enough to indulge them with these super-
finities. For my own part I do not care to
see delicate material and tasteful work go
to be defiled by the atmosphere of a smoke-
room. Upright conventional borders are the
best to use for this purpose, but running
patterns of small flowers, either conventional
or natural, would be admirable. I will not say anything
about the material to be used for these—it will be
to consult the taste of prospective
wearing on that point; but if you work some-
thing of a quiet and unobtrusive nature, on
cloth or crad which shall fit its owner well, it
would serve also for a lawn-tennis cap, for
which purpose a smart one on satin or velvet
would be an absurdity. A monogram, or a
school, college, or club crest worked in front of
a serviceable cap, would no doubt please a
tennis player.

Fig. 7. And now I have come to brackets,
which must be great favourites in these chime-
loving days, and so, though I am encroaching
on the courtesy of the Editor by so doing, and
taking up more space than I am entitled to,
I think I may give you two distinct styles for
they are the last of the small articles which I
promised you. The first is a conventional
arrangement of natural orange blossom, and
work it only in outline, but in this case you must do it in a frame
which the cloth could be worked in the
hand, and carefully stretched afterwards, and
would, I think, look equally well made up.

Fig. 8 is another bracket in a very pretty
style. The festoons may be repeated as often
as necessary to make it long enough. It would
have a good effect, at the cost of less time
and work than Fig. 7.

This is conventional, but a natural trailing
spray of briozy either in flower or with its
berries, Japanese honeysuckle, or any plant of
a trailing nature, would do very well in the same
way, perhaps might make little wreaths and
festoons of flowers from old needle-
work, such as our great grandmothers used to
so beautifully. If your own narrow borders
in this style is most suited to the china the
brackets are intended to support. The pattern
I give may be either worked solidly, or the
swags may be left open, with the roses put
in a different shade, and the berries solid.
You can use any material you like, and
finish off your brackets with fringe, in the
same way as narrow table boudoirs.

If space permitted I could tell you of so
many other pretty trifles on which to employ
your ingenuity; but hope the few I have been
able to give you will help you to make many
easy. If you have any difficulties should at any
time occur, I would refer you to the articles
on crewel work and other embroidery sub-
jects previously printed in The Girl's Own Paper, which contain much valu-
able information about stitches and other matters.

HELEN MARION BUSERSE.
book, but in her story is involved the fate of a
nation of captives.

But there is a little picture given in another place, which
I should no more have written without thinking how, or
what, or in what style, than I should have said that it
was beautiful. It is a story of love and suffering, a
story of a young girl, who would have been the most
beautiful and lovable of girls in any other situation.

Putting away the memory of her own
wrong, she would fain direct her master to
her, that if they could but get hold of her,
that she should be restored to him, that
she would go back to him, that she would
never come back to him, unless it was

The little servant maid must have re
membered her own home and friends, because she
could speak of the miracle-working prophet in her
own land. A revengful girl would have
rejoiced in her master's misfortune. A sudden
one would have made terms and only held
the healer, on condition of being restored to
her own friends.

For the young servant girl did neither. She uttered a
wish which was also a prayer on the
behalf of him who held her captive: "Would
God, my lord were with the prophet that is in
Samaria, for he would recover him of his
leprosy."

Though she was in such a humble position, she had gained
a character for truth. Her master had known her.
A servant would not write a letter, send an embassy, and despacht an
offering of enormous value, in sole reliance on the word of the little foreign servant.
Her master, great and powerful general, the mighty man of valour and conqueror
in many a battle, set out on a journey with a
heart full of hope because he could believe the word of a captive girl.
Her master was deceived, and that she
was convinced of the prophet's power and will
to heal him.

Only a story contained in three verses of the
Bible, but how much it tells! What a beau-
tiful character it reveals! A young servant
girl, truthful and trusted; forgiving and doing
good to her captors; realising that she was
only a captive; that which she sought for
getting help in her sympathy with suffering,
repaying the kindness and confidence of her
mistress, not merely by faithful service, but by
heart-sinful words.

And dear girls—you who serve in the homes of
others—will you have to think that one in a like position is the heroine of this
day? And that she will take home all its sweet letters, and in your
own narrower circle, and perhaps a humbler
household, imitate the example, and reproduce
the disposition shown by the little Israelitish maid when a captive in a strange land.

On Choosing a Situation.

I am going to offer you a little advice
on the subject of choosing a situation. This is
a most important matter, above all, to a girl
leaving home for the first time, as so much
depends upon making a right beginning.

Probably many a young, aged, and
white woman, too, looks back upon her girlish days in
extreme regret, and wonders how she could
have been so blind as to miss
under one particular roof as a turning point in her life for good or evil. If the former, she
will wince at the thought of spending her thanksgiving as
memories of wise, loving counsel and patient

Some, perhaps, are still in situations, and
rightly and happily filling their daily work
as if the eye of the mistress was always presen
. Each thinks of one who, in hygine days,
is the means of making her the valuable ser
vant she is, by dint of much careful training
and painstaking. When she went, a mere girl

VARIETIES.

HAPPY HEARTS.

Love's but a stage; then learn to sport
And cast aside all care:
Or learn with trust in Heaven's support
The bills of life to bear.

CARES AND PRAYERS.—Learn to entwine
with your prayers the small cares, the
trilling sorrows, the little wants of daily
life. Whatever affects you—be it a changed look, an
altered tone, an unexpected expense, a
wound, a demand you cannot meet, a sorrow
you cannot dissemble—turn it into prayer, and
confide it to God. Disclosures you may not
make to man, to your friends, or to any one you
may confide in. Men may be too little for your great matters;
God is not too great for your small ones.

"You have yourself to prayer, whatever be
the occasion that calls for it."—Bibliah.

A Lesson in Humility.—Of trees I
observe God hath chosen the vine, a low plant
which creeps upon the helpful wall; of all
beasts, the soft and patient lamb; of all
fowls the mild and faith-less dove. To be humble
to our superiors is duty; to our equals, courtesy;
to our inferiors, generosity.—Bibliah.

A Few Words About Wives.

"A wife is the gift of heaven—there's no
doubt of it. Every other kind of gift, such as
lands, rents, furniture, right of pasture or
purchase, these are all mere gifts of fortune,
that pass away like shadows on a wave, but you
have to apprehend no such misfortune with a
wife. Your wife will last longer, perhaps, even
than you may desire."

A Wife! Why, how can a man have
any adversity that has a wife? Answer me that.
Tongue cannot tell, nor heart think, of the
felicity there is between a man and his wife.
If he is poor, she helps him to work. She
takes care of his money for him, and never
wastes anything. She never says 'Yes' when he
says 'No.'" Do this, she says. "Directly,"
says he.

"Oh, blessed institution! Oh, precious
wedlock! thou art so joyous, and at the same
time so virtuous, and so recommended to us
so approved by us all, that every man
who is worth a fortune, and has an
brave knee, every day of his existence
and be thankful for having such a wife; or, if
he hasn't got one, he ought to pray for one,
and beg that she may live to the Lord's
life's end, for his life is in that case set in
security.

He has only to act by his wife's advice,
and he may hold up his head with the
pride of a wise man."

The above extract is from the poet Chancer,
modernised by Leigh Hunt. It is full of
sarcasm, as you may see, but, girls, it will
serve a good purpose if it makes you re
solve never in your own presence to be
examples of the great difference that often
exists between what a wife is and what she
ought to be.

The Scholar's Wife.

To a deep scholar said his wife—
"Would that I were a book, my life!
On me you then would sometimes look;
But I should wish to be the book
That you would read in your leisure time—
Then say what volume should I be?"
"An almanack," said he, "my dear;
You know we change them every year."
my faithful dog trotting beside me, I suddenly thought of that, seeing there was little need to fear any wild animal, it would be a great advantage for me to remain in the boat on the island; it would give me several more hours of sufficient time to go to the woods—there I should probably find some food for myself and Wolf.

Having decided to carry out my project, I proceeded at once to the vessel, and by good climbing succeeded in entering the forward part. I first made my way to the place in which the steward kept his supplies, where I found some salt meat. This I knew would not be very good for Wolf. Presently, however, I came to the wells, many of whom had succumbed from want of food, and the dog could now have a splendid repast. Finding a quantity of pieces of bread lying about, I fed the wells that remained alive. Continuing my search, I found, now, more than half-starved, and I also provided food.

Not considering the wreck a safe habitation for the night, Wolf and I endeavored ourselves in the center of a circle of barrels, creels, and boxes, with those suitable bedding, refreshing ourselves with a good meal after the toils of the day. (To be continued.)

SERVANTS AND SERVICE.

CHAPTER III.

HONOURABLE SERVICE.

In my former chapter I called the position of a domestic servant an honourable and responsible one, and I will now give my reasons for using those two words. I wonder whether many young girls who serve in the household have considered how very much they are trusted. Perhaps they have never crossed the threshold in which they have obtained a situation until the very day on which they enter upon its duties; and yet from the very moment the young girl grasps the idea that she is of necessity taken more into the family confidence than any outsider can possibly be.

She knows all about the going on and coming in of every member of the family. In many cases she sees and hears what even the children, especially the younger ones, are not permitted to know.

In the performance of her various duties, when waiting at table and elsewhere, she over-hears conversations which speakers would not like to have repeated. She cannot help, in all probability, being acquainted with numbers of little family secrets that are never intended to pass beyond the walls of the house—things that would not be told even to friends, except in the strictest confidence.

Yet the master, mistress, and children receive the stranger, often knowing very little of her character, and distrusting, only so much as can be gleaned during half an hour's talk, or, it may be, only a short letter from a former employer or boxes. She has probably asked how the girl has done her work in her last place; whether she is cleanly, honest, truthful, obliging, and so on.

In many cases the information is given by one of whom we know little more than we do of the girl respecting whose character we inquire. Yet for many important questions than those alluded to, which are never asked, and if they were, would seldom be explicitly answered. Yet, on the strength of recommendation, or after half an hour's conversation, we take a girl into our home and place in her hands a very large share of our comfort and security. Is it not then that you who must know all these little household details which are hidden even from our nearest friends.

We exact from our girl domestics no pledge of confidence or assurance to betray our trust by gossiping about what they hear or see. What, indeed, you must witness, unless we are to live in a state of unnatural restraint and mistrust, the entrance of our home a signal for silence! Such a state of things would be equally trying to them, to our guests, and to ourselves.

If I were a girl in a situation, I hope I should feel "upon honor" with regard to these things. I should like to be able to say, "I am glad and thankful to be trusted, and, by God's grace, I will not betray the confidence which my master and mistress place in me. I may not be bound by any promise to them, but I am bound far more firmly by my sense of what is right. Without the least thought of my own conscience and by the thought of what I should like if I were in their places. No one shall ever be able to blame me for tattle-telling, or gossiping at all. I may be a servant, but if I am a Christian girl the same spirit which animates me that inspires the greatest lady in the land. If I understand what God's Word aright, then, I am bound by the same laws in my position as my mistress is in hers."

To be above the meanness which would screen itself in a tatter because no promise of silence has been given, is as becoming to the servant as it is the mistress.

To be true, not merely in word, but in heart and in act, is as incumbent upon the servant who professes to be a Christian as it is upon the heads of the household, and why?

Because in God's Word you are bidden to perform your work as of the heart, as unto Christ; not with eye service as men pleasers, but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; with all good will, not from necessity, but of conscience. Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall be receive of the Lord, whether he be bond, or free.

Employers are also reminded that their "Master also is in heaven, neither is there respect of persons with Him."

The same law you see both for employers and employed. All may give an account to the same Master, before whom neither rank, riches, nor position will avail anything.

The question which concerns all of us alike is, how shall we act? The servant of God can give me the way in which I have done my duty in the place which, in the good providence of God, I have been called on to fill.

If it becomes the mistress to be above tattling and meanness, to be true in word and deed, to be self-denying and considerate of the feelings of others, to be pure in speech and in life, to be kind to the persons with whom she associates, surely all these things are equally essential to the young servant! The young servant would do well to remember that her good character is her fortune, that on it she depends for the very bread she eats and the roof which shelters her. Even if she did not, a good name is better than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.

People say there is a skeleton in every house; it is the same thing as saying that there is no house without some secret sorrow that the owner would shirk from letting the world see. Well, if any of you dear girls happen to have the shadow of a skeleton, "My hand shall never draw the curtain that hides it, or open the door of the cupboard in which it is concealed."

It is the right in which to look at one of the responsibilities of your position. You may make it doubly honourable by your own conduct, and by the manner in which you show that you must be trusted, but that you deserve to be.

Unfortunately we do not find that all girls act up to such a high standard as this. We have known some who have been so faithful enough as to thoroughly understand existing between them and their employers. But, perhaps, something has gone wrong, and a disagreement has arisen between the girl and her mistress.

A sharp reproof has called forth an angry retort, and the "I am as good as you!" sort of spirit has got into the young mind. Either mistress or mind gives a month's notice, and with the prospect of parting comes an entire change in the relations of the parties concerned.

Sometimes the girl acts defiantly and disrespectfully. She forgets the great marks of kindness and confidence she has received, the peaceful comfort she has found in that sort of trust, and acts with a meanness and littleness that are unworthy of any girl, especially one who calls herself a Christian. In the spirit of revenge and with an aching heart her employers, she will call to mind all the little domestic matters which she knows they would least like to have been said about, and will prove equally unfair to herself, and to the pleadings of her own heart and conscience.

When the fit of temper is over, probably the girl sees the ugliness in the thought of her conduct, and would, if she could, turn the ball she has set rolling. But this is not easy. It continues to roll and increases with every turn. She has done an amount of mischief which can scarcely calculate, has broken faith, destroyed the effect produced by years of faithful service, and is branded as deceitful and ungrateful by the mistress who may have reproved with kindness, and yet who heartily wishes well to her young helpers in the household.

I will not dwell upon this picture. I do hope that every girl who reads this paper will think it as ugly as I do, and resolve that it shall never be reflected in her own conduct.

A few more words to say about entering on situations and engaging servants. Indeed, these little papers relate equally to employers and employed, for while I cannot by addressing myself especially to those who serve, I cannot write of them without including those who rule, and more especially the young mistresses. These have frequently nearly everything to learn when they assume the reins of domestic government at the commencement of their married life.

One need only mention something not only about the girl you think of engaging, but about her parents, her home, and general surroundings.

As a first step, speak the manner in which he engaged a very young girl, to fill a vacancy caused by the marriage of an old and much valued servant, who had had a very delicate wife, who was unequal to the task of seeing and choosing from amongst the many candidates for the vacant post to be a good one.

The house was delightful in itself, the habits of the family were regular, wages satisfactory, the servants enjoyed great riches, and master and mistress took a warm interest in their welfare. There was merely a vacancy,
and on this particular occasion there were many well-meaning servants amongst the applicants. Yet the gentleman saw them at his office in the city, and made all the inquiries, finally decided on engaging a girl of eighteen, to fill the place of one who had been more than half that number of years in the situation.

Much surprise was expressed at his decision, but he was unable to justify it.

"I was struck," he said, "with the beautiful neatness of the girl's dress. I was sure that she was not got up for the occasion; but all her work was suggestive of habitual purity and fitness, and her clothing, though good and clean, bore traces of careful wear. It had evidently been used for some time, but well. She was further struck with her modesty of manner and propriety of speech. She told me frankly that she had no one but her mother to refer to for her character, as regarded the work itself. She was the eldest of a family, and had never been in service; but the second girl would now be able to take her place, and there were too many others still to be formed at home by the father's earnings. She knew things would be very different in such a house as mine, but mother had always made her do her very best, and she was willing to learn. Would I try her and give her wages according to what she was worth?

Father and mother were much more particular about her. They insisted on how much she was worth about the money. Would I see "mother" before I fixed on anyone, and her own Sunday school teacher too.

I could not think about it, whilst the girl spoke, pleased indeed, in her honest, innocent way for a trial, that she had in her teaching of a first-class servant. I agreed to see "mother," but fixed a time for my call, and I made it during the morning.

The sight of that orderly home and its busy occupants was better than any number of written characters.

There was no running away to make herself presentable, but the girl came forward with a smiling face, and looking just as neat in her working dress as she had done in her outdoor garments. I had made some inquiries about the family, and found that the parents were God-fearing people, and extremely particular about the training and education of their children. So I engaged Eliza, aged eighteen, to fill the place of the departing Anne, and, though her income had come to her thankfull for the decision which brought into our house an excellent servant, a warm-hearted, pure-minded girl. She was thorough in her work, and what she did not know at first she was quick to learn; because her heart was in it, and she honestly desired not only to do enough to satisfy, but her very best.

The mother made one remark which amused me a little at the time. "I am so glad you are willing to engage Eliza," she said. "I am quite content for her to come to you, for I made two unusual particular inquiries about your place before I sent the girl to see about it."

The good woman meant it as a compliment, and I understood her and appreciated it. I like "my place" to have a good name, but some lady friends told their heads, and said, "What an impertinent speech! To intimate that she had inquired into your character!"

