

with less weight on his back, but with a burden on his heart.

He tried to make things right by saying to himself, "I'm ever so much more comfortable without the horrid old thing. Mother can't know when she's in the house how it feels out doors. I believe that if she'd come alone with me she'd have told me to take it off when she found out how warm it was."

Yet all this reasoning failed to bring happiness. Ed was an uncomfortable boy all day. He made trouble for his teacher in school, and so brought trouble on himself. That day of Ed's life may be considered a failure.

On his way home in the afternoon he stopped for his coat. But where was it? Certainly not where he had left it in the morning. Could he have mistaken the tree? No, he knew the woods too well. It was impossible. Search as he might the garment was not to be found. He must go home without it. Instead of entering as usual with a call for "Mother" at the front door, he skulked around to the rear and went into the kitchen. There the cook informed him that Mrs. Nelson had gone for a drive with another lady and would not return until supper time. Ed considered that he had had a fortunate escape from reproach, and went into the sitting-room to amuse himself with a new book. At any other time it would have fascinated him, but on this unhappy day it had no power to charm.

He was an only child, and, without any playmates in the house, was accustomed to find his principal diversion in books. This resource proving unsatisfactory, he drummed for a short time on the piano and then varied the amusement by drumming on the window pane. The sounds he succeeded in making did not drown the voice of Conscience, which reproached him so loudly that it seemed he could almost hear it speak in tones like those of his own voice.

The thing was getting to be almost unbearable when, at length, his mother returned, bringing her friend into supper. Soon came his father from business and the home-coming was followed by the evening meal.

Remarking afterward that he was tired, Ed went early to bed, while his mother was still chatting with her friend. Somewhat later he heard the shutting of the front door and knew that his father had gone out.

Ed was usually a sound sleeper. He had only to lay his head on the pillow, close his eyes, and float off into dreamland. But on this particular evening the case was different. He tossed and tossed, but slumber would not come. He heard the clock strike eight, heard the carriage come for his mother's friend, heard her leave-taking and departure. Still the time dragged on and at last the clock struck nine.

Later his father returned. Ed listened guiltily while Mr. Nelson told his wife a strange tale. "What do you think I have here, Nellie? It's our Ned's coat. I recognized it on a boy down town and took it from him at once. He owned to having found it in the woods today and appropriated it to his own use. I threatened to have him arrested, but he begged so hard that I finally let him off. How do you suppose he got the thing?"

"I'm sure I don't know," said Mrs. Nelson. Ed certainly wore it to school, for I buttoned it on him myself.

"You don't suppose that he would have been guilty of disobeying you by taking it off and leaving it in the woods, do you?"

"Oh, no," replied Mrs. Nelson. The father and mother were just then interrupted and startled by a shout from Ned. "I did, father, I did!"

They both hurried upstairs to their son's room, where they found a frightened and penitent boy. They were ready to forgive him when he begged with tears for their pardon, but it was a long time before he became sufficiently quiet to sleep.

The next morning he awoke with a sore throat and fever, and with a sense of having suddenly become about a hundred years old. Mrs. Nelson sent for a physician, who pronounced the case a serious one.

Then came days and weeks of suffering, followed by a feeble condition that tried Ed's patience even more than pain itself.

Through all his mother attended him with marvellous sweetness and watchfulness. At length, when the trees were green with foliage, when grass covered the fields and flowers were blooming in the garden, when overcoats and all winter wraps were safely packed away from the ravages of the moths, Ed took once more the familiar road to school.

He was a wiser boy than when he had last trodden that way, for he had learned that it is a very foolish as well as a wicked thing for a boy to disobey his mother.—Christian Intelligencer.

Kiplings New Annual Stories.

Rudyard Kipling is going to tell of "The Beginning of the Armadillos" in the May Ladies' Home Journal. Of course Mr. Kipling brings to bear an irresistibly funny, but withal a highly ingenious, philosophy in describing the peculiarities of the armadillo. He evidently found enjoyment in writing these stories—he calls them "Just So" stories—for he has interwoven more inimitable humor into his account of the way by which the armadillos came into being, and the others of the series, than in anything else that has come from his versatile pen.

The Young People

EDITOR, R. OSGOOD MORSE.
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Prayer Meeting Topic.

B. Y. P. U. Topic.—How Christians grow. Mark 4: 26-29.

Daily Bible Readings.

Monday, April 30.—Joshua (21), 22. The faithful warrior's memorial, (vs 27, 34). Compare Gen. 31, 41, 49.

Tuesday, May 1.—Joshua 23. Take good heed to yourselves (v. 11). Compare Deut. 10: 12.

Wednesday, May 2.—Joshua 24: 1-15. "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve," (v. 15). Compare Luke 16: 13.

Thursday, May 3.—Joshua 24: 16-33. The Lord our God will we serve," (v. 24). Compare Matt. 4: 10.

Friday, May 4.—Judges 1: 1-15. Law of retribution verified, (v. 7). Compare 2 Sam. 3: 39.

Saturday, May 5.—Judges 1: 16-36. Supplemental conquests. Compare Joshua 23: 12, 13.

Prayer Meeting Topic—May 6.

How Christians grow.—Mark 4: 26-29.

All life proceeds from antecedent life. No spontaneous life! Wherever we find life and growth it presupposes a germ. Christians grow as Christians, but do not grow into Christians. They grow in grace, but not into grace. Truth must be planted in the human heart, and as the sunshine, rain and dew causes the seed in the earth to spring up and grow, so the Holy Spirit shining in the human heart, and the rich dews of divine grace falling upon the human life, will cause the precious germ to grow into the strong, healthy life.

"Though seed lie buried long,
Doth that deceive the hope?
The precious grain can never be lost,
For grace insures the crop."

