

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



# "OUR BOYS"

PUBLISHED BY THE

BOYS' COMMITTEE

OF THE

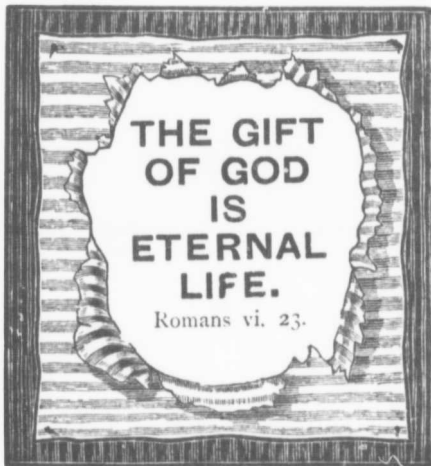
TORONTO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.



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## A QUESTION OF AGE.

“THE Boy’s Companion,” under head of enquiries has the following:

W. H. T. Salem, Mass.—Which Boy’s Branch has been organized the longest; ours, Montreal or Toronto?

The answer given is as follows:—Salem, 1869; Montreal, 1873; Toronto, 1873.

It is not a matter of much importance as to which is the oldest, but there can be no harm in having facts. We notice that the recently published report of the Montreal Association says, “The Boy’s department of Association work

was first (?) organized in Montreal in 1873, and in one or two other cities, a little later during the same year.” With reference to this statement, we wish to say “that in February, 1874, the editor of ‘Our Boys’ resigned the Secretariate of the Montreal Association, and at that time (so far as his memory serves him) there was no Boy’s branch in operation, although it had been spoken of.” The work in Toronto was organized in May, 1873, so that it would appear that Toronto leads in the Dominion work for Boys. If the “Boy’s Companion” is correct, and we presume it is, our brethren in Montreal will have to be content with the honour of being the *oldest Young Man*, and let Salem be the *oldest Boy*. We are pleased to acknowledge that Salem, (Peace) is the birthplace of this work, which aims to tell of the “Prince of Peace.”

## REMEMBER

THAT A

# BOY’S MEETING

IS HELD

**EVERY FRIDAY EVENING,**

At 8 o’clock, in Parlor “B” Shaftesbury Hall.  
ALL BOYS INVITED.

Seek ye first the kingdom of God.

Matt. vi. 33.

Give Thy servant an understanding heart.

1 Kings iii. 9.

**"ONLY A CIGARETTE."**

HE wrapped it up neatly in paper white—  
The very best weed he could get—  
"I'll try it, it surely can do no harm,  
It's only a cigarette."

It costs but the veriest trifle, you know,  
About two for a cent you can get;"  
But he couldn't see that meant *dollars* a year;  
'Twas "only a cigarette."

His face was fair, and his young step light,  
And his black eyes shone like jet ;  
But listless he grew, and the doctor said,  
It was "only a cigarette."

He came to a clerkship. His mouth was  
filled  
At every sly chance he met ;  
The master—he scolded and warned in vain  
It was "only a cigarette."

Then came the cigar, the lager, the pool ;  
"I'll have fun to-night, you bet,"  
And every one asked, "I wonder who pays  
For 'only a cigarette?'"

The mother she watched by the midnight  
lamp  
For the nightly return of her pet,  
And pleaded with tears that he no more  
would touch  
Just "only a cigarette."

But his face grew flushed, unsteady his step,  
And he heeded the warning he met  
Too late—and it came from the curse of the  
land,  
Just "only a cigarette."

**A LONG NAME.**

The capital of Siam is Bangkok, with a population of 225,000. Here the king resides. His title is KHROM PHRA RAJWANG PAWAN SATHAN MANGOL. He is the second king. The first king's title was a greater puzzle to pronounce. It was PARA BAT SOMDETC PHRA PARAMINDOR MAHA CHOLALON-KOM PHRA CHULA CHOM KLAS YU HUA.

