



# THE HOME CIRCLE

**THE FATHER'S HAND.**  
I'm only an old wife now, sir, and I've time to sit on the strand watching the boats come in, sir, and the children at play on the sand.  
Seventy years, sir,—all my days—have lived beside the sea, and I have had meat and money and joy and sorrow to me

Father and husband and boys, sir, there was not a man of them all could have lain still in the house, sir, when the winds and the waters call.

My father and husband sleep in the graves of our folk by the shore; but both of the boys who left me, they never came back any more!

My father hadn't a lad, sir, so he paid the more heed to me; he would take me with him in summer far out on the open sea; and he'd let me handle the oar, sir, and pull with my might and main;

But if I'd been left to myself, sir, I'd never have seen home again.

"Pull, little maid!" he would cheer me, but still kept his hand on the oar,

Though sometimes I'd try to turn us to some pretty nook on the shore;

Still straight went the boat to the harbor, and as I grew stronger each day, I found that the only wisdom was in rowing my father's way.

And I think, sir, that God our Father keeps hold of the world just so;

We may strive and struggle our utmost, that we may stronger grow—

Stronger and wiser and humbler—till at last we can understand the beauty and peace of his keeping the oar through all life in his hand. —Sunday at Home.

### ROGER AT THE TROUGH.

We are jogging homeward, Roger, in the dusk, the dusk of day; while the thrushes in the hedges make a music all the way. We are on the steady up-grade where the single pine tree shows with a star among its branches, with a star that glows and glows. We are drawing nearer, Roger; now we hear the waters froth as they break in little gushes to the mossy wayside trough.

Ah, you hear the waters, Roger, in their crystal cooling flow; as they wander from the ridges to the valley green below. They are telling of the bluebells, velling dim a tiny thread as it makes a way of silver o'er the brooklet's babbling bed. They are singing of the ledges gray against the distant hill; they are singing of the river as the mossy trough they fill.

Now your check is loosened, Roger! You may low'r your faithful head; you may bathe your velvet nostrils in the light the stars have shed. You may have your fill of glory shining in the evening skies, for a host, a constellation in the limpid darkness lies.

Ah, you breathe above the waters as they murmur and they froth. There is nothing, is there, Roger, like the brimming wayside trough. —Leslie Clare Manchester, in Our Dumb Animals.

### MAKING SCHOOL ATTRACTIVE TO "DEFECTIVE" CHILDREN.

A young woman having charge of the so-called "ungraded class" in one of the public schools on New York's East Side was sought out recently by a mother whose tears and lamentations evidenced her deep distress. "What is it you have done to my Harry?" the woman wailed. "Every day of his life he runs away from me and goes to school. Always they have told me that child is crazy and I would not believe them! Now I see for myself he is crazy, or I could sometimes keep him away from school!"

A few weeks earlier Harry had been subjected to a series of tests, classified as mentally and physically "defective," and thereupon assigned a place in a newly formed special class. During five or six years previous to this he had been submitted to the common injustice of being forced into competition with normal children. This meant derision on the part of his schoolmates, continual combats with his teachers, and retrogression rather than progress for the unhappy boy himself,—with, of course, a constant and unconquerable tendency toward truancy. Suddenly she found herself in a schoolroom with but fourteen other children,—the classes are limited to fifteen. Some were more, some less developed than he, but all were, in the rather pitiful colloquialism, "crazy." Here there were pleasant, interesting things to do all day long, and nobody imposed the torture of keeping still while one did them. A friendly per-

son who was called a teacher but who didn't act like one, suggested, persuaded, encouraged, praised, but never coerced or punished. School therefore promptly became for Harry, a place one had to be coaxed to leave. Very naturally his mother believed that the teacher had "put a spell" upon her unfortunate child, and it was no easy matter to explain to her that he was for the first time being scientifically taught, and that he liked it.

Instances of this sort occur continually. A teacher often has to leave her work to pacify an angry mother whose child has been told to stay at home and help with housework, but has obeyed the irresistible lure and run to school. Jewish parents have repeatedly to be consoled because their children obstinately evade observance of the religious festivals in order not to miss a day of this new and engrossing variety of education. All the symptoms of truancy, in short, that these children exhibit are of a quaintly reversed order. Perhaps no children have ever before regarded school as so great a privilege.—From "Defective Children in School: A Social Safeguard," by Olivia Howard Dunbar, in the American Review of Reviews for April.

