

any more, (as, alas! many careless and faulty parents do,) of what he had said to the boy, was several times at the house without fulfilling his engagement; and, perhaps, without once having it come again into his mind. But the boy was not so forgetful. He recollected well the promise of his grandpa. In process of time the grandfather took the boy behind him on his horse, and was conveying him to his paternal abode. On the way the boy began to remonstrate with his grandfather on the subject, by saying, "When grandpa was at our house one time, he said the next time he came he would carry me home — and grandpa *did not*." — "Why," says the old gentleman, "you don't think your grandpa would *lie*, do you?" "I don't know," says the boy, "*What does grandpa call it?*" This confounded the old gentleman, and he knew not what reply to make. This anecdote has convinced me more than almost any thing I ever heard, of the importance of regarding strictly and conscientiously what we say to children. Especially it has shown me the evil of trifling with children, and making them unmeaning promises or declarations which have attached to them no truth or signification. And it is my deliberate and fixed opinion, that oftentimes parents, by disregarding, forgetting, and neglecting to fulfil what they declare unto children in promises or threatenings, are chargeable with the pernicious evil of teaching their children to lie; and then perhaps inflicting punishment upon them for the crime. This is hard, — this is cruel, — this is an evil of a monstrous size, prevalent and triumphant to an alarming degree, and which ought speedily and effectually to be corrected. Watch then, and remember to make good what you say to children. Do not threaten