

The Twilight Hour.

(By Mary Morison, in 'Mother's Magazine.')

An easy chair, a lamp turned low,
A waiting crib all soft and warm,
Two folding arms which closely clasp
A little tender, clinging form.
A crooning song breathed soft and low
Above a tangled, curly crown,
Two sweet eyes filled with drifting dreams
O'er which the lids droop stowly down.

Below a night-robe's snowy folds
Two little dimpled, tired feet,
Two rosy lips that drift apart
With every breath, all slumber sweet.
The song is hushed, the singer's lips
Caress the brow so baby fair
That nestles close beside her breast,
And murmur low a mother's prayer.

A Mother's Influence.

A mother's influence in my opinion is somewhat limited by her environments. A godless husband doubtless has a very adverse influence on the children and even casts a shade of disrespect for mother's government. They regard father as the head of the family and boys especially regard their father as their pattern in most things, and as the result of such logic it is not in mother's power to entirely counteract it, and yet the very centre of our Christian civilization is the home and the centre of the home is the mother. Then her responsibility entirely turns upon her faith in God, not only in being able to secure divine aid in bringing up her children, but through him of reaching her husband as well. The greatest sermons are not preached on celebrated platforms; they are preached in the quiet home by a consecrated Christian mother's daily life. If mothers are to see their children saved and grow up to be Christian men and women the best and safest way is to commence at the very beginning. The Bible tells us, 'Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.' It would be well for mothers as they look upon their little ones to think those little hands would yet be raised to bless the world with its benediction or smite it with a curse and their example will have a great influence as to which it shall be, 'For as the sowing so is the reaping.' Should parents remain unsaved until children are grown the great opportunity of their life may be flown. The seeds of irreligion sown in the young take precedence.—Mrs. Sarah A. Stone.

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Let us Take Time.

Let us take time for the good-by kiss. We shall go to the day's work with a sweeter spirit for it.

Let us take time for the evening prayer. Our sleep will be more restful if we have claimed the guardianship of God.

Let us take time to speak sweet, 'foolish' words to those we love. By and by, when they can no longer hear us, our 'foolishness' will seem more wise than our best wisdom.

Let us take time to read the Bible. Its treasures will last when we have ceased to care for the war of political parties and fall of stocks, or the petty happenings of the day.

Let us take time to be pleasant. The small courtesies, which we often omit because they are small, will some day look larger to us than the wealth which we covet or the fame for which we struggled.

Since we all must take time to die, why should we not take time to live—to live in the large sense of a life begun here for eternity?

Let us take time to get acquainted with our families. The wealth you are accumulating,

burdened father, busy mother, can never be a home to the daughter whom you have no time to caress.

Let us take time to get acquainted with Christ. The hour is coming swiftly for us all when one touch of His hand in the darkness will mean more than all that is written in the daybook and ledger, or in the records of our little social world.—Pittsburg Advocate.

Two Pictures.

(By Mary Wood-Allen, in the 'American Mother.')

No. 1.

A little fellow just learning to walk, stumbles and hurts his head against a chair. Mamma runs and picks him up, exclaiming, 'Naughty chair to hurt baby! We will whip the chair;' and so the mind of the child is diverted from his own pain, and filled with the idea of inflicting pain upon something else in retaliation. This plan is followed in regard to everything with which the child comes into unpleasant contact; and following up the course of reasoning thus suggested, he soon comes to strike people and to be filled with the spirit of retaliation.

No. 11.

A little fellow just learning to walk stumbles and hurts his head against a chair. Mamma runs and picks him up, exclaiming cheerfully, 'That did not hurt baby! Didn't it hurt the chair? Poor chair! You must pet the chair, and love it.' So baby is taught to express sympathy with the chair, table, or other inanimate object with which he comes into

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unpleasant contact. Little by little he learns to express the same feeling in regard to individuals, and instead of instinctively retaliating when he is hurt, he begins to manifest a sympathetic interest in the person or thing through which the hurt has come; and many a quarrel with other children is averted because of the loving disposition manifested, and the child grows up with a sweetness of temper that makes him remarkable.

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THE 'NORTHERN MESSENGER' is printed and published every week at the 'Witness' Building, at the corner of Craig and St. Peter streets, in the city of Montreal, by John Redpath Dougall and Frederick Eugene Dougall, both of Montreal.

All business communications should be addressed 'John Dougall & Son,' and all letters to the editor should be addressed Editor of the 'Northern Messenger.'