

GOOD MAMMAS.

"Come, Prudy, I want to show you some wee babies."
 "How funny! to say wee babies! Why, I never saw but one babie!" thought little Prudy, as mamma took her hand, and led her out in the warm Summer sunshine.
 There was a big arm of the old swing tree, which hung low, and its twigs were full of leaves. Among the leaves, mamma lifted her little girl and said—"Do you see the babies, in their soft, cosy house?" She peeped close, to see; but up flew the mamma bird, with her sharp bill ready to peck her. Prudy screamed, and drew back.
 "What a cross old mamma-bird!" she said, half crying.
 No, Prudy; she is a good, true mamma, who takes care that no harm shall come to her little ones. God teaches her that.
 "But I wouldn't hurt her babies!"
 "No; and she would learn that, if you visited her often. But she knows that naughty children would do harm, if they could."
 "Are all mammas like that? are you, mamma?" asked Prudy, looking very thoughtful.
 "Yes, dear, mamma tries to keep her little girl from all evil; and especially from the greatest enemy of all, who is ever near, trying to steal you away.
 Prudy looked frightened. Who could steal her from her mamma, and from her happy home? Then, she remembered about that wicked spirit,—the Devil—who, first of all tempted Adam and Eve, in the beau-

ful Garden, and has been trying to harm people, ever since; and who even tempted our Dear Lord Himself, when He lived on earth—*Shepherd's Arms.*

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"BE COURTEOUS."

1 Peter iii. 8.

In other words, be polite; or to put it in still another shape, treat others as you would like them to treat you under the same circumstances. And remember, boys and girls, that this rule applies to every body. Most people can be polite on occasion, to those they desire to please, in company with those they consider their equals or superiors; but the command of the apostle applies to every one. I have seen two girls, who I dare say, could be very polite to visitors in their mother's drawing-room, draw themselves together, and cast most rude and disdainful glances at a perfectly decent colored woman

who got into a street-car with them, whispering and tossing their heads, and making the poor woman very uncomfortable. I have known young men, who have risen in a moment to a poor feeble old man stand for block after block, while they occupied twice as much room as they were entitled to. I have seen girls just out of school walking three or four abreast, and with linked arms, actually turning older people off the sidewalk. Such acts as these show a much more serious want than that of mere outside training. They show a lack of christian charity and kindness.

I was once in a car waiting for it to start, when a lad about ten years old came in and went through to give some message to the driver. He was barefooted, he had on a straw hat much the worse for wear, and his

brown shirt had evidently seen two or three days' service. Next the door sat a young man, faultlessly attired in a light gray business suit, with kid gloves, and a rose in his button-hole. No two persons could have been more different in appearance, yet they were both gentlemen. How did I know? I will tell you. As the boy left the car, he put his hands on each side of the door, and as boys will, gave a little jump. In so doing, his bare foot touched the gentleman's knee, and left a little dust upon it. The boy saw what he had done, and touching his hat said in a civil, manly tone, "Please excuse me!" The young man bowed in his turn, and with a pleasant smile answered "Certainly." This little incident carries its own moral.

A good many people—and not only boys and girls—are polite to strangers, who never seem to think of showing

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THE RICH.

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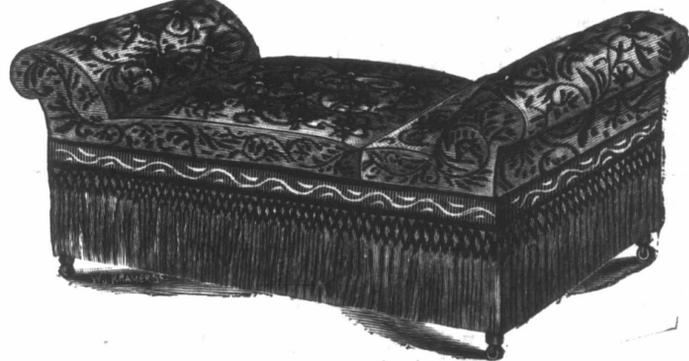
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