

Put Yourself in His Place

Heart qualities are the saving elements in a man's character. And the qualities of the heart ought to be cultivated. We ought to train ourselves to lean toward the tender side of things. Nothing will so lift a man in the estimation of his fellowmen as for humanity to discover that with increasing success and added wealth a man is disposed to be considerate, kind and tender. Some years ago the eminent John Stuart Blackie became professor of Greek in the University of Edinburgh. At the opening of a college term, the students noticed that, under the pressure of cares and labors, their hot-tempered professor had become unusually sensitive and exacting. Students desiring admission were arranged in line before his desk for examination. "Show your papers," said the professor. As they obeyed, one lad awkwardly held up his papers in his left hand. "Hold them up properly, sir, in your right hand," said the professor. The embarrassed pupil stammered out something indistinctly, but still kept his left hand raised. "The right hand, ye loon!" shouted the professor. "Sir, I hae nae right hand," said the agitated lad, holding up his right arm, which ended at the wrist. A storm of indignant hisses burst from the boys, but the great man leaped down from the platform, flung his arm over the boy's shoulder, and drew him to his breast, and, breaking into the broad Scotch of his childhood, in a voice soft with emotion, yet audible in the hush that had fallen on the class, said: "Eh, laddie, forgive me that I was over-rough; I dinna mean to hurt you, lad. I dinna ken!"