

"I'm Hurried, Child."

"O mother, look! I've found a butterfly
Hanging upon a leaf. Do tell me why
There was no butter! Oh, do see its wings!
I never, never saw such pretty things—
All streaked and striped with blue and brown and
gold—
Where is its house when all the days are cold?"
"Yes, yes," she said, in accents mild,
"I'm hurried, child."

"Last night my dolly quite forgot her prayers;
And when she thought you'd gone down stairs
Then dolly was afraid, and so I said:
'Just never mind, but say 'em in the bed,
Because I think that God is just as near.'
When dolls are 'fraid, do you s'pose He can hear?"
The mother spoke from out the ruffles piled:
"I'm hurried, child."

"Oh, come and see the flowers in the sky—
The sun has left, and won't you by-and-by,
Dear mother, take me in your arms, and tell
Me all about the pussy in the well?
And then, perhaps, about 'Red-Riding-Hood?'"
"Too much to do! Hush, hush! you drive me
wild;
I'm hurried, child."

The little one grew very quiet now,
And grieved and puzzled was the childish brow;
And then it queried: "Mother, do you know
The reason 'cause you must be hurried so?
I guess the hours are littler than I,
So I will take my pennies and will buy
A big clock! oh, as big as it can be!
For you and me."

The mother now has leisure infinite;
She sits with folded hands, and face as white
As winter. In her heart is winter's chill,
She sits at leisure, questioning God's will.
"My child has ceased to breathe, and all is night!
Is Heaven so dark that Thou dost grudge me light?
The time drags by."

O, mother sweet, if cares must ever fall,
Pray, do not make them stones to build a wall
Between thee and thy own; and miss the right
To blessedness, so swift to take its flight!
While answering baby questions you are
But entertaining angels unaware;
The richest gifts are gathered by the way,
For darkest day.

Pity Your Children.

Here are a few simple statements of fact which
we implore parents by the love they have for their
darling children to consider and weigh carefully:

I. "By Nature" we are "the children of
wrath," Eph. ii. 3. Alienated from God through
sin. That is, when we are born, we have a sin-
ful nature derived from our parents, which keeps
us apart from God; although as infants no actual
sin may be committed.

II. In baptism God adopts the child into His
own Family—His holy Church, and this stain of
a sinful nature is put away.

III. The Church of God is the Family of God;
all who are made members of that Family are
brought into relationship of God; they are His
children, brethren in one family, Christ is their
elder brother. We cannot understand why, or
how this should be, but there must be some good
in being adopted by God as His child. The Jew-
ish children had this privilege when they were
eight days old. Are Christian children to be worse
off than they?

IV. Baptism is the only mode of initiation into
the Family of God. No one is a member of that
Family (a Christian) until he is baptized; as soon
as he is baptized he is a member (a Christian);
whether he be a faithful or unfaithful one is
another thing. An infant unbaptized is no more
a Christian than a Jew. This is not a matter of
opinion but a simple fact. No one has a Christian
name until he is baptized.

[For example:—A man is not a member of the
Free Masons until he is initiated. His father
may have been a Mason; he himself may believe
in Masonry, carry out its principles in his life, and
even earnestly advocate it, yet he is no Mason un-
til he is initiated.]

Ought we not to hasten to put our children into
the arms of God at Holy Baptism? Is it not un-
fair to the darling children—is it not cruel to
them to neglect their baptism, when to say the

very least it cannot possibly do them any harm.
And if the Church is right there is a marvellously
great blessing in Holy Baptism, and loss in its
neglect. The Saviour pleads for the children
with outstretched arms. He says: "Suffer little
children to come unto Me, and forbid them not,
for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

Fathers! Mothers! can you deny Him? It is
cruel to withhold your darlings: cruel to the babes—
cruel to the Saviour.

Why Not an Infidel.

"I once met a thoughtful scholar," said Bishop
Whipple, "who told me he had read every book
he could which assailed the religion of Jesus Christ,
and he said he should have become an infidel but
for three things: First, I am a man. I am going
somewhere. To-night I am a day nearer the
grave than I was last night. I have read all such
books can tell me. They shed not one solitary
ray of hope or light upon the darkness. They
shall not take away the guide and leave me stone
blind. Second, I had a mother. I saw her go
down into the dark valley where I am going, and
she leaned on an unseen arm as calmly as a child
goes to sleep on its mother's breast. I knew
that was not a dream. Third, I have three mother-
less daughters. They have no protection but my-
self. I would rather kill them than leave them in
this sinful world, if you blot out from it all the
teachings of the Gospel."

To Make a Happy Home.

