

said in louder tones, almost loud enough, the children feared, to bring poor, tired mother from the study sofa.

"Let's play building houses, Baby," said Grace, opening the box of blocks.

"Don' want b'ocks ; want mama !" wailed the baby, louder still.

"Let's sail ships," suggested Fan. And at this Teddy forgot that he wanted mama. Sailing ships was his great joy.

"Oh ! Fan, you know he mustn't touch water," exclaimed Grace in dismay.

"Never mind, Ted," said Philip, ready to help out, "you be captain and shout the orders, and I'll be your sailor and make the ship go."

So round and round the tiny ocean bounded by the nursery basin, went the wee ship with a single sail ; and Philip played that it went

to far countries, and came back full of gold every time. "Just see those big piles of yellow gold !" cried the little captain's one sailor, pretending to empty something in Teddy's apron ; and the baby laughed gleefully ; his blue eyes seemed to be shining with delight, and he was not tired of the game, when mother came back from her nap, rested and smiling.

"If Teddy's ship-loads had been *real* gold," said Philip, "instead of just fairy gold, we'd be rich enough to buy a lot of things by this time."

"Teddy's fairy gold has bought two very precious things, my son," said the mother ; "an hour's rest for his tired mother-nurse, and an hour's pleasure for our sick baby ; you see what a big benefactor you have been—like a generous millionaire."

## Brought Up by the Fifteenth Psalm

A LITTLE TALK TO MOTHERS

*By M. E. B. Thomson*

Of little children and bringing them up people have written and talked much ; never so much as to-day.

The Bible says simply, "Train up a child in the way he should go ;" but how differently people have interpreted "the way."

The old "way" was repression ; the new is self-assertion. The former may have been bad, often *was* bad ; but at least it had the virtue of breeding self-reliant, self-controlled men and women. This has made the Scottish race a power throughout the world.

By the new "way" the child is made to feel of first consideration to himself and the universe. He is a little solar system in himself. Every feeling and emotion is most important ; good and bad are alike interesting.

As a mother, who, starting ignorant and ill-fitted for the task, yet has had great happiness with and from her children, I may have found out some things which may help, or, at least cheer those just beginning.

I believe a mother, with God's help, can always work out her children's salvation, though it may be literally "with fear and trembling." Books and theories are little

help, at least they were so to me. I went back to the Bible. I wanted to find out what "the way he should go" meant. The Bible does not deal in generalities. To every question it will give an answer if one searches for it honestly. I did, and found both my question and answer in the Fifteenth Psalm ! Could there be any rules more splendid for the making of men ? The five verses of the Psalm contain the best description of a true Christian gentleman :—

To walk uprightly and work righteousness, and speak truth in the heart ; to shun back-biting and evil-doing and the giving heed to evil reports, in dealing with one's neighbors ; to despise what is base, and honor the God-fearing ; to scorn to go back on one's word ; to refuse to use one's power to the injury of those who are weaker ;—what finer things can there be on this earth ?

I determined to base my children's future on the Fifteenth Psalm. It is to-day, as it was then, the best rule I know. Mothers of little children will surely be puzzled, but they must not be discouraged. The time is so short, seven or eight years, and you have set your seal for eternity. Try to be yourself what