

thing," said his friend. "I should fail, sure, if I did. Saul wanted to be his own master, and failed. Herod did. Judas did. No man is fit for it. 'One is my Master even Christ.' I work under His direction. He is regular, and where He is Master, all goes right."—*Parish Visitor.*

#### HEAVEN.

A little boy was walking in the fields with his mother one day. He looked up to the sky, and said: "Oh, mother, heaven is so far off, I'm afraid I shall never get there!" "My dear," said his mother, "heaven must come to us before we can go to it." He didn't understand what she meant. Then she told him what Jesus said when He was on earth. These were His words: "If any man love me, my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." Jesus is willing to come into your heart. He is standing and knocking for you to let Him in. And when He comes in He brings heaven with Him. He will make a heaven in your heart, if you will let Him come and dwell there. But, if we don't let Him come and dwell in our hearts here, He won't let us go and dwell with Him in heaven hereafter. "Heaven must come to us before we can go to it."

It is quite possible for Christian parents to be so taken up with general and public works of charity that they forget the higher duties of the home-life. The home has the first claim; the Christian training of the children is the highest duty. It is a poor service to the public to speak well from the platform and, at the same time, send out into the public life of a few years hence children untrained for any good.

The family life is the source of that strength to both our Church and national life. The family forms a little world in itself. It furnishes us with the type of all human governments. It is the seat and centre of mighty influences, the root out of which society springs, the secret of a nation's strength. The life of a people will not rise higher than

the level of its homes. It is a clear duty, then, to endeavour to raise the religious life of our people through this mighty power which lies ready at our hand. It is in the home-life that parents are seen as they really are, and it is through the life of the home that the character of children is influenced and developed.

A brilliant Oxford student was giving himself to a missionary society for African service. His tutor remonstrated. "You are going out to die in a year or two. It is madness." The young man—who did die after being on the field only a year—answered: "I think it is with African missions as with the building of a great bridge. You know how many stones have to be buried in the earth, all unseen, to be a foundation. If Christ wants me to be one of the unseen stones, lying in an African grave, I am content; certain as I am that the final result will be a Christian Africa."—*Selected.*

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