

different hour for the meeting of the Ladies' Society; Mrs. White points out to her that such an hour would be inconvenient for many of the members, whereupon Mrs. Brown is offended, and will have no more to do with the matter. Miss Green agrees with Mrs. Brown, but finding that the others are opposed to the change she gives up the point good-naturedly, and goes on working as before.

There is no talent more valuable than the talent for helpfulness. John Summers is in request in all the boys' plans for work and play, because, as Lewis says, he can help, even when the project is not his own. His father can set him about a piece of work, and be sure that his directions will be followed exactly. If Harry is told to do a thing in a certain way, he is very apt to try some plan of his own, and consequently he often does more harm than good.

Try, then, boys and girls, to cultivate a helpful, teachable spirit. Be not wise in your own conceits. Remember that other people have a right to their own opinions. If you feel obliged to differ from others, do so modestly, and not angrily. Better is he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.—*New York Parish Visitor.*

#### BURDETTE'S MESSAGE TO BOYS.

My boy, the first thing you want to learn—if you haven't learnt it already—is to tell the truth. The pure, sweet, refreshing, wholesome truth. The plain, unvarnished, simple, everyday, manly truth, with a little "t."

For one thing, it will save you so much trouble—O heaps of trouble—and no end of hard work and a terrible strain upon your memory. Sometimes—and when I say sometimes I mean a great many times—it is hard to tell the truth the first time. But when you have told it there is an end of it. You have won the victory; the fight is over. Next time you tell that truth you can tell it without thinking. Your memory may be faulty, but you tell your story without a single lash from the stinging whip of that stern old taskmaster—conscience. You don't have to stop to remember how you told it yesterday; you don't get half through with it and then stop with the awful sense upon you that you are not telling it as you told it the other time, and cannot remember just how you told it then; you won't have to look around to see who is there before you begin telling it; and you won't have to invent a lot of new lies to reinforce the old

one. After Ananias told a lie his wife had to tell one just like it. You see, if you tell lies you are apt to get your whole family into trouble. Lies always travel in gangs with their co-equals.

And, then, it is so foolish for you to lie. You cannot pass a lie off for the truth any more than you can get counterfeit money into circulation; the leaden dollar is always detected before it goes very far. When you tell a lie it is known. "Yes," you say, "God knows it." That's right; but He is not the only one. So far as God's knowledge is concerned, the liar doesn't care very much. He doesn't worry about what Gods knows—if he did, he wouldn't be a liar; but it does worry a man or boy who tells lies to think that everybody else knows it. The other boys know it; your teacher knows it; people who hear you tell "whoppers" know it; your mother knows it, but she won't say so. And all the people who know it, and don't say anything about it, talk about it to each other and—dear! dear! the things they say about a boy who is given to telling big stories! If he could hear them, it would make him stick to the truth like flour to a miller.

And finally, if you tell the truth always, I don't see how you are going to get very far out of the right way. And how people do trust a truthful boy! We never worry about him when he is out of our sight. We never say, "I wonder where he is? I wish I knew what he is doing? I wish I knew who he is with? I wonder why he doesn't come home?" Nothing of the sort; we know he is all right, and that when he gets home we will know all about it and have it all straight. We don't have to ask him where he is going and how long he will be gone every time he leaves the house. We don't have to call him back and make him "solemnly promise" the same thing over two or three times. When he says "Yes, I will," or "No, I won't," just once, that settles it. We don't have to cross-examine him when he comes home to find out where he has been. He tells us once, and that is enough. We don't have to say, "Sure?" "Are you sure, now?" when he tells anything.

But, my boy, you can't build up that reputation by merely telling the truth about half the time, nor two-thirds, nor three-fourths, nor nine-tenths of the time; but all the time. If it brings punishment upon you while the liars escape; if it brings you into present disgrace while the smooth-tongued liars are exalted; if it loses you a

good position; if it degrades you in the class; if it stops a week's pay—no matter what punishment it may bring you—tell the truth.

All these things will soon be righted. The worst whipping that can be laid on a boy's back won't keep him out of the water in swimming time longer than a week; but a lie will burn in the memory fifty years. Tell the truth for the sake of the truth, and all the best people in the world will love and respect you, and all the liars respect and hate you.—*The Ladies' Home Journal.*

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