

**The King and Sunday Labor.**

The King follows Queen Victoria's practice of not asking Scottish servants to perform work that can be avoided on Sundays.

His Majesty, while residing at Balmoral, is awakened in the morning by his chief piper playing the bagpipes below his window. On one occasion a visitor at Balmoral asked the King why the piper did not perform on Sundays. 'I never asked him to do it on Sunday, and I am quite sure if I did ask him, he would not do it,' was the unexpected reply. —Christian Age.

**The Soup Bone.**

There is a knack in knowing how to choose a good soup bone as well as in knowing how to cook it. It ought to be about two-thirds meat and one-third bone and fat. In the winter it is an excellent plan, providing you have a large enough soup kettle, to purchase two bones for soup—one the knuckle, which seldom costs over four or five cents a pound, the other a solid flesh piece, costing perhaps seven or eight cents. When the meat is cooked to the point where, if it were a stew, you would take it from the fire, lift out with a skimmer on a large platter the meaty soup bone and cut away from it the nicest pieces of beef. You can often obtain two or three pounds of this meat, well seasoned and tendered by slow cooking. Return the bone to the soup kettle, and allow it to simmer until the bones drop apart. The meat which has been taken out may be utilized in a number of ways. It makes excellent hash. When well-seasoned it is not to be despised in the shape of croquettes. With a cup of the stock and a few par-boiled vegetables you have a savory stew. —Selected.

**The 'Use' of Courtesy.**

(By the Author of 'Preston Papers.')

'Mamma, why didn't you get mad and talk back when that old Mrs. Simmers said such mean things to you? I just wanted to hit her!'

'Which I am very glad that you didn't do, my son.'

'Why are you so glad? She was about as mean as anything I ever saw!'

'Yes, she was pretty mean. But I know better; therefore I ought to do better than she does. I am a Christian, which she does not profess to be, and I have the advantages of education and of polite society, which she has not had. So I made all possible allowance for her, and incidentally I wanted to do the very best thing for myself that I could.'

'Well, Mamma, after you have been a good friend to such a woman, don't you think it would be a good thing for you if you put a stop to her abuse?' asked Henry, urgently.

'Yes, it would have been best for both of us, if I could have done it politely. But she

was in no condition to listen to the soft answer which is all that I am at liberty to give, but which would have been out of place then. So I thought it best to let it all go, and be courteous, knowing that when she came to her better senses she would feel differently,' and Mrs. Singleton smiled as she went on mending the rip that Henry had come in to have repaired, just in time to hear his mother soundly berated by a woman whom she had befriended.

'I don't see the use of so much courtesy when she didn't deserve it,' pursued Henry.

Mrs. Singleton was quite in the habit of talking freely with her children on such commonplace themes, and many a lesson went into a well-prepared mind as a result, which might otherwise have been lost. So now, instead of saying, as some might have done: 'You will see the use when you are older,' she simply said: 'Courtesy is a commercial factor of success; so that even if you have no nobler reason for self-control than merely to do the best for yourself, and that from a financial point only, it would be best to always be polite.'

'Is there a book full of better reasons than those you have mentioned, Mamma?' and Henry laughed encouragingly.

'I think that there is, and some pretty good ones that are selfish, too.'

As a matter of fact Henry learned, in this talk, that (1) Polite manners lead to kindly thoughts and expression of kindly thoughts. (2) Courtesy aids self-control in other ways; for one who is habitually polite, even under trial, will have a better 'grip' on self, than one who is swayed by emotions alone. (3) Courtesy makes one more agreeable to other people, thereby extending the opportunities for personal friendships. (4) In many kinds of business a brusque manner will act as a weight, to pull down the value of an otherwise desirable employee. And it is no excuse that 'His bark is worse than his bite,' for one without either will distance the other fellow with half an effort. (5) Courtesy, like other things, is a game of give and take; and the more you give the more you may reasonably expect to get from it. (6) Courtesy has its effect, too, in lifting the entire person

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from a low plane to a higher one, through the valuable quality of self-control, which it helps develop. (7) Courtesy prolongs life, because of this self-control which it helps to give, as the friction of the little things wears on nerves, muscle, mind and digestion. (8) Christianity without courtesy is weakened by just what this would give.—New York 'Observer.'

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