

"REMEMBER NOW THY CREATOR IN THE DAYS OF THY YOUTH."



OUR  
YOUNG PEOPLE'S  
MISSION UNION



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No. 1.

### The Broken Buckle.

Perhaps our young friends have read of that hero who, when an overwhelming force was in full pursuit, and all his armed followers were urging him to more rapid flight, very coolly dismounted in order to repair a flaw in his horse's harness.

Whilst busied with the broken buckle, the enemy was drawing nearer; but just as they were ready to dash down upon him, the flaw was mended, he mounted his steed and soon had vanished from sight. The broken buckle would have left him on the field a prisoner. Taking time to mend the buckle saved his life.

There is in daily life the same haste, and the same profitable delay. The boy or girl who, from a prayerless waking, bounces off into the

duties of the day, however good the talents, or great the diligence, *is only galloping on a steed harnessed with a broken buckle*, and must not marvel if, in the hottest haste, or most hazardous leap, they

be left inglorious in the dust; and though it may occasion some little delay beforehand, remember it is wise to *set all in order before the march begins.*—DR. HAMILTON.

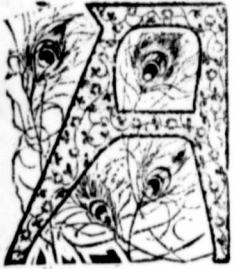


### Joy.

IN Nehemiah's day this sentence was written: "The joy of the Lord is your strength." On eight different occasions we are told that "they rejoiced; for God had made them rejoice with

great joy; the wives also and the children rejoiced." Dear children, think of the "joy" we have in Jesus! In Him are joys which will go on getting brighter, until we hear our Saviour saying, "Enter thou into the 'joy' of thy Lord."

## What a Chinese Boy Did.



BOY was admitted into a missionary school in China, his mother being dead. He remained several years and not only learned the truth, but received it into his heart. When only fourteen years of age he went to his friends during what we call Christmas holidays. One afternoon:

he went into a village temple. As he looked at the idols, an old man (sixty-five years of age) came in with tottering steps, and laying a few incense sticks before an idol, knelt down and began to pray. Then he passed to the next idol, and so on the whole round of them.

The little boy thought to himself, "Here's an old man who has not long to live, and he does not know the way to heaven. But I'm only a boy. I can't tell him." The young people in China are taught to treat the aged with very great respect, and it would have been very impertinent for the little boy to attempt to teach the old man.

"What is to be done? he has no one to teach him," thought the boy, as he saw him pass from idol to idol, and, as he thought, the tears ran down his cheeks. Those tears were eloquent as the boy felt forced to go to the aged man and say—"would you mind a boy speaking to you? I am young; you are very old."

"What are you crying for?" said the old man. "Can I help you?"

"Sir, I am crying because I am sorry for you."

"Sorry for me! What about?"

"Because you are aged and cannot live long, and you don't know the way to heaven."

"What! Do you know the way to heaven?"

"I know that Jesus has saved me, and He will save you."

"Who is Jesus?" asked the old man.

The boy told him the story of God's love, and the man's heart melted as he listened.

"Boy," he said, "I am over sixty years of age, and I never heard such words. Have you had dinner?"

"No, sir, not yet,"

"Come home with me, then, and you shall tell the old lady the story you have told me."

The boy went home with the old man and told the story of the love of God, while the aged couple listened with great interest. He was invited again and again, and staid in their house nearly the whole of his holiday; and the result was that, through this youthful servant of Christ, they were both led to the Saviour before they ever saw or heard of a missionary.

## What would Jesus do?

"Christ suffered for us, leaving us an example that ye should follow his steps."—1 Peter ii. 21.

If washed in Jesus' blood,  
Then bear His likeness too,  
And as you onward press,  
Ask "WHAT WOULD JESUS DO"?

With willing heart and hand,  
Your daily task pursue;  
Work! for the day wears on;  
Ask "WHAT WOULD JESUS DO"!

