

ruly conduct, and those violent and uncontrollable passions which actuate the mind and influence the proceedings of the untutored savage.

This idea never fails to present itself to my mind, when I see the too indulgent mother, from a superabundant but mistaken kindness, prevent the necessary degree of restraint to which her spoiled favourite must be placed for his education. Her misplaced and ill-judged indulgence first commences with "it rains to-day, Billy must not go to school;" next, "there's company coming to-day, Billy can stay at home." In the full enjoyment of every pleasure, and in the indulgence of every whim, Billy sits up late at night, and mamma wont allow him to be disturbed in time for school next morning. In this way half his time is lost, and instead of being trained to habits of application, Billy becomes negligent, then naughty in school—the teacher, if an honest man, enforces his precepts somewhat sternly; the little deceiver, becoming disgusted, carries home complaints, to which mamma lends a too ready ear; and next comes an appeal to his father. The boy, from irregular hours, or from chagrin at being put under restraint in school, turns pale, and mamma takes the alarm. "My dear, dont you think Billy looks pale and thin—I declare I am quite frightened for the child—his school hours are too long for him—the child is dispirited—I am certain Mr. —, his teacher, is too harsh to him." All this passes in Master Billy's presence, while he is stuffing himself with sweetmeats, and shrinking closer to his mother's side, to indicate his coincidence in her opinion. Then follows a scene of fondling and caressing on her part, and coaxing and fawning on his, till at last it is decided that Billy's attendance at school shall not be enforced, far less his application to study. By and by the hopeful favourite grows up to an age when he is beyond controul; and having been unaccustomed to application, he wants fortitude to persevere in any one object. Mamma's boy grows up to man's estate, and instead of being a credit to his family and an honour or benefit to his country, becomes a dunce in mind and a boor in manners. This is the best that can be expected from such a system as he has followed; perhaps, if exposed to their influence or contagion, his untutored and waste mind is invaded by vile passions, and pernicious principles may creep in and riot with uncontrouled sway.

But I fear, Mr. Editor, you will accuse me of deviating from the road I set out upon, and instead of offering a few remarks upon a commercial education, think I am depicting the consequences of a total want of education. Admit the great importance of the subject if you please as an apology for the aberration.

For the successful prosecution of every line of life there is a preparatory education necessary. This has been long known and applied in what are termed the learned professions of divinity, law, and medicine; but in the education suitable for commercial pursuits the necessary studies have not been so carefully attended to, nor are the branches it is requisite for a merchant to learn so well defined: although it is equally obvious that, to qualify a man for this line of life, there are certain studies with which (as I shall show) it is indispensably necessary for him to be acquainted. This is the more singular, when we reflect