1. Learn to govern yourselves, and to be gentle
and patient.
2. Guard your tempers, especially in seasons of
ill-health, irritation and trouble, and soften them
by prayer, penitence, and a sense of your own
shortcomings and errors.
3. Never speak or act until you have prayed
over your words or acts, and concluded that Christ
would have done so in your place.
4. Remember that, valuable as is the gift of
speech, the gift of silence is often much more
valuable.
5. Do not expect too much from others, but
remember that all have an evil nature, whose
development we must expect, and which we should
forbear and forgive, as we often desire forbearance
and forgiveness ourselves.
6. Never retort a sharp or angry word. It is
the second word that makes the quarrel.
7. Beware of the first disagreement.
8. Learn to speak in a gentle tone of voice.
9. Learn to say kind and pleasant things when-
ever an opportunity offers.
10. Study the character of each, and sympathize
with all in their troubles, however small.
11. Do not neglect little things, if they can
affect the comfort of others in the smallest degree.
12. Avoid moods and pets and fits of sulkeness.
13. Learn to deny yourself, and to prefer others.
14. Beware of meddlers, and tale-bearers.
15. Never charge a bad motive if a good one is
conceivable.
16. Be gentle, but firm, with children.
17. Do not allow your children to go away from
home at night without knowing where they are.
18. Do not allow them to go where they please
on the Sabbath.

"I am so Discouraged."

"I am so discouraged," So spoke a lady the
other day to her rector. And she added: "I can-
not see what attracts you to this parish."

'Tis true, there were many discouragements—
there always are; but they seemed in this instance
to rise mountains high. The rector fell to medi-
tating, and he expressed the thought a few days
later, couched in these words:—

"There is one word I have made it the study of
my life to understand. It is a little word; but it
is a grand word. It thrills men. It gives them
strength. It steadies their purpose. It has an
attractive power. It keeps me where I am. That
word is 'duty.'"

And it is a wonderful word. And the more one
thinks upon its power, the more one understands

of its ability to bring success out of seeming failure
—to bring courage out of what would otherwise
dishearten—to keep the soul near to its God.
Could Christian people generally realize the mean-
ing of this little four-lettered word, the hindrances
to the Christian life and to Christian work would
fast disappear. And to-day those men and women,
who are carrying on their shoulders the great work
of the Church and refuse to falter or hesitate, are
those who at every turn are actuated by the
thought: "It is my duty."

Grasp then, Christian reader, the idea this word
conveys, and become faithful to every trust, steady
in your Christian purpose, courageous in your
efforts to build up the Kingdom of your Lord.—
Christ Church Messenger.

Hints to Housekeepers.

Do not use iron kettles or stewpans. Do not
set cooking utensils in, but on, the range; their
contents will cook more evenly; and to be obliged
to handle articles, the bottoms of which are in a
chronically soiled state, is anything but agreeable.
The bottoms of tea-kettles, frying-pans, etc., should
be kept scrupulously clean. The habit contracted
by some persons of simply washing the inside of
fry and stewpans, and leaving the outside smeared
with soot and oil, is barbarous indeed. Purchase
the lightest and best cooking utensils, and keep
them as clean as you do glass and silver.

NEVER cook fruit in tin ware.

LAY all vegetables, when practicable, in cold,
salted water for half an hour previous to cooking
them.

In boiling fresh fish, mackerel, cod, or trout,
put a small onion in the water. The fish will
not taste of the onion, but will have a much finer
flavour than it would were the onion omitted.

Do not cook pies, having a bottom crust, upon
earthen plates. The heat causes the pores of the
ware to open, and the pastry emits a hot oil that
quickly enters them. As the plate cools, those
pores close and shut in a certain amount of grease.
Any earthen dish used in this way very soon
acquires a distinctly rancid odor, and it is very
strange that many persons using them do not
appear to notice the fact. Tin pie-plates are
always preferable, especially those with perforated
bottoms, which insure the bottom crust being pro-
perly baked. On the other hand, earthen-ware
exclusively should be used for all pies where the
bottom crust is omitted and the fruit comes in con-
tact with the dish (and really the most delicious
and healthful of apple pies are those baked with a
very light upper and no under crust).

RINSE all dishes in warm water before placing
them in the pan to be washed. Have the water
too hot to bear the hands in, and use a dish-mop.
The little patented, nickel-plated affairs, with teeth
that clinch tightly upon the cloth and hold it
firmly, are rather the best. Wipe each article
rapidly and thoroughly the instant it is drawn
from the pan.

REMOVE stains from your lamp-chimneys with
salt.

USE no rugs about the cook stove or range which
may not be as readily washed as a length of Turk-
ish towelling.

WHITE dresses to be worn during the hours spent
in one's kitchen, are more satisfactory than any
others. They are cool and agreeable to the wearer,
and if made plainly, are easily washed and laun-
dered. The only complaint is that "they show
the dirt." That, however, is only an additional
item in their favour, since, if dirt is there, one
should wish to see it.

As in days of old a pillar of cloud led God's
chosen people, so full oft 'tis a cloud that leads us
now; but thank God it still leads to the Promised
Land of Rest and Peace.