

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.

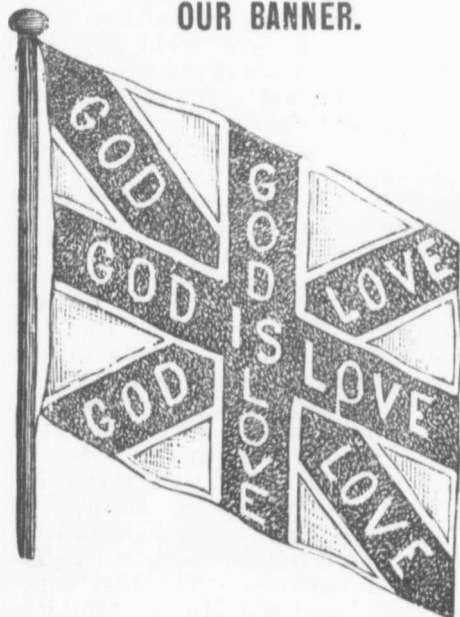


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OUR BANNER.



BOY'S WORK.



At the recent District Conference of the Associations of Central Ontario, held in our Rooms, Mr. C. Edwards, our former chairman, gave a very interesting and

able address on Boy's Work. He emphasized the need for special religious work. Mr. Walker (our present chairman), Mr. Findlay, and others, took part in the debate.

BOY'S LECTURE COURSE.



THE next lecture of the course will be delivered in the Boy's Room, Shaftesbury Hall, on Friday, March 21st, by Mr. D. C. Forbes. Subject, "Something about the American War." Mr. Forbes was a soldier during the Southern war, and will relate some stories of soldier life, which we know will entertain the Boys, and we feel certain that he will also draw some lessons from these scenes which will prove beneficial. Come Boys, and bring your companions.

Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old.
Prov. xxiii. 22


In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.—Prov. x. 19.

The fear of the Lord longeth days : but the years of the wicked shall be shortened.—Prov. x. 27.

NOTE OF PRAISE.

IT is with grateful hearts we report a growing religious interest in our Boy's meeting. The Spirit of God is applying the truths taught from week to week, and fruit is now being gathered. At a recent meeting, five of the lads professed faith in the Lord Jesus. We ask that Christian parents and others will remember this work.

A TRUSTY BOY.

ICHARD CECIL, who lived to be a greatly useful minister, was born in London, in 1748. When a boy he was strong willed, but brave, straightforward, and thoroughly trustworthy, hating all that was mean, shuffling or deceitful. One day his father, who had business in the city, took little Dick with him and left him at the door of the East India House, telling him to wait there till he should finish his business and return to him. Taken up with other matters, his father forgot all about him, and left the house by another door. Richard, in the evening, was missed by his mother. His father now remembering where they had parted, said: "Depend upon it, he is still waiting for me where I left him." Immediately returning to the spot, there, to be sure, he found poor Dick faithfully waiting, as he had been for hours, and as he had been ordered to do!

The wicked flee when no man pursueth : but the righteous are bold as a lion.

Prov. xxviii. 1.

THE STOLEN NAILS.

"HEY call me honest, and I think I am honest; I mean to be," said the old man whom we all know as honest John Russel; "but everybody does not know what made me so."

"What did?" was asked.

"I early found out that 'the way of transgressors is hard.' When I was a boy I wanted to have a little cart. My father was poor, and I had to work. Almost the only time I had for play was in the evenings, but then I wanted to have a cart, like the other boys. I managed to get some pieces of board, and by a great deal of patient sawing and shaving brought them into shape. But I had not enough nails to put them together, and not a penny had I with which to buy more. My father would not give me money for anything short of an absolute necessity. My cart, therefore, lay unfinished, and I kept on the look-out for nails. One day, when I was at the mill, I saw a box of fine new nails. I took some, and put them in my pocket. Now I could finish my cart. But the feeling of meanness that I had from the time I put the nails into my pocket, made me feel ashamed to work at it before any one. I also was afraid that I might be asked where I got the nails. I found opportunities to work at the cart unseen, and at last it was done. It was a rough-looking affair, but I should have had great delight in it if it had not been for the stolen nails. They spoiled it entirely. 'The best cart in the place,' said Will Minor. 'But it has stolen nails in it,' was the quick reply of my conscience. 'The fastest cart I ever saw!' said Ned Winslow. 'But it has got stolen nails in it,' I said to myself. 'The best!' shouted all the boys; but the echo rang round me like 'Stolen nails! stolen nails!' I tried to offset my theft by kindness and generosity. I lent my cart cheerfully to every boy who had none, and gave

The hope of the righteous shall be gladness : but the expectation of the wicked shall perish.—Prov. x. 28.

