

## CHILDREN AT CHURCH.

Have your classes as far as possible at church. Do not let them feel that their religious obligations are discharged with attendance upon the Sabbath-school. The church is God's ordained institution for instruction and worship, and must be duly honored by teachers and scholars. The infants in the temple when Christ visited it sang his praises and received his blessing. And to-day he welcomes the young to his sanctuary and blesses them there. There are none too young to attend the morning church service who are old enough to attend the Sabbath-school. Even the infant classes should be accustomed to attend regularly the house of God. It should be endeared to them from their earliest recollections. They should grow up in the *habit* of church attendance. It is a good thing, for one to come to maturity with the *trained feeling* that when the Sabbath comes he is out of his element unless he has been that day to the Lord's house.—*Sel*

## NOBLESSE OBLIGE.

A gift, showing the nobility of both heart and breeding, is that of punctilious courtesy toward the humble as well as toward the great.

"Why," said a rich and vulgar woman, who was walking with a relative who could claim better breeding, "Is it possible you bow to your cook?"

"I hope I shall always be found worthy," was the quiet reply; "my cook is a very good woman."

"Ah, but I'd go out of me way and back ag'in, to mate wid him," said an old Irish-woman, enthusiastically, in speaking of the rich man of her town; "he's the only gentleman that takes off his hat to me."

A young Englishman, staying at Fontainebleau in the time of Napoleon III., chanced to fall in with the royal party while hunting in the forest, and made a pleasant impression upon the emperor, who invited him to dinner. The young man longed to accept so signal an honor, but he had previously made an engagement to be with some old ladies at Geneva, on the appointed day. Doubtless they would gladly have released him from his engagement under the plea of dining with an emperor, but he did not ask that grace. The emperor received his excuse, and the old ladies his presence.

A modest, but exceedingly punctilious gentleman, an English clergyman, one afternoon took tea with the poet Tennyson, who, as his guest was about to leave, invited him to take a walk. Much as he desired fur-

ther conversation with his host, the clergyman was obliged to excuse himself and hasten away so meet one of his humblest parishioners.

"I should have been greatly pleased to go with him," he said, afterwards, "but you see I had promised old Thompson to take a walk with him, and of course he came first."

"Why should you thank a servant?" asked a father, who was fond of the Socratic method of teaching, and loved to question his little son, until the lad reached wise conclusions by his own wit. "They are paid for what they do. Do you owe them anything but money?"

"I owe them money," said the lad, somewhat perplexed, in expressing what he really felt, "and I thank them because—because I owe it to myself to be polite?"

He had learned the meaning of the old, grand motto, "*Noblesse oblige.*"

## THE SECRET OUT.

In the state of Pennsylvania, a large number of incendiary fires have occurred in a certain community. These fires would burst forth at most unexpected times, and when no one near to kindle them. The secret has at last been discovered, in the finding of an egg-shell, loaded with some secret chemical preparation that had latent explosive or combustible properties, which became active after the lapse of a certain time, when they suddenly asserted their nature and burst into flames which were instantly scattered broadcast. One of these loaded egg-shells was discovered and actual experiment revealed its nature. It is so with sin. "Sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." For a time, it may seem inert and harmless, but all human experience has amply corroborated the divine declaration! "The end is death."—*Pulpit Treasury.*

## DRIFTING AWAY FROM GOD.

I was invited to be present at a wedding in a distant city. I was not able to reach the house of my friend till late in the evening of the day before the auspicious event. We sat in the pleasant parlor chatting for a time; then, though we were all weary, and the hands of the clock indicated that it was almost midnight, the bride-elect said: "Papa, we must have evening prayers to-night, just the same as usual."

Then turning to me, she added in a low tone: "I am so afraid that in the bustle and preparation we may drift away from God."

There is often danger that the current of the world may sweep us along with it, but if anchored by prayer we need not fear.—*American Magazine.*