

eye be bright when thou lookest on her. Let the law of kindness be on thy lips when thou speakest to her and of her. Let her feel that thou confidest fully in her at all times; in short, let her feel that she is respected, as well as loved by her husband. It is not enough that you do not treat her with harshness. A fond wife's heart may be withered, and its every bud of promise blighted, without one angry word. Let her but see and feel that her husband's confidence and sympathy are withheld from her, and the deed is done. And for this the clouded brow and the sealed lip may be entirely sufficient. A woman's heart may be petrified by coldness, as well as broken by harshness. Your wife is identified with you in interest, therefore consult with her in all matters affecting your mutual welfare. It will have a good effect, whether the advice be implicitly followed or not; but in most cases husbands would find their interest promoted by following the advice of a prudent helpmate. And should misfortune threaten you, and bankruptcy knock at your door, don't conceal it from her who is, above all others, interested in knowing it. Tell her at once, freely and frankly, the whole matter, and it shall be better for thee in all respects. I once knew a gentleman, a merchant, who had been for some time prosperous in business, and his family of course were living in comfort; but suddenly clouds gathered around him; he saw that he was ruined; but he concealed it from his wife. She saw, however, the change of countenance, and strove, with affectionate solicitude, to elicit from him the character and cause of his griefs, and at length succeeded. He said, I am ruined, and the only thing that troubles me is, that you are to be reduced to want, and I am, to a great extent, physically unable to labour for your support; and this has made me perfectly miserable. And what said this excellent woman? "And is that all, my husband, that has been troubling you? Don't let that trouble you for another moment, I am in good health, and can work to support us both; let the property go, God will provide for us." Now, here was a wife worth having. But once more, treat your wife with special regard before your children.

I have known some intelligent and respectable men who seemed to me to take

special pains to mortify their wives by finding fault with almost all their doings. If at table, even when visitors were present, nothing on the table was exactly right; the dishes were not well selected, or they were not well dressed; nothing was as well prepared as he had found it at somebody else's house; or something was wrong, either in meat or bread, or vegetable, or pudding, or sauce. Now, whether such gentlemen intend to exhibit their own superior skill in cookery, or to lecture their wives for inferior taste and skill in this very important department, we beg leave to suggest to them that it is rather offensive both to the visitors and to the lady of the house, especially when it happens (as I have sometimes known it,) that the children unite in depreciating the house-keeping qualifications of the mother. Finally, remember that your wife is a fallen and imperfect creature, subject to many weaknesses in common with yourself, and to some, perhaps, which are peculiar to her sex; you will therefore have need to understand well and practise on the maxim *bear and forbear*. To conclude on this point; you are to love your wife as Christ loved the church. How was that? He gave himself for it, his life, his blood. So do you love your wife.

And now for a little advice to wives. The Apostle says, "wives, submit yourselves to your husbands." He takes for granted that you love your husbands, and proceeds to enforce that duty which you might be most inclined to neglect. There are some wives who seem to me to act very unwisely in this matter. They are all the while quarrelling with the Apostle for giving them this advice. They maintain that obedience is just as much the business of husbands as it is of wives; and their practice shows the sincerity of their faith, since they are constantly struggling for empire. They must needs bear rule in every thing. There must be neither buying nor selling without their approbation; and it is matter of special importance with them to thwart their husbands in matters where the public eye can discern who rules. This class of wives are generally fond of displaying their superiority in intellect, taste, and judgment, over those who are by God's appointment constituted their governors. Such a wife, especially