

privilege of listening daily to the conversation of intelligent people. We sometimes see parents who are the life of every company which they enter, dull, silent and uninteresting at home among their children. If they have not mental activity and mental stores sufficient for both, let them first use what they have for their own households. A silent home is a dull place for young people, a place from which they will escape if they can. How much useful information, on the other hand, is often given in pleasant family conversation, and what unconscious but excellent mental training in lively social argument. Cultivate to the utmost the graces of conversation.

Life is short, and you have much work to do. Work for others as well as yourself. You will not pretend you are never selfish. You are more or less so every day of your existence. In the very face of conviction, you play the part of contracted littleness. How often do you forget the interests of others in eager desires for yourself; and how readily you silence the whispers of reason, by calling in for precedents respectable example. Yet you know the value of disinterested virtue—and how that avarice, or any selfish passion, can never acquire your felicity—but the appearances of the moment persuade you otherwise, and hence the cause of error and crime. Study, therefore, not only to be convinced of truth, but to establish it firmly on your mind, beyond the reach of doubt. Then, not till then, your character will be uniform, and your principle strong enough to carry you through the trials and temptations of life. No one can be happy long, unless he is governed by virtue; and to be regulated by this sublime principle, he must only learn to make any sacrifice, even life and all that renders it sweet in the eyes of mankind.

It is in the family life that a man's piety gets tested. Let the husband be cross and surly, giving a slap here and a cuff there, and see how bad everything gets! The wife grows cold and unaimable, too. Both are turned on one key. They vibrate in unison, giving tone for tone, rising in harmony or discord together. The children grow up

as saucy and savage as young bears. The father becomes callous, peevish, hard—a kind of two-legged brute with clothes on. The wife bristles in self-defence. They develop an unnatural growth and sharpness of teeth, and the house is haunted by ugliness and domestic bawls. Is that what God meant the family to be—He who made it a place for Love to build her nest in, and where kindness and sweet courtesy might come to their finest manifestations? The divine can be realized. There is sunshine enough in the world to warm all. Why will not men come out of their caves to enjoy it? Some men make it a point to treat every other man's family well but their own—smiles for all but their kindred. Strange, pitiable picture of human weakness, when those we love best are treated worst; when courtesy is shown to all save our friends! If one must be rude to any, let it be some one he does not love—not to wife, sister, brother or parent. Let one of our loved ones be taken away, and memory recalls a thousand sayings to regret. Death quickens recollections painfully. The grave cannot hide the white faces of those who sleep. The coffin and the green mound are cruel magnates. They drew us farther than we would go. They force us to remember. A man never sees so far into human life as when he looks over a wife or mother's grave. His eyes get wondrous clear then, and he sees as never before what it is to love and be loved; what it is to injure the feelings of the loved.

THE MARQUESS OF LORNE.

We do but echo the sentiments of the press and people of Canada in expressing a sense of the honor due to the Dominion by the appointment of the Marquis of Lorne as Lord Dufferin's successor. Perhaps it may not be unbecoming in us to say that the Presbyterian Church in Canada has special reason to be proud of our new Governor-General. He comes from one of the oldest and most illustrious families of the British Peerage, a family whose history is imperishably associated with Scotland's heroic struggles for civil and religious liberty—

“bequeathed from bleeding sire to son.”