

The BOYS of To-day, are the YOUNG MEN of To-morrow.



"OUR BOYS"



PUBLISHED BY THE

BOYS' COMMITTEE

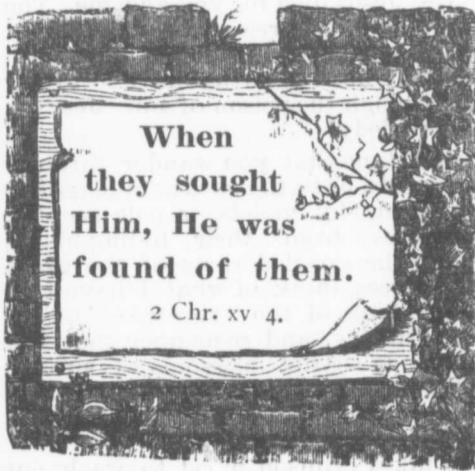
OF THE

TORONTO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

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THE WORK.

HERE have been no specially marked features in the work during the past month. The attendance has kept up to the average and we have reason to believe that the boys have been benefitted. Our Lecture course has been well sustained. The last lecture delivered by Mr. L. C. Peake, was attended by nearly 200 boys. "A bag tied in the middle," was the title chosen, and it is

a question whether many of our readers would recognize in that title the fact that the Lecturer proposed speaking about that centre of attraction, "Chautauqua," which is the Indian name for the title chosen. We should be pleased to see many of our boys taking up the course of study prescribed for the Young Peoples' Chautauqua circle. Now that the Board of our Y. M. C. A. has made a start towards the alterations in the Building, we hope they may go on to complete the same, and *completeness* will never be attained until we have a room for "Our Boys." When we secure *that room* we shall hope to do more for the Boys.

The next lecture of the course (to be delivered, D.V., on the evening of our day of publication), will be by Rev. J. E. Starr.

REMEMBER

THAT A

BOY'S MEETING

IS HELD

EVERY FRIDAY EVENING,

At 8 o'clock, in Parlor "B" Shaftesbury Hall.
ALL BOYS INVITED.

Fear thou not; for I am with thee.
Isaiah xli. 10.

Godliness is profitable unto all things.

I Timothy iv. 8.

TWO TREES.

EVA TRAVERS EVERED POOLE.



HAVE you ever heard of the curious tree known as the Judas-tree? Long before the leaves appear upon the branches, the gorgeous blossoms ornament them, and they look like

scarlet sun-gleams caught amongst the boughs, and held prisoners by their interlacings. The brilliant beauty of the crimson flowers attract thousands of tiny insects, and the wild bees seek to draw honey from their exquisitely shaped cups. But every insect, bee or butterfly, that ventures to rest upon the edge of its blossom is overcome by a fatal, curious sort of opiate, or sleeping draught, which the flower-juice contains, and drops dead upon the ground! If you were to walk round the tree with me, you would see the soft grass strewn with dead and dying bright winged insects! The Judas-tree reminds you and me of sin. Sin may look bright, pleasant, and attractive to our eyes; we may think it "no harm" to indulge in it. But lurking behind "the pleasure of sin" is a fatal poison. Even a dear little child may be led to taste the deadliness of sin, and be slain by it! All round the Judas-tree of sin we see the dead and dying souls of men.

What is to be done for them? Ah!

there is only one remedy. Come with me up a steep, bleak hill, and when we have climbed it and stand upon its summit, we see another tree. How strange it looks! No leaves, no blossoms; only the bare, rough boughs on which a dying one hangs, with bowed head and outstretched arms. What tree is this? It is the Tree of Calvary. The soft green grass around is stained with blood; the summer breeze sings softly as it kisses that royal Sufferer's thorn-crowned brow. O Jesus! it is Thou! We know Thee. Why art thou hanging on the tree?

And I think I hear Him say, dear children, "All this I did for thee."

Yes, Jesus died for you and me. The "leaves of the tree of life" that grow upon Calvary can bring to life again the poor, dead souls that have lost their life through the poison of sin. Jesus is sin's remedy.

Next time that you wander through the woods, or in the garden, and gather the sweet, shy violets, or pale peeping primroses from their hiding places under the gnarled roots of the great forest trees, think of what I have told you. Think of the "two trees," of sin and Calvary, and remember that the poisonous scarlet blossoms of sin are only made harmless by the crimson blood that fell like dew from Jesus upon Calvary's tree.

It takes crimson blood to wash out scarlet sins. And when the sins are blotted out, live bright lives of loving thankfulness for the dear Lord Jesus.

—*The Christian.*

A CHINAMAN applied to a minister to be allowed to join his church. The minister asked him some questions to find out whether he understood what it is to be a Christian, and how we are to be saved. Among other things, he asked him, "How did you find Jesus?" In his broken English the poor man replied, "Me no find Jesus at all, Jesus him find me."

Hold Thou me up, and I shall be safe.

