

forward business man, and he becomes a reliant, practical business man. Children are susceptible creatures, and circumstances and scenes and actions always impress. As you influence them, not by arbitrary rules, nor by stern example alone, but in a thousand other ways that speak through beautiful forms, pretty pictures, etc., so they will grow. Teach your children, then, to love the beautiful. If you are able, give them a corner in the garden for flowers; allow them to have their favorite trees; teach them to wander in the prettiest woodlets; show them where they can best view the sunset; rouse them in the morning, not with the stern "Time for work," but with the enthusiastic, "See the beautiful sunshine!" Buy for them pretty pictures and encourage them to deck their rooms in his or her childish way. Give them an inch, and they will go a mile. Allow them the privilege, and they will make your home pleasant and beautiful.—*Selected.*

### Effect of Little Sins.

A COMPANY was walking in Sudbrook Park, when Dr. Ellis drew attention to a large sycamore tree decayed to the core. "That fine tree," said he, "was killed by a single worm." Two years previously, the tree was as healthy as any in the park, when a woodworm, about three inches long, was observed to be forcing its way under the bark of the trunk. It then caught the eye of a naturalist who was staying there; and he remarked, "Let that worm alone, and it will kill the tree." This seemed very improbable; but it was agreed, that the black-headed worm should not be disturbed. After a time it was discovered that the worm had tunnelled its way a considerable distance under the bark. The next summer, the leaves of the tree dropped off very early; and, in the succeeding year, it was a dead, rotten thing, and the hole made by the worm might be seen in the very heart of the once noble trunk. "Ah!" said one who was present, "let us learn a lesson from that single tree. How many who once promised fair for usefulness in the world and the church have been ruined by a single sin!"

### "Heated by Shavings."

A QUIANT writer compares a certain class of professors of religion to "sheet-iron stoves heated by shavings." When there is a little reviving in the church they all at once flame up and become exceedingly warm and zealous. They are ready to chide the pastor and the brethren for their coldness and want of activity. But alas! the shavings are soon burned out, and then the heat goes down as it went up. They are never seen in the prayer room or more spiritual meetings of the church again until there is another excitement. If such people had not souls of their own to be saved, they would not be worth taking into the church. If they are saved, it must be "as by fire."—*Ex.*

### Willing to be Little.

A GREAT man is always willing to be little. Whilst he sits on the cushion of advantages, he goes to sleep. When he is pushed, tormented, defeated, he has a chance to learn something; he has been put on his wits, on his manhood. He has gained facts, learned his ignorance, is cured of the insanity of his conceit, has got moderation and real skill. The wise man always throws himself on the side of his assailants. It is more his interest than it is theirs to find his weak point. The wound cicatrizes and falls off from him like a dead skin, and when they would triumph, lo! he has passed on invulnerable.—*Emerson.*

### Preaching Christ.

AN artist once painted a picture of the Last Supper. He aimed to throw all the sublimity of his art into the figure of Jesus, but put some beautiful cups in the foreground. When his friends came to see his picture they exclaimed, "What beautiful cups!" "Ah!" said the artist, "I have made a mistake." And he took up his brush and blotted the cups from the picture, that Christ might be the chief object of attraction.

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