

THE best diplomacy—effecting a treaty of peace with our own conscience.

THE human soul cannot pant for a spiritual communion with God that is to last only seventy years and then cease forever. Every spiritual desire and aspiration has in it the element of infinity and endlessness.—*Prof. W. G. T. Shedd.*

A MAN'S prayers for others are a very fair thermometer of his own religious condition. What he asks for them will largely indicate what he thinks best for himself; and how he asks it will show the firmness of his own faith and the fervor of his own feeling. There is nothing colder than the intercession of a cold Christian; and, on the other hand, in no part of the fervid Apostle Paul's writings do his words come more winged and fast, or his spirit glow with greater fervor of affection and more holy desire than in his petitions for his friends.—*A. Maclaren, D.D.*

THE saloon must have boys or it must shut up shop. Can't you furnish it one? It is a great factory and unless it can get 2,000,000 boys from each generation for raw material some of these factories must close out, and its operatives must be thrown on a cold world, and the public revenue will dwindle. "Wanted—2,000,000 boys," is the notice. One family out of every five must contribute a boy to keep up the supply. Will you help? Which of your boys will it be? The minotaur of Crete had to have a trireme full of fair maidens each year. Have you contributed a boy? If not, some other family has had to give more than its share. Are you selfish, voting to keep the saloon open to grind up boys, and then doing nothing to keep up the supply.—*Fernald's Economics of Prohibition.*

MOST people have a wrong idea as to what constitutes real education. A man may know a great deal and not be educated. His load of knowledge may be so great that he cannot handle it. The educated man is the man who has learned discipline. He has control of his body and its lusts and passions. He knows how to use his mind and can keep it from wandering over the whole created universe, when he has a definite mental task to do. And this is a discipline so severe that Demosthenes

used to retire to a dark cave when he wished to think out a subject, and to have his mind free from distractions. But above all, the educated man has a character that is obedient to the highest ideal. In a word, the educated man is the Christian who brings body, mind,—himself to the obedience of Jesus Christ.

## Boys and Girls' Corner.

### WORDS.

KEEP A guard on your words, my darlings,  
For words are wonderful things;  
They are sweet like the bees' fresh honey;  
Like the bees, they have terrible stings.  
They can bless, like the warm, glad sunshine,  
And brighten a lonely life;  
They can cut, in the strife of anger,  
Like an open, two-edged knife.

Let them pass through your lips unchallenged  
If their errand is true and kind;  
If they come to support the weary,  
To comfort and help the blind.  
Keep them back if they're cold and cruel,  
Under bar, and lock, and seal;  
The wounds they make, my darlings,  
Are always slow to heal.

—*Selected.*

### THERE IS A BOY I CAN TRUST.

WE once visited a public school. At recess a little fellow came up and spoke to the teacher; as he turned to go down the platform, the master said: "That is a boy I can trust. He never failed me." We followed him with our eye, and looked at him when he took his seat after recess. He had a fine, open, manly face. We thought a good deal about the master's remark. What a character had that boy earned! He had already got what would be worth more to him than a fortune. It would be a passport into the best store in the city, and, what is better, into the confidence and respect of the whole community. We wonder if the boys know how soon they are rated by other people. Every boy in the neighbourhood is known, and opinions are formed of him; he has a character either favourable or unfavourable. A boy of whom the master can say, "I can trust him; he never failed me," will never want employment.—*Selected.*

### PATIENCE.

"BE YE PATIENT."—*St. James 5, 7.*

WHAT is patience? It is bearing unavoidable evils with cheerfulness—without fretfulness or complaining.

Mind, I say unavoidable evils. There

is no sense or virtue in sitting down content with evils which can be helped. I have seen a man bear for weeks with the nuisance of a door off one hinge, which he could have mended in half an hour. That was not patience—it was laziness. He was one who prided himself on "taking things easy," as he said; and, as usual, other people had to take them hard in proportion.

Let me illustrate what I mean by a little story. Jack and Dora were invited by an uncle to take a short railroad journey and visit a pleasant summer resort. It chanced that the train was crowded, and the only seats to be had were on the sunny side of the car; of course this was not pleasant, but Dora made the worst of it.

"Dear me, have we got to sit here and be baked? How perfectly horrid! Can't we go into another car?"

"All the cars are full," replied Mr. Bruce; "we are lucky in getting seats at all."

"Never mind!" said Jack. "Perhaps someone may get out at the next station. You can take the inside seat if you like and I will sit by the window, or I can put down the blind."

"Yes, and then we can't see at all, I might as well be at home."

"Better, I think, if you are going to fret all the way!" said her uncle dryly. Dora was silent for a few minutes, and happily the sun went under a cloud. Presently a little child began to cry.

"How very disagreeable!" said Dora. "Why can't people have sense enough to stay at home with their babies, and not annoy everybody?"

Jack quietly abstracted an orange from the lunch-basket, and put it into the baby's lap, which at once became deeply interested in the attempt to put the big yellow globe into its mouth.

So it was all day. If the sun shone, Dora found it unbearably hot. If it was cloudy, she was sure it was going to rain. She knew she should be afraid if she went on the water, and yet she would not be left on shore, and so on to the end of the chapter. The next time Mr. Bruce invited a party of his young friends to a pleasure excursion, Dora found herself left out, and her uncle plainly told her the reason.

"You take no comfort yourself, and you spoil that of everyone else. Until you can conquer this habit of fretfulness you must be content to stay at home."