

4. Those who are unfaithful, play truant, or waste their time in idleness.

5. Those that are of a quarrelsome temper, and who are apt to get into difficulties with others.

6. Those who are addicted to lying and stealing.

7. Those who are of a cruel disposition, who take pleasure in torturing and maiming animals and insects, robbing birds of their young, etc.

All these classes of company are to be avoided, for if you associate with them, they will soon make you like themselves.

#### A NOBLE CONFESSOR.

It was a fine reply which Basil, of Cæsarea, made when the Emperor Valens sent by his prefect endeavoring by threats to compel him to receive acknowledged Arians into the fellowship of the church. The prefect demanded whether he alone, when all others obeyed the Emperor, dared to wish to have any other religion than that of his master. Basil replied, that he had nothing to be afraid of; possessions, of which men might deprive him, he had none, except his few books and his cloak. An exile was no exile for him, since he knew that the whole earth was the Lord's. If torture was threatened, his feeble body would yield to the first blows, and as for death, that would only bring him nearer to God, after whom he longed. The prefect gave up the case. It was vain to threaten such a man.

#### INCREASED DURATION OF LIFE.

Professor Buchanan, in a lecture before the Mechanics' Institute of Cincinnati, makes the following observations upon the average duration of life, the effect in part of the improvements in medical science. He says that in the latter part of the sixteenth century, one-half of all that were born died under five years of age, and the average longevity of the whole population was but 18 years. In the 17th century, one-half of the population died under twelve. But in the first sixty years of the 18th century, one-half of the population lived over 27 years. In the latter forty years, one-half exceeded thirty-two years of age. At the beginning of the present century, one-half exceeded forty years, and from 1838 to 1845 one-half exceeded forty-three. The average longevity at these successive periods has been increased from 16 years in the 16th century, up to 43.7 by our last reports.

**A THOUGHT FOR THE TIMES.**—"Let us dare to be guilty of the great singularity of doing well, and of acting like men and Christians, and then if we can have the liking and approbation of the world, well; if not, the comfort is we shall not much want it."

Mr. Stephen Paxson was led into the Sunday school by his own child; there learned to read; attended as a scholar, four years; received his first impressions of religion from the books of the library; was converted; became a teacher, a superintendent, a volunteer organizer of Sunday schools, and, finally a Missionary of the American Sunday School Union. In six years and a half's labor, in fifteen counties of Illinois, and twenty-eight counties in Missouri, he organized 502 new Sunday-schools, with 3,575 teachers, and 21,350 scholars; reorganized 100 schools, having 671 teachers and 4,075 scholars; visited and aided 130 schools having 320 teachers and 5,200 scholars.

Be mild towards those who are thy dependents; be not arrogant.

#### SERAPATING THE SEXES IN SCHOOL.

"The youth of both sexes of our Scottish peasantry have been educated together, and as a whole, the Scots are the most moral people on the face of the globe. Education in England is given separately, and we have never heard from practical men that any benefit has arisen from this arrangement. Some influential men there mourn over the popular prejudice on this point. In Dublin a larger number of girls turn out badly, who have been educated alone till they arrive at the age of maturity, than of those who have been otherwise brought up; the separation of the sexes in youth is productive of fearful evils. It is stated on good authority, that of those educated in the schools of convents, apart from boys, the great majority go wrong within a month after being let loose into society and meeting the other sex. They cannot it is said, resist the slightest compliment or flattery. The separation is intended to keep them strictly moral, but this unnatural seclusion actually generates the very principles desired to be avoided.

We may repeat that it is impossible to raise girls intellectually as high without boys as with them; and it is impossible to raise boys morally as high without the presence of girls. The girls morally elevate the boys, and the boys intellectually elevate the girls. But more than this, girls themselves are morally elevated by the presence of boys, and boys are intellectually elevated by the presence of girls. Girls brought up with boys are more positively moral, and boys brought up in school with girls are more positively intellectual by the softening influence of the female character.

In the Normal Seminary at Glasgow, the most beneficial effects have resulted from the more natural course. Boys and girls from the age of two and three years to fourteen and fifteen, have been trained in the same class-room, galleries, and play-grounds, without impropriety, and they are never separated except at needle-work."—*Stow*.

#### THE DO-AS-YOU-LIKE PRINCIPLE.

The child's will governs too much. If they do not choose to go to bed, they sit up; if they choose certain articles of food, they must have them—parents forgetting that instinct is no safe guide in a child, whatever it may be in an animal. So we see them, in their delicate organization, keeping late hours when they should go to bed with the birds; sleeping often in warm and lighted rooms, when the sleeping room should be cool and dark; and eating hot bread, puddings, pies and cakes, and drinking tea and coffee, to the infinite detriment of nerves and stomach. The injury thus early done can never be repaired—as a machine, imperfectly constructed at first, can never be made to run faultlessly.

This is the secret. Parents should know that instinct is no safe guide to a child, particularly when the child is surrounded on all sides with poisonous delicacies. To ask a child seated at a modern table what it will have, and give it what it asks for, merely because it asks for it, is a very common practice; but it is as cruel as it is common. Have mercy on the children.—*Independent*.

**BIRDS.**—The editor of the *Farmers' Journal* says, that aside from the invaluable services of birds in keeping injurious insects in check, they amply compensate the farmer for their share of his grain and small fruits, by eating the seeds of weeds that are allowed to mature, and that those sportsmen who shoot the birds in his fields, are entitled to the same respect as is due to those who rob his hen-roosts.