

Our Young Folks.

UNSATISFIED.

"If I could only fly and sing,"
A tiny daisy said.
"Delight to every heart I'd bring:
I'd cleave the blue o'erhead,
From earliest glimmer of the day
Until the sunset's glow;
But on the dull earth I must stay,
And still be meek and low."

"If I could only star the field,
As yonder daisies meek,
What joy unto the sight I'd yield:
More than my song can speak.
The dew would gem me night and morn:
I'd dance amid the shower;
What pity I a bird was born,
How sweet to be a flower!"

"If I could only live like these—
Glad bird and daisy bright:
I cannot soar among the trees,
To give the world delight.
In gay attire I never shine;
Though cheery is my note,
Only a cricket's life is mine,
In summer fields remote."

A merry wind, just passing by,
Laughed out, as laughs a child;
"To change your sphere how vain to
try,
Bird, cricket, daisy mild:
God put you in the proper place
To do His gentle will:
Contentment is the sweetest grace
That comes our lives to fill."

HOLD ON BOYS!

Hold on to the power that will help
You to hold on to the following charac-
teristics, remembering the words, "With-
out me ye can do nothing."

Hold on to virtue—it is above all price
to you, in all times and places. Hold
on to your good character, for it is, and
ever will be, your best wealth. Hold
on to your hand when you are about
to strike, steal, or do an improper
act.

Hold on to the truth, for it will
serve well, and do you good through-
out eternity.

Hold on to your tongue when you
are just ready to swear, lie, or speak
harshly, or use an improper word.

Hold on to your temper when you
are angry, excited, or imposed upon, or
others are angry about you.

Hold on to your heart when evil per-
sons seek your company, and invite
you to join their games, mirth, and
revelry.

Hold on to your good name at all
times, for it is much more valuable to
you than gold, high places, or fashion-
able attire.

Hold on to your foot when you are
on the point of kicking, running away
from study, or pursuing the path of er-
ror, shame, or crime.—Exchange.

WANTED—A BOY.

A jolly boy.
A boy full of vim.
A boy who scorns a lie.
A boy who despises slang.
A boy who can say "No."
A boy who is aboveboard.
A boy who saves his pennies.
A boy who will never smoke.
A boy with shoes always black.
A boy who takes to the bath-tub.
A boy who is proud of his big sister.
A boy who has forgotten how to whine.
A boy who thinks hard work no dis-
grace.

A boy who does chores without grum-
bling.
A boy who stands at the head of his
class.
A boy who believes that an education
is worth while.
A boy who is a stranger to the street-
corners at night.
A boy who plays with all his might
—during play-hours.
A boy who listens not to unclean
stories from any one.
A boy who thinks his mother above
all mothers is the model.
A boy who does not know more than
all the rest of the house.
A boy who does not think it incon-
sistent to mix praying and playing.
A boy who does not wait to be called
a second time in the morning.
A boy whose absence from Sunday-
school sets everybody wondering what
has happened.

KEPT FROM TEMPTATION.

A gay crowd of girls was gathered at
the depot in M— to say "good-bye" to
one of their number who was about to de-
part on the train. It was evident to the
by-standers that these girls had been stu-
dents in the seminary which had just
closed for the annual vacation, and also
that several were bidding farewell to their
school-days forever. Among the latter
was the slender, bright-eyed girl in the
neat, brown travelling-suit, who seemed
half sad at parting with her school-mates,
even though her heart beat faster with
gladness at the thought that home and
mother were at the end of the journey.

"There comes the train," cried some
one, as a whistle was heard in the dis-
tance. "Now, Fan, don't forget us, and
write the very first minute you get time."

"Be sure to tell us all the adventures
you meet with on your journey."

"O Fannie! have you got your preci-
ous 'sheepskin' in a safe place?"

"Dear me! don't mention such a thing
as the possibility of her losing the docu-
ment with which she is going to conquer
the world."

These and various other extravagant
exclamations were heard from the merry
group until the train was fairly under
way.

Packed securely among the other girl-
ish treasures her trunk contained, was the
diploma of which Fannie Sidnor thought
with a pardonable degree of pride, for she
knew that it had been fairly earned, by
many months of hard study in the school-
room which she was leaving behind.

And another thing Fannie was taking
home that she had not brought with her,
nor even thought of to desire: a heart
dedicated to the Saviour, a life pledged
to His cause.

There had been no great revival, nor
special out-pouring of grace in the school,
only the daily precept and example of a
teacher whose motto was, "All for
Christ." He had the happiness of seeing
a great many of his pupils enrolled as fol-
lowers of the Lord; and he knew that
each of these young souls, saved from the
great world awaiting them outside, would
be another star added to his crown of
glory.

Fannie had been among the first to
humbly and earnestly inquire, "What
wilt thou have me to do?" and now, with
all the enthusiasm of youth, seeing noth-
ing before but the whitening fields await-
ing the active workers, she beguiled the
tediousness of the journey by planning the
special work she would do for her Sav-
iour.

