

sand dollars for a school house and repairs during these ten years, and the whole expense of educating these forty children will be represented by sixty thousand dollars. Now, hire a teacher at twelve hundred dollars a year, who knows how to begin, and how to apply motives, discipline, and instruction, so as to finish his work in eight years, and as the better, will, at the same time, make the children stronger in body, more upright in character, and more energetic. Here, on the same estimate as before, is an expense of fifty-eight thousand dollars, and the children are now set free to earn, and to labor for the good of the society. Thus the better teacher, in one school, saves during eight years two thousand dollars in money, and eighty years, two years for each child, of very valuable time. Now, how much better are these well-taught scholars for clerks, for artisans, for teachers, for students in the higher branches of learning, than the others! Count, if you can, in addition to this saving of money, all the noble and desirable things above enumerated, and a thousand others that cannot be named, and you can get an idea of the profit, pecuniary and otherwise, to a community that shall give its attention more carefully to the training of small children. Here is matter of thought for the political economist, as well as for the philanthropist, the educator, and the parent. School committees should not overlook it; and teachers, if they would smooth their future pathway and that of their successors, and render success far more certain and far more abundant, should attend more to the little ones "on the small seats," even if they are compelled to seem to neglect those "at the large desks." The statesman should examine this matter carefully. The children are the best estate of any community. A nation may abound in resources of iron, silver, copper, lead, coal, gold, and precious gems, and in streams that bring perennial power to her mill wheels; she may have the finest soil and the noblest harbours, and may enjoy a climate such as the sun makes for no other land; yet, if she have not the men,—not simply so many material forms possessing bones and blood, thews and sinews,—but men, possessing free and energetic souls, fiery courage, keen intelligence, and unconquerable wills, she will be weak and uninfluential. But if she have the men, it will matter comparatively little whether she have the resources at hand or not. If her sons are hardy and daring, honest and resolute, skilful and persevering, they will find harbors, or at least, safety for her commerce in the mid-ocean even; they will bring the gold of the West, and the diamonds of the East, to build and adorn her palaces and deck her beauties; they will gather the down from the cotton field, and the fleece from the flocks of all climes, to cloth her millions; they will bring up fuel from the bottom of the mountains distant by the space of a hemisphere, and make it melt and forge the iron nourished at the antipodes; they will reap harvests to fill their granaries, which grow on virgin fields of far-off continents; and they will sell, at almost fabulous profit, her skill-woven fabrics to the people of other climes. Yet, if a people will be thus powerful and prosperous in all future time, they must not disguise the matter at all, or attempt to ignore their duty to their offspring. These must be their chief care. Not stocks, nor commerce, nor armies, nor navies, nor any pursuit of material wealth, must be its first aim; but its sons and its daughters, its jewels of brighter lustre and highest value, must first be cared for, and then all other things will grow naturally and healthfully. It will not answer to put them off with a slight care, reckoning that they are intelligent and self-willing, and that, as the whole spirit of the age is aroused to grasp knowledge, diffusing as well as discovering it, they will therefore, of necessity, learn and grow to be all that the commonwealth demands them to know and to be. They must have special attention, and that must be given early, and be most assiduous.

#### 7. HOME DISCIPLINE—FAMILIAR THOUGHTS BY A MOTHER.

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Mothers, if we wish to train our children in the way they should go, we must first learn that way ourselves, for it is impossible for us to teach our children what we do not know. Mothers, read your Bibles prayerfully, and carefully, and He who has promised to hear and answer prayer, will teach you that way. Pray often; teach your little ones to pray; pray with and for them; it is necessary that they should often be with you when you pray; they learn lessons there never to be forgotten; the knowledge that a mother prays for her children makes a great impression on their minds.

We must teach them both by precept and example. If we fret and scowl among our children, they will fret and scowl among themselves; if we are pleasant and agreeable among our children, they will be so among themselves.