### THE DECAY OF MANNERS.

Thomas Nelson Page writes in the April Century "On the Decay of Manners"—manners which are the hallmark of "that life of quality, the foundation of which is good breeding, the native air of which is refinement, and the membership of which are all gentlefolk the world over." Here are some of his points: "The bloom on the ripened fruit of civilization, and the proof of its perfection, is delicacy."

"Whatever the form may be, and there are many forms in which good breeding may present itself—as many, indeed, as are the incidents of social intercourse—whatever tends to put at ease the person one meets is good manners, and whatever tends to the opposite is rudeness."

"Whoever takes advantage of another we know cannot be a gentleman, for the first word of the law of good breeding, as the last, is kindness. The Golden Rule contains the last word of manners, as it does on most other laws of living."

"The express train and the 'crush-hour,' are in many ways great advantages, but they are not conducive to good manners."

"To revive ancient good breeding and bring back the old-time manners, it is necessary to set aside money as the chief foundation of respect, and to set up once more the ideals of courtesy and kindly conduct."

"Women make both the manners and the morals of a people. Neither rises higher than the gage which women set in a community."

"If those who are gentlefolk—who possess the rare, but often unprized, treasures of refinement, culture, taste and high ideals of living and thinking, would scrupulously hold themselves above pandering to vulgarity simply because it has wealth behind it, a society would soon be formed which would have not only the stamp of good breeding, but, as possessing the thing itself, would have the authority and power to dictate its own terms."

### THE POWER OF A WORD.

Though no one can see the end of what he says and does, the harvest time comes some time, somewhere. Words that the speaker soon forgets may be like seed sown on good soil. This proved to be so with the words one boy spoke many years ago. After an outdoor evangelistic meeting in New York, a clean-cut Christian young man came up to the speaker and said: "I was one of the worst boys in New York. One day, a boy who kept himself clean and who had a good home, invited me to go with him to his house. While I was there, his mother asked him to do something, and he answered, 'Yes, mother dear.' His reply struck me hard, for I had never spoken to my mother in that way. I went home, and when my mother spoke to me, I said, 'Yes, mother dear.' All the members of the family laughed at me, for nothing like that had ever been heard in our home before. But I made up my mind that I would go on speaking to my mother in that way. From that time, my entire life began to improve." And thus one boy's kindness to his mother is still bringing forth good fruit in the life of a man. Words that spring from a good heart are bound to bring forth good fruit.—The Bible Today.

### It's Equal Don't Exist.

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### THE LITTLE LOAF.

Many years ago there was a great famine in Germany, and the poor people suffered from hunger. A rich man who loved children sent for twenty of them and said to them: "In this basket there is a loaf of bread for each of you. Take it and come back again every day till the famine is over. I will give you a loaf each day."

The children were very hungry. They seized the basket and struggled to get at the largest loaf. They even forgot to thank the man who had been kind to them. After a few minutes of quarrelling and snatching for bread, every one ran away with his loaf except one little girl, named Gretchen. She stood there alone at a little distance from the gentleman. Then, smiling, she took up the last loaf, the smallest of all, and thanked him with all her heart.

Next day the children came again, and they behaved as badly as ever. Gretchen, who would not push with the rest, received only a tiny loaf, scarcely half the size of the others. But, when she came home, and her mother began to cut the loaf, out dropped six shining coins of silver.

"O, Gretchen!" exclaimed her mother, "this must be a mistake. The money does not belong to us. Run as quick as you can and take it back to the gentleman."

So Gretchen carried it back. But, when she gave the gentleman her mother's message, he said: "No, no, it was not a mistake. I had the silver baked into the smallest loaf in order to reward you. Remember that the person who is contented to have a small loaf rather than quarrel for a larger one will find blessings that are better than money baked in bread.—Adapted from Cowery's Moral Lessons, by Ella Lyman Cabot, in Ethics for Children.

### Ephraim and His Idols.

[Union Republican.]

