

The Acton Free Press

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1868.

The Young Folks.

A GAME OF TAG.

A grayshopper once had a game of tag.
With his mother he used to go west,
In the making of an eve.
Then the criticks leaped up against the fence
And laughed till their sides were sore,
But grayshopper said, "You're laughing at
And I didn't play any more."

He off to west, the he wanted to stay.
For he was not hurt by his fall,

And the gay little criticks went on with the
game.

And never touched him all.

A bright-eyed squirrel called out as he passed,
Went flying from a tree by his toes.

"What a foolish fellow that grayshopper is,"

"Why, he's bit of his own little nose."

THE TOUCH OF KINDNESS.

One Monday forenoon, Mr. Murray, the Methodist minister of Arlington, sat in his study, engaged in counting money which had been taken up by contribution at his

church on the previous evening for bene-

ficiaries. While he was so engrossed, he was called away, and upon his return he found a boy in the act of taking a hand

ful of silver from the table. Mr. Murray knew the boy as the son of a poor widow who lived not far away, and knew that his name was John Landers. The little fellow dropped the money and started back, trembling at every joint. He had come in by the window, and could not easily make his escape; but it was evident from the look of dogged resolution which gradually settled upon his master's face, that he was prepared to defend himself if violent hands be laid upon him.

"John," said the kind-hearted minister, "I am sorry for this. That money is not mine. It has been collected for the poor and needy of our church. If you had taken it you would have robbed those who are poorer than you. Can you read?"

The boy stammered out a faint and quivering "Yes, sir."

The minister turned to his library, and took down a small book, neatly and prettily bound.

"Here, my son, is a nice book, which I will give you as a present. It is the story of a poor boy who was once tempted as you have been, and who suffered great trials—

but he overcame them."

"It will be worth more to you than money. Take it, and may God bless and guide you!"

The boy took the book and burst into tears. He tried to say something, but sobbed his utterance, and with your kind words comforted him to the door and dismissed him.

That very noon the conference assigned Mr. Murray to a new pastorate. Twelve years passed away, at the end of which time he was placed in charge of the church at Auburn, and there found one of the leading members of his new society to be the foremost lawyer of the place and a man of sterling worth and influence, his name, John Landers. Could it be the boy other years? Ay, it was even so.

After many years of a happy man, as he looked the old minister by the hand, "those kind words of yours, and the kind act, in the one darkest hour of my life, touched me to the heart and awoke me to a new existence, and from that time I girded on the armour of righteousness and stood up to the battle manfully. The result you see. And now I say to you as you once said to me, 'God bless you!' 'I have blessed you ever since that time, and will bless you while I live!'

B. G. J.

WISE BUSINESS MAXIMS

The following maxims are given to a practical issued by a manufacturing firm in the United States.

Thou shall sell goods but six days of the week, and on the seventh thou shall take a rest.

Thou shalt not covet thy competitor's business for he may be nearer bankruptcy than thyself.

Thou shalt not put more salt into thy business than thou hast wind to fill.

Thou shalt not blame thy clerk for thine own mistakes nor tax him for thine own neglect.

Thou shalt not sell goods for less than cost, unless the market has gone back on you.

Thou shall not trust a man to whom thou wouldst not lend ten dollars.

Thou shalt not use thy business capital to speculate with and borrow from thy friends for that purpose.

Laws and Existence

He who is born to a good fortune, is not destined to die in poverty, but he who is born to a bad fortune, is not destined to die in wealth.

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