And very proper too. Every girl that values her character always is anxious to serve under the roof of a master and mistress who fear God, and who, caring for their own immortal souls, are likely to care for the bodies and souls of their servants also.

I had two sisters from one family, and when after seven years' united service, the second left by her father's wish to learn a business, I wrote and asked for the only remaining daughter, a girl who had never left home to take a situation, and whom I had never seen. I frankly told the parents that, after my experience of their mode of training daughters, I would rather take one who had thus been brought up in the faith and fear of God, though comparatively ignorant, than the most accomplished servant without such home-training. I received a grateful reply, accepting the offer and promising thanks for the comforts and Christian privileges enjoyed by the older sisters whilst under our roof.

Number three duly arrived, and—well, perhaps if I say that she came more than eight years ago and is never more need be added. To the fact that we have considered Christian training as of greater importance than mere skill in household duties, my husband and I attribute much of the comfort and happiness we have enjoyed in regard to those domestic arrangements that depend upon our servants' work and character.

To the, dear girls, I would say, "Be more anxious to serve those who themselves serve the Lord Christ," and will allow you the religious privileges of which you know the value, that is, the is where a mistress is indulgent because indifferent, or for the sake of easy work or high wages.

In seeking employers, determine to put your Heavenly kindness before all. If you serve Him well, no fear that you will fail in your duty to them. Remember that He said, "I am among you as he that serveth." That He found me as well the will of the Father, and that He "who, being in the image of God," yet, for our sakes, "took upon Him the form of a servant, humbled himself, and became obedient unto death." (To be continued.)
THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER.

SERVANTS AND SERVICE.

By RUTH LAMB.

CHAPTER III.

"HAIR-SPLITTERS."

have alluded to the fact, that the "family" includes the servants of a household; but I am inclined to think that they are more slow to realize their position as such than their employers are.

When inquiring about the work pertaining to a situation, they are often so particular to have the duties of the place defined with the utmost exactness. I was told by a housekeeper on being asked to do this?" or "In my last place, I was never asked to do that;" "I like to know what my work is to be, and then I'm sure I shall do it in the best way that is possible." These are expressions common enough when mistresses and maids are arranging terms.

It is no doubt advisable so to plan the work of a house that each servant, where there are two or more, may know what is his share and do it. The wheels of the domestic chariot would soon stick fast, and confusion reign instead of order, if things were left to arrange themselves.

There is, however, a vast difference between taking and doing the work allotted to us in a narrow selfish spirit and the heart-felt kindness which should distinguish the servants of Christ. In the one case there is a continual hair-splitting going on, and in the smallest service which was not actually bargained for is required, we hear that hateful expression, "It's not my place." "I came here to be housemaid, not to do cook's work." Or, "If you had mentioned that when Sarah had day out, you would expect me to look after the children, I should have known what to do;" is said to the mistress in an injured tone, or, worse still, if the demand goes grinding about the house.

These "hair-splitting servants," as I cannot help calling them, are inartistic, call him for "rights" and going more than half-way to meet wrongs and grievances, know nothing of the true family feeling, and are equally unpleasing people for mistresses and fellow-servants to deal with. The former are wearied with perpetual complaints, the latter are often rendered so uncomfortable by the nagging, self-important bearing of the individual who is always on the bistine in defence of her place and her right, that they will leave a good home rather than endure her companionship.

I will try to make my meaning plain still. The "hair-splitter" has perhaps been called into the sitting-room to speak to her mistress. She is in the middle of the parlour-maid is clearing the table. She could save the latter a journey by carrying out one or two of the heavier articles, and would cause him much extra trouble by doing nothing. But "No thank you," our "hair-splitter" knows her place. Let the waitress mind her own business, she will not be asked to do any part of hers.

And so she marches out of the room empty-handed and requires to be waited on in her own apartment.

All who know anything of sick nursing, will tell how many journeys up and down stairs are quite unnecessarily made; and how many weary steps must be taken by those who minister to a sufferer's comfort.

Usually, I believe, the servants are found willing to take a little trouble. The thought entailed by illness, and manifest their sympathy in the most practical way, by doing it ungrudgingly and uncomplainingly. Often I have voluntarily given the little trifles so precious to those whose work lies wholly indoors, and "stay in when it is their turn to go out," rather than cause inconvenience to all but the less efficient.

She has bargained for certain things and she will have them. She never came to be a servant, but to do regular work in her own place. She will go up and down stairs with empty hands, though it would be no effort for her to carry up the box of coal which she knows to be wanted, or to bring down little articles which the attendant in the sick room has put outside on the landing, until she can leave the invalid for a few minutes to carry the coal herself.

Our "hair-splitter" dislikes to lend a hand outside her own circle, and, let who may give up the day out, she will exact hers and every other one the same. Nor can she claim, no matter who may suffer inconvenience.

"I keep to my bargain; let other people keep to theirs." I do my work that is expected, and I do not ask for my place; let the rest keep theirs," says the "hair-splitter" and she holds up her head and defies anybody to say a word to the contrary.

Perhaps she speaks the literal truth, and she may be a thoroughly efficient in her own department. But she is only a hireling, and has no part or lot in or with the family; it is a case of "business as usual, and all is well." And how little does such a one realize the yet deeper, holier union and sympathy which must subsist between those who are members of the family of God, who, like the Divine Head, Christ Jesus, find it their joy to help the helpless, comfort the sorrowing, to strive, in ever so humble a way, to bear one another's burdens, and so to fulfill the law of Christ.

If a member of the family, the will "rejoice with those who do rejoice, and weep with those who weep."

There will be no "hair-splitting," no talk about rights, but the true-hearted servant, who in all her dealings with earthly employers shows her sympathy with and interest in all things strive to follow His example. It will not be a question, "How little can I do?" but "How can I best contribute to the happiness of each, and all under the roof? How can I lighten the load of, or make the work easier for, my fellow-servant?"

In numberless ways the willing mind and kind heart will find that this can be done without any additional effort or weariness to the thoughtful helper. But even if it do cost an extra effort or a few more steps to save some work for others, it will never be a mean thing. They will be best bestowed. And if done for the Heavenly Master's sake, the heavenly reward will come in the present happiness which a contented heart of doing that always brings with it. Those who practise self-devoting kindness in their intercourse with others; who are always unknown to the "hair-splitter," who triumphantly successfully claimed her "rights" and in keeping her place.

For a few words on the subject of good manners.

I have said that a servant may be as truly a gentleman in manners as the mistress she serves, but in order to acquire such she must never forget the respect and obedience she owes to those who employ her.
on the side of the outdoor workers, that the mill-hand, machinist, the dressmaker and the young shopwomau have an amount of freedom from personal restraint which those in service cannot enjoy. I have been more closely into this, as also into the matter of wages.

Really the outdoor worker has in many cases less freedom than the domestic servant, and her average gains are less also. A servant with good health and character need never be unmansilled, as the demand for such is generally in excess of the supply. She has no slack times, like nearly all other workers, employment and wages being regular the year round in her case.

Her situation is not affected by a sudden change of fashion, which will often throttle nearly all the workers in a particular branch out of situations, and compel them to learn some new business by which they may earn their bread.

The domestic servant has in many cases the advantage of living in a far more comfortable home, and being better fed and cared for. She has less anxiety about ways and means than the outdoor worker. For the latter a slack time indicates the loss of wages, perhaps for weeks together; but her being very prudent and careful means also a season of privation to themselves, if they cannot turn their hands to something else in the meanwhile.

The wages may seem less. Are they really so?

Supposing an outdoor worker has sixteen shillings a week, and this is a very high average, and that she does not lose a day's pay in twelve months, she is certainly no better off than the domestic servant with six shillings.

Out of the sixteen the outdoor worker has to pay for lodgings, food, and fire. Could she for ten shillings a week live in the same comfort as does a domestic servant in a well-ordered home?

Then the latter has no coming through the streets unprotected, and in all weathers; and, in the quiet routine of household duties, she is exposed to far fewer temptations than the outdoor worker. The exceptions are in the cases of girls who live under their parents' roof, and are cared for by a watchful, loving, and judicious man.

Moreover, the employment of the domestic servant is not nearly so monotonous as that of the factory hand, or so wearying as that of the woman who stands behind the counter for many hours at a time. She has less anxiety than even those whose roof she lives, knowing nothing of consultations about making ends meet, or of fears when quarter-day comes round.

Lastly, the domestic servant is not the "hands" from often the employer knows less than she does. But one who is in constant communication with father, mother, and children under the roof—in short, as I have already asserted, she is one of the family and necessarily trusted as such.

I may add that the law affords the latter very special protection in the matter of wages. Let us therefore take this home to the servant who, otherwise, might have to appeal to the law, but who quite contrary to the opinion of others have to accept only a portion of what is due to them, or what is called a composition.

To be continued.
stronger enemy even than Wolf. I called him off, but did not take the life of the animal, although I had heard its flesh was good for food, since I could easily supply my wants in this productive land.

The whole of the afternoon was spent in the ascent of the mountain, which I conjectured, from my slight knowledge of geology, to be of volcanic origin. I was able even to make out the traces of what had once been a crater, at the summit of which was a fissure into which I certainly should not have liked to have fallen. Dropping a stone into it, I counted a high number before the noise of it rebounding from side to side had ceased. On the highest part, on one side of the crater, the long-desired panorama was displayed before my eyes; and I now knew surely that it was indeed an island upon which my lot was cast, and one of some extent, since the line of ocean was but a priyable line in some places. I could distinguish the Nile at my feet, and found that it had its origin, as I had supposed, in the lake; but I also perceived another river running through the mountain side, and making a part of the land habitable unexplored.

This country formed one corner of the island, and although well wooded by the river banks, and on the lower part of the mountain, was less fertile than El Dorado, whilst the sea seemed bounded with sand hills.

The descent was enlivened by a goat hunt, there being a great number of these small animals amongst the trees. I carried it carefully to the boat, where I tended it to the best of my abilities, and, at the end of two or three days found it not only cured, but tamished by my good treatment. At length, when I was about to leave, I gave the goat a home one fine morning, my boat considerably laden with its cargo of bricks, and the two goats, the dead and the living, besides Wolf and myself, we reached our destination safely, and I saw all housed in the subterranean vaults of the Castle.

(To be continued.)

SERVANTS AND SERVICE.

BY RUTH LAMB.

CHAPTER IV.

IN THE SUBURBS.

It is somewhat remarkable that the younger the servant employed the greater and more precious is the first charge usually left her hands. I mean, of course, the baby, with occasionally two or three other small children.

To nurse the one and keep the other out of mischief is generally deemed the fitting occupation for the little lady herself; a more child when she first goes out to service. The young hands that are too unsteady to be trusted with such articles as glass and china should suffer too much of household matters to be esteemed of much value in the cleaning and scrubbing department, and, being quite incompetent to carry anyone and act as caretaker to the whole juvenile brood.

Often the busy, notable mother of a family will say, when speaking of her littleeldorf-servant, "I cannot let him in the house work." She would only make more labour than she would save; would dirty more than she would clean; buy more things by her carelessness she would pay for. I can get through much more quickly by myself, and nothing will need doing over again. But she cannot serve the children, which will set my hands free to do the house work."

So the house-mother busies herself in place to place and does the inexperienced hands which must on no account be trusted with the crockery, the chairs, and the tables, have the sole charge of what should be among the most precious of helpless treasures—her infant.

In the comparatively poor districts of large towns, chiefly inhabited by working people and small shopkeepers, it is uncommon to find a little maid, barely in her teens, to go out nursing by the day—and generally a very long day.

She comes home to sleep, the small place where a business is carried on being often filled to overflowing by the shopkeepers and actual belongings. It is perhaps fortunate for the small girl that she does go home to sleep, or her day’s work might come to an end even later still, or last all night, should the baby sleep with a trinity. No matter, these little maids make their start as domestic servants in this way, and rise by gradual steps to whatever position is considered of greater trust and responsibility.

I have been in a tiny shop when a dot of a girl, pinioned and with a cotton hood or woolen kerchief on her head, has entered. Dropping a little bob of a courtesy, she has announced that she is seeking her first place by the question, "Please, ma’am, do you want a girl to help to nurse the baby?"

As I have seen these little works, the child of large families, have often served a seven years’ apprenticeship at home, making the business of nursing before they are twice that number of years, and I have seen many a woman with more barely ten who are called upon to look after the health and welfare of a small household, and the very small folks always like a girl nurse, who is not too old to romp and play, and who enjoys the games as heartily as do her little charges. These nites love to see a merry face, to hear a good ringing laugh, and to listen to the nonsense rhymes and nursery jingles which come patterning from the still childish lips of their young guardian.

I do not know a greater affliction in a house, nor a more good and constant companion, nor a better guide when going through their duties in a grave, staid, unsympathetic way—washing and dressing the children, and putting them to bed. They love to plodding, tiding and stitching in the seclusion of a room, whether it be their duty faithfully, according to her right, but forgetting, in her dealings with children, that she was once as young as they are.

The nurse who works over a soiled pinator or rumpled hair, who is ever straightening up and putting the toys and litter within, children delight in her affectionate, and in and around her selves and in out-of-the-way places, may have a tidy nursery, but she will certainly have a brood of unhappy youngsters around her.

There are nurses who are old in years, but young in heart, bright, cheerful, and abounding in love for children, and who come second only to the good mother in the affection of the small people. And there are others who are by no means old counting by years, but who left their youthful spirits behind them, when they began to run alone.

I once heard a lady speaking of two girls, of only eighteen and twenty, who had the care of a large family. "Oh! what comfort my girls give me," she said; "truthful, conscientious, well-behaved. I have no fear that the children will ever learn anything wrong from them. But they are so staid and do not show all the brightness out of the lives of the little ones. One sits like a lump at her stitching; the other, like a schoolgirl, material, keeps the children out of mischief, and takes care that the nursery is in a painful state of order, and that scented faces and powdered pinatrors are things unknown. Let a child leave a toy for a moment, it is seized and put carefully away. These nurses never can be made to understand that what would appear mildly and cheerfully in a drawing-room, is the proper and necessary state of things in an apartment dedicated to the use of little ones."

If children are to be happy they must be occupied, and to find them employment a variety in books, toys and pictures, must be within their reach.

"A childish mind does not fix itself upon any one thing for a long time. But though Jack may have become weary of the pursuit of architecture, and may demolish with one stroke the castle he has so patiently constructed, he realises not the materials packed away, in case he should determine on erecting a church somewhat later in the day. He likes to have his bricks with which he can build, and has no idea that the little maid will forget her leaves and teach them new ones, and when they go out they do not want to be led solemnly along as if they were attending a funeral."

"I am sorry to put with two thoroughly good girls," added the speaker, "but I cannot bear to see the children growing up such little soberesses, so unnaturally old and grey before their time."

"What shall you do then?" asked the friend, to whom the lady was speaking.

"Oh, I have tried a young half-aged wife to do the sewing and superintend generally. She is to have a little girl of fourteen under her as her messenger, who is to keep the children’s school and when out district-visiting, through seeing the delightful way in which she made them keep her own small brothers and sisters amused and happy, with next to nothing in the way of materials. I am quite reclining on litter and laughter in my nursery, in plenty of unvarying titles and charities.

Do not imagine that they are bored would have obtained any lack of real cleanliness in the persons or surroundings of her children. She estimated at their feet of anything unsaid; but she felt that, while the young bodies were admirably cared for, the nursery atmosphere was cheerful and depressing. This was deficient in humble, honest and simple.

Instead of being merry and childlike, her youngest were becoming sad, prim little men and women; she could not enjoy her business; the care of their toys was a matter of grave responsibility. The children could hardly have had more upright or careful attitude to them, on how the attention of the pinatators, supervision and constant supervision, and a tidy nursery were not in themselves sufficient for happiness."

I have given this little sketch from life,

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VARIETIES.

because I want to impress upon my girl readers who think of offering themselves to fill the situation of nurse, that something more is required to make a good one than a mere knowledge of the medical world.

If I were engaging a nurse for young children I should not only inquire about the experience she had gained in caring for their bodies, but also about her mental honesty and general trustworthiness. I might be satisfied on these points, and the applicant might be one of the best seamstresses that ever took needle in hand, and yet I should want something of more importance than these.

I should need to be convinced that she was not taking a place as nurse merely as a means of bread-winning, but because she honestly loved the helpless little ones and was sufficiently young-hearted to feel for and with them in matters that are tried to grown-up people but great things to children.

I should want to study her face a little, to find if it were bright and happy looking and that her voice had a cheery ring in it. I should be convinced that, when the laughing, crowing baby looked up in its glee, it would see a responsive smile in her, and that her nurses' countenance, and that her presence would be liked the nursery not merely a cleanly but a happy place for the children.

So I say to you, dear girl readers, never take a place as nurse unless you can carry with you a heart large enough to hold all your little charges, and warm enough to pay back with interest the love they are so ready to give to those who sympathise with and are kind to them.

