

amongst the highest natures; and, simply stated, it is this—that he cared too much about too many things.”

Abiding Youthfulness.—“Finally, there was in the Prince a quality which I think may be noticed as belonging to most men of genius and of mark. I mean a certain childlike simplicity. It is noticed of such men that, mentally speaking, they do not grow old like other men. There is always a playfulness about them, a certain innocence of character, and a power of taking interest in what surrounds them, which we naturally associate with the beauty of usefulness. It is a pity to use a foreign word if one can help it, but it illustrates the character of such men to say that they never become *blases*. Those who had the good fortune to know the Prince, will, I am sure, admit the truth of this remark as applied to him, and will agree in the opinion that neither disaster, sickness nor any other form of human adversity, would have been able to harden his receptive nature, or deaden his soul to the wide-spread interests of humanity. He would always have been young in heart; and a great proof of this was his singular attractiveness to all those about him who were young. One gift that the Prince possessed, which tended to make him a favorite with the young, was his peculiar aptitude for imparting knowledge. Indeed, the skill he showed in explaining anything, whether addressed to the young or the old, ensured the readiest attention; and it would not be easy to find, even among the first professors and teachers of this age, any one who could surpass the Prince in giving, in the fewest words and with the least use of technical terms, a lucid account of some difficult matter in science which he had mastered—mastered not only for himself, but for all others who had the advantage of listening to him.”—*Ottawa Citizen*.

3. TRUTHFULNESS AS A HABIT.

Sometimes a child contracts a habit of untruthfulness from mere carelessness. A natural dullness of apprehension, or, on the other hand, an excessive quickness, may thus prove a snare. Some children, too, unconsciously mingle their own thoughts about a fact with the fact itself, and thus, even without designing to do so, get into the habit of misrepresentations. They must, therefore, be taught to observe carefully and relate accurately. The well known anecdote of Dr. Johnson and Mrs. Thrale so aptly illustrates this point that its repetition here may be very readily excused. “Accustom your children,” he said to Mrs. Thrale, “constantly to this: if a thing happened at one window, and they when relating it, say that it happened at another, do not let it pass, but instantly check them; you do not know where deviation from truth will end.” Mrs. Thrale objected to so strict an application of the principle, and replied, “Nay, this is too much.” * * * Little variations in narrative must happen a thousand times a day, if one is not perpetually watching.” Johnson rejoined, “Well, madam, and you ought to be perpetually watching. It is more from carelessness about truth than from intentional lying that there is so much falsehood in the world.”—*S. S. World*.

4. OBEDIENCE, THE MAINSPRING OF EDUCATION.

Obedience is the mainspring of education. In a child, docility holds the place of reason; little by little, reason will be developed, and the mother will relax the absolute authority of her will. She will explain why she orders, but she will do it only by degrees, and will preserve, up to the last moment, the important right of saying, “I command you.” There are many mothers who do not make up their minds to order a child, until they have vainly used caresses and promises; then, all at once, the inefficiency of their efforts renders them impatient, and they order in a fit of anger; the child submits with a bad grace, and silently criticises the will which he has been thus taught to oppose. On the contrary, a prudent mother, if sometimes she judges proper to explain the order which she gives, does so only after having been obeyed; and the condescension is a recompense to the child for his submission, and a proof that he had reason to submit.

The orders which a mother gives, should be the result of her reflection; they should be expressed with deliberation, and they will be obeyed without trouble. Why should she not occasionally employ the absolute expression of her will in commanding a child to do something that may be agreeable to him; as, for instance, to play or to take a walk? This would be a means of separating the idea of constraint from that of obedience; but in all cases, agreeable or otherwise, let the order be irrevocable. It is the habit of obedience which forms the character. Learning, wit, talent, genius—these precious fruits of study or of nature—are too often spoiled by defects of character. The habit of obedience does not diminish courage, or generous independence, or strength of resolution; for a child submits entirely only to reason, and this salutary habit destroys the vague rebellion of the mind. Prepare him thus to have

respect for laws, to yield submission to necessity, and to possess resignation, the most powerful consolation in his misfortune. But to females it is especially useful to learn to obey. In this, is found the true source of their happiness.