**A RESPECTFUL BOY.**

AN old man entered a railroad car and was looking around for a seat, when a boy ten or twelve years of age rose up and said, "Take my seat, sir."

The offer was accepted, and the infirm old man sat down.

"Why did you give me your seat?" he inquired of the boy.

"Because you are old, sir, and I am a boy!" was the reply.

A hundred years ago there would have been little need to record, as remarkable, a similar incident. Among things that are good or hopeful in a rising generation, there is one great change for the worst manifest to everybody—a declining spirit of reverence towards age and towards God. "Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head and honor the face of the old man, and fear thy God; I am the Lord."—*Selected.*

**WHAT A BOY ACCOMPLISHED.**



BOY who attends one of our Sunday-school's went out in the country the last summer to spend his vacation—a visit he had long looked forward to with pleasure. He went out to help the men harvest. One of the men was an inveterate swearer. The boy having stood it as long as he could said to the man, "Well, I guess I'll go home to-morrow." The swearer, who had taken a great liking to him, said, "I thought you were going to stay all summer." "I was," said the boy, "but I can't stay where anybody swears so; one of us must go, so I will leave." The man felt the rebuke and said, "If you stay I won't swear," and he kept his word. Boys, take a bold stand for the right; throw your influence on the side of Christ, and you will sow the seed, the harvest of which you will reap both in this world and that which is to come.—*S.S. Visitor.*

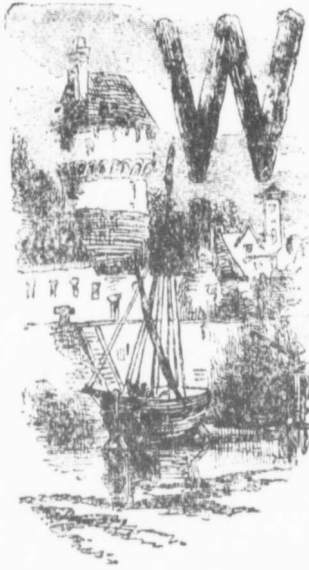
I will give them a heart to know Me.

Jeremiah xxiv. 7.

A man shall be as an hiding-place.

Isaiah xxxii. 2.

### WHAT A PENNY CAN DO.



WILLIE'S penny made heaven rejoice. It wouldn't have bought more than a stick or two of candy, or given much help to a starving family. What did he do with it? His sister was a missionary's wife in Africa, and the family were filling a box

to send her. As one after another brought their gifts, Willie said: "I want to give my penny." "What shall be bought with it?" was the next question. It was decided to buy a tract, and with a prayer for its success, send it on its distant errand.

The box arrived on the mission-ground, and, among its valuable contents, Willie's gift was laid away unnoticed and for awhile forgotten. But God's watchful, all-seeing eye had not forgotten. One day a native teacher was starting from the mission station to go to a school over the mountain. He knew the language well, and was a great help to the missionaries; but he was not a Christian. He had resisted everything the missionaries had done to make him one. In looking over some papers, Willie's tract was discovered, with writing on the margin which said that prayer was offered in America that it might do good. It was handed to the native teacher. He read it on his journey, and what years of

labor by the missionaries had not done was now brought about by the penny tract. The man became a sincere Christian. Those who put the tract in his hands were full of joy; and there is joy in heaven over one sinner that repents. So you see how Willie's penny made heaven rejoice.

### LOVING HINTS FOR BOYS.

**S** EVEN classes of company to be avoided:

1. Those who ridicule their parents or disobey their commands.
2. Those who profane the Sabbath-day or scoff at religion.
3. Those who use profane and filthy language.
4. Those who are unfaithful, play truant, and waste their time in idleness.
5. Those who are of a quarrelsome temper, and are apt to get into difficulty with others.
6. Those who are addicted to lying and stealing.
7. Those who are of a cruel disposition; who take pleasure in sporting with and maiming animals and insects, and robbing birds of their young.