You will need patience to bear with them and the desire to do what is right; you will need constant watchfulness and prayerful self-examination in order that, by God's grace, you may be enabled to subdue in yourselves what might set a bad example or produce a bad impression on the children entrusted to your care.

Next to the mother, probably no human being has so great an influence over the little ones for good or evil as the nurse. Take care that yours shall be for good.

There is no lesson more quickly learned by a child than the knack of hiding a fault by telling an untruth. Perhaps curiosity led to meddling, meddling to an accident and a charge.

To cover this and escape punishment, the child deliberately plans concealment and tells its first lie.

The same teacher, fear of consequences, often finds an apt pupil in the nurse as well as in her young charges, and she tells or lets it may be only a falsehood in their presence.

Who can estimate the mischief done or the fruit which may be produced from the seed of that evil example? Young eyes are quick to see, young minds to receive impressions. Not so quick to lose the effect or get rid of the consequences of deception.

Dear young nurses, let me plead with you for the sake of the immortal souls of these precious little ones; be true in word and deed. Strive to lead a pure and holy life; let set them a good example. Ask strength from God to overcome the temptations to anger and falsehood. Be careful, too, that no profanity be heard in your presence ever filter your lips, to defile the ears and corrupt the minds of the children committed to your care. Let not those young eyes witness any action that would be absurd or ashamed for a grown-up person to see.

Nay, let your thoughts be still higher, and shower the eye that never shrumbers nor sleeps, the ear watchful, who hears only the prayer and the wrong or idle words of which we often think so lightly.

Should any accident happen to an infant either through inattention or want of care on your part, be brave and true. Go at once to the mother, and, even at the risk of losing your situation, or of a severe reprimand, tell her about the fall or the blow which the child has received, and ask that means may be used to prevent any permanent harm resulting from it.

I have known two cases of life-long deformity and lameness, both of which might have been prevented had the nurses told of comparatively trifling accidents when they occurred, but which were rendered serious for want of immediate attention.

The little creatures had wailed and cried, their only mode of telling that they were in pain.

The tears were put down to teething, crossness, anything but the real cause. Had the truth been told and a doctor sent for, the experienced professional touch and eye would have discovered the injuries, the joints would have been replaced, and two little girls saved from lasting disfigurement.

Better to suffer endure displeasure or even the loss of a place than carry the lifelong memory that, through your want of courage and candour, a young creature's existence has been blighted, or its activity and usefulness impaired.

Ay, and what is of still more importance, better be the humblest drudge at the roughest of household work, than undertake the charge of children without the sense of the solemn responsibilities belonging to the nurse's office.

If you cannot carry into the nursery loving hearts, pollution control, cheerfulness, courage, truth, pure speech, propriety of manners, and tender sympathy, work elsewhere in the household.

Remember that it is not only the bodies of the little ones for which you have to care, but that you will have to answer for the influence you may exert on their minds and souls.

Are they not the Lamb's of Jesus loved and blessed? Do they not belong to that flock for which the Good Shepherd laid down His life on Calvary? (To be continued.)

The business was accomplished much sooner than they could have hoped. They returned, but great was his lordship's surprise when he beheld his walls only covered with a very fine red. He summoned the artist and asked an explanation of the mistake.

"It is no mistake," said Hogarth; "your lordship told me to paint Pharaoh's overthrown in the Red Sea, and so I have; for he and his host, as you may imagine, are all safe under the water. Therefore, pay me my money and find somebody else to do what you like better."

A SURE MARK.—Perhaps one of the surest marks of sobriety and intelligence is having a pleasure in the conversation of age.—Dr. Forster.

AN AID TO HAPPINESS.—Employment so certainly produces cheerfulness, that I have known a man come home in high spirits from a funeral merely because he had had the management of it.—Bishop Hoadly.

Sacramental Application.—Sanctified affictions are spiritual promotions.—Henry.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

That happy time, when hours so brightly sped: We wish'd it gone, and row we mum it died.

1. an English village, where a sculptor's cross
Commemorates one so fair, so true: The nation sorrow'd for their monarch's loss.

2. Geographer, who wrote for fame, not profit; Africa general, and seamann too.

3. A tributary of the Rhine; its name
Of evil augurs, its stream belies.

4. When Scandinavian sea-lings southward came
And saw the chalyx cliffs of Britain rise,
They mark'd one headland, where the rude rocks frame
A granite reptile of enormous size.

5. One of those winding English streams; of each
One letter is enough the name to mark.

6. Bart' navigator, strange in garb and speech
To modern ears; the crew on board his bark
Set him adrift, some land perchance to reach;
But oh! he's late and history's page is dark.

Portentous was this royal mother's dream, 'Stead of her babe, she clasp'd a fire-brand!

8. This is the most artistic form, 'twould seem
Of which to make the fall of Broadwood's "Grand."

9. A county, famed for clyder, butter, cream, And soft transparence, wrought by woman's hand.

XIMENA.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC.—(p. 327).

Sus a (e)

Port (h)

R. A._orig. (g)

Traj A

Alicious (c)

Sparta Athens.

(read English, "Sashen" in "Ily," and "Sashen the Palace," of the Book of Esther, deriving its name from the province of Illyris which grew around it; hence the name, "Sassanian.

The Arch of Titus in Rome bore the sculptured history of the conquest of Jerusalem.

Readers of the Odyssey will remember this King of Pharaoh, his cultivated gardens, and his fair daughter, Nymphis.)
THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER.

Both, as regards the washing and the wear. For this purpose (night-dresses) it need not be said that they should be of the finest material. Calico should be undressed and quite free from starch, should have an even selvage, and be evenly woven, the threads being without slubs. Calico should be at least 36 inches in width, as the narrower kinds do not cut to any advantage, though they may be cheaper to purchase. A thicker calico is very desirable, as the new dress drapers of the day are making it their business to advertise the existence of new chemicals, many people choosing what is called a "double warp," or a twilled calico for the former, and "India longdohth" for the latter. The thickest way of getting calico for a large family, or where many are to be clothed, is to purchase it by the piece. In most shops a great reduction is then made. But to those who have limited means to deal with, it is difficult to obtain so large a sum at once; and they will do well to purchase small quantities, and to have a garment always in hand. By this means they will secure a constant supply, which will keep the stock up to the mark.

Nothing in the way of trimmings wears or looks better than Swiss embroidery, and at times of late the dressmaker is secreting herself by watching one's opportunity, and securing the lengths that will cut to good advantage.

Wooden articles should be all wood, or else the colored wood. Cotton is frequently used in lampshades, and is really used the lengthwise of the material; the wooden threads will run across from selvage to selvage. Some very pretty stuffs may be purchased in lampshades, if you take account of this mixture, but they should be avoided, as they cockle with use, and look poor and cheap. All wool serge, beige, camel's hair, "run in" velvet, twill, and cashmeres are all excellent wearing materials for young and old alike, and will all of them bear washing, cleaning, or turning, and retain their original color. Black, brown, dark green are the best colours to wear while lavender and grey are generally the worst. Navy blue is an excellent colour in good materials, but a bad one in cheap stuffs.

Stockings, gloves and boots should never be bought cheaply, and the first two are exactly the articles in which bad managers waste their money. Three good pairs of stockings are sufficient for the winter, and if you pay three shillings a pair for each they will last through winter. But they must be washed at home always, and thus run no risks of soda and washing-crystals at the hands of the ordinary washerwoman. The same is true of gloves and boots. A pair of gloves will out-last half a dozen at 6s. 6d., or any of the so-called bargain. Black gloves should be carefully rubbed with a little oil or unslaked butter on a flannel before they are worn. This magical process doubles their powers of wear and makes them look a good colour, and wear respectably to their very last day.

Boots with elastic sides should be avoided by all good managers, especially for children's use. The elastic Soon wears out, and is quickly spoiled. Both the cheap worsted button or better are better for all reasons, and retain their shape far better. Good boots can never, I think, be cheap, and cheap leather makes a bad boot. If the lining of the good boots are usually the audible-outward sign. These dreadful worries to yourself and others are caused by the second or middle sole being made of the worst material that you can imagine. The only way to cure them is to take off the sole and replace the bad leather with good. A pair of light half-soled indiarubber should be worn by children in rainy and muddy weather, will be found to contribute towards an immense saving, as all legs are likely to be wet, and also cause the feet to be overheating.

THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER.

Servants and Service.

BY RUTH LAND.

CHAPTER V.

Influence over Children. Bear and Forget.

In my last chapter I dealt especially with the qualifications required for the position of those whose duties lie in the nursery. But it is not only those who have the actual care of children that can exercise a wholesome influence over them. All who are in contact with them may do excellent service in this direction.

There are some servants, and particularly those who are beyond girlhood, who regard the children under them as "little ones," who are treated with a kindly feeling, who bitterly resent the planting of a young foot on the kitchen floor, and deem the appearance of a curly head in its doorway as an unwarrantable intrusion. Not only are they unkind to the young, but they also hurl at the head of the nurse who bears this baby, "You know you've no business here. Be off! Quick; or I'll tell your ma."

The younger, perhaps, only came to make a private inquiry as to the forthcoming puddings, or something equally innocent. But after his disappearance never again to be heard of, the nurse probably feels constrained to say, "I hate to have children poking and prying about. They always tell tales and make mischief."

I can understand the existence of such a feeling in a nursery-maid or a governess. They are often made uncomfortable by the mother so unwise towards her children, as to permit them to act the part of spies over her servants and maidservants towards herself. It is as lowering to her own dignity as it is humiliating to those who serve and injurious to her children to encourage such practices.

On the other hand, the upright, conscientious servant has no need to care who looks on whilst she is engaged about her daily duties. If she reverently carries in her mind this one thought, "Thou God seest me," and looks up to a Master who has so much at stake to trouble herself about other observers.

As a mother, I feel even more strongly than as the mistress of a home. However excellent a servant may be, I should not trust my little ones to her if I thought that the morals and manners of my children would suffer by contact with her.

To servants, in the discharge of their duties, I say, "Be kind to the children, dear girls. You can, if you are Christians, give many a hint for their good. You may whisper a word which may make an angry boy ashamed of his senseless passion. You may show the little one who is inclined to deceive, the beauty and bravery of truth.

There are often things which they perhaps overhear something which was never intended to reach them, and, big with the thought of a discovered secret, are eager to share the newly acquired knowledge with somebody else. A young servant is the nearest individual to the little personage who is inclined to be confidential, and to her the tale is too good to be lost.

This gives a right-minded girl an opportunity of showing her own uprightness and good conduct by disposing by refusing to listen, and of pointing (as it were) some kind of a propriety of repeating what has been said by parents or guests who had either not noticed or who were the presenters of the "little pucked"

Imagine how sweet it must be to the child when one of his children, after speaking of happy talks she had enjoyed on Sunday evenings with a young servant, said, "I always feel better after a conversation with her. Her words are so full of love and good advice, and to be good and do what is right to everybody."

After such an instance as this, dear girls, you cannot imagine that a servant's influence is to be lightly thought of, or carelessly used. I have known an instance in another home in which the religious training of the children was rendered useless, their boy's faith undermined, and the man's future career hopelessly changed, by the contrary influence of an old and much, much, more domestic.

Again, if servants wish to find a common bond of sympathy between their mistresses and themselves, the little ones will furnish it. Many are opposed to a young mother, who was accompanied by a girl-nurse with a baby on her lap. It was evidently the first, and all its clothing was a magnificent mixture of two tonalities rather than of great expenditure. The child was a lovely creature, and its young mother was young and unconscious of everything else. The three made a charming picture; for, the little man, her face lighted
up with love, told how her charge had been admired by different ladies, who had even stopped her in the street to look at and praise the bonny baby.

The mother listened with eager ears and hands. Then she took her small unwilling feet, because I thought that in the popular carriage I had seen two human beings united by perfect sympathy, the bond between the old infant and the new one.

I had a cook once who was very difficult to manage. She was extremely clever in her own department, but determined to have her way. She liked to imagine that she was who was then comparatively inexperienced in household management, and many years younger than herself. She thought of most part with her; but cook had a vulnerable point. She almost worshipped babies, and, being shown into the room where I sat with a month old infant on my knee, when she first came about the place, she implored me to let her hold it whilst we talked.

"Being in the kitchen, I hardly ever get a baby into my arms," she said. "I'm fond of cooking, but, if I had to start again, I'd be a nurse."

It's not sure the baby was an unconscious source of strength to our warm-hearted, self-willed cook; and for the little creature's sake she would often battle against a temper which would have been a bane to herself in any other house. Her stay was prolonged far beyond any person's expectation, and her darling was two years old before Sarah left us. She had rendered the kitchen too hot for anyone else but herself, and it was a question of parting with her or the other three servants.

But I was almost unnerved at the sight of old ones wriggling over the child whom she had nursed since she was in long clothes, and who was clasping her neck with one arm, while with the other hand she wiped away the tears from her friend's face, making her pinatacorne do duty for a handkerchief.

I had done what I could to obtain a situation for Sarah in which I thought she would be as little tempted as was possible to give way to her besetting sins, and I thankfully remember that she did well in it.

Here let me say a few words about the need for

MUTUAL FORBEARANCE IN THE HOUSEHOLD.

There is a very old story of an old couple whose quarrels had been for many years the talk of the neighborhood, when, to the surprise of everyone, the disturbances ceased. The gossip lost their regular excitement and wonder, and curiosity took its place.

Somebody at last mustered courage to ask the old man the secret of the unsought peace. He replied, with a smile, "My old woman and I have got on all right since we got two bears to live with us."

This only increased the curiosity; but it turned out that these were named "bear" and "forbear."

Ah, dear girls! The presence of these two bears is absolutely essential to the happiness of the household. They are as much needed in the kitchen as in the drawing-room, and I would say to every young candidate for a situation,

"Whatever else you may keep behind, take the bears with you."

Mistresses often complain that one of their most serious difficulties arises from the absence ofbear and of forbear. One lady, when telling me of this domestic trouble, was ready to cry, because her efforts to induce her servants to be kind and friendly to each other failed.

"Two of them," said she, "are pleasant-tempered enough; but the cook and nurse are always either squabbling or sulking. We have had an interlud of peace recently, for these two gave up speaking to each other above a fortnight since, and both are too proud to make any advance towards resuming friendly relations. The others are made enemies at the same time — eaters and drinkers cannot help observing what is going on. It is a shocking example for them."

And the close of these good servants in other respects? I asked.

"Excellent. Indeed, all four fulfill their duties to my entire satisfaction; are respectful to their masters, helpfulin the house to the children. If it were not for the wicked contrariness of the cook and nurse towards each other, I should esteem myself uncommonly fortunate."

In this case, you see, the comfort of a home was largely interfered with, and not only the offenders themselves were miserable, but every member of the family suffered, more or less, for want of a little of the "bear and forbear spirit" in two of the household.

As a rule, servants are extremely reluctant to tell tales of, or to lodge complaints against one another. This is much to their credit; though, amongst such a numerous class, there are sure to be some tattlers. All honour to those who guard the secrets which affront their own comfort only, who show that "charity which suffereth long and is kind."

But there are cases in which it is right both to speak ill and to suffer ill. For instance, when the conduct of one makes all the rest miserable, as in a particular instance which occurs to my mind, as I write. A cook in a family where several servants were kept, was for years feared and disliked as a perfect tyrant in her own domain. She was so jealous and suspicious that an expression of kindness and appreciation showed one of the rest of the other servants was resented as a personal injury to herself. The recipient would be harassed with taunts, accused of hypocrisy and innovations on her system, and her personal employer, out of the good opinion of their mutual employers. Or, as the others remarked, "Let the mistress praise one of us and cook will blame like her own kitchen fires, and give us a hot time of it for days to come."

This mistress was particularly anxious for the comfort and happiness of all under the roof. She knew how to be a respectable master, and to satisfy herself also about the character of their friends and connections. This done, she personally invited them to visit the servants, and not until then any of them had ever had to complain that the privilege was abused.

But, to her surprise, visitors rarely came a second time during the reign of this kitchen tyrant. It was only after long endurance and when a new cook had succeeded, that the mistress, who wished her house to be a home to her servants, found out why it was not so. Simply because they could not endure that their friends should be made uncomfortable by taunts and rudeness, and they preferred to leave them; for, after all, they had never had to complain that the privilege was abused.

The cook was an excellent servant in other respects, but for years she multiplied the efforts of her employers for the comfort of her fellow servants by her jealousy, and by devising all sorts of petty tyrannies. She had a mean and suspicious nature, combined with tortility of invention, could contrive.

Mistresses have to make the servants endure much from them. At times they did not bear, and in silence, rather than be blamed for talking. They would not complain lest their kind fellow servant should lose her place; though she had always given us a model of comfort, domestic peace, and the family intercourse which the mistress both permitted and encouraged.

