

Our Women and Children

Conducted by Lucille Skaggs Edwards.

THE PROSPECT.

In looking about us at the prejudice and discrimination, we sometimes wonder what the future will bring to us and our children. We have not time for conjecture. We must keep busy making for the years to come.

Nothing can defeat our effort if we have made up our minds to win. Our enemies can give us but temporary hurt. We sow the seeds of progress and racial development now. Who can destroy the seed or the rain that falls upon it? If a man stamp upon it, he only more firmly plants the seed and sends the drops of rain more quickly to the roots. Some of the most unreasonable discriminations have their chief value as fertilizers.

Perhaps we are inclined to expect too much in our day. In life, as a people, we are mere children. All our hopes cannot be realized now; we must live and build for the future. The day will surely come when men shall "brothers be for a' that."

No need for discouragement. What if we find those against us whom we had hoped to find for us? What if those are silent whom we expected to champion our cause? They too are passing through a period of evolution, for, as the poet says:

"But if twenty millions or summers are stored in the sunlight, still We are far from the noon of man; there is time for the race to grow.

Man as yet is being made, and, ere the crowning age of ages, Shall not eon after eon pass and touch him into shape?

All about him shadow still, but while the races flower and fade, Prophet eyes may catch a glory slowly gaining on the shade,

"Till the peoples all are one, and all their voices blend in choric Hallelujah to the Maker—"It is finished—man is made."

Here and there we find those who see the true vision of humanity—no high, no low, no black, no white—just man. —L. E. S.

GENTLE INFLUENCES BEST FOR CHILDREN

In no phase of life can any doctrines or rules be universally applied; for although there are always certain fundamental principles, still, with every different condition they must be tempered.

What to some might be but encouraging, to others would prove demoralizing; and while to some certain punishments would be but just, by the same methods would others be bitterly wounded and perhaps cowed into deception.

If a happy medium of gentle justice cannot be universally employed, perhaps the lesser of two evils is indulgence rather than continued severity; for love is stronger than reason, and what it fails to teach nothing else can as consistently emphasize or accomplish.

Holland in his Kathrina portrays beautifully and states unreservedly that "The heart is wiser than the intellect and moves with stronger hands and surer feet toward wise conclusions."

If theories and bare justice prompted by mere intelligence were a more beneficial influence for children than simple mother love, then, indeed,

would chaperons, companions and governesses be more satisfactory guardians; but, then, what would become of "The hand that rocks the cradle"? and what tender memories would there be in after life, to guide, influence and govern us?

With experience one must necessarily learn that civilization would be helplessly imperiled without the higher power of sentiment, and it is this invisible force that we need, and as a community, should strive to encourage.

George Eliot says that "the eminence and nobleness of a people depend on its capacity of being stirred by memories—of striving for what we call spiritual ends—ends which consist not in immediate material possession, but in the satisfaction of a great feeling that animates the collective body as with one soul."

And if this living force of sentiment in common makes a national consciousness, certainly the remembrance of a childhood regulated only by justice rather than mercy, could hardly inspire pleasant thoughts, much less gratitude, which binds with honor the present and future to the past.

Whether happiness should come or not we should undoubtedly prepare children to do without it; but when tenderness can accomplish the desired result more satisfactorily than severity, it seems so unnecessary to embitter childhood with stern measures.

All due reverence to justice, but can one expect a child to take pleasantly a nauseous dose of medicine because of reason, or to cease the yearning, homesick sobs, no matter what principle may be involved?

Logical arguments and reasons may be absolutely necessary in a court of appeal, but in simpler life are simpler measures equally appropriate.—London Carter in Chicago Examiner.

ALWAYS A LITTLE MORE.

We can always stand a little more,
Always do a little more,
Always try a little more,
Than we really think.
Effort out of weariness;
Striving out of care,
We can always do a little more
Than we really think our share.

We can always shift a little more,
Always shift a little more,
Always toil a little more
Than we thought we could.
Struggle, when the tide seems strong;
Honest, when the world goes wrong,
We can always do a little more
For the common good.

We can always wait a little more,
Always ache a little more,
Always trust a little more,
Than we thought was right.
Purpose of the golden will
Steering as to manhood still,
We can always do a little more
To lift the world to light.
—Baltimore Sun.

LAGGARD IN SCHOOL IS LAGGARD IN LIFE.

"Almost 90 per cent of the pupils who come out of the third or fourth grade at the foot of their classes came out of the high school at the foot of their classes," says a veteran teacher. "If they enter college they continue to tail-enders, and after they pass in-

to business life, it is assumed, must go on as tail-enders."

Being among the last in one's classes tends to become a habit. The laggard at school and in college is the laggard in life. He is among the also-rans in whatever realm of life he enters; at least, that is what this teacher believes. And no doubt she has ample experience and observation to back her opinion.

But almost any rule falls down if applied too strictly. There are certainly plenty of examples of successful business and professional men who never shone in scholarship at school.

Nevertheless, it is good doctrine to urge that mental habits acquired or practiced in school are almost certain to stick to one through life; that the boy who hasn't pride and energy enough to get his lessons is not likely to be more than a mediocre success in after life. And, in general, it is true.—T. H. Roth.

WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Issued by the U. S. Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C., for Week Beginning September 15th.

For Upper Mississippi Valley and Plains States: The week will be one of generally fair and cool weather with some probability of frosts the first half of the week in the middle and northern plains states and the extreme upper Mississippi valley.

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