

What is birth to a man if it shall be a stain to his dead ancestors to have left such an offspring?—*Sir P. Sidney.*

It is the fruit of good works, and not the mere blossom of good thoughts and good feelings, which God requires.—*Peter Young.*

Life is a short day, but it is a working day. Activity may lead to evil, but inactivity cannot lead to good.—*Hannah More.*

Learn to say no and it will be of more use to you than to be able to read Latin.—*Spurgeon.*

To character and success, two things, contradictory as they may seem, must go together—humble dependence and manly independence; humble dependence on God and manly reliance on self.—*Wordsworth.*

Do right, and God's recompense to you will be the power of doing more right. Give, and God's reward to you will be the spirit of giving more. Love, and God will pay you with the capacity of more love, for love is Heaven and the Spirit of God within you.—*F. W. Robertson.*

Do good constantly, patiently, and wisely, and you will never have cause to say that life was not worth living.—*George W. Childs.*

It is a high, solemn, almost awful thought for every individual man that his earthly influence, which has had a commencement, will never, through all ages, were he the very meanest of us, have an end!—*Thomas Carlyle.*

The shepherds sing; and shall I silent be?  
My God, no hymns for thee?  
My soul's a shepherd, too; a flock it feeds  
Of thoughts and words and deeds.  
The pasture is thy Word, the streams thy grace  
Enriching all the place.  
Shepherds and flock shall sing and all my powers  
Outsinging the daylight hours.

## Woman's Duties at Home.

BY MRS. EVERED POOLE.

Conclusion.

DUTY AS MOTHER.

III. *Mother.*—To some, God has given the crown of womanhood.—*motherhood!* There is a tendency in these days for women to banish themselves from their own kingdom. We find it in all classes—indolent and unfaithful mothers, or over busy ones, who trust to *others* the young immortals God has charged them to reign over. The working mother gets her child ready for the Board or Voluntary school on weekdays, for the Church school on Sundays, and then is satisfied that her mother's duty is done.

The fashionable and frivolous mother hands over the care of her children to irresponsible people; often allowing their young, plastic natures to be for years under influences that may cripple their bodies, dwarf their minds, taint their souls. The often busy mothers, churchworkers, etc., may fail in duty too.

Surely every mother, rich or poor, in these days of science, hygienic teaching, and daily health helps, should be a knowledgeable woman, supervising her children's bodies, behaviour, books, and companionships.

A mother's great duty is to make her children thoroughly happy, as well as healthy, by all lawful means, so that in looking back from the standpoint of after years the delightful memory of a happy childhood may revive these tired wayfarers.

HAPPINESS OF CHILDREN.

Study to make the children happy.

I do not mean by the gratification of every selfish desire, and want of will control or direction, but by care and thought, planning small pleasures, employing the children's energies, and cultivating the refinement and tastes of your boys and girls.

Is it not Ruskin who thanks God for the mother's wisdom that weaned him from questionable pleasures by turning his thoughts towards wholesome ones? A poor mother may in this way make her children as happy as a rich mother.

It is just unemployed energy, undisciplined wills, low, sensual tastes, that make unhappy children and sinful men and women. And we have to-day a great crowd of saucy, untrained children growing up, unaccustomed to restraint, quite incompetent for life's duties, all ready to be caught, moth-like, by the flames of frivolity and sensuality.

GROWING OLD

Will you laugh at me if I say I think it is a mother's duty not to grow old too soon? By age I do not mean the furrows on the face and silver in the hair, but I mean allowing the care of daily care, the trivial frettingness of household trifles, to rob you of your youth and buoyancy of spirit. Nothing is sadder than to see a mother who has used herself up in the service of her husband and children, so as to be unfit to be the companion of their young womanhood and manhood. A woman of this sort finds herself left behind—as an elegant girl expressed it in speaking of her mother, "We really can't take Mamma out with us, she is so out of date!"

RELIGIOUS PRINCIPLES

A mother's highest duty is to inculcate religious principles—it must not be left to Sunday school teachers or to clergy. No voice or precept of strangers can mould the plastic nature or sway a child's conduct like the wholesome, daily, living out of religion in a mother's life—the bright star of her soul faith, shining out through her words and works, will guide their feet Heavenward.

Thank God, there are not many prayerless mothers now, the weight of responsibility is realised by most of us as so great that we feel the need of a Divine Hand to help, a Divine Voice to comfort, a Divine Heart to sympathise with us. God is with the mother who seeks to lead her child Heavenward. Have you ever stood by the dying bed of a child trained from the cradle in the faith and fear of God? I have, and I cannot forget it. A white young face, fair as the winter snow upon the frozen ground, with the serenest peace shining out of the dark eyes that gazed so calmly into an unknown eternity. A weeping mother—only a cottage home, with scanty furniture; a pallet bed, but angel wings canopied it.

I took the dying girl's hand, clammy with death dew. "You are dying, dear; are you afraid? Have you any fear, any trouble?"

Oh! the lovely peace of her answering smile.

If a painter could have but caught it and fastened it upon canvas, men would have thought it a gleam from Heaven!

"Afraid!" said the child of fifteen, her big eyes full of luminous faith—"No, I'm not afraid, I have always known Heaven was my home, and since ever I remember *Mother has taught me to trust Jesus.*"

Oh! rich reward of Godly motherhood!

When earth life ends for child or parent, and Heaven life begins, its light shows fair and clear the value of such training.

Mother, can your children give sweet testimony to your Christian training.

Oh, may this meeting rouse us up one and all to our duties as *daughter, wife, and mother.*

When the wife of Sir Bartle Frere had to meet him at the railway station, she took with her a servant who had never seen his master. "You must go and look for Sir Bartle," she ordered. "But," answered the nonplussed servant, "how shall I know him?" "O," said Lady Frere, "look for a tall gentleman helping somebody." The description was sufficient for the quick-witted man. He went out and found Sir Bartle helping an old lady out of a railway carriage, and knew him at once by the description.

For insult given, the noblest vengeance is forgetfulness forever.

Christ came to minister, not to be ministered unto. The follower of Christ who is willing to enjoy his religion all by himself has failed to catch the significance of Christ's example.