

Without our own intelligent participation and co-operation in the work, it cannot be done. Never before, in all probability, did we fall into such a lonely sense of our own utter helplessness. At this interesting moment how welcome, how encouraging, how grandly inspiring is the cheerful smile of a sympathizing tutor. On the other hand, how fatal, at this delicate juncture, may be the imprudent or extreme severity of a teacher who fails to enter into the spirit of the taught.

I believe in order and discipline at school (there is no school without them); but I believe also that both can better be secured by love than by fear. What is done through fear is seldom done right, and never done with the proper end in view. The teacher's smile, if he knows when to use it, is a much better disciplinarian than the rod. Watch a pupil go to his next task who has been the recipient of an approving smile, or the subject of kindly praise from the teacher for having performed his previous task well. That pupil goes to his future work with double courage and application. The very reverse is the case when a child has unnecessarily been frowned upon or scolded. The smile of a teacher cheers the child, and the child wants to be cheered. If a teacher can help it at all he should never make his pupils, or any one of them, sad. Sadness disables a man; it destroys a child. Soon enough these sprightly creatures of the morning will, for themselves, be able to say, with the gifted poetess :

"Laugh [and the world laughs with
you,
Weep, and you weep alone ;
For the sad old earth must borrow
its mirth
But has sorrows enough of its own."

To our teachers, all and sundry, then may I be permitted to say, be cheerful and cheer your pupils. This will sweeten your calling and make your own work and that of those under your charge much lighter. It will, moreover, draw to yourselves the eternal sympathy and gratitude of hosts of spotless souls whose possible power no man can measure. When these felicitous relations are established between you, you will find that, when you wish your words to maintain particular silence in the room, your own well-merited smile will exercise on them a spell like the cosmic harmony of the ancients.