She was not sure that there was much
of anything she could do in her own home.
Her father and mother had been members
of the Church ever since she could remem-
ber. Not very zealous, she recollected,
with a sigh; for her mother was one of
the busy Marthas of earth, 'cumbered
about much serving'; only alas! unlike
that Martha of old, the service was not
for the Master. Her father had gradu-
ally drifted out of the regular habit of
attendance at Divine service, and had even
fallen into the way of spending an hour
or two at the office when business was
brisk; and he found it a quiet and con-
venient time to straighten up his books.

Then there was merry-hearted, golden-
haired Flossy. Fannie smiled as she
thought of the darling little sister; but
she doubted if she had ever given a seri-
ous thought to a better life in all the
twelve years of her existence.

Her thoughts also strayed outside of
the home-circle to the merry companions
of her childhood; the girls and boys that
she had laughed and played, sung and
danced with, ever since she could walk.
"Lord, help me to win them for Thee;
to show them the joy and beauty of a life
spent in Thy service," she earnestly pray-
ed. And then as she realized the influ-
ence they would try to exert to draw her
back into the old paths, she quickly added,
"Strengthen me, Father, and keep me
from temptation!"

There was one place she knew she
would find work, such work as she felt
that she was fitted to do, in the Sunday
school. Dear old Brother Robinson, the
pastor of the church at home, was always
making appeals to the church members
for help along this line, especially for
more teachers. She pictured to herself
his glad look of surprise when she should
go to him and tell him that she had en-

listed in the cause so dear to him, and
should offer her services to help further
that cause.

She even imagined that she knew the
very class he would give into her charge,
and was just saying to herself that she
hoped it would be Flossy's class, for that
might be the best way she could reach
her, when all at once the cars gave a sud-
den lurch; there was a crash, a scream
and the car that Fannie was in became
detached and rolled to the bottom of a
high embankment.

How long it was before she was rescued
she never knew; for when consciousness
returned she was lying on the green grass
surrounded by a shrieking, groaning
mass of humanity. By degrees she be-
came conscious of a terrible hurting in
her back. Then, as she fully realized it
all, and found that she was so badly hurt
that she could not even raise her head,
she began to wonder why God had per-
mitted such an awful thing to happen.
Could it be that He did not care for all
the loving service which had been planned
for Him!

Good and kind people quickly respond-
ed to the appeal for aid, and the poor suf-
ferer was tenderly cared for, until her
father and mother reached her side, when
the sad journey home began. Every-
thing was so quiet there, and everyone
seemed so grieved; it seemed just like a
funeral. "Only," thought Fannie, "I
am being carried into my home instead of
out of it." The doctor, after a long and
careful examination, pronounced his ver-
dict: "No bones broken, but the spine in-
jured in such a way that she may never
walk again."

Then began the long days and nights
of suffering and pain, aggravated by the
poor patient's ceaseless fretting and im-
patience. What a bitter disappointment:
what a miserable end to all her bright
hopes! With scarcely spirit enough to
pray, or faith to believe that her pray-
ers would be answered, the burden of all
her petitions to the Throne of Grace was
that she might die, and thus end this use-
less existence.

One day Mr. Robinson came to see her,
and though usually reticent in regard to
herself, some good impulse prompted her
to tell him of her troubles, only made
doubly hard to bear by the noble resolves
and ambitions which had gone before,
and which had all come to naught.

"Poor child!" said he pityingly, as
a tear trickled down his cheek. "But
never mind, my dear; the good Lord has
some special place for each of us, and we
must try to be willing to fill our own
place. Perhaps this is the service that
He wants from you; you know, 'They
serve who only stand and wait,' and some-
times it is a good deal harder to wait
than it is to work."

How his words comforted her! They
seemed to fill her heart with hope. Could
it—oh, could it be that she had made a
mistake after all? Was there still some-
thing she could do?—a place that God
wanted her to fill, even while lying here
so helpless?

From that day she took fresh courage
and began life anew. Daily she sought
for help, where help is always to be found.
Fannie felt that she was serving when en-
during her sufferings patiently and trying
to make her mother's cares fewer and
lighter by not complaining. She neglect-
ed no opportunity to say a word for Je-
sus, and her example began to have its
effect.

Had she still been her bright, healthy,
joyous self, nothing she could have said
or done would have influenced the gay
young friends, who began daily to gath-
er at her bed-side, as soon as they under-
stood that she desired their presence, like
the patient smile and the constant repeti-
tion of Milton's beautiful expression of
resignation, "They serve who only stand
and wait," with which she used to reply
to all their words of pity.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidnor, by the bedside of
their gentle child learned new lessons of
the "love that constraineth," and found
their hearts filled with the "peace that
passeth understanding." It was there
also that little Flossy learned of "the
Way, the Truth and the Life."

Even the little class that Fannie had
hoped to teach found the way to her room,
and it came to be no unusual thing for
her little girls, as she liked to call them,
to bring their Sunday-school lesson there
to study, always sure of the best of help.

