

needlework—let these be the foundation on which the more ornamental may be added, if situation, natural talent and other circumstances concur to make such additions suitable and expedient—let useful household works be always encouraged and taught in families. The daughter should not be above her mother, but strive with honest pride to follow her steps in household economy, improving where she can as she can do so to advantage.

We too often have noticed when spending an evening with a country friend, the young ladies dressed and enjoying themselves with dancing and music and singing, while the mother has served and borne the whole burden of the evening, unassisted and uncared for. How hardly do the duties of a household fall upon those girls who, like mere butterflies, have only hovered over the flowers and basked in the sunshine of life. These become mere drones in the busy hive, and gather no honey to support themselves during the dark wintry day of age, sickness or adversity. What a contrast to the bright, active, cheerful, contented matron, "whose children come up and call her blessed!" Of such an one it may be said—"The heart of her husband doth safely rest in her, so that he shall have no need of the sun, moon, or oil. She shall do him good and not evil all the days of her life; strength and honor are her clothing, and she shall rejoice in the time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom, and in her tongue is the law of kindness. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest."

Read the portrait of a virtuous woman by the wise King Lemuel, most probably drawn from the character of his own mother, a princess or noble lady in France, who was not ashamed to superintend the spinning and household labors of her maidens—an example not unworthy of imitation by our own daughters.

Women of Canada, "go and do thou likewise."
K.

ECONOMY IN TIME AND LABOR.

AUNT HANNAH's advice to a young housekeeper, which we find in the *Ohio Farmer*, contains many good things, and practical common sense suggestion, which we copy for the benefit of housekeepers who may not have Mother's tact for business.

"How in the world do you manage to get along with the work, Auntie?" said Mary, one day, after she had sufficiently recovered to lie upon the lounge, which at her request, had been moved into the kitchen, that she might not keep Aunt Hannah from her household duties, while they chatted together.

"I never could get along so. What a difference there is in women. Mother always said that I had no tact for business—I wish I had yours."

"It's all in taking advantage of your work," said the good lady, giving her dish cloth a vehement twist; and shaking it out, she proceeded to wipe off the table, whereon the morning dishes had been washed. "All in taking advantage. Now, I am never in a hurry, if you ever noticed it. I keep ahead of my work. Sometimes, indeed, sickness, or some other circumstances, will throw one back; but I always want to catch up again as soon as I can, and then keep up. I don't take near as many steps as you do, Mary; but I make every step count, as father used to say. When I go out to shake the table cloth, I bring in an armful of wood; I always calculate to make one journey answer two purposes, if possible; for instance, when I am cooking pastry, I take my dish of shortening, salt, or something back into the pantry, and bring back the rolling-pin and kneading-board; or, in crossing the room after something for use, I stoop to pick up some misplaced article, a child's toy, or something of that sort; then I know how much time I require for a certain amount of work—just how long it takes to cook every dish—just how long it takes to wash, to iron, to bake, to do everything; and so, I can have any kind of work done at a given hour. I never let my fire get down, while I am using it; and if you ever noticed it, I burn a great many chips, and always want wood chopped, instead of sawed; one can't always have it, but give me nice, dry chips, with a few sticks of wood to keep them up where the blaze can circulate through them, to make a humming fire. I always have my breakfast calculated over night, the coffee ground, the potatoes dressed, the meat cut, and then I have only to clap on my tea-kettle and potatoes, the first thing in the morning—brush up the room, put the meat cooking, make the coffee, set the table, and breakfast is ready. Then I always have the water on, for washing the dishes, before I sit down to the table. There is a great deal of time saved by this simple act. As soon as a meal is finished, you have only to clear up the dishes, wash them in the steaming-hot water, put them away, sweep, dust, and rub your stove over with the blacking brush used for the purpose, and your kitchen work is done. Then, unless you have bread, pastry, cake, or something of that sort to make, you have only the chamber work, the sitting room to set in order, and a few little things to see to, and you are ready to sit down to your sewing. If the baby cries take it up and make it good natured if you can. Give it your shoe, the broom, a tin pan, or some other odd plaything; it will suit it much better than the toys made on purpose to please children.

"Always wash on Monday, if you can. Have your regular days for everything—your washing day, your ironing and baking day—and never put away your clean ironed clothes till every rent in old garments is made whole. Have a basket in which to put garments, stockings, &c., that want mending; and never let that basket stand neglected till Saturday night. In so small a family as yours, you can generally mend in the afternoon after ironing. If you manage in this way, your work will go on smoothly,