### ABOUT THE CHILD JESUS.

**H** GREAT many things connected with Jesus when he was a boy we know nothing at all about. But the Scriptures tell us one thing about Jesus which we may be sure is true. I cannot tell you whether Jesus was a tall boy, whether he was a pale-faced or a rosy-cheeked boy. But there is one thing more important than all these put together that I can tell you: it is this,—Jesus was an obedient boy.

He went down to Nazareth with his parent, and was "subject unto them."

Our God will abundantly pardon.

Isaiah lv. 7.

Cleanse Thou me from secret faults.

Psalm xix. 12.

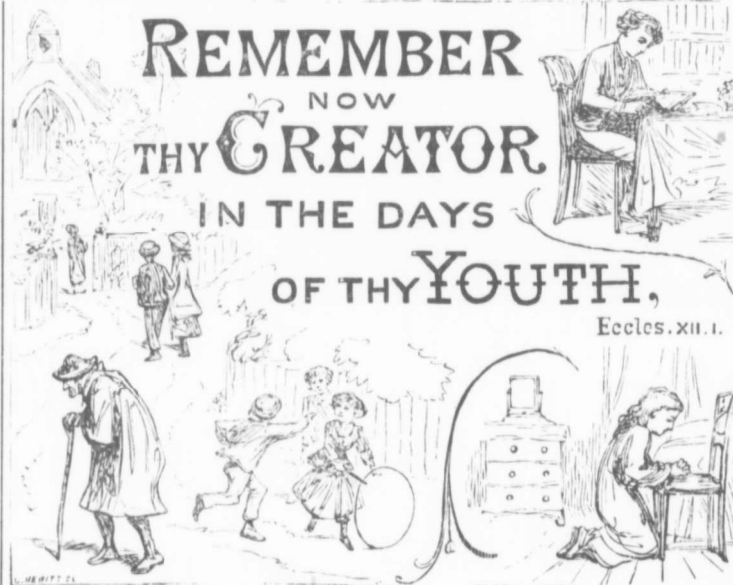
He was twelve years old at the time this was said of him. He had been obeying his parents there for twelve years. He kept on obeying them after this for eighteen years longer. Some children think that when they get to be eighteen or twenty, they are too old to obey, and have a right to do just what they please. But Jesus did not think so. He obeyed his parents till he was twenty-one years of age, and he did not stop then, but went on obeying them, for nine years longer.—*Dr. Newton.*

The missionary looked down with interest into the face earnestly upturned to him, and asked the little boy where he got it, and why he wanted a clean one.

"We found it, sir," said he, "in sister's pocket after she died; and she used to sing it all the time when she was sick, and loved it so much that father wanted to get a clean one to put in a frame to hang it up. Won't you give us a clean one, sir?"

The little page with a single hymn on

LET NO MAN DESPISE THY  
YOUTH.—1 Tim. iv. 12.



THOU ART THE GUIDE OF  
MY YOUTH.—Jer. iii. 4.

### A TOUCHING INCIDENT.

**A** LITTLE boy came to a city missionary, and holding out a dirty and well-worn bit of printed paper, said: "Please, sir, father sent me to get a clean paper like that."

Taking it from his hand, the missionary unfolded it, and found it was a page containing that beautiful hymn of which the first stanza is as follows:

"Just as I am, without one plea,  
But that Thy blood was shed for me,  
And that Thou bid'st me come to Thee,  
O Lamb of God I come!"

it had been cast upon the air like a fallen leaf, by Christian hands, humbly hoping to do some possible good. In some little mission Sabbath-school, probably, this poor girl had thoughtlessly received it, afterward to find it, we hope, the Gospel of her salvation. Could she, in any probability, have gone down to death, sweetly singing that hymn of penitence and faith in Jesus to her latest breath, without the saving knowledge of Him which the Holy Spirit alone imparts? Boys, can you all say that you "came to Jesus." If not, do so now.—*Home Mission Herald.*

Cease to do evil, learn to do well.

Isaiah i: 16.