

tural course of events they must soon do. The untidy, ill-managed home which can be seen any winter day is ample proof of this; but sad to say that is only a small part of the evil.

Now, where lies the blame? who is responsible? Is the public education of the country at fault? Are we trying to educate all up to the same level? Are passing examinations and never-ending promotions held up before the young rather than doing their duty? Is being smart and answering well and getting on, held up before our children rather than the fear of God and the fifth commandment? Or does the fault lie in the home training, and is Bible study ignored both at home and at school? Are heads of families doing *their* duty? We ask in all seriousness a number of questions which can only be answered by the mistress of a house where domestic help is required. Can you blame the girl who has a home for wishing to go there when the day's work is over? Are you making your home as attractive to your maid as it should be? Has she a clean, comfortable room that she can call her own with all necessary appointments? Do you speak freely to her, and ask her about her friends at home? Do you encourage her to confide in you, and tell you of her joys and sorrows? Do you try to make her understand that her presence is necessary to the comfort of the house? Do you expect her to do *all* the work, or only what she can reasonably manage? Do you help her, or see that she is helped? Has she time to sit down a little every day, or only at her meals? Has she nice clean table linen for her own use? Does she know that in ordinary circumstances she will have

an afternoon out every week? Do you invite her to lay aside a part of her earnings every month? Do you encourage her to mend her clothes and show her how to do it? Do you take for granted that she will like to read a little, and see that she has proper books? These are only a few of the points that might be touched, and it frequently happens that one or all of the advantages and privileges named are abused; but as a rule if we were able to answer the questions in the affirmative and set ourselves to devise means to remedy some of the evils a better state of matters would ultimately prevail. Domestic servants will be esteemed and respected and they will learn to respect themselves. Parents of all ranks in life, teachers of all degrees, the Education Department and those in authority must work together, and when all is done it may take a generation or two to effect a change. But it will come.

And now let us repeat, our sons must not become effeminate and seek for sheltered, easy work; let them strike out and aim at what is manly and honourable. Let it never be said that they are crowded out by girls. The employments suitable to both are in the main essentially different. Let a large number of our daughters be encouraged to stay at home and help their mothers. For those who must earn money, and who are educated with that end in view, let proper provision be made to secure good work under suitable surroundings and conditions. Let all the members of the community strive to make domestic service honourable, inviting and desirable. "Let us look not every man on his own things, but also on the things of others."