

and cordiality in recompensing them, are not general. How cruelly low their estimate of their own soul's worth is that thus manifested by many! Thousands spend far more on their least costly foible, than to maintain the man of God who toils and watches for their everlasting welfare—the guide of their lives, their chosen instructor in heavenly truth, and their bosom friend in the hour of domestic sorrow. Paltry indeed would the legal and medical adviser hold the recompense of a minister, ever at command, wholly devoted to their interests. Where, but in a Christian household, is a pastor's worth likely to be known, or his necessities likely to be met by a frequent grateful love-offering, instead of a heartless quarterly pew-rent?

The system here styled "Domestic Economics, is taught in 1 Cor. xvi. 1, 2,—the presentation of the offerings of Christian households, for all purposes of common and sacred benevolence, in the retirement of home, on the holy Sabbath, prior to specific application. The principle of Jewish offering was proportioned to resources. From the nature of their property, the chief offerings of the Jews were presented at the great seasons of ingathering. Besides the tithe for the priesthood, and the further tithe for temple uses, no worshipper might appear before the Lord empty. Here, then, were large periodic, and frequent special offerings.

The Christian should infer his obligation from the superiority of the Christian to the Jewish economy. Can any infer inferior obligation? Suppose a Christian father determine to act in this respect, as in the sight of God. With a medium family can he not give, from an income of £100 per annum, a fifteenth part—from £200, a tenth—from £400, an eight,—ever raising the ratio with the income? On the Sabbath the week's proportion can be put into a sacred treasury. Entering the sanctuary, the amount determined for worship can be there deposited. The balance remains for other religious and benevolent objects. Special mercies constrain special offerings. This is no mere fancy picture, but an every Lord's day fact in many families. Is not this what the Holy Spirit looks for in every Christian household?

What scene on earth more appropriate? Its influence on the moral training of a single generation, who can conceive?

No influence is so deep and permanent as that of *home*. When every other name and influence have lost their charm, "*Home*" and "*Mother*" wake a vibrating chord in the heart, Do not home influences foster the present selfishness, and love of dress, pleasure, and wealth? Where such objects are the chief themes of converse, and are most eagerly sought, what can follow but that children become gay, grasping, and wordly; "lovers of pleasure, more than lovers of God?" But where children see far more highly prized by their parents than wealth, the favour of God and a faithful regard to their stewardship; where the attire of grace is esteemed above fabrics of Lyons—the treasures of piety above those of India, and the fixed aim under all circumstances, is to act a faithful part towards God and man, can such conduct fail to expand their hearts, and train them in benevolence and piety.

Undoubtedly thousands of well-meaning parents have, by their all grasping covetousness, ruined their children, both in body and soul, while professing concern for their eternal welfare; by fixing in them, through daily example, and an unconquerable persuasion that earthly is superiour to heavenly good.

In the six days of toils, man plies his mental and muscular energies in the workshop of industry. On the Sabbath, he is invited to ascend the Pisgah heights of holy meditation and repose; and from the watch tower of domestic sanctity to survey the land over which he can best scatter the seed-corn of benevolence, accumulated by the past week's toil. Who can name the benevolent object whose operations are not cramped by deficiency of means? All human methods combined fail to supply needful resources. Whence but from the million households of Christians, constituting in their unity the true Sanctuary of God on earth, can flow those never failing streams, which, commingling in the ever-deepening channel of divine beneficence, shall spread spiritual life and joy throughout the world.—*The Sabbath Storing and Offering Record.*