

felons going to prison under the charge of an unfeeling jailor, than of open-hearted innocent beings, breathing an atmosphere of love and affection, and rejoicing in the spring-day of existence. The young woman herself presented nothing unusually harsh in her appearance, or indicative of want of intelligence, and I truly believe would have been grieved could she have formed a conception of the moral tumult of outraged justice, affection, and love of esteem, which she had raised in the minds of her charge. In her ignorance, she never imagined that the harshness and resentment which she displayed were direct stimulants to the lower passions of the children. Her object was evidently to prevent the repetition of such an accident from carelessness; but how differently would she have endeavoured to accomplish her end had she known any thing of the mental constitution of the young, or been herself subjected to right moral training!

Another important principle which requires to be borne in mind in the moral and intellectual management of infancy, is to give due exercise to all the faculties, and not to cultivate any to excess, while others are allowed to languish from inactivity. This caution is the more necessary, because the error is one very frequently committed; and I have no hesitation in saying, that if the moral faculties were as assiduously called into exercise in infancy as the feelings of vanity, self-esteem, cautiousness, cunning, imitation, and the love of novelty, there would be a much more rapid advance in the morality of mankind than we are likely to witness for some time to come. In infancy, the moral feelings respond readily to any call made upon them; and if children were not so habitually perplexed by the contrast between the precepts and conduct of those around them, these feelings would become daily more influential with them, and at last gain paramount authority over their actions in all ordinary circumstances.

It is of much importance to begin the moral training of the young by the appropriate exercise of the different feelings and emotions from their earliest dawn; and not to allow any of the propensities to gain an undue ascendancy by habitual indulgence, while the moral feelings which should regulate it become weakened from inactivity. We know well from experience how susceptible the infant is of both physical and mental impressions; and we ought, consequently, to be only the more careful about the nature of those made upon its moral faculties. We have seen how certainly the eye or ear may be cultivated, by reiterated exercise, to the nicest, quickest, and most accurate perception; or enfeebled and blunted by inaction. Precisely the same principle applies to the feelings, affections, and intellectual powers, all of which are subjected to the same rule, and may be modified in strength, rapidity, and precision of action, by habitual use or disuse.

The very restlessness and impatience of the infant, when we attempt to fix it for a length of time to one train of feeling or perception, are themselves proofs of the necessity of varied action and employment, to give due scope and exercise to its numerous powers and feelings. Even so early as the fifth or sixth month, the child, when awake, is always looking, listening, feeling, moving, and giving expression on its ever changing features to some variety or other of mental emotion. At one moment it is the sense of affectionate recognition on the entrance of its mother; at another, it is the playful enjoyment of muscular motion in its limbs; at a third, it is the delighted wonder of gratified curiosity, arising from the handling or tasting of some new object; at a fourth, it is peevish dissatisfaction at being thwarted in some wish; at a fifth, it is gratified affection, roused by the unexpected appearance of a little brother or sister; or lastly, it may be the fear of some unpossessing stranger, from whose approach it shrinks in alarm. True, it cannot express its feelings in words, and thus prove the rapidity of their succession to the uninterested or unobtrusive bystander; but to the intelligent mother every emotion is as perceptible as if uttered in the plainest language. And if it be granted that such really is the variety of active feelings in the infant mind, can any one, after a moment's consideration, maintain that the right or wrong direction of these feelings, or the means by which a right direction may be most certainly given, is a matter of little importance to the future happiness of either mother or child? It ought, therefore, never to be forgotten, that the due exercise of the moral and other feelings upon their appropriate objects is as indispensable to their development and strength as exercise of the intellectual powers is to intellectual proficiency; and

no opportunity, in the ordinary course and circumstances of social life, should be lost of turning this principle to account in the formation of infant character.

LATEST NEWS.

Some of the particulars of the late war of revenge, in Afghanistan, are beginning to transpire; and we need scarcely add, that such statements as the following, respecting the destruction of I-stalif, are exciting strong feelings of horror and disgust in Britain.

"I directed the town," says Gen. Macskill, "to be set on fire in several places; and the work of demolition is still proceeding under the direction of Major Sanders, of the Engineers." "For two days," says an eye-witness,—who speaks with enthusiasm of the attack "as the most dashing affair done this campaign,"—"For two days the place was given up to fire and sword, . . . of the plunder, from its bulkiness, only a small part could be brought away—all the rest was burnt. NOT A MAN WAS SPARED WHETHER WITH OR WITHOUT ARMS; NOT A PRISONER TAKEN; HUNTED DOWN LIKE VERMIN—MERCY WAS NEVER DREAMT OF. Verily we have been avenged."

Another eye-witness says:—"Our troops having fully completed the work of retribution they were set to perform, and left behind them MEMORIALS OF OUR VENGEANCE, ALL BUT IMPERISHABLE, have now been finally withdrawn from the Afghan territories, Ghuznee, Cabul, I-stalif, and Jellalabad, have shared a common doom—HAVOC AND DESOLATION HAVE MARKED THE PATH OF OUR CONQUERING ARMIES, AND AS FELL / REVENGE HAS BEEN INFLICTED ON OUR FOES AS THE WARMEST ADVOCATE OF RETALIATION COULD DESIRE.

"While the destruction of I-stalif and the fortifications were going on, THE SOLDIERY SEEM TO HAVE BEEN LEFT, UNCONTROLLED, TO THE EXERCISE OF THEIR WORST PASSIONS; and the wretched inhabitants driven from place to place, were BUTCHERED WITHOUT MERCY; ARMED AND UNARMED, GUILTY AND INNOCENT, ALIKE FELL BENEATH THE SWORD OF THE RELENTLESS VICTOR."—*Edinburgh Chronicle.*

ANTI-CORN LAW LEAGUE.—By the railways, some scores of men issue from and return to Manchester, day after day, over hundreds of miles of country to address public meetings. By the penny post, several thousands of letters are daily sent and received, which, without it, would never have been written. By the printing press tracts are being distributed to each elector in the kingdom, at the rate of *three tons and a half weekly*, the whole forming an amount of moral power moving from one centre, that never before existed in the world—that was never before dreamed of as possible to exist.—*H.*

A committee of the House of commons, in the year 1836, in inquiring into the cause of shipwrecks, ascribed a large porportion of them to the practice of drunkenness among the officers and crew, and much evidence was adduced to prove that numbers of lives and an immense amount of property were annually lost from this cause alone. Besides this, it was also proved that the Americans were getting a superiority of the carrying trade, principally from adopting the temperance principle, the practice of which was rewarded by the American Marine Insurance Companies on the return voyages. At Liverpool and Newcastle the same principle is fast growing into use, and some of the chief merchants and ship-owners, who tried it partially, have now adopted it wholly. Whatever may be said of "Tee-totallers" on land, it is quite clear that "Tee-totallers" at sea must gradually conduce to the safety of vessels. With this view, a new Marine Insurance Company, under the name of "The Temperance and General Marine Insurance Company," is about being ushered to public notice under high patronage, making returns on premiums after safe voyages, and granting prizes to captains after a certain number of years.—*Greenock Advertiser.*

NEWS FROM SIR J. ROSS.—Intelligence has just been received by Lieutenant M-Murdough, of the Terror, from Captain Sir J. Ross, who has, it appears, penetrated the Antarctic Circle to 71 40. He has surveyed the coast discovered by him along its western boundary, and has proceeded to do the same along the eastern line.—*Falmouth Packet.*

It is said that the Chinese lost in their late difficulty with England, about fifteen thousand men, as many hundred pieces of cannon, and nearly her entire navy.—*English Paper.*