

which contained his name, made the child's face pale, and the calm light on her brow cloud over, and take that anxious look which we have noticed every now and then. To his elder sister Mr. Gower was all attention: no lover could have been more devoted, and he is a very fascinating man, Mary, I must confess it. His greeting—for Captain Flamank introduced us—quite won me over; for I will admit, dear, that I shared your prejudices regarding him. Step-brothers, especially where large properties are involved," Miss Fridell continued, "are sometimes hard-hearted; and, though our little one has been so sweetly guarded in never admitting a word against her brother, yet it has been almost impossible not to infer from her very silence that this is no exceptional case."

"And yet it seems incredible. Surely, dear Miss Fridell, if Mr. Gower does not love his little sister, handsome and fascinating though he may be, he is a hard and wicked man."

Miss Fridell rose.

"We are speaking only on surmise, my Mary. Charity exacts that we think no evil."

Mary kissed her friend, and said "Good-bye till evening." She thought within herself that her visit to the Park had expanded that friend's charity to a stretch, for which there was no lawful occasion, at least in her opinion.

(To be continued.)

Ascension Day.

He is gone—a cloud of light
Has received Him from our sight;
High in Heaven, where eyes of men
Follows not nor angels ken,
Through the veils of time and space,
Passed into the Holiest Place;
All the toil, the sorrow done,
All the battle fought and won.

He is gone—toward their goal,
World and Church must onward roll.
Far behind we leave the past,
Forward are our glances cast;
Still His words before us range
Through the ages as they change;
Wheresoe'er the truth shall lead,
He will give us whate'er we need.

Manners in Church.

Have you ever, my dear young friends, read in the Prayer Book the service for the Consecration of a church? It is a very solemn and a very beautiful service.

Nowhere else on earth can be found a service so noble, so purely devout as that of the Prayer Book. It is free alike from the weakness of superstition and from the presumption of irreverence.

It should become not only one of the great duties of our life, but a pleasure also to attend the Church service every Lord's Day, if in our power to do so. If necessary we should make a decided effort for this purpose.

And let us remember, whenever we enter the consecrated walls of God's house, that we should carry with us the spirit of "seriousness, affection, and devotion of mind," that we should pray for "grace to prepare our hearts to serve Thee with reverence and godly fear, with an awful apprehension of Thy Divine Majesty, and a deep sense of our own unworthiness." If we thus carry out with sincerity the teaching of the Consecration service, there will be little danger of unworthy manners in the Lord's house.

We are told that a most admirable lady of the Church of England, recently deceased, who lived to be the saintly mother of a large family of blessed children, seldom entered a church without the glow of a very devout and happy feeling appearing in her face. She was herself entirely unconscious of this beautiful expression. But it was observed by her friends, and mentioned after her death.

If we carry with us in our hearts a strong feeling of true devotion as we enter the doors of a church, there can surely be little danger of an irreverent manner.

Nevertheless, although the spirit may be willing, the flesh is weak. We should, therefore, be humbly watchful against every wandering thought and all carelessness of manner. Let us always follow the holy words of the service with unfailing, earnest attention. Let us make all the responses throughout the service in a truly devout spirit,

speaking the words audibly, but in a low, subdued voice. Think, my dear girls, how beautiful are all the responses in the service of our Church! In the Litany we humbly pray, "Spare us, good Lord;" "Good Lord deliver us;" "We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord;" "Graciously hear us, O Christ; graciously hear us, O Lord Christ." In the Communion service, as the Commandments are proclaimed to us by the clergyman, we very humbly pray, "Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this Law."

Well would it be for us all, my dear young friends, if we offered these prayers with reverent humility, from the depths of our hearts, on every Lord's Day. They would assuredly bring precious blessings upon our lives.

There are two failings common among young girls, two failings against which you should be especially on your guard in the Lord's house. Girls are often curious; perhaps they watch the people coming into church; perhaps they look curiously at those who occupy this seat or that. Leave all idle curiosity at the church door, dear girls.

Love of dress is also a very common weakness among young girls. Be greatly on your guard against this weakness, my dear children. Leave all thoughts of dress behind you when you go to church. Never be absent from the solemn services of the Lord's house because you have no new dress. Beware of studying the fashions in church. Thoughts more high, and holy, and blessed should ever fill heart and mind in the consecrated House of God.—*Girls' Friendly Magazine.*

K.D.C. Pills tone and regulate the bowels.

The South Pacific Islands.

The islands of the South Pacific Ocean are very beautiful. There, flowers of brilliant hue, such as we never see in our changeable climate, trees with magnificent foliage, and birds with gorgeous plumage, abound.