In all plant life there is a twofold growth. A rooting downward and a springing upward. Without a proper rooting there cannot be a successful fruitage, hence the seed on the stony ground brought forth no fruit. It withered away from lack of rootage. How many withered lives from the same cause! Hence the importance of being rooted and founded in love, Eph. 3: 7. Rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, Col. 2: 7. It is said when a tree's top becomes too heavy for its roots, or when its limbs are larger than its roots it is liable to be blown over, because it is top heavy. How many of the wrecks in human life may be traced to the same cause. Top heavy! Lack of rootage!!

A few years ago a beautiful ship was passing out of the Golden Gate of San Francisco. Friends were watching her as she passed so gracefully from her moorings. What was their surprise and horror to see her suddenly roll over and disappear. Her deck load was too heavy for her ballast.

Most plants are exogens. They increase their diameter by external layers. But others are endogens, as the palm tree that grows from the heart outward. Christian growth must be endogenous, Phil. 1: 6.—in you, not external. The Scribes and Pharisees made broad their phylacteries and made long prayers on the corners of the streets. Yet Jesus said of them they were like the sepulchres of their fathers,—outward they were whitened and fair, but inwardly full of dead men's bones. The external is constantly seeking to supplant the internal. The history of the church has shown in all ages that the battle has been along this line. All organic bodies have two tendencies—growth and decay. When a tree stops growing it begins to die. This is doubtless true in the intellectual life. Hence the vigor of Gladstone at four score years proved that he was still growing. Michael Angelo, when past eighty years, was asked by those who found him in the Catacombs of Rome why he came there, he said to learn. When we cease to learn we cease to teach. The true good of all Christian life is the harvest. "First the blade, then the ear, then the full corn in the ear." What shall the harvest be? Shall it be thirty fold or sixty or an hundred? Remember Jesus said herein is my Father glorified that ye bear much fruit. Shall we be satisfied with the small returns when such blessed possibilities lie before us? Much depends upon the nature of the soil, the cultivation of the plants, the eradication of the weeds, in short a compliance with the conditions of growth and maturity. Evidently the most prosperous soil in which to plant the gospel seed is in the hearts and consciences of the young before the thorns and briars of this world's lust have pre-occupied them. One sows, another reaps; but in the great harvest day they shall both rejoice together.

A. H. HAYWARD.

Windsor, N. S.

During the months of January and February our pastor conducted special services during the week, so our

progress as a Union has been impeded to some extent. But if we have not been privileged to work as a Union we have endeavored to do a little as a church, and the Lord has heard our prayers and crowned our efforts with success. Fifteen new members have been added to our number since the yearly meeting in December. We have been holding our regular meetings since Mar. 9th. These have been well attended and a deep interest has been manifested. We feel the Lord has worked mightily among us and will continue to do so. This is our earnest prayer.

JAS. B. KNOWLES, Sec'y.

Boys! Attention!!

Read Principal Brittain's article and see that your parents do likewise.

Things to Know and Remember Concerning Horton Collegiate Academy.

In response to a request from Bro. Morse, manager of the Young People's Department of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, I send these notes containing some things with which every young Baptist of these provinces should become acquainted and remember.

Our young people should know:—

I. That Horton Academy gives the best preparation for matriculation into Acadia University.

II. That a matriculation diploma from the H. C. A. admits to full standing in the college without further examination.

III. That an Academy student has all the social advantages of a university town, that he has free admission to the annual courses of public lectures in College Hall, and that he has access to the University Library.

IV. That the H. C. A. affords courses by which the student may combine theory and practice. The Manual Training Course trains the hand and eye. It should appeal to all, and especially to those who attach most value to the education which is most directly useful. True education begins with the senses. All other education is limited by the degree of perfection of the education of sense. Sense education is practically completed by the age of twenty. By that age the man is "set" as far as the senses are concerned. A man's capacity for intellectual development does not begin to be impaired until many years later. It is essential then that sense education should begin early and be as perfect as possible. No Academy in the Maritime Provinces provides equal, or nearly equal facilities in this respect. The Manual Training Department provides courses in architectural, mechanical and industrial drawing and in wood-work, iron-work and brick and stone construction.

V. That the school provides unsurpassed facilities for "catching up" and "brushing up" on back work. This is very important to young men, who, having been away from school for some time, return with an honest ambition to make up for lost time. Three teachers reside in the Academy Home, and are prepared to give instruction every afternoon and evening to such as need special assistance.

VI. That every facility for uninterrupted study is provided during study hours.

VII. That the H. C. A. is a Christian school, and provides a Christian home.

VIII. That a young man who must leave home to get an education, can get an Academic course with as little expense at the H. C. A. as elsewhere.

IX. That Horton Academy is necessary to our denomination, and that, other things being equal, it should be given the preference by a young man seeking an education, or a parent who intends sending children away from home to be educated.

H. L. BRITTAI.

Advertising the Church.

Distribute from house to house samples of your best brand of the communion of saints.

Use the press liberally—a hand press at blood heat on the palms of others.

The Golden Rule carried into the shop, the servant's quarters, and business, will draw people to hear the Golden Rule discussed from the pulpit.

Publish double-leaded oral notes of the best things in your pastor's Sunday sermon, in display tones, top of the Monday morning street and office conversation, next to business and political matters.

Employ as many "sandwich men" as possible to walk the streets for six days of the week, carrying the Decalogue before them and the Beatitudes on their backs.

Use the goods yourself habitually and without a wry face.

Street-car signs are sure to be read, gracious words, pleasant looks, and thoughtful acts toward employees and fellow-passengers.

Don't depend too much on the clerks (ministers, choir and ushers) to sell goods; drum up trade yourself wherever you go.—Selected.