

mission you with a message, to amuse yourself, is it not taking something that does not belong to you?

'Yes, sir, but indeed I did not think of it before, Ned answered.

'I know you did not, my boy, but now that your attention has been called to it, you can see that it is really stealing, as much as if you took something else that did not belong to you. I have spoken to you about it, partly because I knew you meant to be honest and trustworthy, and would not do this again if you thought of the dishonesty of it, and partly because you were so swift to condemn Harry, and would not even welcome him to the class while a suspicion of dishonesty clung to him. We must not be too hasty to condemn others, unless we are sure that we are free from all occasion for blame ourselves.

'I never thought that I could possibly be accused of dishonesty, said Ned slowly, 'but I can see now that I have often broken the eighth commandment in that way. You will never see me stopping to play again, Mr. Davis.

'That is a good resolution, but remember that even if no human eyes sees you, there is One Who knows all our actions, and it is to Him that we stand or fall, said his teacher as they parted at the corner of the street that led to Ned's home.

Ned did not forget his resolve, and after this, when he was tempted to blame any one else for wrong doing, he was more charitable, lest he should discover the same fault in himself. — *Minnie E. Kenney, in The Young Churchman.*

Theodore Monod once made use of this beautiful illustration: He said: 'If a piece of iron could speak, what would it say, 'I am black, I am cold, I am hard.' Perfectly true. Put that piece of iron into the furnace and wait awhile, and what would it say? 'The blackness is gone, the coldness is gone, the hardness is gone,—it has passed into new experience. But if that piece could speak, surely it would not glory in itself, because the fire and iron are two distinct things that remain distinct to the last. If it could glory, it would glory in the fire and not in itself—in the fire that kept it a bright, molten mass. So in myself I am black, I am cold, and I am hard, but if the Lord take possession of my soul, if I am filled with love, if His Spirit fills my being, the blackness will go, and the coldness will go, and the hardness will go, and the glory does not belong to me, but to the Lord, who keeps me in a sense of His love.'

Every duty, even the least duty, involves the whole principle of obedience. And little duties make the will dutiful; that is, supple and prompt to obey. Little obediences lead into great. The daily round of duty is full of probation and discipline; it trains the will, heart and conscience. We need not to be prophets or apostles. The commonest life may be full of perfect-

tion. The duties of home are a discipline for the ministries of heaven.—*H. E. Manning.*

That cleanliness is a virtue next to that of Godliness science is constantly making clearer and clearer. The improved health, vigor and intellectuality and the reduced mortality among soldiers and pupils in the public schools in Europe from the system introduced for frequent and regular bathing by all the soldiers and pupils is now a fact well known. Since the use of the machinery for cheap washing with tepid water the death rate of the German army has been brought down to 5 per 1,000, and it is proved that they have been largely exempted from the recent epidemic, whilst the death-rate in the home army of Great Britain is about 8 in a 1,000. The cost of washing 100 men with tepid water in Germany, is about 6d.; an advance has been made in England by Mr. W. Bartholomew, who with his improved jets, up as well as down, can more effectually wash the same number of men for probably not more than 4d. In France they are beginning to try this washing with tepid water on soldiers, and it is shown that it may be done in 5 minutes of time as against 20 in the bath, and with five gallons of water as against 60 and 70 gallons in the bath. This is accomplished at the cost of a centime per head, soap and towel included.

The secret of success in life is to keep busy, to be persevering, patient, and untiring, in the pursuit or calling you are following. The busy ones may now and then make mistakes, but it is better to risk these than to be idle and inactive. Keep doing, whether it be at work or seeking recreation. Motion is life, and the busiest are the happiest. Cheerful, active labor is a blessing. An old philosopher says: 'The firefly only shines when on wing; so it is with the mind: when once we rest, we darken.'

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Are you in trouble? Do all your dearest plans seem to be ending in ruin to all your hopes? Who of us have not been there? Christ has been there to! Now is the time to look up and trust Him who has

said, 'I will never leave thee nor forsake thee.' That light is brightest which breaks in on great darkness.



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