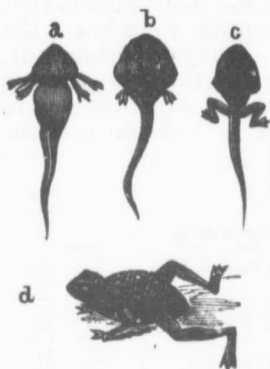
Psalm cxix. 117.

The Lord is Shepherd, I shall not want.

Psalm xxiii. 1.

A WONDROUS CHANGE.

BY MRS. JENNETT M. WEST.



TADPOLE TO FROG.

WE had resolved to see this wondrous change for ourselves, and this is the way we accomplished it. In the farther corner of the orchard was a low place where a little water stood, although it was dry the greater part of the year. The croaking of some tuneful frog drew the children thither, and soon home they came in procession, arms outstretched, backs bent, eyes fixed upon slippery masses they were carrying upon pieces of bark. To be sure they had spattered their clothes and their feet were wet, but I long since learned that knowledge is oftenest obtained under difficulties, and here was something new for us to learn. For these little black balls each in the centre of a sphere of albumen were nothing less than frogs' eggs; there were hundreds of them.

How long the eggs had been upon the water I do not know, but about three days after we found them they began to undouble. Yes, undouble, that is the very word; for this little taddy does not grow until, like the chicken, it has used the whole egg, but grows entirely in the black centre, then the long tail which was doubled back on the side straightens out, and after it has dozed in a nearly stupid condition on its side for a day, it rights up and commences to feed upon the rest of the egg. (a) Soon it would swim across and around the world in which we put it, but preferred to remain quiet most of the time.

The saucer was soon too small, and some were put into a large glass fruit-dish, where they chased each other about, spattering the water and sometimes leaping from it, as we knew from the unfortunate ones which we found upon the table; but day after day they grew on, and no one knew how. They were kept in rain-water and it was seldom changed, but we never supplied them with any food which we saw them eat.

For two months they swam or rested, just the same little taddies as at first, only larger, their bright eyes peering from the edge of the water; but now comes the the discovery that they have hind legs, little weak things stretched back against the tail. (b) But a grander home must be given them. A large tub was placed under the cherry-tree, earth put in the bottom, and a pile of stones in the centre, upon which they were expected to climb when their tails dropped off.

In three or four weeks after the hind legs were seen, the fore legs pushed through, often one at a time, so while one was out the other could be seen folded under the skin (c); and to our great disappointment they shewed no intention of mounting our stone-pile to leave a now useless appendage. Nature works in no such wasteful manner. The body, which had been so almost jelly-like, now shows more decided form, the head lengthens, the bony frame-work discloses itself by points and angles here and there, and the tail, day after day, narrows and shortens until it all disappears and the entire substance of it has been taken into the body and utilized there. Surely a wonder of wonders, and on the last of August we have perched upon our stone-pile a tiny but demure-looking frog (d), developed certainly a week ahead of the rest. Patiently we waited for all the family to get ready, when they were carried by the children, who had watched them so long, to a more congenial home.—*Illus. Chris. Weekly.*

He led them on safely, so that they feared not.

Psalm lxxviii. 53.

I go to prepare a place for you.

John xiv. 2.

TASTE NOT.

WHEN you see a drunken man staggering, followed by his little boy, you say, Poor little boy to have such a father! Poor father to be such a slave to so terrible a habit! But he did not look nor act this way all at once? He did not drink gin and whiskey and rum at first. O no! These are the

beer must be a very nourishing drink. When you hear how barley is prepared for beer, you can judge whether that is true.

The barley is first steeped or wet with water, and then spread on the floor till it *sprouts*. Of course this means that the barley is beginning to grow: the sprouts are new barley coming out. Therefore the sprouts must be the life of the barley, the real substance of it. But this substance is not put into the

Touch not, taste not, handle

not.—Col. ii. 21.

WINE IS A MOCKER,
STRONG DRINK IS RAGING;
AND WHOSOEVER IS
DECEIVED THEREBY
IS NOT WISE.

Prov. xx. 1



No drunkard shall inherit the
kingdom of God.—1 Cor. vi. 10.

drunkard's X Y Z, He began with the A B C of the Drunkard's alphabet:—

A-le. B-er. C-ider.

Now, boys, listen carefully,—beware of the drunkards' A B C, for they lead down to the X Y Z. People will tell you that these three things won't hurt you, but will make you strong. I will tell you some facts about beer, and you can see for yourselves whether there is anything in it to make you strong.

You know that beer is made from barley, and barley in its self is very nourishing, so some people say that

beer, but is called "culms," and is given to the *cattle*! What is left of the barley is the sugary part, and is called "malt." But even this sugar which would help to make fat is destroyed in the brewing, and turned into an evil spirit which makes men babble foolishly, as Solomon says in the Bible. The grains which are left when the malt is brewed are given to the *cattle*; so the *cattle* gets all the solids from the barley, and the beer-drinkers get the slops. —Selected.

Be not among winebibbers.

Proverbs xxiii. 20.

In the way of righteousness is life.

Proverbs xii. 28.