

a poor bookseller in Lichfield, England.

On market days he used to carry a package of books to the village of Uttoxeter, and sell them from a stall in the market-place. One day the bookseller was sick and asked his son to go and sell the books in his place. Samuel, from a silly pride, refused to obey.

Fifty years afterward Johnson became the celebrated author, the compiler of "English Dictionary" and one of the most distinguished scholars in England; but he never forgot his act of unkindness to his poor, hard toiling father; so when he visited Uttoxeter he determined to show his sorrow and repentance.

He went into the market place at the time of business, uncovered his head, and stood there for an hour in a pouring rain, on the very spot where the bookstall used to stand. "This" he says "was an act of contrition for my disobedience to my kind father."

The spectacle of the great Dr. Johnson standing bareheaded in the storm, to atone for the wrong done by him fifty years before, it is a grand and touching one. There is a representation of it (in marble) on the Doctor's monument.

Many a man in after-life has felt something sadder and heavier than a storm of rain beating upon his heart, when he remembered his act of unkindness to a good father or mother now in their graves.

Dr John Todd, of Pittsfield, the eminent writer, never could forget how, when his old father was very sick, and sent him away for medicine he (a little lad) had been unwilling to go, and made up a lie that "the druggist had not got any such medicine."

The old man was just dying when little Johnny came in and said to him, "My boy, your father suffers great pain from want of that medicine."

Johnny started in great distress for the medicine, but it was too late. The father, on his return, was almost gone. He could only say to the weeping boy, "Love God and always speak the truth, for the eye of God is always upon you. Now kiss me once more and farewell."

Through all his after life Dr. Todd often had a heartache over that act of falsehood and disobedience to his dying father. It takes more than a shower to wash away such sins. Dr. Todd repented of that sin a thousand times.

The words "Honour thy father and thy mother" mean four things—always do what they bid you, always tell them the truth, always treat them lovingly, and

take care of them when they are sick or grown old. I never yet knew a boy who trampled on the wishes of his parents who turned out well. God never blesses a wilfully disobedient son.

When Washington was sixteen years old he determined to leave home and be a midshipman in the Colonial navy.

After he had sent off his trunk he went to bid his mother good-bye. She wept so bitterly because he was going away that he said to his negro servant, "Bring back my trunk; I am not going to make my mother suffer so by my leaving her."

He remained at home to please his mother. This decision led to his becoming a surveyor, and afterwards a soldier.

His whole glorious career in life turned on this one simple act of trying to make his mother happy. And happy, too, will be the child who never has occasion to shed bitter tears for any act of unkindness to his parents. Let us not forget that God has said: Honour thy father and thy mother.—*Dr. T. L. Cuyler.*

THREE PHASES.

A friend of ours once offered as an excuse for not being prominent in social religious services that he had never been blessed with a talent in that direction. Said he:—"I think there are three phases of the Christian religion. There is a religion of the head, one of the heart, and one of the pocket. I think I know what the first is and hope that I have some of the second, but I am quite sure I have some of the last. And now, brethren," said he, "if you have any bills to pay I will prove it when you call on me."

We have great faith in each and do not propose to determine their relative value.

The world will never be brought to Christ without a good deal of manifestation of what can be done by them combined. We doubt not some will get to Heaven with much more of some one of these than of others. To "deal justly, love mercy and walk humbly with God" is as much characteristic of Bible living as it was thousands of years ago.—*Exponent.*

Not long ago 1300 copies of the Bible were burned in the custom house Madrid by order of the Spanish Government, and the Romanism of these Maritime Provinces. Had Rome the power, our Bibles would be burned.