

unfitted to give early instruction to a gentleman's child; and, during the five years she was under this guidance, Miss Fielding had learnt to discipline her temper effectually. Her sweet and patient endurance of home trials, her attention to her dying father, and her kindness afterwards to her step-mother, had gained the esteem and affection of Mr. Vernon; and she frequently said she owed her happiness to Mrs. Rae and her precept.

I asked the governess if all her scholars were as much attached to her as those whom I had seen.

"Oh, no!" she answered; "not one in ten. It is more than forty years since I began school; I have boys and girls to the amount of some hundreds—two generations of several families; and perhaps there may be forty who care for me. I am living now on a legacy left me by Miss Dorothy, and am able to give my friends a tea whenever they call; that, perhaps, brings a few more than would otherwise come."

"Do you find that most of them turn out well?" I asked. "You have had such long experience that you must know the best way to regulate young minds."

"If I did," was the reply, "I should certainly find, as I do now, that at least half go wrong."

"But that is so discouraging," I remarked.

"Your memory was not in its right place when you had that thought," returned she. "If the great teacher had but a few disciples who followed his rules, why am I to expect more?"

On another occasion I asked if she did not think that using one rule so constantly might tend to give lower motives, and draw attention away from the various and always appropriate texts in the New Testament?

She replied, "If I was to put any human rule in the place of a divine precept, I should not fulfil my own maxim. Yet it is useful to have a short injunction always ready at hand which exercises the fancy as well as the memory—instruction is always the more useful when we work it out for ourselves; and the frequent literal performance of the action enjoined gives a sort of tangible

shape, and keeps it alive in the mind. You will find, in general, that a heart or a household will be well regulated in proportion as everything, literally and figuratively, is put in its right place."

It was evidently the old lady's hobby, but there seemed so much good sense in her application, that I hope, dear friends, you will find this little narrative of a village schoolmistress may appear to you in the right place; and if the admirable precepts inculcated should take deep root in the minds of any readers of this magazine, who may not hitherto have reflected upon this subject, my purpose will be both answered and rewarded.

### FAITH, HOPE, AND CHARITY.

"Faith, Hope, and Charity—these three,"  
But chief of these, fair Charity,  
What would this world without you be!

Faith in the heavenly mystery,  
Hope in the glories yet to be,  
Where all is boundless Charity.

Faith in the blessed Trinity,  
Hope through Christ's glorious victory,  
Both fruitless without Charity.

Faith casting mountains in the sea,  
Hope, piercing through eternity,  
Both crowned by god-like Charity.

Faith, lofty as the mustard tree,  
Hope, smiling through the heart-agony,  
Their source and end, sweet Charity.

Through Faith the heaven of heavens we see;  
Hope glids life's path with radiancy;  
Brightest of all shines Charity.

On earth Faith holds its sovereignty,  
From earthly griefs Hope sets us free,  
In earth and heaven reigns Charity.

By Faith from perils dread we flee,  
Hope is of rainbow brilliancy,  
But heaven's bright star is Charity.

Faith looks on death triumphantly,  
Hope's rays then beam most lustrously,  
Lit by the flame of Charity.

Faith ends with frail mortality,  
Hope, also, ceases then to be;  
Eternal is fair Charity!