

have a child's conscience so educated that he should regard the waste of time as a sin, like dishonesty or untruth. To how many sins, indeed, does it inevitably lead !

Whatever, in short, we may teach or tell our children about their various duties, let us not stop there. Instruction may succeed in forming a good character, but how often does it fall short of it ! We see the well-informed prove inefficient, and the good scholar make an indolent, a wayward, or a passionate and self-willed man. The great evil in the moral world is, that, while we know what is right, we fail to perform it. Knowledge is good, but principle, firmness of purpose, benevolence, and well-doing are immeasurably better. Intelligence is to be desired ; so also, and far beyond it in value, is virtue ; and the only sure link between the understanding and the heart and the life is that which is forged in the fires of early culture. Knowledge is being poured into the mind from a thousand fountains ; — books, conversation, teachers, experience, all life, in one word, are daily adding to its stores. But character is formed by a single process alone. On the quiet grounds of the individual soul, silently and slowly, must this temple of God be erected. Gold, silver, and precious stones are all that may enter into the structure. Blessed is that parent whose child bears the marks of this divine workmanship !

“Train up a child in the way he should go.” How wide is the scope of this precept ! It goes beyond all formal instructions, all set speeches and lectures to the young, and embraces the entire experience of that God-appointed institution, the family. We train our children, let it also be remembered, by the general tone of our own conversation, by the spirit we indulge and the feelings