Mother! when you look on that sweet little babe, and see and know that it is yours, your own sweet little babe, what are your feelings? Do you not feel as if he was given you for some wise purpose? and that when you come to the bar of the Allwise Being, you will have to render to Him an account of the manner in which

you have trained that child? And if he becomes wicked, you will cast reflections on yourself in this life. How important it is, then, for mothers to study the will of God, search the Scriptures, and pray daily. As your babe grows, and his mind develops, you discover that he is capable of learning, and that his little mind will catch at everything it comes in contact with; now is the time to teach him; he may forget the words you tell him, but the impression remains. Never look on him with a frown, to show a friend how quick he will cry; mothers know that a child perceives the difference between a frown and a smile very young. Never give your child anything but pleasant looks and fond caressings while he is very young; when he grows old enough to commit disobedient acts designedly, then is the time to show displeasure; but go about your duty in a very mild manner, take him in your arms, and tell him of his fault kindly, and act towards him as God has commanded you. If you study the Lord's will each day, I do believe you will know when and how to correct your children. Children often commit disobedient acts, which amuse us; be careful, mother, about laughing or speaking of them in their presence, for such things have a great influence on their minds. Never deceive your children, for if you do they will most assuredly imitate you in that respect; but teach them to abhor deceit in all its colours. Do not allow them to shake their fists or strike at any person or thing—this and many other little things that appear smart in children to some, are in my eyes very great sins, for they inculcate a principle that will never be eradicated.

I know that there are many mothers who suffer their children to do a great many things when they are small, that they do not intend they shall do when they grow older; but remember, mother, it will be very hard to overcome a habit formed in childhood. Be very careful in regard to the conduct of your children. Temptations are numerous. Take advantage of every suitable occasion to teach them their duty. I do not mean that you should be constantly watching and talking to them about their faults; that would render you and them unhappy.

When you give a command, act in a manner that will give the child to understand that he must obey you, of course. That is the only way to begin to teach little ones obedience. If you train in this way with love, you will have an obedient child; but if you give him to understand that his will is your pleasure, you will have a lost and ruined child. Just say, "Now, my child, come; won't you do thus, and so?"—see how he hesitates!—Then speak to another, with, "well, you will wait on mother; won't you?" you have surely made another failure. Now, reader, how do you view such commands as these, given from parents to children? Is it teaching disobedience directly or indirectly? It may be indirect, but I would as soon tell my children to disobey me, as to speak to them in that manner. Teach your child obedience. Your commands should not be unreasonable; but if you can succeed in building a wall of obedience around each of your children's hearts, you will probably have a happy family—the older ones will guide the younger in a great degree.—[*British M. Journal.*]

#### 8. HOME INFLUENCES.

Home of my childhood! What words fall upon the ear with so much of music in their cadence as those which recall the scenes of innocent and happy childhood, now numbered with the memories of the past. How fond recollection delights to dwell upon the events which marked our early pathway, when the unbroken home-circle presented a scene of loveliness, vainly sought but in the bosom of a happy family! Intervening years have not dimmed the vivid colouring with which memory has adorned those joyous hours of youthful innocence. We are again borne on the wings of imagination, to the place made sacred by the remembrance of a father's care, a mother's love, and the cherished associations of brothers and sisters.

But, awakening from the bright dream—too bright for realization—we find ourselves far down the current of Time, which, then but a sparkling rivulet, playfully meandering through flowery meads, has swelled to a broad and rapid stream, upon whose bosom we are carried forward, with the vast moving world, to the shoreless sea of eternity. Where are those who watched with anxious solicitude our early course? Where now is that paternal counsellor, and that maternal guide, and those kindred spirits that then journeyed with us? The former, "gone with the years beyond the flood;" the broken circle, widely sundered, if not diminished by the grasp of the remorseless spoiler. The parent stalks lie withered, ere yet their sun of life had begun to decline; and before their offspring had attained maturity of body or mind, an inheritance of orphanage and sorrow was entailed upon us.

But, amid the general gloom cast over the mind by the early removal of parents, there is sweet consolation in the recollection of their virtues, and their earnest efforts to lead us in the way to heaven. The teachings of a pious, though long since departed mother,