoke, your friends who do the same will ask you to go to those rooms where smoke and drink go hand in hand. If you say you do not smoke or drink, you will not be asked to go at all.

Some men find they must drink when they smoke; they feel that smoke and drink are friends, and they do not want to part them. You have said that you will not drink, and I think you will be a wise boy if you make up your mind not to smoke.

There are men who will tell you they wish they did not smoke; they wish they could give it up, but they find they are so used to it they must keep on. Now, you do not want to be a slave to smoke, so do not put your first pipe in your mouth, and you will be glad when you are old.

Let the little hands that are ready to take
The things that our Father so freely
has given
Be ever ready to do a kind deed,
Till love to each other makes earth seem
like heaven.

