

A THOUGHT FOR MOTHERS.

Talking the other day with one of the most sensible women I know, one too whose large family is so well ordered that there never seems to be a particle of friction in its management, I was pleased with something she said about children, and I determined to repeat it to a wider audience than the one my friend had at the moment.

"I never fret about little faults of manner, nor even about transient irritability, in my children," said the lady. "Children, as they are growing up, go through many temporary conditions, which, if apparently unnoticed, pass away. In fact, there are little moral disturbances to be expected, like whooping cough and measles in the physical life, and, if the general home atmosphere be wholesome and the trend right, I do not think it worth while to be too much distressed over occasional naughtiness."

Is there not comfort here for you, dear friend, you cannot understand why John, carefully trained as he is, sometimes, in the eager heat of play, bursts into the room like a tornado, or forgets to put cap on nail and books on shelf, as an orderly boy ought? And if Sarah is not so patient as she should be with the younger ones, sometimes has mysterious fits of depression, or is hysterically gay with no cause that you can see, summon your own gentle self-possession to the front; remember that the period between childhood and youth, like all transition periods, is very trying, and while you pray a great deal for your darling, do not worry about her or talk to her too much. Above all, do not suffer yourself to be always censuring a sensitive boy or girl, to whom judicious praise now and then will be a tonic.

Line upon line, precept upon precept, we must have at home. But we must also have serenity, peace, and the absence of petty fault-finding, if home is to be a nursery fit for heaven-growing plants.—*Illustrated Christian Weekly.*

POWER OF APPETITE.

An illustration of the dangerous tendencies of the habitual use of intoxicants is furnished in the case of Captain John Vaughn Lewis, of the United States Army, who is to be tried by court martial for drunkenness. He was once rector of Trinity church in Norwich, Ct., and was much esteemed for his social qualities and his active labors. But the "dead fly in the apothecary's ointment"

was the wine on the dinner-table. He became rector of St. John's, Washington. There something stronger than wine was used, and he was compelled to leave on account of drunkenness. Friends procured for him a chaplaincy in the army under a promise from him to reform; but he has yielded to the temptation and fallen. Drinking in the army is not under ban; but to get drunk is a disgrace. It is a poor place for a drunkard to reform, unless he is a private soldier from whom liquor is kept away. Not so the officers, who can readily obtain it. The lesson in this case is, "Look not on the wine when it is red," &c., a lesson given in the days of Solomon.—*Chris. Sec.*

HORRORS OF HEATHEN LANDS.

The habitations of the heathen still breathe out cruelty. Two Baptist Missionaries, went up the Congo last Autumn to six sites for Mission stations. At Boluho they found it was a gala day. The wife of a chief had died, and after some nights of orgie, there was to be "a grand finale of female sacrifices. The victims were tied up somewhere, and remonstrance and pleading were in vain.

Another case tragically was to take place. Prices of certain food were to be arranged, and as a seal of the agreement, a hole was dug between the two towns, a slave was seized and his arms and legs broken, and thus helpless, he was thrown into the hole to die, none being allowed to give him food or drink.—*Mrs. Her.*

FOR YOUNG MEN.

Wherever you are, much will depend upon the regulation of yourself. We are apt to lay the blame of our indiscretions and failures on our circumstances, and to suppose we should act differently under other influences. But this is a great mistake: for circumstances, though I admit they have a powerful influence on our conduct, do not so much form as discover our character. Be "lord of your own mind," and you will rise above outward trials. Try then to understand yourself—your strong and your weak points—and ask God to help you.—*Sel*

Bishop Fraser, preaching at Bolton, said that if intemperance slew its thousands, licentiousness slew its tens of thousands.

Thanksgiving makes our prayers bold and strong and sweet; feeds and enkindles them as with coals of fire.—*Luther.*