

6. I DON'T SEE WHY.

A STORY FOR YOUTH.

I know a little girl who has a very pleasant home, and the very kindest of parents, and who is yet often discontented and unhappy. She pouts her lips, and throws her arms about, and sulks, and stamps with her feet, and makes a strange noise in her throat, between a growl and a cry. It is not because she has not enough to eat of good, wholesome food; nor because she has not time to play, and playthings in abundance, and brothers to play with her. She is not blind, nor lame, nor deformed in any way, but has health and strength, and every thing which any little girl could wish to make her happy in this world, except a good heart.

What is it that made her fretful? Why, she had a kind mother, who told her what she must do, and what she must not. I will tell you what I heard:

"Caroline, you must not take my scissors, my dear."

"Why, mother, I have no scissors to cut off my thread," said Caroline, pettishly.

"Well, my dear, I will give you a pair; but you must not take mine."

"I am sure I don't see why. It's only just to cut off my thread."

The scissors were of the finest kind, and highly polished, and Caroline's mother knew that it would soil them if she should handle them with her moist hands; and that, if she had them once, she would want them again. Caroline's business was to obey cheerfully, whether she saw the reason why or not.

"Caroline, my dear, you must not climb up on that chair to reach your work. You must ask some one to get it for you."

"I am sure I don't see why. It is less trouble to get it myself than to ask somebody for it."

"Very well, my child; you shall do it in your own way, and see."

That very afternoon, Caroline mounted a chair to get her work. She reached too far and over went the chair, and Caroline with it. Her work was scattered over the floor—the needle book in one direction, and the thimble in another, and the spools in another; and, what worse than all, her head struck the edge of the door, and a gash was cut in her forehead. She cried sadly, and did not get over her hurt for weeks. Was it less trouble to get it herself?

If she had trusted her mother, she would have saved herself all this pain; but for the sake of knowing the reason why she should not get up on the chair, she cost herself a severe wound, and a great deal of shame and sorrow.

It is a good rule, through life, to do what God requires us to do, whether we see why or not. One of the things he requires you to do is, to obey your parents.—*Southern Teacher.*

7. THE HONOR DUE TO INDUSTRY.

Every young man should remember that the world always has and always will honor industry. The vulgar and useless idler whose energies of mind and body are rusting for the want of exercise, the mistaken being who pursues amusement as relief to his enervated muscles, or engages in exercises that produce no useful end, may look with scorn on the labourer engaged in his toil; but his scorn is praise; his contempt is honor. Honest industry will secure the respect of the wise and the good among men, and yield the rich fruit of an easy conscience, and give that hearty self-respect which is above all price. Toil on, then, young men and young women. Be diligent in business. Improve the heart and mind, and you will find "the well spring of enjoyment in your own souls," and secure the confidence and respect of all those whose respect is worth an effort to obtain.

8. OF AMERICAN MODERN REFINEMENT.

People don't laugh now-a-days—they indulge in merriment. They don't walk—they promenade. They never eat any food—they masticate it. Nobody has a tooth pulled out—it is extracted.—No one has his feelings hurt—they are lacerated. It is vulgar to visit any one—you must only make a call. Of course you would not think of going to bed—you would retire to rest. Nor would you build a house—you would erect it. One buys drugs at a "medical hall," wines of a "company," and shoes at a "mart." Blacking is dispensed at an "institution," and meat from a "purveyor." One would imagine that the word "shop" had not only become contemptible, but had been discovered not to belong to the English language. Now-a-days, all the shops are "warehouses" or "bazaars," and you will hardly find a person having the hardihood to call himself a shopkeeper. "Workpeople" are "employees," "tea-meetings" are "soirees," and "singers" are "artists." All kinds of women are "ladies," and boarding school girls and little misses are "young ladies." Girls, women, and wives are only found in Europe, and especially in England, the British Isle.

9. LORD ELGIN ON THE CHINESE.

Besides the Premier of England, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and several other Cabinet Ministers, there was present among the artists at the last annual banquet of the Royal Academy, the diplomatic and military chiefs of the Pekin expedition—Lord Elgin and General Sir Hope Grant. The talk, of course, was about art, and Lord Elgin took advantage of the opportunity to show that he was not open to a charge of mere Vandalism in ordering the destruction of the Emperor's Summer Palace. He regretted the necessity, but believed that if the atrocious crime which he was avenging had passed unpunished, it would have placed in jeopardy the life of every European in China, and entailed, at least, another year's war.

Gen. Grant added that himself and the whole army entirely concurred in this "necessary act of retribution." Lord Elgin made some remarks on the peculiar idiosyncrasies of the Chinese, which will bear repetition here:

"The distinguishing characteristic of the Chinese mind is this—that in all points of the circle described by man's intelligence it seems occasionally to have caught glimpses of a heaven far beyond the range of its ordinary ken and vision. It caught a glimpse of the path which leads to military supremacy when it invented gunpowder, some centuries before the discovery was made by any other nation. It caught a glimpse of the path which leads to maritime supremacy when it made, at a period equally remote, the discovery of the mariner's compass. It caught a glimpse of the path which leads to literary supremacy when in the 10th century it invented the printing press; and it has caught from time to time glimpses of the beautiful in color and design. But in the hands of the Chinese themselves the invention of gunpowder has exploded in crackers and harmless fireworks. The mariner's compass has produced nothing better than a coasting junk. The art of printing has stagnated in stereotyped editions of Confucius; and the most cynical representations of the grotesque have been the principal products of Chinese conceptions of the sublime and beautiful. Nevertheless, I am disposed to believe that under this mass of abortions and rubbish there lie hidden some sparks of a diviner fire, which the genius of my countrymen may gather and nurse into a flame."

XII. Educational Intelligence.

CANADA.

— MODEL GRAMMAR SCHOOL EXAMINATION.—The recitations and other proceedings connected with the third annual examination of this school took place in the Theatre of the Educational Department, on the 25th inst. The Rev. Dr. Ryerson, Chief Superintendent of Education for Upper Canada, presided. Among those on the dais were the Lord Bishop of Toronto, the Hon. the Chief Justice of Upper Canada, Chief Justice Draper, the President of University College, &c. The proceedings commenced by singing the beautiful school song (from music composed by Mr. Sefton, the music master,) "Hurrah! hurrah! for Canada," after which the usual recitations and musical exercises took place. The boys acquitted themselves remarkably well in the various parts assigned to them, and were frequently and warmly applauded by the audience.

Mr. COCKBURN, Rector of the Model Grammar School, before the distribution of the prizes was proceeded with, said it gave him very great pleasure, at the close of this their third session, to see present so many of the parents and guardians of the boys, and so many other friends interested in the cause of higher education. Last July, a twelvemonth ago, he had it in his power to state that the success which had attended the Model Grammar School had been indeed very marked, and that owing to the hearty co-operation he had ever met with from the gentlemen with whom he had the honour to be associated in the work of instruction, and from the deep interest manifested in the work of the school by the various members of the Council of Public Instruction, and more especially by the Chief Superintendent of Education, to whom he then paid the fullest acknowledgments—as he desired to do on this occasion—that owing to these causes the school had met with a success which far exceeded their most sanguine expectations. This July it afforded him no ordinary pleasure to state that owing to the same continued hearty co-operation and the same sympathy on the part of the members of the Council of Public Instruction, the success of the Model Grammar School had been if possible greater than before, that their numbers had exceeded their limits; and that for some time past they had been obliged to close their doors against further admissions. It