In this case too much forbearance was shown. I think that the right thing would have been for the servants, first, to join in remonstrating with the kitchen tyrant, stating their intention of laying the matter before the master, and should could still refuse to hear reason. By such a course they would have saved great discomfort to themselves, and have taught the young woman to her credit if she was not fit to be trusted even in such a kitchen, and they would have prevented the commands of the mistress from being a dead letter in her hands. Perhaps some of you, dear girl servants, may like a little advice as to when it is right to appeal to the mistress, and when it is wise to be silent. In this, as in every other difference, you will find all the guidance you can possibly need in the Bible. Go on the grand principle of doing what God's Word and your own conscience may compel you to do.

If you are aware of a wrong done to your employers, or have cause to suspect that they are being robbed or wilfully deceived by those in whom they place confidence, you ought to speak. If through your silence the innocent would be blamed, or the guilty escape detection, you should tell what you know.

The person who, seeing wrong done, keeps silence and lets another be injured, becomes a partner in the evil doing. Sooner or later they too, by being thus negligent, shall be sent thereto, will certainly be involved in the blame also. Some may blame you for speaking; but it is better that ye suffer for well-doing than for evil-doing."

So mind you suffer as a Christian should, for doing right, if you must be blamed at all.

Take another piece of advice from St. Peter's first epistle, which is full of practical warning for the guidance of Christians in their relations one towards another and to their Divine Head.

"But let none of you suffer as a thief or as an evil-doer."

Remember the value of a good name. If yours is unjustly attacked, spare no pains to remove the false impression and to regain the good opinion of those who have misjudged you.

"Or as a busybody." See how carefully both sides are given! We are warned against being silent, while we warn others, hide wrong-doing, or hurt our own good name. We are equally warned against tattling or making ourselves about what does not concern us; as well as being silent about a mere love of gossip would induce us to speak, it is wiser, kinder, more becoming a Christian to be silent. A few sentences from God's Word will be the best comment on this side of the subject, and show us the propriety of silence where we should serve no good end by speaking.

"He that covereth a transgression sealeth love." "He that refrains his lips is wise." "He that uttereth a slander is a fool." "The words of a tale-bearer are as wounds." "A tale-bearer reveals secrets; but he that of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter."

A whisperer separateth chief friends.

What does all this advice tend? Surely to teach us that, as witnesses, we should be faithful ones, telling the simple, unvarnished truth. That our lips should be "righteous lips," so, by keeping the name of God and of Christ from the faults and failings of others, from a love of talk, and that our daily and hourly prayer should be: "Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, keep the door of my lips."
The short round tunics are no longer as fashionable as they were, and have given place to a long sleeved tunic, the sides being crossed and hanging low on the left side, while they are caught up high on the right side with a buckle, the folds being loose and regular. The short skirts, very short on the hips, and the peaks are short likewise, and not too pointted. The bodice is a little opened at the neck to show off the rest, usually of a lively colour, with black, or if carried all the way down the front, it is narrow and of the same width to the point in front. More pelisses are worn this year, of various shapely forms, or various shapely inductions I have seen before for several years. Some are called "jacket-pelisses," and these are a mixture of coat and pelisse, i.e., the front or back may be coat shape. For instance, the front may be a pelisse, draped back in long piaumes, under hanging coat tails at the back.

The skirts are nearly always made with single box-pleats; one turned each way, with a flat surface in the centre, and a flat band of trimming is often stitched on at about five inches from the edge of the domesne. This flat band is often much used for serss dresses, and on dark navy-blue a band of red sere will be seen, and the bodice will have a waistcoat and cuffs of the same material. Velvet ribbons are a very pretty trimming and are often run flatly upon dark cottons, and even on sephias and gingshas.

**SERVANTS AND SERVICE.**

By Ruth Lamb.

**CHAPTER VI.**

**THOROUGHNESS—ECONOMY OF TIME—CARE OF PROPERTY—PUNCTUALITY.**

Most mistresses are anxious that household work should be well and thoroughly done. I am, however, bound, in common fairness, to say that, while many servants are careless and slippery—spending the time that ought to be occupied over their work in dawdling and gossiping—there are also mistresses who are unreasonable in their requirements. They demand impossibilities because they have no idea of the time that is needed to ensure thoroughness in any branch of household work.

"There is nothing I like so much as a mistress who knows what work is, and who, having done it herself, can tell how long it takes," etc. It is not right.

There are the words of a lady, bright-faced young housemaid, who had lately entered upon a new place. She loved cleanliness, and did not consider that her duty was done when the ashes were removed from under the grate, and a duster lightly whisked over the tops of the tables and the seat and backs of chairs.

All this is not right. And it is a great blessing to the employed when the employer has a practical knowledge of the work her servants have to do.

To rejoice to think that the cookery and domestic economy classes are doing good service in this direction, by making girls, future mistresses, grandmothers, and all, with the details of household work.

"She is cleanly, but tardily slow," is no infrequent character from an active, hard-working mistress, when putting with a servant, who is perhaps less slow than thorough. On this subject, let me say to servants, "If you are not allowed the time to do your work well, take care that you spend upon it every minute that you have allotted for the purpose. Let no one catch you gossiping or idling away your time. Otherwise, you might as well have been already insufficient for the task to be properly performed.

And if, after having done your best, you are still found wanting, and your mistress, in a respectful manner, if she will, just for once, look on whilst you do this piece of work, and note how long it takes you to do it well. I am sure I have more to do than is possible to me, I should see the reasonableness of it and at once consent. Or I would, for once, do the same work myself, and, puddling steadily on, I may do it well and thoroughly in less time than my maid considered necessary.

If instead of scolding on the one side, and flying into a temper and answering imperiementally on the other, there were to be a fair consideration and a reasonable test such as the above, we should have fewer hasty warnings, to leave at the mouth's end, less frequent changes, and longer and more valuable service from our domestics. These, too, would not pay less respect or care less for our interests, because they knew it was true, patiently to a well-grounded complaint, and to repress any real ignorance.

From the subject of economy of time, and thoroughly carrying out the work, we turn naturally to that of care in the use of the property entrusted to us by those who serve in the household. In respect to work, there can be no better lesson than this: Where work is done with a hand findeth to do, it do with thy might. So, in using the property of others, use it as though you had earned the money which bought it.

Accidents will occasionally happen in spite of care; but numberless things are multiplied or destroyed by the want of a very little precaution. The cookery has not both hit open on a windy day. The blind is next seen flapping to and fro outside, and unless some watchful eye notices this, the crash of glass announces that the light has been driven through a pane or two, valuable papers have been carried into the fire or up the chimney, a table-cloth and a number of fragile ornaments swept upon everything that would break amongst them smashed to atoms by a little act of thoughtlessness.

Who can truly say, "I could not help it," when an unguarded eye approaches the author of such waste and ruin? She may not have done it on purpose, but destruction which is caused by little carelessness is scarcely less blamable than wilful waste.

A great deal of harm is done to furniture by rough bouncing servants, who bang articles down on floor or table, who rush about like a white wind under the impression that hurry and bustling mean industry and earnestness, who seem to think that noise is an essential companion of work, and that the people under whose roofs our tumbrels are chipped, until they become dangerous to those who use them; in whose hands crockery is perpetually "shivering with fear," and handles as constantly "coming off."

Chairs are recklessly brought in contact with side-boards, and the veneering is chipped, or smooths them down quite flatly, and mercilessly rubbed with rough dusters, with the result of leaving the same covered with all sorts of fine lines and scratches. Under such treatment the polished and grain piano assumes the appearance of an immense out line map.

All such injury to furniture and utensils becomes a source of annoyance from the fact that a little care would have prevented it. Hurry, bustle and bounce always hinder real work. It is the steady, methodical servant, whose work is done with the least apparent effort, but which entails the smallest amount of destruction to property and is most satisfactory in the long run. There is a little figure, familiar under our roof for nearly ten years, who was an admirable illustration of the value of method and of fore-casting the future. Slight accidents by no means strong, in many respects she was a living example of what could be effected by steadiness and a thoughtful planning. Her work was really her in a hurry, or with a smutty face or untidy hair. Her gowns looked less soiled and tumbled at the week's end than those of many wearers would be after a few hours' work.

All cooking materials that could be properly prepared beforehand or over night were always ready, same when wanted, her work being attached to the spotless dressers and the floors from which, to use a popular expression, "you might have eaten your dinner without a plate," gave a sufficient pledge of the exquisite cleanliness of everything prepared in that kitchen and by those hands. Yet all this beautiful order and purity were the result of quiet, steady work, carefully planned and carried out regularly and methodically.

There is no department in which cleanliness can be of more importance than in that of the kitchen, careless, untidy servants being as odious to her utensils indiscriminately. She will boil her onions, for sauce, and then, after a mere wash out, will make sweet sauce for a pudding in the same pan—which is a very bad result. A fine, subtle flavour of onions will run through the second preparation, and will, in turn, spoil both the sauce and the pudding it is intended to improve.

And yet when fault is found, the offender will perhaps stoutly insist, and with a certain measure of truth, that she had washed her pan on them.

Washing will not remove strong flavours, and especially the taste of onions. A pan should be kept for these alone, and no other sauce should ever be prepared in it. It would take too much space were I to attempt to enter fully into the many little details connected with a cook's duties, so I will make this article very short.

Be very cleanly in kitchen utensils, person, and dress. Be specially particular about the next arrangement of your hair, so that it may not loose and straggly. You will be more disgusting than the sight of hairs amongst food. Scour and scald—indeed in addition to merely washing—all utensils. Let crockery be thoroughly cleansed and brightened in the drying. Fill milk bowls with boiling water and let it stand in them until it is cold before drying for use again. This will tend to make the milk keep better.

In using the articles of food and preparing them, avoid all waste and be ready to render an account of everything that is entrusted to you. There are some cooks who use articles lavishly and wastefully, and who give away what is not theirs to bestow. They have no anxiety about proving their no occasion to consider how bills shall be paid, and often do not know the price and value of what they waste. They will throw bread and old pieces among things to be used to furnish swine, which many a widowed mother and hungry child would be thankful to receive and make use of. Occasional, decent, and accountable—and not to earthly employers only—for every wasted bit, whether of food or fuel. You are stewards in your position, as your servants and mistresses are.
Consider, then, that a lavish use or waste of money for luxurious rides and other extravagances is harder for the poor. Out of the very scraps and crumbs, if you will only collect them, thousands of birds may be fed and the lives of the Helm's horse might be saved. Ten thousand times the cold blustery and pinching frosts of winter.

Every morning at my home, one of our kindly domesticities may be seen sallying forth with her hair-brush in her hand. Thus, with all these things, how can she have been collected by their united efforts. Half of the store goes to the birds in the front—half to their brethren in the back paddock. The weather scene at feeding time is well worth watching for. I feel sure if you were to begin to care for these little feathered pensioners on human bounty, you would find still more beautiful things than what would induce you to give up the practice.

As I have advised nurses on no account to conceal any accident that may happen to the children under their care, so I would earnestly urge all servants to tell, and at once, of any breakage or injury to furniture. I say at once, because delay in telling always makes the task more difficult.

It is a mean thing, and an act of untruth, for a servant to hide away the fragments of broken articles, conceal the mischief done, and, perhaps, tell the truth half telling what has happened. Two unpleasant truths are likely to follow. A fellow servant may be blamed for that of which she is innocent; a misunderstanding is sure to follow for want of an article which she believed to be safe and sound, though really it had been long broken.

Very often she will be met with a look of combined protest and mock astonishment when she asks for particulars.

"Oh, that was done months since," is the reply given, in the length of time which had elapsed made the loss less important, or the concealment less to be condemned.

Two wealthy bachelors whose establishment was nominally under the rule of a cook-house keeper were one day surprised to find that out of a large and fine set of cut wine-glasses, none remained but those which were using at the moment. The waiter was considered responsible for the safe keeping of table appointments, and she had gone on breaking and hiding, until, when a visitor came, there would be three or four glasses for his use.

The wrath of the masters may be better imagined than described. It was, however, less the loss of their property than the deceit and the obstinate ignorance which caused them to arrange for the prompt departure of that waiter.

So again I say, tell and at once of any accident to your employer's property. At the moment, perhaps, vexation at the loss may try your mistress's temper and you may be sharply reproved. Express your sorrow, if you have been careless, try to be more careful in the future. Bear the reproach meekly, and, when the first irritation is past, you will find that the prompt confession has helped to build up in your character for truthfulness and straightforwardness.

And, dear ladies, tell the truth; the mistress will afterwards say something of this kind, "I was vexed at the moment, but I am glad you told me the truth." And in speaking of you to others she may blame her conduct for carelessness; but she will be able to say, "I can trust her words." At any rate, your conduct enforces on you the duty of not adding a wilful sin to an unintentional error.

And, dear ladies, who rule in the house, be sure to impress on your handmaids the duty of telling the truth in any and every case of accident. It is rather hard to keep from speaking sharply when sometimes, but much more unbecoming to your rank, to become careless hands. But if the culprit's confession and expressions of sorrow are met with scolding and huffing, the offender is very likely to hold her peace and hide the fragments that she should meet with a second mishap of the kind. Not that it would be right to do so; but the thought of taking such a course would be vastly increased.

Where, however, a mistress has her patience tried by repeated acts of carelessness, and the almost wilful waste of property, she has the remedy in her own hands. She may either have a distinct understanding that whoever breaks pays, or she must part with the author of the mischief.

Punctuality in carrying out household arrangements is valuable in every home, as tending to make the domestic machinery run smoothly. It makes it possible, it is of vital importance. Yet, all too often, the habit of a family depends more or less on each other for the power to be punctual with comfort—the child who was about to go to school, the father who must be at his place of business, the servants whose work should be completed by a given time.

A lady who was about to engage a cook was extremely particular about the habituality of the applicant.

"I can be punctual if the family can," was the answer. "I like to be regular and orderly myself, and so I suppose I should be about my work. But my difficulty has mostly been to get other people to be the same." The girl spoke respectfully, and was quite in earnest. She was addressed: "Tell me why you flung creeping over her own face as she addressed him. She knew very well that, while professing to exact punctuality in others, she was often very badly deficient in the practice of that virtue.

There is no doubt, however, that a punctual mistress will make her servants to keep the hour. One is more sure of equality than the punctuality in the employed would have the same effect on the employers.

These will sometimes say to servants, "You must have the meals on the table at the time. Never mind whether anyone is there to eat them or not."

But this would be a most unsatisfactory state of things. The cook would grumble over spoiled dishes; the waiting damsel would be uncomfortable, and, depend on it, the blame would be placed on servants, on anything except the proper care and preparation to bear themselves by those who grumble over a cold or haphazard dinner.

Dear ladies, be fair in this respect. Dear girls, don't — don't — don't spoil the servants to be punctual. Do not linger over that last chapter of an attractive book, or stay out until the last minute, so as to be obliged to appear at table, flushed and untidy, or to be making your toilet when you should be taking your meal.

When starting on a shopping expedition, calculate for probable delays and hindrances. Give yourselves time and leave orders that the meal is to be served, if you are not at home at the proper hour. It will be easier to keep something hot for you than to make it up to you all the rest for the discomfort and inconvenience of waiting for an indefinite time and letting everybody's dinner and temper being spoiled during the interval.

I shall not soon forget my own return from town on one occasion. I was half an hour late, and after I came into the house I stopped on my way home to speak to a seamstress about some working materials which I had brought back with me.

On finally descending I was met in the hall by that paid-for cook of whom I have already written.

"Ah! are you aware that the dinner is standing?" she asked, with a reproachful look on her face.
my salary to depend upon," and this reference to her mother almost overcame Lina’s firmness.

"Don’t cry, Miss Wilton," said her companion. "I never knew my mother, but I know what you must feel, for I never left off crying for a month when my father died."

Lina was not one to parade her grief, and she soon choked back her tears.

"Where do you think we had better look for rooms?" she asked, in a minute or two. "I have furniture enough for two rooms," she added.

"Oh, you’ve got some furniture! That’s capital. We shall be sure to find nice rooms out Islington way. Will you come home with me now and see my brother? He may be able to help us, you know. My name is Amy Carrington, and you must call me Amy now, you know, for we are going to be close friends. What shall I call you?" asked Amy.

"My name is Adelina Wilton, but everybody calls me Lina."

"I shan’t. I shall call you Adelina, for that’s a proper name, and I wonder what my brother will think of our plan," she added, for they had reached her home by this time.

Lina almost shuddered as she went into the dark, stuffy little room at the back of the shop, and wondered whether this was what their future home would be like.

Amy introduced "Miss Adelina Wilton," as an old friend, and then told her brother what they thought of doing. He asked Lina a few questions, and then agreed to go with his sister after the shop was shut and look for rooms " Islington way."

Amy seemed almost wild with delight at the prospect suddenly opened before her, but Lina was by no means elated. She felt herself fairly committed to a trial of this plan, but she could not feel sure that she should find in Amy a congenial companion. But she must think of her friend now as well as herself. It was perhaps the only plausible thought raising out of the transaction at present, but to Lina this was a great deal. She had someone to think of and care for again, and if Amy needed a little help—well, her life would not be quite useless.

Amy was waiting for Lina outside the warehouse the next morning, and greeted her most warmly.