Be gentle e'en when wronged;  
Revenge and pride subdue;  
When to forgive seems hard,  
Ask "WHAT WOULD JESUS DO"?

Be brave to do the right,  
And scorn to be untrue;  
When fear would whisper "Yield"!  
Ask "WHAT WOULD JESUS DO"?

## A Little Wait.



WHILE passing up the street, one chilly day, a man saw a bare-footed girl trotting along on the cold pavement.

"Where are your shoes, little girl?" said the gentleman.

"Don't dot any," said she.

"Don't dot any?" Why not?" said he.

"My papa dets drunk," said the poor little wait.

That tells the whole story. Bare feet, ragged clothing, hunger, want, poverty, and misery, all come when "papa dets drunk." And tens of thousands are beginning to taste the deadly cup that brings all this misery at the end; and others are dealing out this dreadful deadly poison to poor degraded men. Dear children, shun the wine cup.—*The Little Christian.*

FIFTY years ago there was a boy in Africa who was taken prisoner in one of the fierce wars between the tribes and was carried away from his home to be sold as a slave. After being sold and re-sold, now for sugar and again for rum, he was finally carried away in a slave ship. A British cruiser captured the slaver. The boy is now Bishop Crowther, England's black bishop of Africa.

### Seeking to Save.

**A**BOUT three years ago, a railway train was approaching the City of Montreal, when the engineer saw a large dog on the track. The dog was apparently much excited, and barked furiously at the approaching engine. The engineer blew the whistle, but still the dog kept on the track, and just as the engine came upon him he was observed to crouch down and extend himself across the track. In this position he was struck by the locomotive and killed. The engineer, looking out towards the front of his engine, saw a piece of white cloth fluttering in the wind as it hung on part of the machinery. At once he stepped along the side and found it to be part of a child's dress. He stopped the engine, and backing down they found by the side of the track not only the mangled body of the dog, but the body of a little child. At once the position was taken in. The child had wandered upon the track and fallen asleep there, watched by its faithful companion, the dog, who, seeing the train approach, had done its best to save the child; but failing, had covered it with his own body and died with it. Faithful unto death. He died in the effort to save.

Dear young friends, does not this true tale awaken in your heart some thought of one who, seeing your position of danger, took the place of death, that by dying you might live? The dog died, but he did not save. Jesus Christ died to save, and He is "mighty to save." Had that dog succeeded in saving the child, it would have been prized and caressed. Many would like to possess it. "What think ye of Christ?" Do you value Him? Do you long to possess Him? He is ready—waiting—willing to save you, and to become yours, and to have you become His.

THE following verse contains every letter in the alphabet:—

Except with zeal we strive to win  
God's just and holy love,  
We cannot conquer life and sin,  
Nor walk with Him above.

### Because He Likes Me.

**T**HE other day, when I was in a cottage, I spoke to a dear little maiden named Alice, just four years of age.

"Do you know what Jesus has done for us?" I asked.

"He was put on the cross," was her reply.

"Why was He put there?"

"To make a way for us to go to heaven," said the child.

"And do you love Him, dear?" I asked.

"Yes," was her reply.

"Why do you love Him?"

"Because He loves me," said little Alice.

What a happy little answer! For we, indeed "love Him because He first loved us." "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His son to be the propitiation for our sins"; and "Hereby perceive we the love, because He laid down His life for us."

It is the simple ones who get the blessing. Dear little Alice's answer, "Because He likes me," expressed her knowledge of the love of God in simple, childish language; but it shows that she was more taught of the Spirit than many who are far older in years, and of her it may truly be said, "Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings Thou hast perfected praise."



A NOBLE DOG.

### The Secret Spring.

**W**HEN you look at a watch and see the wrong time marked on the face, you know that there is something the matter inside—the *secret spring* is wrong. So, when you look at your life and see that there is something wrong about it, you may be sure it is because the secret spring is wrong. But if your words and deeds are right and true, it is because the secret spring, the motive in your hearts, is right and true.

