

these substantial, practical excellencies about a house; neatness, good cooking, and physical comforts generally. A good wife needs what is called "gumption." A woman may speak many tongues, may be deep in the mysteries of the dance or dress, and yet if she have no gumption it profiteth her nothing. So much prudence and wisdom did this good housewife of the scripture exhibit that her husband could safely trust her with everything. How many men, because of of this want of prudence and tact in their wives, have been led into speculation, and from that to speculation, and thus ruined! And yet many a man has had his fortune repaired by the prudence, tact, and noble sympathy and advice of a good wife. Every man should trust his wife to a large extent, not to mutually annoy each other with details of their respective duties, but upon matters of deeper and broader mutual interest. Heaven has inspired woman in a remarkable degree with an instinctive wisdom not possessed by man, and of which he ought to avail himself. Another charming trait of this "good housewife" was her charity and benevolence—those diamonds among a wife's jewels. If it can be proven, as some selfish men would have it, that woman has one less cell in the brain than man, it can also be proven that she has two or three more fibre in the heart than he. It was not woman that slept in the garden at Gethsemane, and it was woman who strewed the path of the Saviour and his Apostles with charities and self-sacrifices almost angelic. Another commendable feature of the subject of this Psalm-picture was the wife's wisdom and kindness; her management of tongue and temper. How many women have broken their charm by an unruly tongue and temper! We were born with two eyes, doubtless, with the purpose that we should see twice as much as we speak of, whereas many women often reverse it. After speaking of the magic charm of kind words in the home, Dr. Willett spoke of the theatre of a wife's action, claiming that her sphere is the home, and that there is the throne of her power. If woman wants to make mankind better, she can do it much better over the cradle than haranguing it from the platform. The really domestic woman occupies the highest place in the world, and how little do those unsexed reformers understand either the dignity of her sphere, or the might of her influence there! The fruits of a good wife's influence are seen in the great men of the world, moulded and made great by the fostering care of a good mother. There never was a great man known in history, but a great woman was his mother.

THE MINISTER AND THE BOY.

A minister relates, that as he was one day walking to his Sabbath-school, on turning the corner of a little narrow street, he saw a number of poor boys—Arabs of the street—engaged at a game of marbles. They saw him as he came; and therefore the greater number of them got up from their marbles, and in a moment were off like a shot, before he could catch them.

One little boy did not see the minister at first, and before he could get his marbles, or muster his strength to make off, the minister had laid hold of him. Then came the grand questions, what was to be said? what was to be done? There were confronted, face to face, the minister of Christ, and the little ignorant benighted child. Now, many a one would have said, "Oh, you little Sabbath-breaker, you are found out in your bad ways; you must come along with me."

This good minister was not a man of that kind. He was one of those who know that kindness, tenderness, and affection, are the way to get at the heart; and he said to the little boy,—