

"Try this time and see," I urged. And she did. When she entered Harry's room he sat in a chair by the window quietly watching the floating clouds. Still smarting from a sense of injustice he did not look around or smile.

"Harry, come here." He obeyed. "Why did you move the plants? Tell me the exact truth."

He looked up to her face, and, reading encouragement there he simply said: "Because you said it tired you so. I am most a man now. I can help you lots. I did not break one, not one mamma, and they were heavy. Are you glad now I did it, mamma?"

"Yes, yes, Harry, and I was cross and hurt your hand. I am sorry."

"Oh, it does not hurt any more now. Next time I'll wait till you tell me."

They came back together and I saw by the looks of my friend that she had learned a lesson not soon to be forgotten. That was six years ago. They called while passing through our town this winter and a more gentlemanly helpful boy would be hard to find. She said, "I have you to thank. From the day of the much needed lesson I watched and looked into the motives of my child and always found that the so-called mischief arose from a desire to be useful. I soon got acquainted with my boy and had no more trouble with him. He is now my greatest comfort."

Mothers, fathers, and all that have charge of precious souls, beware how you misconstrue their motives! Though they may perhaps seem to do things out of pure mischief be sure it is so before you punish them lest they cease to care, and as they have the name, only wish to make it fact. Oh! the men and women that have gone to destruction from having their motives mistaken, their actions misconstrued! Be sure none of these sins are laid to your charge.—*The Housekeeper*.

STUDY TO BE QUIET.

This most wholesome injunction of the Apostle, when observed, becomes a method of deliverance in not a few of the trying experiences of life.

"Study to be quiet" when sickness and bereavement come to your home. God takes no pleasure in pain or sorrow, but he will impose both if thereby he may bring us to love him, or make us more like himself. At such a time it is unselfish, unbelieving, to complain and murmur—very wicked to find fault with God.

There are medicines which, taken with wisdom and in moderation, baffle disease and restore health; but abused, they weaken and destroy. So with sickness and sorrow, as we please to use them. To some they are what God means them for all—a savor of life unto life; to others, a savor of death unto death.

At such a time, it is only wise to be very considerate, very humble, very submissive. Think of God's wisdom and goodness, of his fatherhood, of your own ingratitude, unfaithfulness and worldly-mindedness. Go alone and let the Lord speak to you in the silence, let him unravel what seems a mystery, let him offset your pain or loss with his own loving presence. Say, "It is the Lord, let him do what seemeth him good." At such a time, "Study to be quiet."

"Study to be quiet" when your feelings are wounded. Feelings are a very sensitive brood, especially when they nestle in pride and have been much petted. Perhaps there is no time when it will be so difficult to conform to this wholesome injunction, certainly no time when it is so necessary.

We rather like the old law, "an eye for an eye." In this day of a larger, nobler manhood and womanhood, it is not good. Jesus never struck back; he answered not reviling with a like base weapon. How quiet he was amid almost brutal provocation. Herein was his greatness. He that conquereth his own spirit is greater than he that taketh a city.

When any one says an unkind thing about you, don't fuss and hunt up an equally unkind thing to say about your enemy. That is not brave nor noble. It is selfish, weak, a blot on a character which might be beautiful but for that. One dead fly will spoil the sweetest ointment.

Sometimes unkind, untruthful suspicion will be laid upon you; you will be charged with wrong hatched in the imagination of the accuser. Hasty, prejudiced people, with only one side of the case before them, without a shred of proof, will believe and circulate what is wholly untrue and damaging to sacred reputation. It is hard to bear, I own: but remember Jesus and other good people have borne far more. What is the wise course in such a case? Keep your temper sweet, don't let kindness wander from your heart. Take this thing to the Lord, not publicly, but in the secret place.

Be very quiet; if you speak, do it with charity. If you are innocent, have not the slightest fear—the time of vindication is coming, provided you have not foolishly fanned the spark into a great flame. From this on will we not pray for grace to give hearty, loving consent to this good word—"Study to be quiet."—*Rev. M. Rhodes*.

THE SCHOLAR'S INFLUENCE.

From time to time, we hear a great deal about the Sunday-school teacher's influence over the scholars: influence which, if rightly used, often proves of far greater benefit to the pupil than the most learned instruction. But now I wish to speak of this subject from another standpoint.

I refer to the influence which the scholar (oftentimes unconsciously) exercises over the teacher. I think, to realize this fully, a