

Three Little Boys.

BY E. H. S.

Three little boys talked together,
One sunny summer day,
And I leaned out of the window
To hear what they had to say.

"The prettiest thing I ever saw,"
The first little boy said,
"Was a bird in grandpa's garden,
All black and white and red."

"The prettiest thing I ever saw,"
Said the second little lad,
"Was a pony at a circus,
And I wanted him awful bad."

"I think," said the third little fellow,
With a grave and gentle grace;
"That the prettiest thing in all the world,
Is just my mother's face."

—Presbyterian.

Johnnie and the Bricks.

Johnnie, a small boy living in the country, was one day playing with a lot of bricks as his uncle came along. This uncle was a great friend of the boy and ready to help in any frolic that was not improper.

"What are you doing, Johnnie?" asked the uncle after standing a while to look at the boy.

"Building a house: that is what I'm trying to do. Did you ever build houses of bricks when you was a boy?" asked the little fellow.

"Very likely," was the answer, "though I forgot about it, it is so long ago. But I was thinking if you could learn a lesson from those bricks."

"A lesson from bricks?" asked the boy in surprise; "how can I? Bricks can't talk."

"Books cannot either, but you learn lessons from them."

"O, but they have reading: that talks."

"But pictures teach lessons without a line of reading."

"Uncle, I wish that you would teach me a lesson from bricks. Will you? I would like to see what they say."

"Very well," said the uncle. "Just set the bricks up each on its end, a little distance apart, and all in a line."

"How many shall I set up?" asked Johnnie, after he had placed about twenty on end.

"That will do," replied the uncle, looking at the long row. "Now, do you wish those bricks to teach you a lesson?"

"Yes, sir," replied the boy, eagerly, "What shall I do?"

"Come here to the end of the row and push the first brick over against the next one."

"What shall I do then?" asked the boy hesitating.

"Nothing until you have seen what the bricks do."

"Shall I push now?"

"Yes, right away. Push only the first one."

The first brick was pushed against the next, and then the boy stood by looking on. The first brick pushed the next over, and that in turn the next, and that the next, until the whole row was down.

"There? They are all down! Every one is over?" shouted the boy. "See, uncle! All have tumbled!"

"That is so," said the uncle. "Now can you learn a lesson from those bricks?"

"What lesson? I don't see any to learn. I only pushed one down and all the rest fell of themselves."

"Did they fall of themselves, or did each push its neighbor, after you started the first one?"

"Oh, I see now, uncle, what you mean. If we give one brick a push it will push another, and that another, and that another, and so all will go down."

"Yes, Johnnie, and so it is with people. Give one a start downward, and he will take another down with him, and he another. But when did the bricks stop falling?"

"When all were down."

"Yes; and so it is with people. Start one in the downward way and he will take another along, and he another, and will keep falling as long as there is one to fall. That was the way with Adam and Eve. Eve sinned and led Adam to sin, and then Cain fell, and since, one after another of the human family have gone down: all are sinners. In the same manner, we start people in the way of evil habits or other sin; and they start others, and so, if nothing prevent, all might go down until the last one had fallen."

"Uncle, I never thought of that. But it is so. One boy learns to cheat, or lie, or steal, and another learns from him, and another from that one; and so it goes on until a whole lot of boys cheat, or lie, or steal. It is awful, but I never thought of it before. The bricks have taught me a lesson."

"There is another lesson you may learn from them: go down to the end of the row and push back the last one that fell. Will it make the others stand up?"

"No, sir," said Johnnie, after trying

to make the last one one in the row stand on end. "I can't even make one stand unless I take it away from the other. They keep pushing it down all the time."

"Well, there are two more lessons. To tumble all down you need but start the first one; but you cannot make them all stand up again by pushing one up straight. You cannot even make that one stand up until you take it away from those that went down with it."

"Thus, you may start a large number of people in the downward way, by giving the first one a push; but you cannot bring them all by helping up one. Each one must be helped back by special effort. Nor can you feel sure of making him stand safely until removed from the evil company to those who were down. You see it is much easier to push people down than to help them up. It is much easier going down than to get back after you have fallen. Be careful, my boy, that you do not start some one in the way downward to evil and ruin; he will be almost sure to take others with him. To win him back will be a much harder task than to push him down. Even if you save him, that will not save the others whom he took with him. Remember, too, that if you would overcome evil and be able to conquer temptation, you must stay out of company that brings evil and temptation."

Johnnie looked at the bricks with a very serious face, as his uncle entered the house, and determined to act on the lesson the bricks had taught him.

—Exchange.

A Word To Boys.

BY MISS FRANCES E. WILLARD.

