

**A Helping Hand.**

It was only a helping hand,  
 And it seemed of little availing,  
 But its clasp was warm,  
 And it saved from harm  
 A sister whose strength was failing  
 Its touch was tender as angel's wings,  
 But it rolled the stone from the hidden  
 springs,  
 And pointed the way to higher things,  
 Though it seemed of little availing.

A smile, a word, or a touch,  
 And each is easily given,  
 That one may win  
 A soul from sin,  
 Or smooth the way to heaven.  
 A smile may lighten the failing heart,  
 A word may soften pain's keenest smart,  
 A touch may lead us from sin apart.  
 How easily each is given!

—'Leader.'

**Learn to Say Yes.**

'Learn to say no,' is an old axiom, yet, while we acknowledge its value, we feel sometimes as if some parents needed a paraphrase which should read, 'Learn to say yes.'

For it is a real duty to say yes to many of the requests of children, even if the saying of it involves some trouble.

Remember your own childhood, dear readers, and let your children have the pleasure of doing many things which seem foolish to you now, but which to them are very captivating. Of course, we are not advocating foolish or hurtful indulgences, or a weak yielding to importunities. But we all know—we who have little ones—what pleases them, and when they plead for some harmless diversion, or some new occupation, let us say yes, even if our soberer common sense sees no particular charm in their choice.

So long as childish pleasures are innocent, we must not ask that they shall be always sensible, according to our definition of sense. So don't be too ready with denial.—'Christian Globe.'

**Let the Child Help.**

The wise mother will place some responsibility upon every child as soon as old enough to understand how necessary it is that all share the work and care of the home who share its comfort. It is easier to teach them this when the mind is undeveloped and most impressionable, when mother's word is their law, than to wait until they have become careless and willful, and their own individuality begins to develop and assert itself. To guide that development rightly is every thoughtful

mother's aim. Begin with the toddling baby to teach habits of neatness and order and self-help, by requiring him to pick up and put away his playthings, and to wait on himself in every way possible. Very little children delight to run on small errands for their elders about the house, if rewarded by appreciative words and kisses, and the habit of helping in the home may be thus easily taught and acquired and prove a great blessing to both mother and child.—Selected.

**Must be Cultivated.**

While unselfishness is the foundation of good manners, which are but the outward expression of one's inner nature, there are certain social rules which must be observed in

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addition to the effort to please if one would really have good manners. From the very beginning, therefore, children should be taught to observe all social rules in addition to the cultivation of respect for old age and of unselfishness in intercourse with others. The best of anything never comes naturally, but must be striven for. The secret of good manners is the desire for them.—'Church Progress.'

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