

PRAISE YOUR CHILDREN.

Not a few boys have illustrated the proverb:

"Give a dog a bad name and he will deserve it."

The father of Dr. Adam Clarke, the biblical commentator, seldom praised him except for his ability to roll large stones. He thought his son a dunce and said so. Of course, the boy had no faith in himself.

But one day a teacher called at the house, who knew that a little judicious praise went a great way toward making a man of a boy.

"That boy," said the father, "is very slow at learning; I fear you will not be able to do much with him."

Adam's heart sank to a lower depth. But the wise teacher, laying his hand on his head, said:

"That lad will make a good scholar yet."

Instantly the sympathetic touch and word begot in the so-called dunce the hope that he, too, could learn. The hope stimulated the unused mind. He became conscious of mental power. He learned his lessons with ease.

"I could have doubled the effort," he says, "had it been required."

That bit of judicious advice gave to the Methodists their famous biblical commentator.—*Baptist Weekly*.

SCIENCE AND RELIGION.

The one thing that struck everybody about the most distinguished members of the British Association was their modesty. A New York reporter gives this description of Sir William Thompson the President:

"A tall, well-made, elderly man, with grayish hair, a kindly, throughbred face, and a voice soft and gentle as a woman's discoursed to a *Herald* reporter yesterday evening of modern scientific achievements, and especially of the new transatlantic cable. Not with the assurance of a dilettante, but with the quiet authority of a savant, were the utterances made, though no one, judging from the unassuming modesty with which he extolled other men's labours and strove to belittle his own, would have suspected that the speaker was Sir Wm. Thompson, a Doctor of Laws of four British Universities, a Fellow of all the European Societies, an authority on physical

sciences and England's acknowledged greatest electrician."

The hearing of Sir William and other distinguished scientists at Montreal was in marked contrast with the manners of the pinohock imitation of a scientist that we meet in nearly every town and village in this country. Almost every little community has an upstart who gathers insects, looks terribly mysterious and drivels about science and Darwin and Huxley. This genius of course declares that science has destroyed revelation. He pities those people who are so far behind the age as to read and believe the Bible. It never occurred to the creature that Sir William Thompson, one of the greatest scientists of our day, is a devout Christian—and a good Presbyterian as well.—*Can. Pres.*

HOW TO KILL A PRAYER-MEETING.

1. Forget all about it until the hour arrives.
 2. Come ten minutes late and sit near the door.
 3. Drag the music. Slow, painfully slow singing is so appropriate for a dead prayer meeting.
 4. When the meeting is begun wait for others to speak and pray.
 5. When you take part occupy about twenty minutes.
 7. Be sure and bewail the low spiritual condition of the church.
 7. When the meeting closes go out as from a funeral. You can speak with your brethren or the stranger at some other time and place.
 8. If you mention the meeting during the week tell how dull it was.
- If this does not kill the prayer-meeting stay away entirely for six months or a year.

"Since I began," said Dr Payson, when a student, "to beg God's blessing on my studies, I have done more in one week than in the whole year before." Luther, when most pressed with toils, said, "I have so much to do that I cannot get on without three hours a day of praying." General Havelock rose at four, if the hour for marching was six, rather than lose the precious privilege of communion with God before setting out. Sir Matthew Hale says, "If I omit praying and reading God's word in the morning, nothing goes well all day."