

are loved and honored, have great weight, is tried; that the lessons imperceptibly taught by the daily life at home are thoroughly sound, and that the softening influence of courtesy and affection is shed over all.

The rectitude of the father, the self-denial of the mother, and the earnestness with which both pursue their daily avocations, make a great impression on the youthful mind; and even much slighter incidents which the thoughtless may only regard as trifles, often serve either to develop good qualities, or to pervert the yet unformed judgment.

Among the most important of the quiet lessons taught by home influence, the duties of friendship and relationship may be alluded to, for it is by the proper performance of these duties that life is made happy and mankind benefitted. We should especially teach the young the value of true courtesy to all, the necessity of taking a strictly just view of their own conduct, but a very lenient one of the actions and opinions of others, the importance of attending to the many small and individually trivial, but collectively important laws, by which society is bound together, and the fearful consequences which ensue from encouraging feelings of envy, hatred and malice.

At the same time, warnings may be instilled, and observations made to show the true uses of friendship, to teach that he who does a base thing, in zeal for his friend, "burns the golden thread that ties their hearts together." South, I believe, says in one of his sermons, "that sorrows by being communicated grow less, and joys greater; for sorrow, like a stream, loses itself in many channels, while joy, like a ray of sun, is reflected the more powerfully when it rebounds upon a man from the breast of his friend."

The performance of good offices towards our fellows, not only confers immediate gratification, but permanently ennobles our dispositions, and enables us at the close of the evening to give a cheerful answer to the question that each one should put to himself—What have I done this day?

Lastly, we should urge that the youth should be shown by the parents' course of conduct, that, as members of society, all men have certain heavy, moral obligations, which it is incumbent upon them to discharge, and that he who discharges them best will be the happiest, independently of his occupation or his station in life.