

Zek'el Brown Unburdens Himself.

The neatest woman in town, Folks say I've got for a wife; And what folks say is gospel truth...

Her temp' is like her pie-crust, which They're both uncommon short; An' tho' I'm free-and-easy like...

I can't sit down in our best room, It is so full of an' spruce; Fact is, most everything we've got's...

There ain't no use in kickin'. I'm Prepared to bear my cross; Some day, perhaps, I'll wear my crown;

But oh, what will Keturah do Within those pearly gates, If she no longer finds the dirt...

A Talk to Fathers.

A lass met a friend near his own home, and they joined company on their way to business. Before they had gone far they met a trim nursemaid...

"That's a jolly looking little chap," said the gentleman; he hastily glanced at his watch, and finding that he had a moment to spare...

"Yours sir," responded the nurse in much astonishment. Of course the story was too good to keep, and the faithless friend put it at once into circulation.

"How often are men heard to say 'I leave the training of my children entirely to my wife,' or 'I never interfere with the discipline; my wife attends to all that.'"

"If you don't stop that," says the fond foolish mother, "I will tell your father of you."

In some families there is no threat so dreadful, and I have known a father tell laughingly, as if it were a good joke, of the poor scared little faces which were lifted to his when he appeared suddenly among them...

"I will answer your questions by another," said her pastor. "Suppose there was a large and fashionable party or public ball in town and you were invited to it."

"Well," replied Mr. A., if dancing is right and a good thing, why should not I enjoy it as well as you! And if in its influence and tendencies it is wrong and evil, why should you engage in it or wish it more than I? A minister is but a man trying to do good to men.

I was waiting at a railway station for a friend one Christmas Eve, when I noticed a tall, fine looking man of perhaps fifty years, who was pacing up and down the platform...

The boy's face glowed, and he sprang from the platform almost before the cars had stopped moving. "Father!" said he; and in an instant he had the grey-bearded man by the shoulders and kissed him. Then he pushed him away a little...

and looked him lovingly in the eyes. "I'm awfully glad to see you," said he, "how's mother?"

Said a middle aged woman to me, "I have known what the text 'Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him,' meant ever since I was ten years old."

My mother felt that this was just, and promised that I should bring Spright over as soon as he came home. In a short time he came purring up to me, and I had to take the dear little fellow up in my arms and carry him to his doom.

"Ah, yes; I see. 'The music is not good; that's a pity; that's what you go to church for, to hear the music. And the less we pay, the better music we demand.'"

"And the sermon is so long, always." All these things are indeed to be regretted. I would regret them more sincerely, my boy, did I not know that you will often squeeze into a stuffed street car with a hundred other men...

"If I join the Church, have you any objection to my dancing?" Such was the question of Mary W., addressed to her pastor as he was speaking to her about making a public profession of religion.

"If I join the Church, have you any objection to my dancing?" I am very fond of it, and feel very unwilling to give it up. What do you think of it?"

"I will answer your questions by another," said her pastor. "Suppose there was a large and fashionable party or public ball in town and you were invited to it."

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She thought a moment seriously, and then said: "It is all plain to me now. I will never dance again." And she never did.

With this brief narrative in view, three thoughts are suggested for serious and prayerful consideration: 1. As to all worldly amusements, if you have the least doubt as to your conduct...

2. If there is the least doubt, is it not best to err on the right side, and rather keep too far from the world than to go too near it?

3. Is it not right for you in this, as in all other things, to take such a course that, if all were to imitate your example, it would make the Church a holy and spiritual and useful Church, and give you, personally, the highest and best influence as a devoted and faithful Christian?

Mr. Burdette on Church-going. This is the way in which Robert J. Burdette disposes of the "young man's" reason for not attending church:

"The church is so far away; it is too far to walk, and you detest riding in a street-car, and they're always crowded on Sunday."

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"Finally," and after that "One word more," or "Just another thought!" I do think it is such a mistake to try to tell all one knows in one sermon.

Just then the auditor was obliged to leave the car, but he could not help exclaiming to himself, "What a sensible woman!" It is to be hoped that some day this sensible one will marry a minister.—Selected.

How seldom do we stop in the rush and whirl of life to realize the full meaning of this word! We express our sympathy for our fellow-being by thought, word or action, and, in the expression of this sympathy, should not overlook any, whether child or adult, for all need it in some way.

Practise brotherly love with those that are easily offended. If you see a member at fault, go and speak kindly to him about it instead of telling every member of the fault.

Children have their difficulties, and a smile or kind word will bring sunshine to their sky. In training children have enough compassion to distinguish whether the child's action is done through ignorance or disobedience.

Remember the new family that has moved into your midst, and make them feel at home among you.

Let us cultivate more sympathy for our fellow-men, and thus follow the steps of our blessed Teacher.—E. A. Knibb.

Pray three times daily for a month, and note the general effect on your daily life.

Pray for those who despitely use and abuse you, and observe how fervently you will learn to love them.

Pray for a pure heart, for a sanctified nature; "for this is the will of God, even your sanctification," and if we ask anything according to his will, we know that he heareth us.

Pray for a revival in your community, and mark results.—The Ambassador.

THE HASTY WORD.—Is there one of us who does not need now and then to repress the hasty word? It springs to the lips in moments of impatience or of weariness, and, almost ere we are aware of it, the hasty word has passed their gateway, and, like an arrow tipped with venom, has wounded the heart of child, friend or servant.

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severe, deep-seated coughs like this are as severe tests as a remedy can be subjected to. It is for these long-standing cases that Boschee's German Syrup is made a specialty.

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