

I called her and gave her a talking to; she promised to do better. The next thing was a complaint that she read a book while waiting on the table. Being taken to task for that, she said she thought it was rude to look at people while they were eating. On seeing that we, though not Japanese, knew something of their customs and politenesses, she again promised obedient, willing service, knowing that a failure to do what was wanted of her would end in being returned home. Later in the same day she came to me to say she would do everything she could to please, and confessed that she knew she had done wrong. This promise she has faithfully kept. This morning there has come a request from another home to take a girl of thirteen in. Our work seven years ago was among the rich, and we were thankful that it was so, for we were enabled to reach a far greater number than we could have among any other class; now these have left us almost altogether, and those who seven years ago we could not have come near without paying them for hearing, are coming to us, willing to work for what we can give them.

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We have been going through a succession of experiences that tell on one's nervous forces. Three weeks ago we were in danger of being burned out, awakening in the middle of the night to see a fire raging not three blocks from us, and the wind blowing full upon us. Before it changed, which it did after a time, we had commenced to gather together those things that we felt the most necessary to save. Since that night fires have been daily and nightly occurrences, the work of incendiaries. All around us fires have been lighted, some not being extinguished until from fifty to five or six hundred houses were burned. We have had to employ a watchman to patrol our place from the time that darkness drops until daylight. He carries a couple of sticks about a