"Don’t you want to begin housekeeping all by yourself now directly?" she said.

"But I thought we had agreed to try the plan together," said Lina.

"Yes, that’s what I mean; we shall just be by ourselves, and can do exactly as we like. I cannot think of anything but our delightful plan. When shall we begin?"

"As soon as we can get the rooms, I suppose. Did you look for them last night?"

"Oh yes, we walked miles, and looked at hundreds of rooms," said Amy.

"Hundred! Then we shall be able to take our choice," said Lina, in some surprise.

"Well, perhaps there wasn’t hundreds, but there’s three my brother said I had better take you to look at when we get away this afternoon. You’ll find a mind a walk after work hours, do you?"

"Oh, no, I’m used to walking, and like it," said Lina.

"You see, we couldn’t get nice rooms in a genteel street without a walk—a good long walk I mean," said Amy.

"Well, I think we might manage that, for we don’t have to get to the warehouse until nine in the morning and we leave at six in the evening, so that will give us time for a long walk and do us good too."

"Just what I said to my brother," exclaimed Amy, triumphantly. "He don’t like walking, and said it was too far from our work in the city, and wanted us to go down a pokey little street near the shop, but I wouldn’t go even to look at the rooms, for I hate pokey little streets."

Lina recalled the look of the shop and the stuffy little room at the back, and said, decidedly—

"Oh, I would rather walk a little further to live in a light, airy street. I’ll go with you this evening and look at the rooms, and we must try and make up our minds which we like best."

"Well, we’ll take the bus, I think, just this once, because you’ll want to get back, you know, and my brother is very particular about me being out late."

"Oh, we shan’t be late I hope," said Lina.

"No, not if we take the bus; but the walk there and back, and looking at the rooms, and talking to the people, takes more time than you think for, so we’ll ride just this once if you don’t mind."

"No, I don’t mind in the least," said Lina, and they kissed and parted, for although they were employed in the same department, their machines were not near each other, and so they seldom had an opportunity of speaking together during the day.

(To be continued)

SERVANTS AND SERVICE.

CHAPTER VII.

On pultery-keeping, giving notice to leave, and other practices.

There are two practices not altogether unknown amongst servants, against which it is hardly possible to protest too strongly. I allude to those of listening, in order to find out things never intended for their ears, and of pry ing into old papers or letters, accidentally or trustfully left within reach.

A light-hearted girl, or any person deserving the name of Christian, would be guilty of either practice.

If employers leave their letters and papers lying about, this is a pretty, innocent error in their servants and that they believe them to be too uprightness and honorable to be guilty of pry ing into their contents. If they speak of private matters in such a place and tone that their servants could hear, if they were men enough to listen, it is a proof that they do not think them capable of such an underhand proceeding. Deserve their good opinion, dear girls, and preserve your self-respect by scrupling to do, when unseen, what you would be ashamed of, if detected in the act.

Servants believe that mistresses are unreasonably suspicions, and act as though they expected to be cheated at every turn—thus Dickens’s Miss Sally Brass, they would padlock everything down to the very safety-box, until "there was nothing that a chameleon could lick upon, and nothing to the whom they employ a prying spirit which they would be the first to complain of in their servants."

This spirit is, however, often the harvest reaped by an upright girl from the seeds sown by a deceitful and dishonest one. When a mistress has trusted and been deceived, she is apt to become suspicious where there is no occasion to be so.

The only remedy is for the new comer so to act as to show that the more her conduct is looked into, the better she will be satisfied, as well as her mistress.

If, however, after a fair trial, the habit of looking up every little thing and incessant mistrustfulness should continue, a girl would be right to try for another place, where truth and honesty were better understood and appreciated. She could not endure the harass of being constantly suspected and misjudged, any more than a mistress would, after a fair trial, keep a servant whom she could not both trust and respect.

People tell us that nowadays there are no old servants—that where a seven years’ character is a common thing, one for twelve months or two years should be reckoned very good indeed.

I do not agree with these sweeping statements, and my own home experience contradicts them. But I am well aware that, in many households, there is a perfect and complete system of Marjory-move-all going on. I believe this is for want of a little more reasonableness on both sides.

Small difficulties, which might be got over by a little patience, twist themselves into a knot which is summarily cut by the usual month’s warning. No right-minded person can persuade you, dear girls, never to give warning on the day that some thing has occurred to irritate you, I should save many of you from throwing away a good place. But, if, yielding to a momentary irritation, you have done this and are sorry for it, do not be too proud to own that you were wrong and ask forgiveness and permission to withdraw the notice. Your mistresses will respect you and value your services all the more after such a display of right-thinking and good sense.

To young mistresses, I hint a word of advice: If you have something to communicate, always call your servants into your own sitting-room, after the day’s work is over, and point out the fault kindly and reasonably. Say what is wrong and how it is to be amended, and be firm in exacting attention and future obedience to your orders.

Never quarrel with or rate your servants.
By doing so, you lose your own dignity and their respect.

Never reprove them in the presence of visitors. Few things are more calculated to irritate your guests than to expose them to those disagreeable discourses that the slightest disagreement is apt to occasion.

I once saw a lady who had a very energetic eye, which was very particular about her dress and table arrangements; seized upon a young servant, whilst her room was as she was about to leave the room, and angrily directed her attention to a dress which was the last being examined.

The girl, a new comer, young, inexperienced, and fresh from the country, blushed, trembled, and seemed ready to sink through the floor; her trembling hands were visible; her angry looks of her mistress, and confusion at being made a centre of observation to all those strange eyes, she, moreover, unable to comprehend what was meant. By the time the lady had, by checks and jerks, aroused her to a sense of the mistake she had committed, the poor girl was hopelessly unmoved and unaffected.

One blunder followed another. She handed dishes at the wrong side, spilled the liquids when attempting to pour them into glasses, and in general, made the mistress, secretly observed by the guests, and occupied herself between times in furrying her handkerchief to wipe away the tears which, once set flowing, would not easily stop.

Yet an unnoticed touch from the left hand of the lady would have straightened the dish. A few kind words and a little lesson in private, instead of the coarse pursuit, would have revealed a disposition willing to be taught and led in the servant, and have shown her the capability of the mistress to model her into a lady par excellence. As it was, the girl left as soon as possible, and the mistress had to seek another maid—a difficult matter; for she had got the character of being perpetually changing her domestics.

This is a real picture, and one which, with trifling variation in actual detail, I have seen enacted again and again.

"Maidens, give unto your servants that which is just and equal; knowing that ye also have a Master in heaven." This advice, or command, given by the hand of God to the Hebrews and all peoples to all who bear rule over servants, whether in the place of business or the home—to mistresses as well as masters. And surely, in giving that which is just and equal to our servants, we have to think of them as having a far more than a mere question of wages. We should be just in our acts, reasonable in our requirements, and even in our tempers to those who serve us.

I knew one lady who, when the smallest portion of the household machinery went wrong, would fly into a violent passion and say all sorts of unjust and harsh things to the author of the mishap. Being, like most hasty people, very generous, she would then lavish gifts on those to whom Conscience told her she should be more severe. Her maids calculated on this result, and one was heard to say that she enjoyed a "flare up" with the mistress. Masters and mistresses are human beings, and subject to the same feelings. It was worth while to put up with it quietly, "It paid so well in the end."

No need for a word of comment on this trait of human nature.

"Be just and equal!" A short sentence, but how much it says! Give praise heartily, where it is fairly earned. Be equally just in putting blame, where it is due, and furnishing- enforcing obedience, but do it in a reasonable way—not in the heat of passion or in the presence of others, but so as to convince your servants that you know both your own place and their duty.

Young wives, who in their early married life are often much alone, sometimes make the mistake of first being over-confidential and familiar and then of going into the opposite extreme. They have fault-finding fits, and the damsel who has been treated as a friend and confidante, and who has not understood why her girl-mistress should on the next be sharply in speech and distant in manner. If we mistresses wish to be respected we must, as have said, be just and equal and reasonable in our requirements, and just in our judgments.

I have alluded to the giving of hasty notices by servants, and suggested how these should act, if, in doing so, they should throw away a good place, and be sorry for it. As a mistress, I would not advise another to ask a girl to withdraw a notice given in a fit of temper. However, if you are sure you are right, and believe you have been treated unjustly or unfairly, you have better be allowed to go, unless she herself asks to stay and owns that she has been wrong. Were the mistress to show no fit, the latter would probably get it into her head that she was too valuable to be spared, and the notice would be repeated whenever she was found fault with, until a separation became inevitable.

Reasonable Christian girls have too much common sense and right feeling to act in this foolish manner.

On the other hand, if the mistress has been the one to give a hasty warning, and conscience tells her that she has acted on impulse, and with some inequality of the grievance, I do not think she would lessen, or lose the respect of her servant, by frankly saying so and asking the latter to remain.

A good servant would show no fit, the mistress would probably get it into her head that she was too valuable to be spared, and the notice would be repeated whenever she was found fault with, until a separation became inevitable.

Reasonable Christian girls have too much common sense and right feeling to act in this foolish manner.

Our responsibilities extend beyond the threshold. If a mistress is a mother also, surely the thought of her own daughters will make her anxious to guard her young girl from what is impure or morally injurious. The young mistresses, in their turn, will feel anxious for the well-being of their domestics, and will work to guard them from all evil influences, as they themselves have been guarded in their girlhood’s homes.

We mistresses, each and all, should assure ourselves that our girls are as Sunday as God’s children should spend His day. We should give them opportunities of enjoying the fresh air, which is as needful for their heart health as for their lungs. We should make the girls at a distance from their own homes and friends, we should ascertain what associates they have, and where and when how a holiday is likely to be spent. We shall feel that it is our bounden duty to guard from contaminating influences these girls—the daughters of other mothers, who have been instructed to guide them as we would guide our own. We shall encourage them to consult us in seasons of doubt, difficulty or temptation. We shall help them to decide on taking the right course, and cheer and strengthen them in their efforts to resist evil.

We, too, shall have our reward; though we work not with any thought of seeing or surmising how good to others.

There are certain tasks and duties the performance of which can be bargained for, certain work that can be paid for in current coin of the realm. But there are numberless services, labours of love, which we cannot demand and money cannot buy; all such as these we shall regard as abundant harvest.

There is another matter in which we should be just and equal; namely, in the giving of work to servants by girl mistresses. It is the feeling that a girl’s bread depends on her obtaining a situation, and that ill-success may drive her to evil courses. So, whilst we must not defeat the servant, the girl, she must not be defeated.

All that can be said for the departing servant is said, the damaging circumstances are glossed over or wholly suppressed, and perhaps the servant has worked with the thought that she has done a kind act.

Some much-pressed-housemother takes the girl. She has probably been unsuccessful in obtaining one, and the domestic emergency is
great. Too soon she finds out how one-sided was the character given—out of kindness, or from fear of consequences it may be—and she feels that she has been cruelly deceived.

Ah, these half-truths! What mischief they do!

I have always felt the importance of being just and equal in this respect, and that I owed a duty to the mistress in search of a servant, as much as to the girl in want of a place. "The truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth," should be our motto in character-giving.

That one and only bad servant I ever had would never have crossed our threshold, but for the written character sent by her then mistress. When, after a few weeks of bitter experience, I came to analyze it, I wondered that I could have been deceived by such evasive answers to my queries; such self-evident half-truths.

That very servant, finding that no one would engage her, after an interview with me, wrote one of the most remarkable letters it was ever my lot to receive. Without for a moment professing regret for her wrong-doing, or a desire and determination to amend, she asked me to tell a falsehood in order to hide her untruthfulness and dishonesty, and obtain for her another place in which to resume her career of wickedness.

What I did was to visit the different register offices where she had entered her name and warn those who kept them not to send to me for a character, as I would only tell the truth, and this would prevent any lady from engaging her.

Occasionally one finds that an employer will give a tolerably favourable character, but accompany her words with looks and manner which seem to say, "I could tell more if I chose, but I will not;" or will merely state that the servant herself gave notice, and left by her own wish.

This is neither fair to employer nor servant.

A girl may have many excellent qualities, yet not prove equal to the duties she has undertaken. In such a case, I should, were I her mistress, look round for a vacant niche which she was likely to fill, and help her to obtain it. I have done so more than once with most satisfactory results. But I would never allow an inquiring mistress to be deceived, or to take into her house the seeds of trouble in the shape of an untruthful or impure minded girl, for lack, on my part, of courage to speak of such a one as she is.

Let us, by all means, help the fallen to rise again, and stretch out the hand of love and pity to the penitent. But let us, mistresses, young and old, be true to others and to ourselves, and not show our compassion by concealing the truth, or help the wrong-doer to obtain a place by sacrificing the peace of our neighbour's household.

(To be continued.)

EFFIE'S AFTERNOON TEA.

By Dora Howe.

CHAPTER II.

In spite of Effie's nervousness, her first "afternoon tea" was quite a success. Ruth arrived early to help her in her final arrangements, and promised to do her best to entertain the girls, who, somewhat to Effie's dismay, had all accepted her invitation. The plain needlework was placed on a side-table, with a work-basket containing a plentiful supply of cottons, needles, and scissors.

"We have cut out most of the clothes to fit Elsie," said Effie; "mamma said it was much better to make them as if for a definite age. Elise is twelve years old, you know, and that seems to be about the age at which girls are generally sent abroad; so her share in the work is to act as model and be 'tired on,' she is delighted to be any use."

"I have been wondering what size you would make the clothes, and also whether you would make them suitable for a hot or a cold climate."

"It seems from that 'Handbook of Charities,' that most of the Emigration Societies send their children to Canada, so we have made warm things. We bought strong unbleached calico for the underclothes—mamma says it wears so much better than any other kind. The only objection to it is that it makes such a mess of one's dress while sewing it, so I have provided two or three aprons. I happened to have, to lend to any girls who object to being powdered with the 'dressing'—that is why I asked you to bring one with you; another time we will warn them to come provided with some of their own."

"And what kind of frocks are you going to make for the child?" asked Ruth.

"We have not provided anything yet; mamma thought it would be better to get some of the underclothes finished off first, as of course we shall have to make at least three of each article; but as soon as we have cleaned off a few of these things we thought we might make two or three dresses of strong linen, and perhaps some rather prettier ones of serge, trimmed with braid, or something of that kind. But you know I am only responsible for the work at this meeting,
matters hastily put down on the floor in the house, we returned to the fire, and listened to stories upon the demijohns of whiskey was freely passed round, of amusing and interesting adventure with the Indians and Mexicans, or with the snakes, and other wild animals natives of the country, interspersed with recollections of the late war, in which most of those present had served, until, thoroughly tired out, we also thought of sleeping that night. And I went to bed, the stillness alone broken by the bells of the mules and horses which were hobbled and tethered for the night.

At "sum-up" all was said and done after breakfast round the camp fire, dispersed on their several routes, leaving us to enjoy the companionable quiet of our first day in our new home "up country." (To be concluded.)

SERVANTS AND SERVICE.

By RUTH LAMB.

CHAPTER VIII.

SERVANTS, THEIR COMMISSIONS.

FORMERLY, there was such a decided difference between the dress of mistress and maid, that there was no mistaking the one for the other. Now, much greater latitude is permitted, and it is sometimes said that, if we wish to distinguish the mistress we must look for the monstrosity of the thing, for the modish dress of the two when the maid is also present.

Some ladies do not interfere in the matter so long as their domestics dress quietly and comfortably on duty. Without going far into the question, let me give you, dear girls, a little advice on the subject. It will be just the same as I would offer to my own children or to any other girl who might wish for it.

Regulate the amount you spend by your actual requirements. Do not spend all you can speak of in stores because you have the money. Remember there are other ways in which your spare wages may be wisely and well laid out or laid by. I say laid by, because whatever money you are not sure. Then you should try to save something out of it for the proverbial rainy day. There are plenty of ways by which tidy people may save and invest even very small sums, and by a penny at a time, if they can afford no more.

For instance, the post office will supply you with a form on which you can stick a new postage stamp, bought with a spare penny. When twelve stamps have thus been affixed, you can take them to the post office, receive back their due in the shape of a shilling, and make that your first deposit in the savings bank there.

Make a beginning, and you are almost sure to go on. If you can then save a shilling at a time, you need not buy stamps, but become a savings bank depositor at once.

It is a pleasant thing to have a little money, your own honest earnings, to fall back upon, if sickness should come or you are out of place. Or you may help the good father and mother to whom you owe so much, or, if they do not need it, you may spend your earnings in furnishing your future home.

Which of us has not at some time known a girl, whose eyes have been misapplied, whose head on "fine feathers," has had to be a burden on hard-working parents in such seasons of trouble as come with sickness or want of employment? Then, beside laying by money, you should have some to lend or lay out in our Master's service. Because you are young girls in situations, the devotion of a Christian youth to work, to do nothing for love of that dear Saviour who gave His life for you? You would be very angry indeed if anyone were to say that you were not very loth not only in sending missionaries to the heathen, at home and abroad, in spreading the written Word of God, so that all may possess a copy, or in carrying the sick and suffering in homes and hospitals.

