

THE HOUSEHOLD.

CARE FOR MOTHER.

How many worthy mothers who have toiled beside their husbands for years, and brought up a large family of boys and girls to young men and women, have little by little given up that careful attention to dress that went so far to making them acceptable in the eyes of their lover husbands when they were first married. They are very particular that father should look neat, and the girls have nice dresses, neat gloves and boots, collars and laces, and all the pretty toilet accessories; the boys too, must look well-dressed; but, oh! it makes no difference about mother. So few people see her, she is not often on the streets, and every one that comes to the house knows that mother is generally so busy in the kitchen that she cannot keep dressed up. So argues the busy, unselfish wife, secure in the thought that it can make no difference to father, who has known and loved her so long. But what are the girls thinking of? Are they not at all to blame? Well, of course, they would rather have a well dressed than an ill-dressed mother any time, and occasionally they do array her in some of their own stylish clothing, and are surprised to see how young she looks; but mother shakes her head, and says such things are out of place for her. But, at least, the girls might see to it when she sits down tired with the morning's work, and with little ambition to stir, feeling so glad to rest, that she is not allowed to remain in that same working toilet. If loving fingers should insist on combing and arranging her hair prettily and suitably, in fastening about her neck a dainty, clean collar, after they have assisted her to change her dress and put on a nice apron, do you think father would not notice the change with pleasure? And will not a well dressed mother thus have more influence, think you, over the young men in her house? It is not necessary by any means that she should be stylish; but the daughters might and should see to it, that there is not too great a contrast between their clothing and hers. If she can once be persuaded that it gives them more pleasure to see her looking neat and even elegant, do you not think it will arouse in her more desire to be so herself? Perhaps they can arrange matters so that she will not have quite so much kitchen work, or they can occasionally go without some coveted bit of adornment in order to give mother some necessary article. Many young boys and girls, or young men and women, spend many a cent uselessly or unwisely on themselves, which, if invested in some labor-saving article for their toiling mother at home, would insure them a great deal more true happiness. See to it, then, boys and girls, that one who has done so much for you is not neglected.—Geraldine in Presbyterian Review.

TRAINING CHILDREN.

BY MADAME WILLARD.

First of all, I would insist, teach your children to be truthful; by all the incentives that occur to your prayerful thought, keep their love and confidence so that they will be open to you as to the day. Then I would recommend the do-everything method, according to the varying needs of your priceless charge. If its nerves are startled, quiet it the best way you can. Don't put it in a dark room and let it cry itself to sleep. It would be more motherly to hang it to the limb of a tree, like an Indian baby, where it could see the light and feel the gentle motion of the breeze. Don't regard it as a mere animal that needs only to be fed and clothed. It needs sympathy very early; it can smile; back your love when only a few weeks old. Never punish a child when it can think you are in anger, or about to take its life. It will be so frightened as to lose all self-control. You may think it obstinacy when it is a frenzy inspired by the fear of one in whose power it is utterly helpless. Mothers should try to keep their health, so as to be bright, agreeable company for the older children, and to be patient with the little ones. I know this is easier said than done, especially if the mother is sick or overborne with care; but the attempt, if partially unsuccessful, will not fail of its reward. The habit of unselfishness and kindness cannot be too early impressed. The mother should be in spirit and manner, or should aim to be, such as

she desires the child to be. I would not recommend over indulgence, but genuine tenderness and love can hardly go to an extreme, especially in the early helpless years. If complications arise between the children do not let them accumulate. Don't let them lie awake all night dreading a punishment in the morning. Settle them at once upon their own merits without referring them to any umpire but yourself.

When they are old enough to commence study do not be indifferent to the trials they meet with in the effort to solve the, to them, difficult problems, but do them for them often yourself; don't be so fearful about weakening their self-reliance as to defeat your desire for their high achievement by allowing them to be discouraged in the outset. Should a child show a strong bias toward any laudable line of life that promises self-support, and easy independence, I would encourage it. Try to cultivate a tender conscience, a delicate sensitiveness to right and wrong. I would place the acquisition of character infinitely before that of wealth, desirable as is a moderate share of the latter. Wealth ends with life, character is immortal, toward the perfection of which all our efforts should tend. I must not forget my pet idea to be more careful to praise children for doing well, than to chide them for doing ill.

When the children are young and in the mother's care more directly, there may be a feeling of comparative safety, but when they blossom into young men and women, and begin to assume personal responsibility, it is the hour of doom, that threatens to make or mar all her handiwork. Who is wise enough to counsel then? Silence seems safest, but silence would be treason; the mother must have the heart of her loved ones in keeping in this hour of destiny; no one can be consulted with such safety as the mother, and she will need the electric light of Deity to guide her in this supreme emergency.

