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Signed, THOMAS HOLLOWAY,
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Sept. 1, 1880. —11 24

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Ladies' Column.

THE MOTHER IN 'BEN HUR.'

Indiana women never weary of reading the tributes of others to our beloved and honored Mrs. Wallace. The following is from Miss Frances Ellen Burr in the Hartford Times:

Mrs. Wallace is a Kentuckian by birth, but for many years has lived in Indiana. She has a face that expresses sterling worth and character in every line. Some of the women at the International Council in Washington, where Mrs. Wallace spoke made a mistake when they said she was over fourscore years. She is seventy-one and a marvel of well-preserved vitality, both physical and mental. She is the stepmother of Gen. Lew Wallace, whose father she married when the since-famous author of 'Ben Hur' was but nine years old. When asked if it had been correctly reported that she was one of the characters in Ben Hur, she said the story probably came from this: In reading Ben Hur I was charmed, she said especially with the character of Ben Hur's mother. I said to Lew that I didn't see how any man could portray the mother nature so completely as he had. Why, I would rather be the author of that book than the Czar of Russia, I said. Lew said he didn't know but he would; if he were the Czar he should liberate his people and abdicate the throne. But, mother, he said, in portraying that character I had you in mind in every line of it.

Of course this tribute to Mrs. Wallace's nobility of character as a mother and stepmother is all the more gratifying to her as such tokens of love do not come in the ordinary line of tributes to stepmothers. She says Lew was a wayward child and rather difficult to manage, as all born geniuses are, he having a fondness for staying out of school to play marbles or go hunting with some wild boy; but he always told her the truth about it; never deceived her. She says she never knew any difference in her love for him and her love for her own children, of whom she had six. She has also reared several grandchildren, their mother (her daughter) dying when they were quite young. She thinks that her experience refutes in an emphatic manner the oft-repeated argument that women cannot be true women—fill their God-ordained sphere, as the argument runs—and be advocates of woman suffrage, or public speakers at the same time. That a truer mother never lived, the affectionate tributes of her children and step-children go to prove.

DROOPING SHOULDERS.

This is a serious evil. It compromises both appearance and vitality. A stooping figure is not only a familiar expression of weakness or old age, but is, when caused by careless habits, a direct cause of contracted chest and defective breathing. Unless you rid yourself of this crook while at school you will probably go bent to your grave. There is one good way to cure it. Shoulder braces will not help. One needs not an artificial substitute, but some means to develop the muscles whose duty it is to hold the head and shoulders erect.

I know of but one bull's eye shot. It is to carry a weight on the head. A sheepskin or other strong bag filled with twenty to eighty pounds of sand is a good weight. When engaged in your morning studies, either before or after breakfast, put this bag of sand on your head, hold your head erect, draw your chin close to the neck and walk slowly about the room, coming back, if you please, every minute or two to your book, or carrying the book as you walk. The muscles, whose duty it is to hold head and shoulders erect, are hit, not with scattering shot, but with a rifle ball. The bones of the spine and intervertebral substance will soon accommodate themselves to the new attitude. One year of daily practice with the bag, half an hour morning and evening, will give you a noble carriage without interfering a moment with your studies. It would be very difficult to put into a paragraph more important instructions than this. Your respiration, voice, and strength of spine, to say nothing of your appearance, will find a new departure in this cure for drooping shoulders.

A PECULIAR MISTAKE.—W.G. Baily, of Dallas, hired a colored cook. After she had brought home the wrong change from market four successive days, he said: You are coming it just a little too strong. There is a mistake in the change again.

Dar's a mistake in de change, did yer say?

Yes, and as usual, the mistake is in your favor.

Look heah, white man, yon don't s'pect a poo' culled pusson ter make a mistake in de ceange again herself dges yer?

Young Men's Column.

SUBJECTS FOR THOUGHT.

