

CHAPTER III

OUR BOYS---THE FATHERS OF THE NEXT GENERATION

ALTHOUGH this book is intended mostly for maidens, wives and mothers, yet there is nothing that greater interests us all than the subject of manhood, and a few words as to their peculiar tendencies will not be amiss. Every mother, whether she be rich or poor, old or young, educated or ignorant, is anxious that her son grow up in the path of purity, love and honor. "As the child, so is the man," is as true to-day as of old.

How grand is the boy who has kept himself undefiled! His complexion clear, his muscles firm, his movements vigorous, his manner frank, his courage undaunted, his brain active, his will firm, his self-control perfect, his body and mind unfolding day by day. His life should be one song of praise and thanksgiving.

If you want your boy to be such a one, train him, my dear woman, to-day, and his to-morrow will take care of itself.

Think you that good seed sown will bring forth bitter fruit? A thousand times, No! As we sow, so shall we reap. Train your boys in morality, temperance and virtue. Teach them to embrace good and shun evil. Teach them the true from the false; the light from the dark. Teach them that when they take a thing that is not their own, they commit a sin. Teach them that sin means disobedience of God's laws of every kind.

Teach them, too, that when God formed the body, he made laws by which every part of that body should be governed. He made a law for the eye; it should have light or it would become useless. He made a law for the skin; that it should be kept clean, or the pores (of which it contains millions) would be clogged and prevent the impurities of the body from passing away. He made laws by which the food we eat shall be digested and go to make blood, bone, muscle, nerve and brain.