I have made up my mind to speak to you about a little matter, for I believe you want to do what is fair. Now, when the girls study just the same books you do, and often go far ahead of you at school; when so many of them study stenography, telegraphy, and other kinds of business, become teachers, doctors, missionaries, etc., as they are doing more and more each year, what right have you to sit about, as lazy as a cat, and let these girls work and tug till they are all tired out, for your comfort, and to do things which you should attend to yourselves? Don't they like to run and play as well as you do? Don't they need the exercise and sun that you get in the great, splendid open doors, just as much? Are you not physically stronger, and better able to bear the heat of the kitchen, and the breathed over-and-over air of the house, than they? Ought you not then, in your big, hearty, good natured fashion, to "give them a lift" every time when the work presses on them, and to take care of your own room, as they do of theirs? It seems to me this is just "a fair divide."

Let me tell you about three splendid boys I knew once on a time. Their father died, and their dear mother was left to bring them up and to earn the money with which to do it. So these young fellows set in to help her. By taking a few boarders, doing the work herself and practising strict economy, this blessed woman kept out of debt, and gave each of her sons a thorough college education. But if they hadn't worked like beavers to help her, she never could have done it. Her eldest boy—only fourteen—treated his mother as if she were the girl he loved best. He took the heavy jobs of housework off her hands, put on his big apron and went to work with a will; washed the potatoes, pounded the clothes, ground the coffee, waited on table—did anything and everything that he could coax her to let him do, and the two younger ones followed his example right along. Those boys never wasted their mother's money on tobacco, beer or cards. They kept at work and found any amount of pleasure in it. They were happy, jolly boys, too, full of fun, and everybody not only liked, but respected and admired them. All the girls in town praised them, and I don't know any better fortune for a boy than to be praised by good girls, nor anything that boys like better. In the same manner, we start people in the way of evil habits or other sin; and they start others, and so, if nothing prevent, all might go down until the last one had fallen."

"Uncle, I never thought of that. But it is so. One boy learns to cheat, or lie, or steal, and another learns from him, and another from that one; and so it goes on until a whole lot of boys cheat, or lie, or steal. It is awful, but I never thought of it before. The bricks have taught me a lesson."

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The Manufacture of Hair Pins.

For years the English and French controlled the manufacture of hair pins, and it is within the last twenty years that the goods have been produced in this country to any extent. The machinery used is of a delicate and intricate character, as the prices at which pins are sold necessitate the cheapest and most rapid process, which can only be procured by automatic machines.

The wire is made expressly for the purpose and put up in large coils, which are placed in a clamp, which carries it to the machine while straightening it. From there it runs into another machine, which cuts, bends and by a delicate and instantaneous process sharpens the points. Running at a full speed, these machines will turn out one hundred and twenty hair pins every minute. To economize, it is necessary to keep them running night and day.

The difficult part of the work is the enameling, which is done by dipping in a preparation and baking in an oven. Here is where the most constant and careful attention is required, as the pin must be "perfectly smooth and the enamel have a perfect polish. The slightest particles of dust cause imperfection and roughness, which is objectionable."—*Brooklyn Citizen*.

CHOOSING A TRADE.—Boys who are beginning to consider what they will do in the world to earn their living will find some good advice in these hints from *Treasure Trove*:

First of all, make sure what you will be best fitted for in the long run. Remember that some kinds of work may be in demand now, and in a few years the demand may die out. Don't choose a trade of this sort, if you can help it. You may spend years learning to make something by hand, and as soon as you have learned, a machine may be invented that will make it better, and thus throw you out of employment, unless you have learned a great deal about the whole business connected with your work.

Again think of where you want to begin. Don't learn a trade that is over-run with workmen.

Choose what you can do and what you have a taste for. If you are a weakling, don't try to be a blacksmith; and don't try to be a painter, if you are color-blind. If you are fond of reading, that is a good reason for becoming a printer, provided there is no other good reason against it. If you have a natural mechanical turn and inventive genius, you may make a good machinist. Resolve to make yourself a thorough master of your trade, and all the machinery and tools used in and about it. Then don't be afraid of learning too much. You will be a better painter for being able to handle the saw; a better joiner for knowing how to use a brush; a better machinist by acquiring the use of the pencil.

Be willing to plod and work hard for a time, for the sake of learning your business thoroughly. If you start as a carpenter, have in mind to become a builder; if you start as a machinist, expect to become a manufacturer; if you begin as a type-setter, aim to become a printer and publisher. Or, if you are willing to be always a workman employed by some one else, make up your mind to become so very expert in your line as to command a high price.

Start with the idea of getting to the top. Be ambitious. Don't be contented; but aim to be better and better, improving yourself and position every year.

FORGETTING.—Boys, to forget may not be a crime, but it often leads to results almost like crime. If you have ever forgotten any important order, do not think it a trifling thing because no tragedy follows your forgetfulness. Your fault is the same when the danger is averted as when it is not. You may be saved when others suffer; but the fault of forgetfulness is not great only as it affects the one who forgets, but as it makes everything depending on that one uncertain and insecure.

Young Folks' Column.

Conducted by C. E. BLACK, CASE SETTLEMENT, KINGS CO., N. B.

PUZZLE DEPARTMENT.

