Children's Department.

My Lesson.

I told a secret! It wasn't much
For a little girl to tell;
And I only told it, softly and low,
To my intimate schoolmate, Belle.

But the silly secret grew and grew,
And all around it spread,
Until at last it was hard to find
The thing I had really said.

And when I sat in mamma's lap
With all my troubles told,
She said 'twas the "matter great" that grew
From the "little fire" of old.

So I learned a lesson well that night
Before I went to bed;
And mamma gave me a rule to keep;
And this is what she said:

"The only way is never to say
A word that can offend;
Not even close to the listening ear
Of the dearest intimate friend!"

—*Youth's Companion.*

Hints for Girls.

Don't repeat gossip, if it does interest a crowd. Don't go untidy on the plea that everybody knows you. Don't be rude to your inferiors in social position. Don't over or underdress. Don't express a positive opinion unless you perfectly understand what you are talking about. Don't get in the habit of vulgarizing life by making light of the sentiment of it. Don't jeer at anybody's religious belief. Don't try to be anything else but a gentle-woman—and that means a woman who has consideration for the whole world and whose life is governed by the Golden Rule, "Do unto others as you would be done by."

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