Who can arrest the flying hours? What issues hang upon the decision of the moment? She can find refuge only in Him who has said, "If ye ask anything in my name I will do it." Here she may anchor in a sublime faith that the young, inexperienced, and adventurous feet may, through infinite riches of grace, be led into paths of safety, usefulness and to a lasting peace.

THE MORNING WATCH.

BY MRS. MERRILL E. GATES.

"In the morning I prepare for Thee, and for Thy coming watch."—Ps. 5: 3. Translation of Dr. De Witt.

David bade everything stand aside that he might welcome God on the threshold of the new day. He centred his thought, affection, will, on God first. He poised himself for the day. Many an eagle-flight he took; many a hot battle he fought; many a time had they afflicted him, from his youth up, but to be the unintermittent victor in all these things he daily first fixed himself immovably on God. "Early will I seek Thee." God is not only to be first in point of consideration but, as a matter of fact, He is to be first in point of time devoted to Him. The early hours set the pitch for the whole day. If the detailed arrangement of our time is at all under our own control, can we be, or ought we to be comfortable in entering on any day, hurrying from one duty, care or pleasure to another, no matter how important, until God has had the first place, not only in our esteem, but in respect of time actually spent with Him? The putting off of early communion with God is the fruitful source of many unsanctified thoughts, of many hasty, ungracious acts, of many unguarded words, in short, of many unsatisfactory days and of much retrograde spirituality.

But to bring these thoughts to their immediate bearing on ourselves, is there a mother, teacher, housekeeper, or any woman in a family who does not feel the need of first getting right herself, of first finding some unshaking strength for her own heart, some mighty source of self-control and self-poise, some undergirding of power to make her an arm of strength on which others can lean, before she undertakes the commonest of those household or school duties that fall to her lot? The less her duties are spiritual the more she needs spiritual help for their best performing. Can we afford to pass one hour of untroubled hasting through duty when the peace we might have in spirit us very early in the morning, waiting to glide into every hour's duty to sweeten and

render it effective? But for it we must go aside, and in the morning prepare for Him and watch with the Book in hand to see what sustaining truth He will give for ourselves, and what added spiritual strength to be used for Him in helping others. Communion with Jesus in the early hours of the day should be the primal fact of each day. The day on which we prepare for God will be the day for which God prepares us. And it may be every remaining day of our life. "Be Thou their arm every morning."—Christian Intelligencer.

CARELESS CHILDREN.

Many mothers complain of the carelessness of their children in leaving their toys scattered about, and it is found that whipping them for such a fault commonly renders them sulky, peevish and inclined to prevaricate, faults much worse than that of mere carelessness, because they often lead to the establishment of characteristics positively bad. It would be far better to deprive the careless boy or girl for a time of the toys so neglected, and in reply to the anxious, "Why can't I have them?" explain how much trouble is given mamma or the servant in picking up their playthings and putting the room in order where they have been playing. Two or three trials of this kind will not fail to produce improvement in their conduct. It is by such rational means "a child," to use the language of Herbert Spencer, "is only taught the lesson which cannot be learned too soon, that in this world of ours pleasures are rightly to be obtained only by labor."

The thought suggests itself here that parents should co-operate earnestly in the punishment of their children as well as in approving and amusing them. When one parent finds it expedient to correct a little one the other parent should be careful about showing disagreement, at any rate in the presence of the child. Mother and father should be so considerate of each other in this important matter that their children may not be led to yield a very different measure of respect to each of them.—American Kindergarten.

A PORTION FOR THE DAY.

It is often hard for a busy housekeeper to secure time in the morning to sit down and enjoy her Bible as she would like. She simply cannot take a half hour from her nursery or her kitchen, and she has learned by experience that her only free time, free from unexpected interruptions, is the last hour of the day, when the children are in bed, the front door shut and the lateness of the evening a bar to visitors.

Like the manna in the desert, feeding the hungry wayfarers, does such a woman find her portion for the day. It is on the wall, in large print, two or three texts and a stanza from a hymn in one of the hanging leaflets called "Heavenly Sunshine" or "Silent Comforter;" or it is in her Daily Food, her Dewdrops, or her Every Day, that she finds the little portion, the angel's message, the tender clasp of the Saviour's hand. Through the toiling day the verse she reads recurs to her, calming her in weakness, guiding her in perplexity. Perhaps she is weary and depressed, doubtful of earthly love, uncertain of the future, and opening her little book she is reminded that "The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even forevermore." Anxious about pecuniary affairs, her verse for the day is, "I would have you without carefulness," or "He was marvellously helped till he was strong." Grieving over some dear one taken hence, she reads, "Because I live, ye shall live also." In need of wisdom, "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord."

One might proceed indefinitely, but this is enough to indicate how precious and rich is the daily portion which a single text may afford.—Christian Intelligencer.

