

ceived, or your own soul, and have you no higher motives than to seem good in the eyes of your fellow men, while at heart you are a knave and a cheat. Nothing of that sort shall be done in my house; and," she added bitterly, "I would not have believed you could for a single moment wish to do it."

It was true that Nathan, now sixteen years old, had united with the Church the preceding winter, and no wonder his mother was shocked to find him willing to depart from the line of rectitude.

"Carry these to the barn," said Mrs. Bernard, "and fill the barrel with Jenny Linds, which are sound and of a proper size, such as Mr. Gray has a right to expect when he pays a full price for them." And Nathan did it whether reluctantly or not I never knew, for he said nothing more, but after a time he brought out another barrel, put them into the wagon and drove off.

Probably this incident would never have come to my mind again, but for a letter I received from a soldier friend of mine the other day. Among other things he says:

"Many regiments complain bitterly of frauds practised on them by their quartermasters, but we have got one whom nobody accuses of dishonesty. He's a splendid fellow, as honest and upright as the sun; nobody will ever find him filling his own pockets, by cheating the soldiers, I assure you. And he told me the other day he knew you, and you once made a visit at his father's several years ago. Do you remember him? His name is Bernard, somewhere from Massachusetts, I believe, and he goes by the name of *Honest Bernard* among the boys. It does a boy's heart good to find one really honest man in these days."

Honest? Yes, how could he well be otherwise growing up in such a home, with such a mother? And you who are most given to the complaining of the vice and dishonesty which so disgrace the land, are you training your boys so that it shall be well nigh impossible for them to be tricky and knavish when they are men? Do you never tolerate by precept or example, any attempts to pass off a thing for more than its real value, to conceal imperfections, or overreach an ignorant neighbor or a defenceless woman in a bargain, or in any way to depart from the strict line of honor and uprightness? If your sons never see you do aught of this kind, and are never allowed

to do what is in any sense dishonorable themselves, you may hope they will never become fraudulent contractors or swindling office-holders, or corrupt, bribing politicians. Here is the great work which Christian fathers and mothers of this generation have to do; first to be strictly honest in the sight of God themselves, and then to train their children to despise all tricks and subterfuges of dishonest trade. Then we may hope the nation will have integrity and honesty enough within it for God to preserve it from destruction; then, and not till then. It is in the clean, well-ordered, beautiful kitchens of our farmers and mechanics that honest men are to grow up; for in them the great masses of our young men are being trained to day, and holy and sweet and full of promise for the country are the lessons which may there be taught. Mother, make your kitchen tidy and attractive, and see that none of your sons impose on others in a bargain, and you will deserve the gratitude of coming generations, and receive the approval of God himself.

THE GAME OF LIFE.

There's a game much in fashion—I think it's called *Eucree*;

(Though I never have played it, for pleasure or lucre,)

In which, when the cards are in certain condition,

The players to have changed their positions,

And one of them cries in a confident tone,

"I think I may venture to *go it alone*."

While watching the game, 'tis a whim of the bard's

A moral to draw from that skirmish of cards,

And to fancy he finds in the trivial strife,

Some excellent hints for the battle of Life;

Where—weather the prize be a ribbon or throne,

The winner is he who can "go it alone!"

When the great GALILEO proclaimed that the world

In a regular orbit was ceaselessly whirled,