

lesson on clean hands could hardly have been well given if it did not extend to ears—and evidently it had not extended thus far. So with the passive arbitrarily enforced obedience, which is dependent upon the teacher's will at the moment, and is not determined by underlying principle. How much better the appeal—"Come children, let us take care of our lips, that we may not interrupt Jimmy's reading," than "The next child who whispers must have his name upon the board and stay ten minutes after school." Do not dream that the necessary order and quiet come less surely for the first than for the second. Obedience to the one is far better assured than to the other.

But under the first regime the child learns self rule; under the second he is fettered by a bond which is meaningless and unreasonable to him. He rebels or disobeys or cheats. What gain if the room is quiet at such a price? And is it strange that the same teacher finds it necessary to repeat the same command, *ad infinitum*, until with "The next boy who whispers" are enrolled "The next boy who makes a noise with his feet," "The next boy who leaves his seat without permission," "The next boy who drops his slate"? Like little Helen, not knowing the reason for the restriction, they infer that the law holds only in regard to the part mentioned, and assume until due notice is given, that they will not be "sent home for ears." The other fashion of direction at once defines a principle of action, in accordance with which the children can govern themselves, restless feet, heavy slates, unsteady hands and impatient lips, for the sake of their loved teacher or their little school-mate.

"Then would you have no implicit obedience without question?" some one asks in surprise. Yes, I would have implicit obedience without question, gladly rendered, too, but it would be won through the confidence which is only inspired by reasonable and reasoning direction. The child learns to trust his father's judgment not because the father tells him that he is wise, but by his own observation that he is so. When he has responded many times to the reasonable requests which his father has made he is ready to believe that the new command is reasonable even if his father says "I cannot tell you why now, but I know it is best." But such willing, trustful obedience follows wise direction and not arbitrary authority. Nor can it be made to flourish in other soil, though its counterfeit is often accepted in its stead.

"Then would you never tell children they must do anything?" Yes, with an inner, not an outer *must*. Awaken them to the