

each line was worse written than the last? Ah! I knew the reason at once; my pupils will not look at their copies. At first starting they give one glance at the top to see how the words are spelt, and then write away, line after line, without once raising their eyes to the beautiful clear writing that I want them to imitate. And so mistakes come; for they go on copying their own untidy writing, and it just gets worse and worse. Does not that remind you of how we forget to look to Jesus, our great Example? Many of you, I hope, belong to the Lord Jesus and rely wish to be like him; and perhaps you are a little discouraged because you only seem to get more *unlike* Him. If so, I suspect it is for the same reason you don't look enough at your copy. I often say to my little pupils, "Never write a single letter without looking steadily at your copy to see how it is made," and so I would say to you now—Never do a single thing without first looking to Jesus to see how He wants it done. But there—happily for us, dear children—the comparison ends. For the copy-book only shows the children *how to write*; while the Lord Jesus not only *shows you how*, but *helps you*, and is always ready to help you, to be like Him. *He not only tells you what to do, but makes you able to do it.* Then let us look more unto Jesus, more often, more steadily, more trustingly; for while we are looking to Him we are growing like Him.—L.J.L.

DANCING.

The Chief of Police of New York says that three-fourths of the abandoned girls in that city were ruined by dancing. Young ladies allow gentlemen privileges in dancing which, if taken under any other circumstances, these gentlemen would be reported as improper persons. I have a sister who has passed away. On a marble block is written: "Willing to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord." I had rather go there with my sighs, tears, flowers and prayers, and visit that little grave as a shrine, than have her present in the body and see her one night in the dizzy and promiscuous ball-room. It requires neither brains, good morals, nor religion to be a good dancer. It leads to bad society. I never saw such a vicious crowd of young men at our college as on the night when there was to be a ball. It won't mix with religion any more than oil and water will mix. As the love of one increases, the love of the other decreases. How many eminent Christians are distinguished dancers? As certain as the atmosphere around the thermometer at zero will freeze things, as certain as the wind that is