

The chief ordered his clothes to be ripped open, and the money was found.

"And how came you to tell this?"

"Because," replied the boy, "I would not be false to my mother, whom I solemnly promised never to tell a lie."

"Child," said the chief, "art thou so mindful of thy duty to thy mother, and I am insensible, at my age, of the duty I owe to God? Give me thy hand, that I may swear repentance on it." He did so, and his followers were struck with the scene.

"You have been our leader in guilt," they said to the chief; "be the same in the paths of virtue." And taking the boy's hand they took the oath of repentance on it.

#### WHY?

How many little people have the habit of asking when they are told to do a thing "Why?" or "What for?" instead of doing it on the moment and without any question. I don't wonder that parents get out of patience sometimes. The other day I was watching a regiment of soldiers on parade; each company marched along shoulder to shoulder with head erect and firm tread, but when the command was given to "Halt!" they stood still instantly as one man, and when the captain said "Advance!" they moved forward promptly.

Now, my dears, what kind of parade would it have been if these soldiers had waited to ask "Why?" or "What for?" when the orders were given—and what would have been the result of our late war do you suppose, if a general's order had been thus questioned? Prompt and ready obedience is the principal thing among soldiers, and although they may not understand why they are told to do this or that, they are aware that those who give the command know, and that is enough—their place is to obey.

So it should be with you children, it is this kind of obedience that your parents require, and that pleases God. You remember what the fifth commandment says about "honoring thy father and thy mother," and there is no better or surer

way of proving that you honor them than by perfect obedience. If, therefore, any of you have formed the habit of tardy obedience, drop it now before it becomes second nature.

#### ON A FAST TRAIN.

A young man of respectable parentage, who was recently manager of one of our local companies, was recently brought to the police station in a raving condition, suffering from delirium tremens. He had been on a "spree" for some time, and this morning, whilst quaffing the rosy, hideous madness swooped down upon him, and transformed his manly young limbs into a picture of one possessed of a devil. The unhappy youth, when in his senses, is one of the sweetest tempered, most gentle, most winning and delightful companions. As a business man he was regarded with the greatest confidence. Yet through yielding to the seductions of saloon friendship, strong as he felt himself, he was quickly overpowered, and is now fast becoming a mere wreck. It was truly said by a pitying policeman, as the poor fellow was brought in, "There goes one of fifty of our best youths who are all bound by fast trains to the devil."—*Chicago Times.*

#### "SUFFER LITTLE CHILDREN."

A little girl had learned the verse, "Suffer the little children to come unto Me," to repeat at a meeting. She stepped on the platform and began: "Suffer"—it was her first attempt at public recitation. She was frightened, and stopped for a moment, then courageously began again: "Suffer little"—again her fear overcame her, but being a resolute little one, she made a third attempt, and said, "Suffer little children."

The third time she looked with dismay at the upturned faces, and stopped. With a last grand effort she repeated, not exactly the verse, but these words: "Jesus wants us all to come to Him; and don't anybody try to stop us." Which was better, to repeat the exact words, or to have their meaning burned into her little heart?