My own experience shows me that many amongst you give almost beyond your means, and certainly beyond your means, to do a good work. If some have not done so they will, I trust, take this reminder in good part, and space a while, remembering that most of our great societies owe more to the small contributions of the many than to the larger ones of the few.

Going back to the subject of dress, let me advise you to choose quiet colours and as good a material as you can afford. Such will never become conspicuous, they will wear double the half a cent more, and cost no more for making than the commonest stuff you could purchase; so there would be a real saving, to begin with, in this last item. Have your dress made in a simple style. There is no reason why you should not display excellent taste in this matter. But good taste never chooses startling colours or extreme styles. It prefers to attract notice and encourage rude remarks on the first appearance of the wearer. Good taste never loads poor materials with tawdry trimmings, which only makes a dress look shabbily the sooner, and are equally costly and useless.

Good taste and good sense alike suggest that our clothing should be in accordance with our means, that we wear the best we can have and the position we occupy in the world.

The above rules apply equally to every article worn.

Never sacrifice the comfort of having a good supply of warm, well-made, underclothing, and of being neatly and strongly shod, for the sake of mere outside finery, such as you are perhaps used to having perhaps thinking that it is insusitable, and wholly afraid to be seen in your hard-working, sensible mother.

Lastly, save the money to pay for what you buy at the time. That is, if you buy things which those who have to run into debt usually pay dearly for the accommodation, and especially those who least afford the extra price. Tradesmen know that they are able to charge some risk in trusting young girls, who generally have nothing but their wages to fall back upon, and whom sickness might deprive of the power to earn any. Extra tasks must mean the putting on of extra profits, and thus those who run into debt pay a higher price for their articles than those who go moneys in hand.

Now a word about visitors. Some mistresses draw a very hard-and-fast line on this subject, and will allow none. Servants may visit their nearest stated intervals, but they are forbidden to receive friends or visitors from the nearest and dearest to them under the roof which shelters themselves. Most mistresses, I believe, act differently from this point of view, thinking what their own children would feel if they were amongst strangers, allow all reasonable liberty in this respect. A right-minded girl will never abuse this privilege, but she will introduce in the house of her employers any person of whose presence they would be likely to disapprove.

Remember, dear girls, it is your duty to fall in with the system in which you serve, and employers have often very good reasons for such as may appear too strict in your eyes; on the other hand, as in all your dealings, act straightforwardly, and never being in a visitor by stealth, or in the absence of the family. Many a robbery has been successfully carried out through the folly of young servants who have listened to the flattering words of chance acquaintances, who have been led to think they knew a knowledge of the premises, and to find out where the valuables were kept. Through such visitors a servant's character has been lost, and she will not be more usefully, and more honestly, has been suspected of being an accomplice of thieves and punished as such.

When visitors come by permission of the mistress, I think the best thing is to see them, say a few words of kindly welcome, ask after the other members of the absent family, and then must manifest her interest in what gives pleasure to her maid. She will not be worse served for doing this, and for showing that, amid her own household cares and occupations, she has a heart large enough and warm enough to sympathise with the joys and sorrows of all around her.

But there may be, and I trust there often is, a far stronger bond of union between mistress and servant than any which could result from the mere fact of being placed in these relations one towards another. It is not work well done and wages regularly paid—not the mere material conditions of life—that bind one person to the other; not the being members of the same household band and dwelling under the same roof which can create this bond of union to which I am alluding.

No, dear mistresses, dear girls who serve; there is something better still. It is the realization of the greatest truth that, while there may be a difference in social positions and duties here, we are alike servants of a Heavenly Master. If we are both Christians we are sisters in Christ, members of one body and looking to one glorified Head, children of the same family, with God Himself for our Father.

Some years ago I read a brief extract from an article which was published in one of the reviews—"I think the Nineteenth Century—and by a lady writer. Though I never read the whole article, I remember the little portion I did see, and that the author suggested that we mistresses should give our servants a share with ourselves in some special Christian work, such as visiting and relieving the sick poor, etc.

She also stated her belief that no lady's work could have its full value unless united with the love and help, and not merely the white helpers could equal those which might subsist between Christian mistress and maid, living under one roof, knowing each other's weaknesses and engaged in a work where the one who in other respects was first might be last, and the last first.

I have no copy of the words and do not profess to quote them literally. But I remember the impression they produced on my mind, because they agreed not only with my own opinion, but with my practice and the experience of years.

I read the words aloud to a dear young girl who was at the moment preparing the table for dinner, and, as I finished them, said—"Yes, indeed," she said, her face glowing with the honest pleasure, for she was and is my willing helper, as the great lady had done in her large mothers' meeting-entering heart and soul into the work, respected and loved by the members of the class.

And those who are at home whilst she and I are at the class help also, for they take the share of work which does not belong to their departments during the day; and I am thankful to say that we never hear any one of them say, "It is not my place," but that they work together as members of a family, and, above all, as God's children.

Years before, another dear girl who is now a happy wife and mother rendered me the
same kind of help at the class, and with equal interest and heartiness.

Going further back still, there comes before my mind’s eye the picture of a bright young face, that of a housemaid then in our service. I was ailing for some time and unable to go out on Sunday evenings, and when it was this girl’s turn to come, I always called her to sit with me, that we might talk, read, and pray together. I do not remember ever spending evenings at home with more true pleasure and spiritual profit than these.

The girl was such a bright Christian, and when she began to speak of the way in which she had been led to realise the great love of our Father, God, in giving His dear Son to die for sinners, and of her share in that finished work, I used to think her dear, earnest face was one of the sweetest pictures that my eyes ever rested upon.

I never think of her without remembering the happy seasons of truly Christian communion we enjoyed, and offering a prayer that her influence in her own home may always be an equally blessed and useful one to what it was in ours. She would teach our children sweet hymns, both words and tunes, and it used to be delightful to hear her rich, full voice mingling with their childish ones in songs of praise to God.

At that time a very dear friend, a clergyman, was a frequent visitor at our house. None of our servants attended his church, but he never crossed our threshold without saying a few kind words to whichever he happened to see. He would take after their health with the same courtesy that he manifested towards the heads of the family, and contrive, in a few syllables, to show them that he was ever solicitous to leave a little message from his Divine Master, to sow a little seed which might produce fruit to His glory, and for the good of an immortal soul.

This was appreciated by our girls, and especially by the dear lassie to whom I have alluded! How she would try to repay the interest thus manifested by the most thoughtful attention that she could show when waiting at table! The clergyman’s health was failing at the time, and he was ordered to winter abroad. On his return, the young ... was the first to see him approaching the house, and, noticing that our dear friend was looking weaker and more worn than when he left England, she came to me sobbing and with her good, true face expressing the deepest sorrow.

I thought she must have received bad news from home, but as soon as she could answer, she explained the cause of her tears. "It is not ill," she said, "They are all well; but Mr. — is coming up the walk, and he is looking worse than ever. He is stooping like quite an old man. I am so sorry, I am so sorry. He is so kind and good."

Someone else had to answer the door to our friend, who, not seeing the usual face, inquired after the girl. He was deeply touched on finding that her tears and trouble on his account had made her absolutely unable to meet him.

During dinner, when the girl was in attendance, it was pleasant to see the manner in which she showed her grateful sympathy by anticipating the clergyman’s slightest want, by offering her services in a sort of beseching way, and venturing to hint that it was "very nice," as she lingered a moment to see if he would recall his first refusal.

Our friend’s wan face lighted with a kindly smile as he said, "I must taste this, as you say it is so good," and he helped himself to a small portion, to the girl’s great delight.

Afterwards he spoke of this little incident, and of the true sympathy with his weakness and suffering which she manifested in every word and act.

"In these days," he said, "a kind of stony unconsciousness is generally required in table attendants. But for my part, I would rather have your bright-faced waitresses, whose composure is perpetually reflecting the quick sympathies of her true, warm heart, than a whole regiment of well-drilled waiting machines."

Do not imagine for an instant that this sympathy in work and consequent familiar intercourse ever made our servants less obedient or respectful. The contrary was the case. Communism in Christian work, life and aim, whilst, it will bring about frequent and close familiar intercourse between mistresses and maids, would be the last thing in the world to endanger the sort of familiarity which "breeds contempt."

No. This kind of union will be productive of mutual and ever-growing affection and respect, and will alike tend to the well-being of the family itself, and of all who are brought within the sphere of its influence.

Those who are Christ’s servants are always more faithful to their earthly employers than are any others.

Those who, filling the place of mistresses, women faithfully devoted to the work of the Lord, are ever the most patient in dealing with others, and most truly reasonable in their requirements.

(To be concluded.)

SNATCHED FROM PRISON DOORS.

By EMMA LESLIE, Author of "Out of the Mouth of the Lion."

CHAPTER III.

AMY’S ESCAPE.

Have you seen Amy, Miss Carrington?"

Lina was standing near the ware-house, watching and listening for her companion to appear; but the stream of girls leaving their work had well-nigh ceased, and so Lina asked one of the last of them, thinking it possible that Amy might be detained from some cause.

"I saw her with her things on, ready to leave in ten minutes ago. She told me she wanted to get out early," replied the girl.

"I wonder how I could have missed her," said Lina; "I’ve always wait for each other at this time, and..."

"Perhaps she has gone on, as it is so wet to-night," suggested the other.

"Oh, perhaps she has gone on by omnibus," said Lina, thinking of what had passed in the morning; but, resolving not to encourage such extravagance, she determined to walk home herself. "She will have the fire alight by the time I get home, and that will be comfortable such a wet night."

"Do you and Miss Carrington live together?"

"Yes; we live at Islington," said Lina.

"So do I. Shall we walk together? My name is Mary Adams."

And the two girls went on through the splashing streets, chatting as well as they could. Mary noticed how the route thoroughly, took her companion by a quieter way than the main road, and so they were able to become somewhat acquainted, for although they had seen each other often, they had never spoken before, but in the course of their walk they became very good friends, and before they reached home Mary said—

"You like Amy Carrington, of course; she is much better than little. But do you think you could say a word to her about her work."

"About her work?" repeated Lina.

"I don’t mean the way she does her work, but you know how particular they are and she will laugh and chatter with William Haynes whenever he comes into the room. She has been spoken to about it once, and, besides, Haynes is not a nice lad; he will do her no good. I am sure, so I thought if you could give her a quiet hint it might save a little fuss."

"I will, the first chance I get; but you see it is not easy with a girl like Amy," said Lina, "she is so full of fun, and yet so easily offended. She did not like what I said last night about theatres and music halls, and I have been trying to think of something we could do of an evening to make a little change for her. She don’t care about needlework, you see, and so the time seems long after we go home."

"Well, I don’t like it either, and you see my mother does all for me; but I am trying to improve myself, so as to keep pace with my brother. We are the only two, and have done everything together; but he is younger than me, he hasn’t left school yet, but I never had the chance of learning what he does, and so I want to make up for it by reading of an evening. Now couldn’t we do this together—all three of us. I mean? We could exchange ideas about what we read, and help each other that way," said Mary, eagerly.

Lina laughed. "I am afraid I don’t know enough to make my ideas worth exchanging," she said.

"Well, of course we shall all be learners, but I think it would be a help to me, if you don’t mind trying the plan, and I know mother would be pleased to have you come in of an evening sometimes."

"Well, I’ll talk to Amy about it," said Lina. "This is where I live," she added, pausing at the steps, and looking up at the window.
THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER.

SERVANTS AND SERVICE.

By Ruth Lamb.

CHAPTER IX.

THE ONE SOURCE OF STRENGTH.

I fancy I hear some young voices addressing me thus:—"You set before us a high standard; how shall we reach it? You own that we have difficulties to struggle with; that we have many things to hinder us, and so much both to learn and to unlearn. Some of us come from homes where we have had very little training to fit us for service. We have idle and careless habits to amend, selfish and thoughtless ones to fight against.

"Many of us have been little used to think before speaking, or to fight against hasty tempers."

Perhaps we do not think as kindly of our mistresses as we ought; but consider there are many more enemies than friends, and that their object is to get as much work out of us as they can and return us as little.

"We have heard people talk of servants as domestic pests, and the servants' question is often discussed as though we had no feelings at all, or else all the bad ones.

"No doubt we often try the patience of our mistresses by our misjudgments and mistakes. But if only they would not expect us who have not had their advantages to be perfect, to begin with, we should not get disheartened and careless about pleasing as we often do. We want to do right, but—"

And the speakers pause, as travellers sometimes do at the foot of some lofty mountain, in doubt whether it will be worth their while to toil onward and upwards to the summit. Ah! the climber may not be sure whether, after all his weary ascent, the view will repay him. He may reach the top and find himself wrapped in a veil of misty mists, through which his eyes cannot pierce, and he descends sorrowful and defeated, knowing that he must return to base.

But, dear girls, those who are toiling heavenward, no matter how rough the path by which they follow Jesus, can never be disappointed. The Son of God renders the next easier; each fault conquered makes the victory over another something to be counted upon.

Was the path of Jesus a smooth one? Had He no cross to carry before He won the victory over sin, Satan, death, and the grave, and returned in triumph to take again the crown, externally and internally?”

What was our Master's source of strength? Was it found in frequent prayer, in communion with His being armed with the Sword of the Spirit, even the sealed Word of God, and ever ready to use it?

About prayer. Again I think of some of your passengers; very little time or opportunity for private prayer. We seldom have even a bedroom entirely to ourselves. At night we are often up late; we must rise before the rest of the family to prepare what is needed for their comfort. We feel too tired to rise earlier still, in order to get the time for prayer.

"During the day, if we think we will get a spare half hour, we are liable to many interruptions, and the sound of a bell may call us from our knees almost as soon as we have bent them at our Father's footstool. Much cannot be expected from us, the time we have for prayer is so short."

True, dear girls. And what a comfort to think that we can always count on being judged according to our opportunities by Him to whom all hearts are open and all desires known.

And how sweet to remember that it is not only our prayers which find utterance, but the very desires of our hearts which are known to God.

So the longing, earnest wish to be His child, and to do His will, can be read as plainly as the expressed petitions can be heard by Him.

Let me ask you: Have you used all the opportunities you have had? If you have only been able to call a few moments your own, have you spent them in asking for the guidance of God's Holy Spirit, who will lead you to your need, sinfulness, foolishness, and weakness; who will reveal to you that dear Saviour in whom your wants will be supplied, your sins pardoned, and strength given you for every good work of love?

Your hands may be busy, but you may lift up your heart in prayer. You may be working for an earthly employer, yet basking sweet communion with your Heavenly Father, God and King.

It is not a long prayer that is needed. But in asking your Lord to speak aloud to you, do you ask Him how you must walk so that you may come to God you must believe in His will and His power to hear, answer, and save to the uttermost all who approach Him in the name of Jesus?

A short time since I read a little anecdote which I will write down for your benefit: "At the battle of Edgehill, brave Lord Lindsay with his son Lord Willoughby, headed the Royal foot-guards. Immediately before charging, he prayed aloud in these words—'O Lord, thou knowest how busy I am this day. Do I forget Thee, do not Thou forget me?'

"Then turning to his men, he said, 'March on, boys.'"

"Then tell us how often this little story has come into my mind since I read it, or how frequently I have repeated, from my heart, the substance of that prayer. 'If I forget Thee, O Lord, do not Thou forget me.'"

And though you and I are placed in very different circumstances from those in which the brave old soldier who uttered it found himself, it must make us desire to be every day and hour of our lives. The world, the sinful desires of our own hearts, and the temptations of Satan, being the foes we have to face, may be the source of God's strength and by His grace, to overcome.

We can go to the Bible for samples of short prayers, which obtained sufficient and speedy answers. 'God be merciful to me a sinner,' gained one with enough of comfort to send home justified the penitent publican. At the cry, 'Lord save, or we perish,' Jesus arose, rebuked the winds and waves, and there was a great calm. 'Lord remember me when Thou comest to Thy kingdom,' called back the assurance from the dying Saviour to add to the weight of His promise, that he was to be the just reward of his deeds, 'This day shalt thou be with Me in paradise.'

Short petition and what a brief reply! But enough to take away the lead of guilt, the dread of coming judgment, and the sting of death itself from the thief upon the cross.

Let these examples cheer and comfort you when, amid the daily occupations of a life of service, you faint that you have no little time for prayer or quiet communion with God. If you are in earnest in wishing for them, you will find more opportunities for both than you at first imagined to be within your reach.

I remembered being much struck with a prayer of which I can only recall a few words, but these always remain and often recur to me. 'O God, who numberest up Thy jewels, do not forget that I cost Thee as dear as any."

Surely if we think what a price has been paid for one of us, a single hair, shall we have boldness to ask that, with His dear son, God will also, for His sake, freely give you all other good things. To not be left out, dear gals. The way is open, the invitation is for you, the welcome is certain, and none need be discouraged. Come in heart, though your hands may be busy and your feet running to and fro. Lift up your voice, or your thoughts only, in prayer.
ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

EDUCATIONAL.