The way of the Lord is strength to the upright: but destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity.—Prov. x. 29.

every little girl who came in my way a ride upon it; but in each one's 'thank you,' I seemed to hear 'stolen nails.' I could not bear this; so I determined to pay for the nails, if it were possible. Days afterwards, I had some money in a present. I was now eager for a chance to get to the mill, and it was not long before one came. A grist was to be ground, and I was sent with it. I had written upon a paper, "To pay for some stolen nails," and wrapped the coppers in it. While my grist was being ground, I dropped it into the miller's nail-box. I felt a relief when I had done this; but it did not last long. Things did not seem quite right, after all. The miller was a rough man, and accused a boy, whom he disliked, of stealing the nails, and then paying for them through fear of being found out. The poor boy was wrongfully accused through my fault, and I felt ten times more guilty than ever. My conscience upbraided me so, that at last I went to my mother and told her all. 'I see but one way before you, my son,' she said. 'The truth must be told.' So she led me to the mill, when all was explained. The miller forgave me; but before I left he said, 'I don't think you were made for a thief, but remember that you have been the means of leading me to blame another boy; and so you have not only suffered yourself, but made others suffer. I hope that this will be a warning, and that you may grow up an honest man.' And the miller was right when he said I would grow up an honest man. I had enough of stealing when I took his nails."

DURING the Protectorate, Cromwell had all Government paper stamped with a liberty cap. After the Restoration, Charles II., wishing to write a letter, some paper was brought to him. He noticed the stamp, and asked what it was. Being told, he said, "Take it away; none of your fool's cap for me." This is given as the origin of the name of foolscap, as applied to paper.

FOOTPRINTS.



ONE winter's day, some boys agreed to try which of their number could leave the straightest track across a field, covered with snow, as they aimed to reach a large tree on the other side.

When they arrived at their destination, and turned to look back, they were astonished to find that but one of their number had come straight across. This puzzled them, for they each declared they had carefully watched their feet. "Ah," said the successful lad; "I didn't do that. The moment I started, I set my eyes right on the tree, and I never took them off till I reached it."

You see the secret of that boy's success was keeping the object set as a goal always in view.

Now, boys, remember that if you are going to make straight tracks through this world and safely reach the other

The righteous shall never be removed: but the wicked shall not inhabit the earth.—Prov. x. 30.

The mouth of the just bringeth forth wisdom : but the froward tongue shall be cut out.—Prov. x. 31.

world, you must start with the right object before you. You must "Look to Jesus;" and all through life there must be this same "Looking unto Jesus." Remember these lads, when they had taken one crooked step, left the imprint of the foot, and no power on earth could remove that mark. If they had tried to do so they would have made a larger spot. So, dear lad, if you have taken a wrong step, remember any efforts of your own will be useless. You can't remove the spot. Now, there was a way by which the false steps could be covered up so thoroughly that no man could have discerned them. But only God could do it. He could send the little snow flakes, and as they came chasing each other down, they would silently, yet effectually, cover it all up. So God, through the love of the pure and holy Jesus, as carried home to your heart by the gentle Spirit of God, can cover up all the false steps; and He says he will so effectually do so that though sought for, "they shall not be found. Yea, He will so hide them that He himself will "Remember them no more."

Have you started on the road to Jesus yet? If not, hear Him say, "Suffer the children to come unto Me." He wants you, and wants you now. You need Him, and need Him now. Then, take Him, and He will direct your steps, and when you reach the other side, and look back, you will be able to say, "He hath led me by the right way."

ALF. S.

Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them.

Ecclesiastes xii. 1.

SCRIPTURE ACROSTIC.

The initials form a saying of the Lord Jesus to his disciples.

1. A city named in the New Testament.
2. One of the Epistles.
3. A prophet sent to a dying man.
4. The eldest of three sons.
5. The surname of a traitor.
6. A king of Moab.
7. A Prophet.
8. A book of the Old Testament.
9. A man to whom much blessing came.
10. A woman of the New Testament.
11. A king's chamberlain.
12. A Governor.
13. One who wished to help his brother
14. A wicked son.
15. The son of a priest.
16. A goddess.

To the boy (attending our meetings) who sends in the first correct solution of this Acrostic, we will present a pocket Bible.

Answers may be sent in, up to noon of April 1st.

REMEMBER
THAT A
BOY'S 
MEETING
IS HELD EVERY
FRIDAY EVENING,
at EIGHT o'clock,
In Parlour "B" SHAFTESBURY HALL.
ALL BOYS WELCOME.
C O M E .

The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable : but the mouth of the wicked speaketh frowardness.—Prov. x. 32.