

also take care that the ventilation of the room is sufficient. Many permanent ills may be traced to neglect during this stage. The seriousness of neglect is seen in the fact that there is a close relationship between physical and moral conditions. Inattention, disobedience, restlessness, and downright badness may frequently find their origin in some physical disorder. The worst disorder of all is that of the nervous system. This may be occasioned by foolish fears, by worry, by monotony, by prolonged exertion.

Intellectual and Emotional Development.—The child continues to manifest sense-hunger. He still has a craze for handling things in order to find out all about them; but he is more discriminating than in early childhood, for he singles out certain objects for special study.

His intellectual hunger or curiosity is no less than it was, but he turns it in new directions. He asks for reasons of things. Fortunately, curiosity may be appeased by an answer that only partly explains. But there is a danger here, too. The child is credulous. If the source of his information is respected, he accepts almost any reason as sufficient. It is easy to fill the mind with wrong ideas of God and His world. Fortunately, intellectual satisfaction is not what a child chiefly demands at this stage. His little soul is *feeling* for an explanation of things, and his real need is to find in the school an attitude of reverence and worship of the unseen Father who explains all.

A dominant characteristic of life at this period is its extreme imaginativeness. Not only does the plaything become invested with life, but in many cases the invisible playmate is the chief companion and comfort. The ideal world constructed by the child is not an arbitrary creation. His ideal people have the attributes of father, mother, and friend. The attributes most admired are goodness, accomplishments, wealth. Personal appearance, bravery, intellectual attainments, are not valued until later on in life. There is a lesson here for teachers in choosing subject matter for their lessons.