ONE WHO IS VERY INTELLIGENT.—The letter "it is" is "silent" in the words bene, benevolent, benevolence, benevolently, benevolently, benevolent, benevolently, benevolent, benevolently, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent, benevolent.

LUNACE.—We suppose you would want the "Midnight Sky," with 25 star maps, very useful to you, published at $500.00.

PUZZLEISTRAD.—You would see by the clocks in Chicago, and in San Francisco, what time it is at the various places in the world.

PSYCHOPATH.—We believe that women are employed in the post-office, but we do not say what influence you would require to obtain such a situation.

ROSY CREEKS.—The Island of New Leith is one of the three smallest islands of the small island of Stewart Island, and was also called the South Island. It is divided from the middle island by a narrow channel, and the south end is of English county.

GIRO A. GIOVANNI.—We should think you would find Millet's geography very useful to you. For your purpose, we recommend the following: "Geographical Reader," printed by the Secretary, M. C. Robertson, 30, Wellington Place, London, for about $1.00.

O Lord, help me to do everything as from Thee.

To serve all I have for Thy glory.

Through the day and when in company with others,

To speak as knowing that Thou hearest everlastingly.

To create in me a clean heart, O God, for Thou knowest my inmost thoughts and desires.

In time of temptation.

Help me, O God, to be true and just in all my dealings, not forgetting that for all my actions I must account to Thee.

If unjustly blamed or provoked.

O BLESSED SAVIOUR, help Thy servant to copy Thy example and to be like Thee, meek, lowly, patient under provocation, kind and ready to forgive.

If feeling helpless and ignorant.

What I know not teach Thou me.

If disheartened at the commonest of the work we have to do.

O my Father, if I can do but little, help me to do that little well.

If I have but one talent, enable me to use it for the good of others, the welfare of my own soul, and above all for Thy Glory.

Then we should not only pray for ourselves, but as members of the family we live in, for the health of our children, our fellow-servants and absent friends.

And as God's children for all His family everywhere.

However weary we may be at night, we may say these few words.

O God, for Jesus' sake forgive all I have done wrong during this day. I thank Thee for all Thy good gifts, and pray that Thou wilt keep me and all dear to me in peace and safety, through the hours of the darkness.

As a last thought, I would suggest that if the mistress will have her maid, and have them together, and tell out their united requests to God, incalculable benefits would result to themselves and to the household in which they rule or serve.

My hope and prayer are, that God will bless what I have written to the real good of all, and used these thoughts on "Servants and Servants."
SERVANTS AND SERVICE.

By RUTH LAMB.

TWO ADDITIONAL CHAPTERS.

CHAPTER I.

"Followers."

These words form an unfortunate ending to an advertisement in the local column wherein the want of mistresses is specially set forth. The expression is very comprehensive, and no doubt intended to take in the wants of every class that might be likely to interest a servant. But in most minds the word "follower" has its particular, as well as its general, meaning, and one always associates it with a masculine hanger-on.

In a former chapter of this series I said a few words about general visitors, and what should be the conduct both of mistresses and maids with regard to them. Next Mrs. Brown considered the "follower" who may be trying to gain the affection of one of our servants, or be (see "G. O. P." for August 11th, 1883) actually engaged to her.

We who are mothers know by experience how deep is the interest excited throughout the whole family by the engagement of a much-loved child, especially that of a daughter. Perhaps it is even greater than in the case of a son, though our boys and girls are equally dear to us. But there is a difference in the way we look at them when the time comes for marrying and giving in marriage.

Probably for years before our son takes such a step he has been going in and out in the world, playing the man's part, and fighting the battles side by side with other men. From protecting them as she used to do, the gentle mother has learned to look up to her stalwart sons as the ones on whom, next to the father, she might herself lean. And when one of her boys goes out from the old roof to a home of his own, it is to take under his firm, but we trust, tender guardianship the daughter of some other loving mother.

The son leaves father and mother, and clavices to the one whom he is pledged to protect, to comfort, to cherish, and to keep while life lasts.

But the daughter's outgoing is different. She leaves the shelter of her old home, and the loving arms of the parents whose tender foresight has hitherto anticipated her wants and shielded her from every blast of trouble or temptation that human guardians have power to turn aside.

The boy went out years ago, rejoicing in his youth and masculine strength, and proud to put it to the proof. The girl, she has passed from the roof of her parents to be mistress under that of a husband, often goes out to act an independent part on the first time of her life. Feeling doubtful as to her perfect fitness for the solemn duties before her, she looks back for counsel and guidance to the one who, if a true mother, has ever been ready with both. And the mother, if she is also a wise one, will advise without interfering, and influence for good without intruding on the utmost security of her child's new position and the privacy of her home.

Naturally, from the very instant that the daughter is sought, the mother is on the alert to satisfy her daughter's desire for the one who seeks to win her child. The subject is all-important, for it involves the happiness or misery of her daughter's future life, and, as a matter of sympathy, will seriously affect her own. Should she believe the individual unworthy, what efforts will she not make to shield her child from the evil which would result from a connection with him? If otherwise, how the mother's memory goes back to her own young days, and, in the happiness of her daughter, lives them over again. Her heart expands to take in another son, her mind is full of plans on behalf of her darling, and she rejoices over her and with her with exceeding joy.

Why have I written all this about the mother and daughter, and of the days when the girl is sought, wooed, and won? What has this to do with a maid in the kitchen, or the next-door neighbor in the kitchen? Why, so deftly at table, and who, while constrained to look unconscious, is very wise as to what is going on, and, for reasons of her own, is very full of sympathy.

Why? Because surely the mother, whose interest in her own daughter's welfare is so deep and strong, would have a little care and sympathy and interest to spare for her young kitchen-maid or pretty waiting damsel, whose circumstances are in some respects similar to those of her darling girl.

These have had to leave their mothers very early in life. Often when they are still children, barely in their teens, the young creatures have learned to govern, and learned to shift and act for themselves when they most needed the mother's eye to watch over them, and the wise word which might have kept them wandering from straying into dangerous paths.

Surely, when we take these girls to be members of our households we should try not only for the safety of our homes, but the safety and purity of these daughters of far-away mothers.

The rule, "No followers allowed," carried out with rigid particularity, may preserve our houses from idle or dangerous intruders. But, on the other hand, it throws our young servants more into the power of worthless and dissolute young men who seek their company with no good intentions towards them. Sometimes, perhaps, such followers may only want to while away an idle hour in the company of a bright girl with a pretty face, and the girl may think no harm can result from merely talking to, or walking out with, one of whom she knows almost nothing, and whose acquaintance has not raised her on the street. But the end of such intercourse is often very sad, too sad to say much about in these pages. Often a young, ignorant country girl, new to town and all the ways by which she is induced to accompany her "follower" to some objectionable place of amusement. She stays out later than usual, and, for her return, and gets into disgrace with her employers, who threaten dismissal should the offence be repeated.

Perhaps the "follower" next weekways the girl as she is going on an errand, hears the story of her mistress's displeasure, laughs at it, and encourages the foolish young thing to "give it her lick."

The girl believes what she is told, that she can get as good a place any day, for there are more places than servants to fill them. She likes the flattery which warms her pretty face, and carries out the evil counsel of the wily tongue.

Mrs. Brown has to chide her for her lagging steps, having and keeping whilst her young messenger spent her time in gossip.

The lady has cause for complaint, and the girl knows it. But she has been accosted to rudeness and rebellion, and instead of expressing regret, or promising amendment, she is saucy and defiant at first, then sullen and disobedient. So begins the trouble which too often ends in loss of place and character to the girl herself, and of life-long sorrow to the mother in her country home.

This is one instance where a little motherly oversight and a few wise words spoken kindly and in season might have saved a young life to itself and someone or another, or any of the others.

Dear mistresses, let me plente with you on behalf of these vital young creatures who rush headlong into the society and the padas which cannot tend to good. Do not let their folly influence you to lose, even the weak hold you may have upon them, without an effort to save them from themselves. "Be not overpowers of evil to come even with good."

You are older, you have greater experience, and should also have more self-control. So conquer the inclination to be angry, though you may justly be displeased. Think of your own young one, when you had, and most likely needed, constant oversight, patience, and forbearance upon a tender mother. Think how you were guarded all round from the ruses which young handmaids, so early sent out into the world, has to encounter at every step of her way, and how in turn you guard your own more favored children from the chance of temptation. And thinking of all these things, lay a kind hand upon the girl's shoulder. Look into her face with an expression on yours which shall tell her that it is because her well-being is dear to you that you seek her confidence, and desire to restrain her steps and influence her in the choice of her companions.

If you succeed in convincing the girl of your anxiety for her real good, and save her from the unhappiness of her goddess and folly, she will be willing to repay you by future faithful service. And if not, you will have done what you could, and while it was not altogether the effect of conscience will approve, and the effort that sprung from a loving motherly heart will not be forgotten by the Master you have striven to obtain the salvation of your soul.

As your true friend, dear girls, let me urge you to receive in a right spirit the advice of your employers, even in things which you, perhaps, think outside their province. The daughter, though out of a mother's sight,
would not say that she was for that reason freed from a mother's authority. If, therefore, a mistress interests herself in your well-being when you are outside the home, it is desirable that your companions should be of the right kind, and inquire especially into the character, conduct, and prospects of anyone who may seek you for a wife, be thankful. Do not think that she does it out of a prying spirit or to serve any selfish end. Remember, it is just what she has done in the case of her own child, and rejoice that she cares enough for you to be anxious, not only for your present comfort, but for your lifelong happiness.

Mistresses should encourage and sometimes even push a match in a manner perfectly open and frank, with regard to "followers" or engagements. Yet there are faults on both sides, faults of concealment and of selfishness which ought not to exist. For instance, a young girl engaged herself as parlour maid to a lady who was accustomed to keep her servants long, and to be most considerate in her treatment of them. This girl went with an excellent character. She had given up her place only because her late employer was removing to a distance, and she did not wish to leave the neighborhood. Her parents' house was not far, and this seemed quite a sufficient reason why she did not choose to quit it. The girl's conduct fully justified the character given, and the lady congratulated herself on having so easily filled the vacancy caused by the marriage of a much valued servant. At the end of two months she was asked at receiving the usual notice from Hannah that she was about to give up her place.

"Leave in a month," said the lady. "You can't mean it. You are only just settled, as it were, and I am thoroughly satisfied with the way in which you do your work. I looked forward to keeping you for years. What is your reason for wishing to go?"

The girl hesitated, blushed, and at last owned that she was going to be married at the month's end.

"The lady asked her if she was well acquainted with the character of the man to whom she had been so soon to be united."

"Oh dear, yes, ma'am," replied Hannah, cheerfully. "He went to school together when we were quite little children. We have been engaged for five years. It was because he led me here and we were going to be married so soon, that I would not leave this neighbourhood. I wanted to see to things for our house, and to go to Georgia to choose where we wanted. I couldn't have done that if I had been at a distance, so I took your place just for the three months, as I didn't want to lose you."

The lady was justly annoyed at the girl's selfishness, and said, "You ought to have been frank with me, Hannah, and told me exactly how you were situated. I little thought, as you went about discharging your duties so well, that all the while you were simply making a convenience of me and my place to suit your own."

"I couldn't, ma'am, I am afraid, was better satisfied at having gained her end than sorry for the annoyance caused to an excellent mistress."

Another instance of selfishness which came under my notice was on the mistress's side. Her children's nurse, who had been most devoted to her young charges and stayed several years in her place, gave notice to leave. She, too, was going to be married.

"How very tiresome," said the mistress, with a look of annoyance and without one of sympathy. "I never thought you would leave us. But it is always the way with you servants. You never think of the inconvenience a change may cause, and especially in the case of Harry, poor child! You know he is so used to you that he will not even let me attend to him. I wonder you have the heart to leave him."

And the lady left the nursery with an injured look, to pour out her grievances in the ear of her husband, no power to watch him through a critical period. That her devotion to Harry had supplied the maternal care the boy needed, but would never have received from the selfish mother, who would say, "I trust you thoroughly, Jephson."

Then, with scarcely a glance at her boy's face, she would be glad to the care of the faithful nurse, whilst her evenings were spent amid gay scenes and under other roofs than her own.

No wonder that Jephson felt bitterly the selfishness and want of sympathy in her butterfly mistress, and left that house and the children she had tended with a sore heart and a sense of injustice.

"After the way I was treated, I could not have said another word about my own affairs for the world," she remarked. "I just stayed my time, did my work, and left when the time came. And the mistress sent my wages to me, and never came near to say 'good-bye,' or 'I wish you good fortune.' It was hard to leave master Harry, bless him! and I don't suppose his mamma will let him be brought to see me. But I could not go to that horse again, even for the child's sake, though I had lived so many years there."

No wonder that even love for her nurseries was insufficient to compose the faithful woman's tenants. The exclusiveness of a servant she could not bear; the presence of the servant would have been only too glad to make her mistress fully acquainted with her position. But, while the lady treated the servant with the care of her children, she neither felt nor manifested any interest in the person who had so long relieved her conscience of a sense of morally responsibility towards her invalid boy.

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**CHAPTER XVII.**

"You may bring Missais to her."

"There is a certain narrowness in human nature. One may not object, for example, to be considered in the light of a heroine; there may be even inward prompting that agrees with the general opinion, whispering that we are only receiving our due. But it is quite another thing to have to regard one's sister in that luminous character."

Missie's feelings were decidedly mixed when Roger, in his father's temporary absence, related at the breakfast table the whole story of the pool and the night. Poppie's eyes grew very wide, and Missie Leigh cried a little; but Rudel's excitement was a sight to behold.

"Well, if that is not the cheekiest thing," he exclaimed, with schoolday eloquence, drumming his elbows on the table for once unrehearsed by the governess. "What a lark! I wish I had been there. So the old cadger is caught, is he? Well, this is a queer start. Ailie has a lot of go in her for a girl; I'll back her against a dozen for pluck, and all that sort of thing." And, quite overpowered with the magnificence of his eulogy, Rudel subsided into a series of chuckles.

Missie was a little surprised by the attention she received. Her pale cheeks and heavy eyes secured a good deal of petting. Mr. Merle questioned her anxiously whether she had caught cold; Missie Leigh fairly overawed with tender inquiries; Roger waited on her zealously, and Rudel sat staring at her, to the obvious neglect of his breakfast, until Alison asked him rather what he was looking at, and then he blushed in some confusion. Nobody seemed to notice Missie's perverse silence. Even Mr. Merle was too much occupied with Alison to give her usual attention to his favourite. Missie shrugged her shoulders a little over the whole affair. She thought Roger was doing them ad nauseam. Alison had done very little after all, but they were all making such a fuss over it. She was doubly vexed when Miss Hardwick came in, full of enthusiasm for that dear clever Alison. She had met Roger, and he had stopped and given her and Anna a full account—a great condensation on his part, but circumstances clearly justified that observation; in the case of the servant would have been only too glad to make her mistress fully acquainted with her position. But, while the lady treated the servant with the care of her children, she neither felt nor manifested any interest in the person who had so long relieved her conscience of a sense of morally responsibility towards her invalid boy."

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**AUNT DIANA.**

By ROSA NOUCHETTE CARRY. Author of "Nellie's Memories," "Not Like Other Girls," "Esther," etc.
A heart to give away, had not even the courtesy to treat the lady with respect on the very first occasion of their meeting in fashionable London! It is sad, sad story—a bitter illustration of the folly of political marriages, where true respect and love do not form the basis of union between man and wife; a sorrowful contrast to three happy love-weddings that have since that unlucky day filled the country with pleasure—those of Charlotte, Victora, and Alexandra.

A little heiress, bearing the name of Charlotte, was born on 7th of January, 1796. From that time the Prince and Princess lived apart, the latter occupying a magnificent house at Blackheath for several years. She had one bright day in every week in the company of her beautiful and lively little daughter, whose affection towards her never faltered till the moment of her death. Nor did Caroline forget to impress upon the wayward and impetuous child that she should never in any day of her life "deviate from the respect and attachment" due to the Prince her father. The Princess's proud spirit sustained her under the cruel blows of neglect and calumny; her buoyancy of temper did not wane, but she learned to take a kindly interest in the poor around her, looked after the education of their children, and even received an infant of humble parentage under her own roof and care. In the summer of 1805, while visiting the court, she met her husband for the last time. They bowed to each other, stood talking for a few moments, and then parted "for what I think of her," wrote the author of "The Pleasures of Hope," "without being bribed by the smiles of royalty—she is certainly what you would call in Scotch a fine body!" in other words, a good, sensible, and kindly woman. Her attempts at affable address, however, sometimes missed the mark owing to her intimate acquaintance with the English tongue; never more so than when, meaning to pay a compliment to a noble lord, she showed him a portrait of himself that she had hung in a place of honour in her pleasant new arranged mansion. "You see, my lord," she said, "that I do consider you as one of my great household gods." Of course this was an unfortunate mistake to intimate mixed up.