All of her plans were working out, and
as she remembered how she had dreaded
the influence of her worldly compan-
ions, and had prayed to be kept from
temptation, she realized that her prayer
had been answered, for truly the tempta-
tion so feared could not harm her here.

At last there came a day of rejoicing
to this young disciple, for some skilful
physician had discovered a remedy for
such spinal complaints as hers, and she
was cured, and again able to mingle with
her fellow-creatures. In all of Fannie's
happy and useful life she never forgot the
precious lessons learned at such a cost in
that darkened room, or questioned God's
goodness and mercy, because the way ap-
peared dark or the path rough.

Teacher and Scholar.

Aug. 6th, 1893. } PAUL AT MILETUS. { Acts xx., 22-35.

GOLDEN TEXT.—Remember them which have the
rule over you who have spoken unto you the word of God.
—Heb. xiii., 7.

Paul's labours at Ephesus were termin-
ated by a mob. He then went to Mace-
donia, after a season in which he went on
to Greece. There he spent three months
and thence returned with some friends by
way of Macedonia, in the endeavour to
reach Jerusalem by Pentecost. As they
coasted down the west shore of Asia Min-
or, a short stay of the ship at Miletus
gave a much-desired opportunity of send-
ing for and addressing the elders of the
Ephesian church. After a brief review
of his past labours among them Paul goes
on in the words of the lesson.

1. Glance into the future. Paul de-
clares the strong inward constraint un-
der which he goes to Jerusalem. What
definitely awaits him there he can only
conjecture; but God by various prophet-
ic utterances has been preparing him to
expect imprisonment and other afflictions.
In mercy to him only a part has been re-
vealed. The consciousness of the higher
guidance under the constraint of which
he goes, makes him indifferent to all dan-
ger, and immovable under any remon-
strance. His one overmastering deter-
mination is to complete the course which,
like an athlete, he runs. I Cor. ix., 24-27;
Phil. iii., 14; II Tim. iv., 7. Life itself
is not held by him of any account as a dear
thing, in comparison with the fulfillment
of his ministry. This fulfilment is more
sacredly precious for two reasons—he has
received his mission immediately from
Christ, and the burden of his message is
grace. Free grace, the spring of all God's
action towards sinful men, and the secret
of every step in the believer's life, was the
soul of Paul's preaching. Under a
strong conviction (not necessarily a prop-
hetic knowledge) that he is looking for
the last time in the faces of those who
are represented by his present hearers,
he solemnly testifies his conscious freedom
from sharing in the guilt of any who re-
fuse that Kingdom which he preached.
Ezek. iii., 18. He is pure because he has
omitted no part of God's gracious plan
for saving souls by Jesus Christ, and be-
cause he has been faithful in pressing
this upon them.

2. Earnest charge. Since Paul is now fi-
nally parting, the responsibility henceforth
rests with them. They are to be earnestly
heedful, first to themselves, and then to
the flock in their charge. These are the
pastor's two essentials—faithful dealing
with his flock, instructing, governing, su-
pervising, exercising all the care a shep-
herd does over his sheep. The reasons
urged or suggested are manifold. First,
this has been committed as a charge to
them. They are bishops (R.V.) whose of-
fice it is to oversee the church. They
are chosen and qualified for this by the
Holy Ghost, and are thus responsible to
Him. This passage shows the identity
of the New Testament bishop and elder.
Again a powerful motive to fidelity lies
in the exceeding preciousness of the Church
in God's eyes. He has acquired it as His
own at a cost most wondrous—His blood.
Faithful performance of what is needed
for its welfare must be of great impor-
tance to Him. Besides, the dangers to
which it is exposed require faithful tend-
ing to ward them off. From without will
enter in false, selfish teachers, like griev-
ous wolves destroying the flock. From
their own body will arise distorters of
the truth, seeking to draw away parties
after themselves. (See II Tim. ii., 17; Rev.
ii., 2). These may have had their fulfil-
ment in the Gnosticism and Judaizing ten-
dencies which later manifested themselves.
Against this they are to exercise an un-
sleeping vigilance that cannot be taken
by surprise. Further, Paul adds a very
tenderly suggested motive, and at the
same time an example in watchfulness,
in the consideration how continuous, ear-
nest, affectionate and heartfelt had been
his admonitions, during the three years
among them.

3. Parting commendations. Paul ear-
nestly desires that these Ephesians may
be built up, edified, enlarged in Christian
life, until, in its consummation among the
great company of the holy, they shall par-
ticipate fully in the spiritual blessings
which God has made to be their heritage.
Ch. xxvi., 18; Eph. i., 18. All this is due
to God's ability. That they may attain
it, Paul commends them to Him, associ-
ating the word of His grace, because of
its great importance in building up the
people of God in faith and love and holy
activity. He commends also to them, as
a warning against avarice, his own ex-
ample. (I Cor. iv., 11, 12, written at Eph-
esus). In all things, i. e., by labour as
well as words, he had given them an ex-
ample, that they labouring may support
the feeble ones who cannot support them-
selves. Thus will they prove the truth
of a precious saying of our Lord, which
Paul here rescues from oblivion.