Few men come up to their highest measure of success. Some fail through timidity or lack of nerve; they are unwilling to take the risks incident to life, and fail through fear in venturing on ordinary duties—they lack pluck. Others fail through imprudence, lack of discretion, care, or sound judgment; they overestimate the future, and build air-castles, and venture beyond their depth, and fail and fall. Others, again, fail through lack of application and perseverance; they begin with good resolves, but soon get rid of them, and want a change, thinking they can do much better at something else—thus they fritter away life, and succeed at nothing. Others waste time and money and fail for want of economy. Many fail through ruinous habits. Some fail for want of brains, education, and fitness for their calling; they lack a knowledge of human nature and of the motives that actuate men; they have not qualified themselves for their occupation by practical education.

It is our constant habit to link innocence with beauty. And it is difficult to conceive a lover of nature as wholly worldly-minded or essentially bad. For he who takes a sincere or deep pleasure in the handiworks of God, who appreciates the richness of nature's blessing sufficiently to hunger for them, who knows for himself the joy there is in the sunlight, the moonlight, and the stars—in the humblest flower, a beautiful tree, a picturesque, grand, or sublime effect, has a source of wealth within himself which must inevitably make all purely corrupting desires seem cheap and ignoble. The love of nature cherished through childhood to manhood is indeed an unspeakable blessing to its possessor.

The root of a dutiful life is the heart's readiness to pay all debts, to discharge all obligations. This is something entirely apart from correct views of duty. It may exist with or without a keen appreciation of relations and their consequent obligations. But, unless it is there, no perception, however acute, no mental outlook, however broad, no conclusions, however well founded, will suffice to make a virtuous character.

Gratitude is properly a virtue, disposing the mind to an inward sense and an outward acknowledgement of a benefit received, together with a readiness to return the same, or the like, as the occasions of the doer shall require, and the abilities of the receiver extend to.

We learn wisdom from failure much more than from success. We often discover what will do by finding out what will not do; and probably he who never made a mistake never made a discovery.

None are so fond of secrets as those who do not mean to keep them; it will generally be found that such persons covet secrets as a spendthrift covets money—for the purpose of circulation.

God often works more by the life of the illiterate, seeking the things which are His, than by the ability of the learned, seeking the things that are their own.

In seeking converts it is always well to make sure that they are worth converting. A cause may be injured by the character of its adherents.

Humility in man consists, not in denying any gift that is his, but a just valuation of it; rather thinking too meanly than too highly.

There is no happiness in this life without duty. A sense of duty always pursues us; it is omnipresent, like the deity.

History is a mighty drama, enacted upon the theatre of Time, with suns for lamps, and Eternity for a background.

The face of her we love is the fairest of sights, and her voice the sweetest harmony in the world.

These is no Christian duty that is not to be seasoned and set off with cheerfulness.

The happiness of love is in action; its test is what one is willing to do for others.

FARM WORK STILL.—It is greatly to be regretted, was remarked in the hearing of a Western farmer, that farmers' boys do not stick to the farm. It seems as if scarcely any of them do.

Oh, I dunno, said the farmer. I've raised eight boys, and they're all farmers except one.

Is that so? Only one of them caught by the glitter of the city, eh?

Yes, that's all. Poor Bob would go, spite of all I could do—run away to the city when he was twelve, and we ain't never seen him since, though it's been over twenty years. But I dunno but it's all right; he had no likin' for farm work, nor he wouldn't take no interest in it. Hejes' naturally seemed to hate the farm and he didn't know enough about farm work to drive ducks to water.

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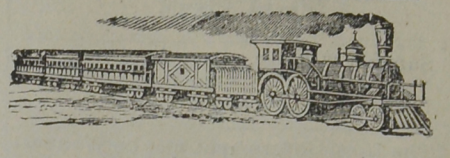
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11.30 A. M.—For Fredericton Junction and for St. John and points east.

3.25 P. M.—For Fredericton Junction, and for St. John and points East.

ARRIVE AT FREDERICTON

8.55 A. M.—From Fredericton Junction and from St. John and all points East.

1.25 P. M.—From Fredericton Junction, and from Vanceboro, Bangor, Portland, Boston, and all points West, St. Andrew's, St. Stephen, Houlton, and Woodstock,

7.25 P. M.—Express from St. John, and intermediate points.

LEAVE GIBSON.

8.00 A. M. Express for Woodstock, and points north.

ARRIVE AT GIBSON.

5.55 P. M.—Express from Woodstock, and points north.

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