Our Democratic neighbors down by the deep blue sea are slow to forget their political training. An election was held for a Commission form of government in that city one day the past week, but some of the opposition played the devil with one of the registration books. Here is the notice from Mayor MacRae:

"Wilmington, N. C.,  
March, 14, 1911.

"Whereas, it appears that the registration books for the Third Ward have been mislaid, lost, or stolen, this is to notify the qualified voters of that ward that they may vote upon proper oath as to their registration until the closing of the polls, and they are urged to attend to this as early as possible.

"WALTER G. MACRAE,  
Mayor."

In political contests such tricks have not been infrequent on the part of the overwhelming Democratic majority in that city. But Ephraim seems "wedded to his idols." The commission election was non-political but the Democratic "ear marks" it seems, were evident just the same.

### The Mule Won.

It will not escape notice that in a mix-up of a mule, a bolt of lightning and a negro in Calhoun County, the mule came out first best and the negro came around in due time.—Columbia State.

### BLIND, DIZZY SPELLS.

Wilmington, N. C.—Mrs. Cora L. Ritter writes from this place: "I used to have blind, dizzy spells, and weak, cold spells went all over me. Different doctors could not tell me what was wrong. After taking Cardui, I am all right and in better health than for 10 years." Cardui is a remedy for women which has been used by women for nearly a lifetime. It prevents the unnecessary pains of female troubles, such as headache, backache, dizziness, dragging down feelings, etc. Try it.

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### A SAMPLE OF "DEMOCRATIC GOOD GOVERNMENT."

Corruption in Office and Treachery to the People.

[Western Carolina Enterprise.]

It is a sound principle that "when self is in the balance weighed 'tis rarely adjusted." Legislation along this line regards county commissioners, city aldermen, or others having the expenditure of public moneys in their control, as being in a position where they can not rightfully sell goods, special services or other things of value to themselves for the public uses.

The following statute forbids it:

"Revisal of 1905. Section 3572. Contracting for Own Benefit.—If any person, appointed or elected a commissioner or director to discharge any trust wherein the State or any county, city, or town may be in any manner interested, shall become an undertaker, or make any contract for his own benefit, under such authority, or be in any manner concerned or interested in making such contract, or in the profits thereof, either privately or openly, singly or jointly with another, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

Now this statute has been openly and shamelessly violated in this county repeatedly. If the law is not a good one, it should be repealed; if it is good, public officers should let nothing cause them to violate it.

When a commissioner sells as a private individual to himself as a public officer, the public funds are in a fair way to suffer from the transaction.

The Enterprise does not feel called upon to designate names and particulars because it would rather see such methods discontinued and let by-gones be by-gones; but if it is not stopped, and if sworn grand jurors and officers of the law continue to wilfully shut their eyes to such things, we will be forced to put concrete facts before the people and try the case at the bar of public opinion.

A word to the wise should be sufficient. This infernal winking and overlooking for political considerations is hardly expected to promote the public good.

This is the law which the Fish Commissioner of North Carolina violated by hiring his own office and his own boat to the State and which the authorities shamefully condoned. With such an example can we wonder that county officers disregard the law?

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Through Pullman to Washington leaves Raleigh 6.50 p.m., arrives Washington 8.53 a.m., Baltimore, 10.02 a.m., Philadelphia 12.25 noon, New York 2.31 p.m. This car makes close connection at Washington for 7.40 p.m., making close connection Pittsburg, Chicago, and all other points North and West, and at Greensboro for through Tourist Sleeper for California points, and for all Florida points.

Through Parlor Car for Asheville leaves Goldsboro at 6.45 a.m., Raleigh, 8.35 a.m., arrives Asheville with the Carolina Special and arriving Cincinnati 10 a.m. following day after leaving Raleigh, with close connection for all points North and Northwest.

Pullman for Winston-Salem leaves Raleigh 2.30 a.m., arrives Greensboro 6.30 a.m., making close connection at Greensboro for all points North, South, East and West. This car is handled on train No. 111, leaving Goldsboro at 10.45 p.m.

If you desire any information, please write or call. We are here to furnish information as well as to sell T. P. A., 215, Fayetteville St., at at tickets. W. H. PARNELL, T. P. A., 215 Fayetteville St., Raleigh, N. C. H. F. CARY, General Passenger Agent, Washington, D. C.

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