

sure," said her mother; "if they would only think of it. They are not unfeeling, only thoughtless. I would do my best to atone for the fault by extra kindness and politeness to-morrow. Your example will have some effect upon the other girls."

#### POLITENESS AT HOME.

RESOLVE that home shall be the brightest, merriest, happiest spot on earth, and each keeping the resolution, it will be so. Of all places the father should be the politest seated in his own home. No mother makes a grander mistake than when she forgets the most delicate etiquette in the presence of the little ones who learn to read her thoughts before utterance. If you see a boy thoughtful and gentle of speech to his sister, set it down that he has heard those very intonations from his father's lips when addressing that boy's mother.

Hear that daughter snarling out some pettish response, and you may set it down as the echo of the mother's words. No doubt children inherit bodily disease and mental qualities, but these more often are made a blessing by the impressions received from superiors, while in childhood. A child cannot always be easily trained to be polite from principle, and yet it is a grand accomplishment. There is a way of saying, "I thank you," "You are very kind," "Allow me assist you," that makes one feel he is in the presence of refinement. We never witness the rosy, healthy miss arise, and ask the old, gray haired man, tottering upon his cane, to take her comfortable seat, without mentally taking off our hat, and bowing reverently to the mother at home who trained that girl.

Boys and girls who, from principle, are trained to politeness, are walking libraries, and educate more and better than is known.

#### A HAPPY MEDIUM.

"WHERE'S mamma?" cried blue-eyed Bessie, running breathlessly into the room the other morning. "Never mind, you'll do, aunty, I only want to know something; is my pa rich?"

"Not very. Why?"

"Oh! 'cause Benny Bend and May

Monk and Kate Binsloy are out here telling about their pa's and I didn't know about mine."

"Well, Bessie, I'll tell you. Your pa is not too rich, and not too poor; he is just comfortably well off."

The child stood for a moment, looking thoughtfully, then repeated, over and over to herself, "not weddy rich, not weddy poor, jest comferble," and went out.

Presently her mother came in, Bessie following her. "Well, Bessie," said she, "Have you been a good girl to-day?"

"No, mamma."

"Why, Bessie, I hope you have not been a bad girl."

"No, mamma," said the little thing. "Not weddy bad, not weddy good, jest a comferable little girl."

#### AN ELEGANTLY USELESS YOUNG LADY.

Of this class of young ladies we find the following specimen in a work called "Family Secrets." "Isabel advanced along the path of life with feeble and uncertain steps; for in addition to her constitutional delicacy, she had to contend with a will undisciplined, and with endless longings after personal gratification unchecked, unregulated, and consequently incapable of being gratified to their full extent. Indulged as a favorite child the greater part of her life was spent in a kind of dreamy idleness, from which she was seldom roused, except by some awakening desire to personal gratification, some complaint of mental or bodily uneasiness, or some scheme for momentary amusement, which she was generally too languid or too indolent to carry into effect. The consequence of all this was that Isabel arrived at the age of eighteen a victim to dyspepsia, an amateur in medicine, a martyr to nervous maladies, and as elegantly discontented with life, and all it had to offer, as any other young lady of her age could think becoming her character and station. The worst of all was, that, by this system of injudicious treatment, false tastes had been created, unnatural cravings excited for bodily as well as mental stimulants, which, under the names of cordials, tonics and restoratives, were but too plentifully supplied. Isabel had not, like her sisters, been per-