

be pervaded with the light and warmth of the one true religion which the Divine Lover of children has instituted. But, after all, is not the parental home the best kindergarten, and is not a pious mother in this garden the best gardener? Who will watch more carefully the budding flower of virtue in the heart of the child than the mother? Who will tend so assiduously this flower, breathing into its petals the warmth of piety and faith and nursing it with the sunshine of prayer as the mother? Oh, my friends, let us not be mistaken. It is from the mother that radiates all or well-nigh all the influence of religious home training. From the father the child, indeed, acquires wisdom and that strength of mind and discipline of the will which come from ready and cheerful obedience, but it is on the mother's lap—in the mother's arms, that the child receives that moral impress which fashions its life for time and accompanies it even into eternity.