5. LONDON AND THE QUEEN.

I was speaking in my last letter of the moral dimensions of London; let me mention a few of its big things physically. And it may seem incredible at first that London's greatest wonders and its most striking improvements just now, are under-ground. For example, the Metropolitan Railway is a very successful experiment in subterranean locomotion. This road traverses the city beneath roadways and houses, having large and well-lighted stations at intervals, so that passengers can easily find their way to and from the city above. This is probably but the beginning of extensive improvements yet to be made in this direction. It is a noteworthy thing in reference to all these great works of internal improvement, that they are constructed with a solidity and expensiveness which are perfectly astonishing. It is difficult to see how the companies can afford to buy their way through the heart of London, and to build at such an immense cost.

In passing along Fleet street, which is one of the Broadways of London, I saw the foundations of a splendid railroad bridge, which is to cross the street within pistol-shot of St. Paul's. London is persecuted by railway projects even more than New York. I was assured that the proposal for railroads in London which were laid before this Parliament, contemplated the use of an amount of space which would equal one quarter part of the entire city! One of these plans proposed to tunnel beneath the Religious Tract Society in Paternoster Row, and even under St. Paul's Cathedral! In one case it fell out that a single piece of property lay in the track of three railroad schemes, and three different surveying parties visited the premises in the same day. A joint Committee of the two Houses of Parliament was raised to consider these projects—a method seldom resorted to—which resulted in throwing out some two-thirds of the proposition at once.

A still more novel and wonderful thing in London, and perhaps the most remarkable affair in town, is the Pneumatic Dispatch, by which mails are forced through a subterranean tube from one district to another, in a very brief space of time. The atmosphere is first churned in a vast reservoir by steam power, and being thus concentrated, is suddenly admitted into the tube, forcing all before it. It is proposed to have the London mails distributed according to the postal sections on the trains as these approach the city, and on arriving, each mail is to be shot through to its place at once. And besides this an experiment is being made at the Crystal Palace grounds of propelling passenger cars by the same principle. Think of being shot through a huge pipe, underground, in two minutes, from the Battery to Harlem! A still greater subterranean enterprise is going on in London in what are called the Intercepting Sewers. You will remember the excitement which occurred in London a few years ago, about the impurities of the river Thames, and how Parliament was almost driven out of St. Stephen's Palace, by the stench of the river, which runs right by the edifice. Immense quantities of the chloride of lime were dumped into the river to sweeten it, and to prevent infection. At that time all the sewers of London poured their contents into the Thames. This of course, could not be endured. To remedy this, three immense intercepting sewers are being constructed on each side of the river, at a depth on the north side of some sixty feet below the pavement, so as to drain all the conducts and cess-pools of the city. These vast arteries are to convey the impurities of the city to a point on the river ten or twenty miles below London. It is intended to have a reservoir in which these drainings can be confined at will, so that they may be let out with the ebbing tide, and be carried quite into the ocean.

These great sewers will require six years to complete, and will cost one hundred millions of dollars. It is easy to see some such plan as this is the only way in which the Thames can ever be made sweet and healthy. But how few would think of this, or appreciate the vastness of the enterprise, as one which promises to be all controlling by and by in making London habitable and healthful.

Hyde Park. I was in Hyde Park the other Saturday between twelve and two o'clock, to see the aristocracy on horseback. It is notable, indeed, that at this time may be seen five hundred ladies and gentlemen, dukes and duchesses, noblemen and their wives and daughters, riding back and forth in a space of a mile long. By the side of this roadway is a promenade where as many fashionable people are gathered on foot, probably less aristocratic. What seems most curious to me is that this spot has but one name in London, and that is “Rotten Row;” or as the cockney calls it, “Wotten Wo.” I have been curious to find out the origin of this most extraordinary name; and the most satisfactory explanation is that it