Some of the trees bear delicious fruit. The palm tree, with its bare trunk, grows to a great height, and is surmounted by a beautiful crown of leaves, at the base of which grow the cocoa-nuts. Banana and breadfruit trees are plentiful, and ferns grow abundantly and luxuriantly.

Surrounding the islands is, of course, the sea. After crossing the dangerous breakers of surf which dash against the shore, you get into calm water. Then, as you look from the boat into the clear depths of the sea, you behold beautiful scenes. Rocks of coral of various tints, waving seaweed of glowing colours, shell-fish moving slowly along, bearing their shells of curious and graceful form.

The natives of these islands once were very uncivilized; but of late years, since so many Europeans have visited them, they have become quite clever at bartering the fruits and various products of their islands for things of English manufacture, and they are beginning to know the value of money.

A great many missionaries have been sent out from time to time to try and teach the poor savages about God and the Saviour; but it has been, and is, very uphill work, as their language has first to be studied, and Bibles printed for them; but progress is surely though slowly being made, and in time it is hoped that they will all hear and read in their own tongue the blessed news of the Gospel.

Bilious from Childhood.

Rev. Benjamin Hills, Pugwash, N.S., writes: "In a word I may say that K.D.C. has helped me more than anything else I have ever used. I had been bilious from childhood; for several years had rarely passed a week without a severe attack of bilious colic, with intense pain at the back of the head. These attacks usually followed my Sunday work. Since I began to use the K.D.C., I have scarcely had any return of biliousness and the attacks have been very light. I have had greater freedom from suffering since I began the use of K.D.C. than for years past. I believe that the occasional use of a bottle of K.D.C. will keep me comparatively free from the old trouble. I thank you for calling my attention to K.D.C. Had I tried it long ago it might have saved me years of suffering. I am glad to recommend it to fellow sufferers."

Independent Thinking.

To form the habit of independent thinking it will not suffice to read another man's ideas; but these must be weighed and sifted and tested by an exploration of their premises and consequences. In a word, to read profitably one must read slowly and thoughtfully. From a hastily-perused volume one carries away a vague recollection only of its contents—a gain of no more practical value than the knowledge that in such and such a library may be found such and such a book. Many so-called learned men are helpless when they are away from their book-shelves. Their pretensions would be utterly exploded were they subjected to the test imposed in China on candidates for a literary degree, who are shut up for days together in a cell containing nothing but pen, ink, and paper. It is one thing to know that somebody else knows a thing, and another thing to know it yourself. To know where to look for a thing is not to know it. Only a fact producible at a moment's warning from within the four walls of your skull is veritably your possession; and only a thought which you have struck out for yourself can truthfully be called your own.

Life and Happiness.

There is a capacity in every man and woman though it may often lie latent, to draw happiness from life in its various phases; and his or her entire welfare depends very largely upon the degree to which this power exists. To lose faith in it is to be blown about at the mercy of the winds and the waves of life, and at last to be carried away by its current; but to feel it and exert it is to guide the helm and conquer the storm, and bring the boat successfully into port. The man who does this is not the mere pleasure-seeker.

—The Governors of the Corporation of Queen Anne's bounty, at their annual meeting, made their distribution of surplus funds, in grants to meet benefactions on behalf of poor benefices in England and Wales. They were unable to fully respond to all the applications made to them. The benefactions offered were of the value of £48,879. The benefices approved for augmentation were 150 in number, ranging in value from nil to £200 per annum. The total of grants promised was £35,000.

K.D.C. restores the stomach to healthy action.

—What is a broad, shining river bearing ships on its swelling bosom? Many streams joined. What is a stream whirling round the valley mill-wheel? Many brooks joined. What is a brook gliding along its channel lace-edged with blue forget-me-nots? Many brooklets joined. What is a brooklet singing, as it goes, its little song? Many rills joined. And what is a rill with its strip of dainty verdure down the hillside? Many drops joined. What is a drop then? Let rill, brooklet, brook, river, ocean tell. So I blow my trumpet to the drops, and if they answer the rest will.—*Churchman.*

—A few years ago, in one of the low-lying parts of Surrey, a snipe was picked up dead, with a fresh-water mussel firmly attached to the end of its beak. The valves of the shell had closed on the snipe's beak, and the unfortunate bird was thus held prisoner till it died of starvation. Both bird and shell were preserved as a literal example of the biter being bit.

—"There are but ten precepts of the law of God," says Leighton, "and two of them, so far as concerns the outward organ and vent of sins there forbidden, are bestowed upon the tongue (one in the first table and the other in the second), as though it were ready to fly out both against God and man, if not thus bridled."

—There is nothing like courage in misfortune. Next to faith in God and in his overruling providence, a man's faith in himself is his salvation. It is the secret of all power and success. It makes a man strong as the pillared iron or elastic as the springing steel.