

inclination, at times to lay aside the paper he fain would peruse, yet if he gains less understanding of the far off outside world, he will gain more of his own family, of the children that gather around his own table; he will come to know more of the bent of their inclinations and their mental capacity, of their intellectual and moral needs.

This understanding can be gained but by partaking of and enjoying with them their readings, their amusements and their sports, bearing in mind that in this respect as well as in another, that though the child may not come to the parent, the parent may go to the child; and that in thus stooping wisely to the capacity of the child, the parent holds in his hand a lever powerful to raise the child up to a higher level.

It were well for the family upon appointed evenings to form a home reading circle, each being expected to contribute his or her portion, the mother also partaking, although to do so she must needs leave some garment still unrepaired, or some household decoration yet longer uncompleted. The salutary influence of such evenings will endure, and be sweetly remembered long after the tattered garment has been laid aside, and the unadorned walls and the uncarpeted floors have passed from recollection.

This is written with a full recognition of the powerful influence material surroundings, whether cheerful or gloomy, have upon the mind and character, yet with the belief that the influence of social surroundings is greater. Those literary home circles, the enjoyment and benefits of which are shared by all, may become strong family bonds, contributing largely to the constituting of a true home, numbered among the homes from which may go forth such noble types of manhood and womanhood as shall become the salt of the earth—a true home of which it may be said:

"Here woman reigns; the mother, daughter, wife,
Sow with fresh flowers the narrow way of life.

In the clear heaven of her delightful eye,
An angel guard of loves and graces lie.
Here man, creation's tyrant, casts aside
The sword, the sceptre, pageantry and pride,
While in his softened looks benignly blend
The sire, the son, the husband, brother,
friend."

"HOW SHALL WE BEST RETAIN OUR YOUNG MEMBERS IN THE SOCIETY?"

This question implies that it will be beneficial to our young people to remain in society and maintain it, and that there is some object in thus maintaining it, some good work for it to do. Now what is that good work?

There are those, even among friends, who claim that our mission as a religious society has been accomplished, and that the principles which friends have held up to the world are so far accepted by the Christian churches, that although their creeds remain unchanged, yet their teachings are quakened. Read the following extract from a recent sermon by C. H. Spurgeon, of England:

"Behold he cometh with clouds and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him.' I gather from this expression, first, that it will be a literal appearing, and an actual sight. If the second advent was to be a spiritual manifestation to be perceived by the minds of men, the phraseology would be 'Every man shall perceive Him.' But it is not so; we read 'Every eye shall see Him.' Now the mind can behold the spiritual, but the eye can see only that which is distinctly material and visible. The Lord Jesus Christ will not come spiritually, for in that sense he is always here; but he will come really and substantially, for every eye shall see him, even those unspiritual eyes which gazed on Him with hate and pierced Him. The Lord Jesus shall come to earth a second time as literally as He has come a first time. The same Christ who ate a piece of boiled