

taken up by others that he seemed to get no opportunity to make known his burden. He could speak to God, however, and this he did. He just laid his burden on the Lord, committed his way unto Him who guides the stars and feeds the sparrows. And while he prayed, a merchant in a distant city was busily thinking what he should do to secure the proper person for a certain position of trust that needed filling. He bethought him of the young man whose need was being laid upon God hundreds of miles away. The merchant resolved to write him a letter and learn whether his services could be secured. The letter came next day. Surely an answer to prayer! At least it brought cheer to the heart of the praying one. And yet the prospective arrangement was never made, "God having provided some better thing." Another door opened and Divine guidance was seen in it all. And the young man, relating the incident, says: "I learned then to believe with more heartiness and simplicity than ever before that God concerned Himself about me. When He leads me to pray He may be preparing the answer many miles away." A happy heart is that which can thus trust, and why may not the Christian heart so trust, since the word on which we lean is Divine?—*N. Y. Witness.*

It has been common to give little children their first idea of God as the being who made the world and all things in it. This places God afar off in the dim past to them, and makes it harder for them to realize his constant presence and protection than it would be had they never heard of God as a Creator. Suppose that, instead of this, they learned to think more of God as ever present in nature; as constantly working in the rising and setting of the sun, in the growing of plants and trees, in the unfolding and coloring of the flowers, and in all the phases of sky and weather. Becoming thus accustomed to think of him as always present, and working wherever the processes of nature are going on, it seems but an easy and natural step to think of the Lord's care being extended over themselves and over their friends wherever they may be.

It was so this little girl was taught; and she learned to think of each new leaf and blossom as a fresh work of God. And, when she grew older, each new morning, with its dewy freshness and song of birds, and each golden and crimson sunset, were new creations of his ever-active presence. Then it required no undue tax upon her credulity to say, "If the Lord is doing so much all the time and everywhere for flower and bird and sky, he will surely care for us, wherever we may be."—*S. S. Times.*

"I'm a big man. I ain't a ~~big~~; I'm a man." It is a little boy who says that—as everybody would understand. And the little boy says it, not because he is sure that it is true, but because he is in doubt at the very point of his bragging, and he wants to convince himself, even if he is unable to convince anybody else, that there is more truth in his brag than there seems to be. And just that which is the basis of that little boy's bragging is at the bottom of all bragging everywhere. It is doubt, not confidence, that is disclosed in the strongest words of boastfulness.—*S. S. Times.*

LET no boy think he can make a gentleman by the clothes he wears, the horse he rides, the stick he carries, the dog that trots after him, the house he lives in, or the money he spends—and yet every boy may be a gentleman. But how? By being true, manly and honorable. By keeping himself neat and respectable. By being civil and courteous. By respecting himself and others. By doing the best he knows how. And finally, and above all, by fearing God and keeping his commandments.

It was the wife of President Madison who said to a young woman of her acquaintance, "Give your appearance careful and serious thought in your dressing room, and forget it elsewhere."

OUR finest adventures are our thoughts; and in my own experience I estimate among my keenest delights visions of great truth, enthusiasms for great principles, and admirations of men nobler than myself.

HEAVEN be thanked that when I found I had trusted men too much and credited them with more good than was in them, I did not try to mend the matter by distrusting the rest of the world and disbelieving in all goodness.

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