Let us be very careful about this secret spring, for if it is right of course our lives will be good. The motive, the spring of all we do, should be the love of our LORD; to please Him, to serve Him, to glorify Him, should be the one object of our lives.

## The Runaway!

**F**ATHER had two boys. One of them wanted to see life! He persuaded his father to give him a lot of money, and away he went to a foreign country, where he spent it as fast as he could, and soon it was all gone! What could he do now? Beg? No! Work? Yes, he would if he could get any! But the only thing he could get was to feed pigs! He did that till he began to think of what he had left, and how much his father loved him. Then he determined to go back. He started and soon got near home. But his father saw him coming and met him on the way and gave him a *real* welcome Home!

This is a picture of God and ourselves. We have wandered from Him, but He will take us back when we are willing to come to Him.

## The Three Sieves.

**"MAMMA!"** cried little Blanche Philpott, "I hear such a talk about Edith Howard! I did not think she could be so very naughty. One—" "My dear," interrupted Mrs Philpott, "before you continue, we will see if your story will pass the three sieves."

"What does that mean, mamma," inquired Blanche.

"I will explain it. In the first place, *is it true?*"

"I suppose so; I got it from Miss White, and she is a great friend of Edith's."

"And does she show her friendship by telling tales of her? In the next place, though you can prove it to be true, *is it kind?*"

"I did not mean to be unkind, but I am afraid it was. I should not like Edith to speak of me as I have of her."

"And, *is it necessary?*"

"No, of course, mamma; there was no need for me to mention it at all."

"Then put a bridle on your tongue. If we can't speak well, speak not at all."

## Obey your Parents.

HE WAS SUBJECT UNTO THEM.—Luke ii. 51.

**W**HAT does this mean: "He was subject unto them?"

It means that when our Lord Jesus was a child like you, He was always obedient to His parents; that He did not try to get His own way, or to do His own will; that

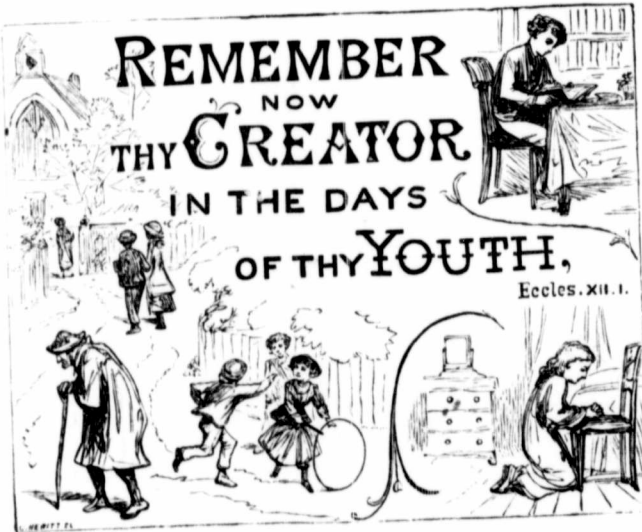
He never fretted when he could not do as He liked, or complained when His tasks were hard, but minded, as you should mind, quickly and gladly.

Does it seem strange that the Holy Son of God should have had little tasks to do, lessons to learn, errands to run, just as these little children have?

Ah! remember that he came to earth, not only to save us from our sins, but also to set

us a copy that should help us learn to live such lives as our Heavenly Father will approve. And because He wanted the little ones to have this helpful copy as well as their elders, He began His earthly life as a little child, that He might teach them by His example how a child of God should live.

Think of this when Mother or Father sets you a task, and remembering how the Holy Child would have hastened to obey, try to do their bidding in the same glad spirit. Be "subject" to them, as He was to His parents in the home at Nazareth, for so you will be learning one of the first lessons in which He gives you the help of His example.



(SUPPLEMENT TO "OUR MISSION UNION.")  
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