Attempt the end, never stand in doubt
Nothing's so hard, but search'll find it out.

The Mystery Solved.

(No. 21.)

No. 94.—Rehoboth.

No. 95.—Sadi-Carnot.

No. 96.—I.	p	II.	g
	roe	era	
	point	grand	
	end	ant	
	t	d	

about these things.—*Union Signal*.

No. 97.—(1) Valdivia.
(2) Villa Bella.
(3) Valencia.
(4) Toupillo.

No. 98.—Prince of Wales.

The Mystery.—No. 24.

No. 108.—BIBLE QUESTIONS.

(EDGAR DRAKE, GRAND HARBOR, GRAND MANAN).

1. What king made a great throne of ivory and overlaid it with pure gold?

2. What king had forty thousand stalls of horses for his chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen?

No. 109.—DIAMONDS.

(“NED,” PORT LA TOUR, N. S.)

I. A letter; a girl's name; a boy's name; an answer; a letter.

II. A vowel; a metal; a musical instrument; a verb; a letter.

No. 110.—WORD SQUARE.

Applying only to the female sex; a medicinal plant; a girl's name; a period of time.

GEO. N. BREWER.

San Francisco, U. S.

No. 111.—CHARADE.

My first is a vehicle; my second is a third of my first; my third is an eastern lake, and my whole is a large carriage.

“VAN.”

Lower Prince Wm., York.

No. 112.—BIBLE QUERIES.

1. Which of the kings of Israel built an ivory house?

2. Who was the left-handed Judge that delivered Israel?

3. How many were the Songs of Solomon?

4. What is the shortest song in the Bible?

5. Who was Melchizedek?

6. Who was the most wicked king of Israel?

“KIT.”

Woodstock.

The Mystical Circle.

EDGAR DRAKE, Grand Manan, has our hearty thanks for the nice puzzle which we publish this issue. No. 98 correctly solved.

“NED,” Port La Tour, N. S., will please accept our gratitude for the choice puzzles. Solutions to Nos. 94, 96 and 98 correct. Your 3rd instalment received and filed.

“ADA,” Port La Tour, N. S., sends puzzles in response to “Van's” prize offer, and solutions to Nos. 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 96 and 98. Thanks.

“VAN,” Lower Prince William, York, has sent 5 puzzles in competition for the second prize offered by Uncle.

SADIE D., Grand Har., Grand Manan, sends a correct answer to No. 88, and 3, 5 and 6 of 10th Prize Instalment. She also sends more puzzles, but, like the first lot, they do not bring with them the solutions to the same. Always send the answers to all puzzles which you wished published.

The following have sent solutions to the Prize Competition:—

7th Instalment: Melissa Pinkney

Melbourne, N. S.

8th: Dora M. Barker, Bath, C. Co.

11th: Nannie Durkee, Carleton, N. S.

S.; Helen S. Briggs, Bloomfield, C. Co.

“Ada,” Hattie Grey, Yar. Centre, Ont.

12th: Nannie Durkee, “Ada,”

Melissa Pinkney; Flo. E. Hartt;

Geo. A. Riecker; Helen S. Briggs;

“Ned”; “Florence.”

Our Letter Box.

CASE SETTLEMENT, N. B.

June 4th, 1888.

Dear Nephews and Nieces,—The time for closing the prize contests is now drawing nigh. We hope to be able to make all announcements ere long. Please have all solutions, puzzles, etc., in before the 15th inst. We thank you one and all for the kindly interest which you took in this work. Do not let your interest in the Y. F. C. flag. There are a few competitors who should be heard from on back instalments. The names of these have been published in a past issue. “Van's” prize is a handsome one, one which any one will feel proud to possess. It is well worth a little effort.

Uncle Ned has been quite unwell, but, thanks to a kind Providence he is feeling somewhat better. We thank “Ned” for his kind sentiments. Love and best wishes to all.

UNCLE NED.

PORT LA TOUR.

May 28, 1888.

Dear Uncle Ned,—I am very sorry that you have been sick and hope you will soon recover. I have sent solutions to all the Prize Competitions and all have been acknowledged but 3rd instalment. I now send you a few puzzles and answers to some puzzles in the last paper.

Yours &c.,

“NED.”

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TRAINS WILL LEAVE ST. JOHN.

Day Express.....	7.00
Accommodation.....	11.00
Express from Sussex.....	8.30
Express for Sussex.....	10.35
Express for Halifax and Quebec.....	22.15

A Sleeping Car runs daily on the 22.15 train to Halifax.

On Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, a Sleeping Car for Montreal will be attached to the Quebec express, and on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, a Sleeping Car will be attached at Moncton.

TRAINS WILL ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN:

Express from Halifax & Quebec.....	5.30
Accommodation.....	8.30
Day Express.....	12.55
Day Express.....	18.00

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D. POTTINGRR,

Chief Superintendent

Railway Office, Moncton, N. B.

May 31st, 1888.

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