DR. FOTHERGILL, a greatly respected English authority on dyspepsia, speaks strongly in favor of milk puddings and stewed fruits for the dyspeptic, the bilious and the gouty. He says: "Sugar is undoubtedly objectionable to many, but it is by no means necessary to add sugar to stewed fruit. If the acidity be neutralized by a little bicarbonate of soda, the natural sweetness of the fruit will be brought out, and the dish be made more agreeable than though artificially made sugar were added."

RECIPES.

PATES FILLED WITH MINCED CHICKEN OR VEAL.—Ingredients: Two pounds of cold chicken, salt, pepper, and nutmeg, one ounce of butter, half a gill of cream. Chop the chicken fine, first having removed the skin and sinews. Add salt, pepper, a little grated nutmeg, butter and cream; put all together in a saucepan on the fire for a few minutes, stirring constantly, remove it from the fire and put it in the pates, which have been made. Veal is prepared in exactly the same manner.

TEMPERANCE MINCE-PIE.—Two pounds beat chopped fine, two pounds suet chopped fine, five and a half pounds apple chopped fine, three pounds raisins, two of which chop, the other pound put in whole, one and a half pounds sugar, two cups molasses, two lemons (juice and rind), also inside and juice of two lemons in a pint of water, half an ounce cinnamon, one quarter ounce cloves, two nutmegs, one quarter ounce mace. (If one has no mace five grated nutmegs in its place.) A quarter cup of salt. If this is not sufficiently moist turn in water until it is. If one likes citron a half-pound is none too much.

BEEF SCALLOPS.—Mince a small quantity of cold roast beef very finely, season it rather highly with salt, pepper, and made mustard. Put it into a sauce-pan with just enough stock and gravy barely to moisten it, and let it heat very slowly. Grease out some scallop shells, or failing these, some deep oyster shells; nearly fill them with the mince—which must not on any account be thin or watery—and cover over with well-mashed potatoes. Mark the tops prettily with a fork, lay a tiny piece of butter on each, and bake in a quick oven until nicely browned. Serve neatly arranged on a hot dish, covered with a napkin or a dish paper.

PASTRY FOR PATES.—Ingredients: One quart of the best flour, half a pound of butter, half a pound of lard, one small teacupful of ice water. Sift the flour into a deep wooden bowl, chop up the lard in the flour until it is as fine as dust; add enough ice water to enable you to work all into a stiff dough, and work with a wooden spoon until it is necessary for you to use your hands; then flour them, and knead the paste into a round ball, handling as little as possible. Roll this out into a thin sheet, being careful to always roll from you, cover with small pieces of butter, roll up into a compact roll, flatten with your rolling pin, and roll out again as before. Repeat this until all the butter is used up. Make your pates into shape, bake a light brown, fill with the chicken or veal.

SAVORY MINCE.—This is a nice way to use up cold roast beef. Mince as much as is required very finely, fill it almost forns a paste, then cover it up and set it aside till wanted. Chop, very small, two medium onions, with a little thyme, parsley, and tarragon, and put them into a saucepan with an ounce of butter and a teaspoonful of flour. Stir them about over a gentle fire until partially cooked and nicely browned; add a cupful of stock, the minced meat, a dessert spoonful of good catsup, mushroom, walnuts or tomato—and a seasoning of salt and pepper. Simmer gently for half an hour, stirring now and then; then turn the mince out on to a hot dish, garnish with croûtons, and serve hot. To prepare the croûtons, take slices of stale bread, cut a quarter of an inch thick, stamp them into fancy shapes, stars, diamonds, rounds, or squares; fry them in boiling butter, or dripping, a rich golden brown, then drain them carefully, and serve as directed.

PUZZLES.

CHARADE.

A little object is my first.
But said to be by far
A mightier power for good or ill
Than warlike weapons are.

Where'er the sea-bird cleaves the air
My third's swift course is held;
Sometimes it flies on tireless wing,
Sometimes it is propelled.

My second did devise my first,
And eke my third he planned;
But still, although he made them both
He cannot aye command.

My whole is something practised
Where'er my first is found;
Sometimes 'tis sharp and angular
And sometimes it is round.

ODD PUZZLE.

R a g m a n
o o o o
o o o o
o o o o o
o o o o o
D o n k e y.

Take the last letters of each word for the first of the next until you find the Ragman's donkey.

CHARADE.

My first is a garment of beauty, I ween,
Yet it never was worn by a king or a queen.
My second is numbered among common toys,
And it often gives pleasure to men as to boys.
My whole from my first is quite easily made,
Yet it cannot be fashioned by chisel or spade.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES IN LAST NUMBER.

BEHEADINGS.—Wheel, heel, eel.
SQUARE WORD.—

A d a
D a y
A y e

CHARADE.—Aladin.