As the years passed away, the opportunities she had of seeing her warm-hearted daughter become more rare, and sinking under the feeling of a temporary and the shores of England in 1814, though with a lingering and painful reluctance. She settled down for a time at Como, the most enchanting spot of beautiful Italy. Her heart, however, was too restless to permit her to remain there, and she set forth on an Eastern tour, visiting Jerusalem, Tunis, Constantinople, and other famous towns and cities.

While far away from England, she learned that the single tie that bound her to the world was broken. Her only child, the Prince Charlotte, was dead, so beloved by the nation—a single year of blissful married life with Prince Leopold, in simple and peaceful retirement at Claremont House, near the western edge of the Thames, had been suddenly cut off. Never was the whole heart of England touched with such deep sorrow as the bells of St. Paul's rang the knell of the "Expectation and Rose of the Fair State," and her body was borne to its last resting-place. The sorrows of her childhood, the sorrows of her true love, and her unhonoured kindness to the poor, the hope that she would prove a second "Good Queen Bess," together with the fear that England would again have to go abroad for a Sovereign, made her loss a nation's inexpressible grief. Happily, however, this fear has not been realised; for the subsequent marriage of King George's brother, the Duke of Kent, was blessed with a little daughter—the noble lady who now sits upon the throne of England.

Cherishing Honolulu at the hour in the residence of the Duchesses of Orleans, as it was many years ago of Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne, still contains memorials of the short and happy year that had passed away from the gaiety of London, drawing, playing, visiting and clothing the poor. These are pictures of herself, of Leopold, and of her favourite dog, who, however, was almost tempted—a temptation, however, that must be resisted—to wander away from my proper subject for a little, and talk about the residence of the Duke of Brunswick. Her unfortunate mother, long an aimless wanderer over the earth, arrived at Dover in the summer of 1820 to share the honours of the crown that had now devolved upon her husband's brow. There were millions of cheers awaiting her from the masses of people, but in George's heart, and mercy there was none among the guiding politicians of the country, in vain did Caroline struggle to have her name inscribed in the ladies' Memorial—a painful story; God grant that England may never hear the like again! It was a bright summer morning, the 19th of July, 1821. On that day the crown was to be placed on her husband's head. Caroline was up with early dawn. Vast crowds cheered the courageous, injured lady who drove up to Westminster, with only three attendants, in a coach drawn by six horses. Now in tears, now in hysterical laughter, she tried door after door and refused to admit that England would again have to go abroad for a Sovereign.
"I shall be very glad, ma'am. You will find I have told you the truth. I should not be seeking a new place, but my mistress is giving up her house to live with two unmarried sons at a distance."

In the matter of "followers" I do not for a moment presume to say that one rule could possibly apply in all cases. I merely give real instances and experience, and leave it to others to judge for themselves. Only to the former I would say again, "Remember your own young days. Think of your own daughters, and, as you would lend them might and shield them from evil, strive to advise and influence your servants. Not by continual preaching. Say the work in season, and say it in such a manner that the girls may be convinced that you speak from a real desire to benefit them, not yourselves."

And, dear girls, be true. Do not make promises you do not intend to keep, and see to it that you intend to keep them when you never intend to keep them. But if the rules of a house are such as you could not conform to, follow the example of the girl I have mentioned. Post your position candidly and respectfully, and leave the lady to decide whether it is worth her while to relax a rule in your favour or not.

I might mention a few safeguards to young girls fresh from the country. Many of you have been Sunday-schoolers, and some would like to continue such a service if the opportunity allowed you. Ask for it, and probably you will find that mistakes will make a little sacrifice, in order to promote what must tend to their servants' benefit. If girls of their own ages have opportunities of instruction in God's word, and prefer the Sunday-school or adult Bible class to the street when it is their day out, I think most mistresses would gladly encourage such a thing.

Young Welsh girls, in particular, will often sacrifice something in order to be near a place of worship where service is conducted in their native tongue, and they show how they value the Sunday-school, by continuing as scholars years after they have left school. Since the girls whom they meet must have similar tastes, this fact secures for them the kind of associates that Christian employers would choose for their servants.

The Girl's Friendly Society (see No. 168 of THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER) offers great advantages to such as are members of the Church of England, and at a distance from home and friends. It is for the benefit of young persons in business, mill-hands, and even workhouse girls, as well as domestic servants; and I would advise all who are eligible to join it.

Above all other guides and helpers, however, let me impress upon you, dear girls, the importance of keeping holy the Sabbath. This is a Holy Spirit at every step of your way. If there is one act which is all-important, surely it is that which links your fate and your future life with your soul. And without being yours for better or for worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health. Do not, then, begin acting against your interest at the end, and asking yourself whether it will tend to your spiritual good; whether it will merely give you a husband, or unite you to one who will walk with you on the narrow path that leads to everlasting life, will strengthen your steps and help you, day by day, to love God more and serve Him better. Marriage is either the best and holiest of earthly toils, or it differs widely from what our loving Father in heaven meant it to be.

May all who read these chapters be kept from entering on such solemn obligations without earnest thought and prayer, and, whatever the worldly considerations, never contract such marriages as they feel that God will indeed own and bless.

THE SISTERS OF OUR SERVANTS.

I have been much touched by the conduct of girls, themselves quite young, towards the still younger sisters of the family. The eldest of a family who get a situation and does well, frequently sends for her sisters in turn, and helps them to obtain employment. Sometimes a host parent has got on, or the younger girl has not had sufficient experience to fill it properly, and leaves, after a brief term of service. Then the elder has a painful sense of responsibility lest the young one should come to harm. I have known mere girls watch over such juniors with a tender care exceeding that of some mothers. Sometimes, they have deprived themselves of really needed articles to help out the newcomer's wardrobe; they have paid for decent lodgings for her, and even undertaken to settle her mistress's bill. I once demonstrated with a young girl about doing too much, as I feared that her sister did not appreciate her self-denial. "Had you not better look after her for your own sake?" I said.

Tears came into the girl's eyes as she said, "There are so many of them at home, and I don't want her here to relieve father and mother. I will not send her back to them, if I can help it."

I admired the self-devoting goodness of this dear girl, and rejoiced with her when she at length saw her younger sister in a good place and under the wise supervision of an excellent mistress.

Such a case as the above, a lady might render a real service to a good servant by allowing a young sister to spend a few days in her house, whilst on the look out for a fitting position. A mistress might also assist her servants to save out of their wages by allowing a sewing maid to cut out a hose pattern, and show a girl how to cut the parts of a plain frock together.

VAILS, OR VISITORS' PRESENTS.

I have been urged to add a few words on this subject. It is generally a bad practice. The word "vails" is little used now, but it was common enough when I was a girl amongst people older than myself. I cannot well pass over it, as I was apprised of it long ago as "to vail" or "well" means, to hide, I think the name must have been given to visitors' presents, because the money was generally slipped quietly from hand to hand, so that no bystander would see the coin in its passage.

We use a much less pretty word now, and speak of giving "tips" to porters at railway stations, or any persons whom we wish to recompense for personal service.

I would first say a word on this subject to servants.

When you are engaged, it is an understood thing that visitors under your employers' roofs shall receive during their stay the attention that would be paid by the employer, or members of the family. They are such for the time, and as the master and mistress generally show sufficient interest in the welfare and comfort of the guests, the right-minded, unskilful servant will do the same. She, too, will be extra attentive, if she only realises that she is a member of the family, and shall act as entreating the feelings of those who fill the highest places in the common home. And if it should happen that in the end she receives no gift from the guest, she will have at least shown herself rewarded! She will have pleased her employer, done as she would be done by when

Was not this a pleasant experience both for mistress and maid? Was the lady less honoured for her womanly and motherly conduct than her wealth? Or did she receive less willing service, because she had devoted a portion of time to promote the comfort of the girl after she had laid the foundation of her happiness? Every act that shows recognition of one common humanity, and sympathy with its best and highest, is likely to increase happiness, but brings it to ourselves, and wins for us more hearty service.

I never like to turn from a pleasant picture to a ugly one, but I feel bound to give both sides.

The rigid rule, "No followers allowed," is very often made and enforced, because the confidence of employers has been abuse and kindness encroached upon. Trustworthy domestics pay penalty for the faults of others—and those who think the rule too severe, and are too up-right to attempt evasion, will not take service where it is in operation.

I knew one young girl who applied for a situation, and was told by the mistress that no servant, whether male or female, was allowed under her roof.

"Then, I need not trouble you any further, ma'am," said the girl, very respectfully. "I have been here three years to see me at suitable times. We cannot marry for years to come, unless some change should take place, for he has a wife and two children, and two of her girls are not old enough to earn anything yet. But I am going to wait for him, if it be for ten years more. In my last place, James was allowed to marry, and seek me at suitable times. He wanted nothing else, and he never had a crumb in the house except the lady herself wished him to stay to a meal and asked him. My own parents live a long way off, and James's mother too far for me to go to her house. He must come to me, and I have too much respect for him and myself to have a meeting-place. I do many girls do.

"What do you mean by a meeting-place?" asked the lady, interested by the girl's frank and gentlemanly language.

"You know, ma'am, that young people may meet in the street, but they can't stop there in all weathers, they must be under cover. I can go if you like. We, perhaps, they go to a public house, or some place of amusement. It must be a cheap one, as they cannot afford to spend much money. It is not a very nice one, either for young men or girls. But what else is there? Well, some woman—maybe her charwoman, or housekeeper, or grocer's wife—lets the young people have a place to sit and talk in, and they pay her for it, often enough with food or odds and ends that belong to their mistress.

The lady reflected for a moment. She remembered instances of mysterious disappearances and extravagances which could never be accounted for, and then began to ask herself whether she was wrong in the domestic management. Or perhaps, they go to a public house, or some place of amusement. It must be a cheap one, as they cannot afford to spend much money. It is not a very nice one, either for young men or girls. But what else is there? Well, some woman—maybe her charwoman, or housekeeper, or grocer's wife—lets the young people have a place to sit and talk in, and they pay her for it, often enough with food or odds and ends that belong to their mistress.

As it was not worth her while to relax the rule about visitors. She had taken servants before, who professed to agree to everything and promised anything, but the result had been her downfall. Here was this girl who brought a good character, whose honest face commended her at first, and who promised to keep the rule. Surely she would be worth better having than many plausible, but unreliable applicants for service who were supposed to look recommended at the very suggestion of male visitors.

"I think I will see your late mistress," she said; "and if I find that you have never abused the liberty she allowed, I may give the same."

The girl's face brightened, as she replied—
THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER.

Under a roof not her own, and added much to the comfort of the temporary sojourner.
I do not for a moment intend to suggest what amounts should be given, or to which servants, when present are made. But it often happens that when leaving, a visitor only sees one servant, yet feels that more have contributed to her comfort. Perhaps she does not like to ask for the others, or they are so engaged that she cannot see them, and she gives the amount she intended to divide to the one only, without expressing any wish as to its being shared with the rest.

Under such circumstances, whilst no one could deny a servant's right to keep what was given, I do think that a conscientious, unselfish girl would share with such members of the household as she knew had shared the extra work, caused by the presence of a visitor.

It is quite a different matter when unusual services have been rendered by one above the rest, or in cases of illness, where the attendance has quite exceeded that to be expected under ordinary circumstances. I can say, with true pleasure, that I have often seen these extra services rendered with such single-hearted kindness, such self-forgetfulness and devotion, that no one could imagine the thought of fee or reward to be associated with them.

And I have also seen a miscellaneous spirit of jealousy amongst followers of servants at any little preference shown, even when the recipient had well merited it by her thoughtful attentions. I have seen kitchen servants come forward when a visitor was leaving and ostentatiously profess to help with the luggage, when any one could see that such aid was not necessary. I have noticed others pushing to the front, and giving some little, quite needless, touch to a visitor's wrap, in order to attract attention and gain a coveted "tip."

These are little meanesses, dear girls, against which I would warn any who may be guilty of them, and say to each other kindly and unsparingly to each other when you receive gifts.

Reader, as if you found a pleasure in making all around you comfortable, and not as if your eye were directed towards the possible "tip" whilst the hand ministered to the visitors' wants.

I have delightful memories of very different conduct on the part of some of the most charming and willing hands; hands, too, that, instead of being eagerly outstretched to receive, have shrank from receiving, and kindly tongues which have said, as if they meant it, "Indeed, ma'am, I don't desire anything. It has been a real pleasure to do anything for you, and I hope I shall soon have it again."

Bless the dear warm-hearted girls! It is sweet that I can call to mind the faces of many who have shown such a spirit as this.

Sometimes, however, servants can hardly please. No matter how much you feel towards guests, because they do not act so as to deserve it. If servants can display little meannesses, so do those who ought to set them a better example. They will not cast off their attentions and when the time comes to say "good bye" to their entertainers, they will not notice those who have ministered to their comfort, or even give what costs nothing, a word of thanks.

Now I hold that a true lady will show her good breeding all round, and that a true Christian will show consideration for the feelings of all with whom she has to do. When she is leaving a place, she will say a farewell word to the servants, and in bestowing her present, whether little or much, she will add to it the thanks for kind attentions which by its own quality will be valued more than the money. Even if the parting guest's circumstances are such that she is unable to bestow money, do not let her on that account omit the thanks which show that she appreciates and is grateful for attentions received. By such neglect she would give pain, and probably be set down as "no lady," not only to her visitor, but to the kindly courtesy which is equally becoming to those of high and low degree.

Servants should also remember that a small parting gift is often no gauge of the giver's generosity or good will. It probably costs but a small part of the sum of money that one person costs. I have known many of this sort, and I have known maids who are as nice as salt, but who have never had the money to buy a trifle. It is not a little thing for them, and I hope I shall always have occasion to remember to give my kindly word, and I would have it so with you, that you always feel, and always have, the thrill of a kind word, whether of a friend or a stranger. And I would have it so, that you always feel, and always have, the thrill of a kind word, whether of a friend or a stranger.

AUNT DIANA.

BY ROSA NOUCHETTE CAREY, Author of "Nellie's Memories," "Not Like Other Girls," "Esther," etc.

CHAPTER XXII.

AUNT DIANA AT THE HOLMS.

MISSIE received the news of Aunt Diana's arrival with an exclamation of dismay, and a hot flush came to her face.

"Oh, Alison, it will be dreadful to see her. I have never been afraid of any one except small and horrid. Please don't let her come in to-night."

Missie sat bolt upright in a panic. Now, Miss Carrington had quick ears, and she caught the most of this speech, and laughed at herself softly; for it is those who try hard to be good who are the most conscious of evil within, and Miss Carrington was one who had often cried with St. Paul. But God spared her.

"Oh, I wouldn't do it, Missie."

Her heart felt very soft towards the wilful little girl who had brought such misery on herself and others, even before she entered the room, but her first sight of Missie gave her a feeling of surprise. She said afterwards she ceased to wonder at Missie's infatuation for the child, for she was certainly a bewitching little creature.

The pink ribbons in Missie's dainty dressing-gown were not pincher than her cheeks, her blue eyes shone with un-easy light, and the soft, fair hair lay in delicate rings above the pretty, childish face; her frightened, appealing look, would have touched a colder heart than Miss Carrington's, and it was with real affection that she bent over her. But Missie's tender conscience made her shrink from her aunt's kisses.

"Please don't be so kind to me, Aunt Diana—everyone is, and it is not right."

Aunt Diana laughed.

"My dear little girl," she said, in a droll voice, "I want to see poor little butterfly broken on the wheel, we are far too sorry for you. Of course, you have been a naughty child; you have been suffering your small world on fire and have got your pretty wings singed. Well, now you have learnt wisdom through painful experience, and we must all help you to get the lesson perfect."

"I don't think anyone was ever so wicked as I, Aunt Diana," sighed Missie.

"Well, my dear," returned her aunt, briskly, "it is not my concern to go about weighing my neighbor's trespasses in a balance; I don't fancy human scales would be nicely adjusted; but I am quite sure of one thing, that I was a very naughty child myself—the red-cheeked apples I stole give me moral indignation still."

It was impossible to look grave over this; Alison's merry laugh was infectious.

Miss Carrington stayed a few more minutes, questioning Missie about her sister and talking kindly to her. Then the poor child was quite happy and at her ease.

"I don't know what it is," she said that night when Alison gave her her good-night kiss; "you all seem trying to make me believe that I have not been naughty at all, and that there is nothing to forgive."

"I thought forgiveness meant that," returned Alison, simply; "you know how the Bible speaks of sins blotted out—that means the page is white again—one can write freshly across the blank."

There never was a merrier suppers-table than at The Holms that night; late as it was, Lottie sipped up for it, and no one rebuked her for her chatter. Rudel kept up the character of a bashful schoolboy; but even he relaxed his parting gravity of the other was admired and kind inquiries made after Sully. Aunt Diana knew the way to a boy's heart, though she had never had a boy of her own; but there are some hearts that can embrace a whole world of little ones, and such an one was Aunt Diana.

But as she talked and laughed with