

## The Family Circle

### A MOTHER'S LOVE.

Oh moon, so high in the heavens:  
Oh moon, so high above,  
How many things you have to see,  
How many things to love.

You have the sky to sail in,  
A beautiful universe,  
We have but the earth to live on—  
Each day the world grows worse.

You have the clouds that sail by you  
With a fleecy touch for a nod,  
We have no clouds down here, moon,  
They wish to be nearer God.

But, moon, so high in the heavens,  
Look down on this world below  
And see one thing you don't possess,  
The greatest of all I know.

You have the sky, the clouds, and space,  
Stretching far and near;  
But you haven't a "mother's love," oh moon,  
That's so precious to all of us here.  
—Francis L. Fuller, aged 13.

### READINESS TO OBLIGE.

Readiness to oblige is the small coin in the treasury of happiness, and it is within reach of the poorest amongst us. It is the cheerful compliance with which one grants a request, receives a visit, or puts up with an annoyance. It is the amiability of expression, the pleasant smile which is so universally attractive. It is a trifling service promptly and gladly rendered, or perhaps requested with unassuming simplicity. Sometimes it is thanks gracefully paid, or a cordial word of encouragement to a disheartened fellow-laborer. All these appear small matters, but do not on that account neglect them. God will repay you for them abundantly.

### KEYS TO SUCCESS.

Here are a few words of wisdom which all young people in business would do well to take to heart.

Never forget to be affable. Every human being is entitled to courtesy. When one is abrupt in speech or inattentive, such conduct frequently promotes anger and resentment in others, leaves an unfavorable impression, and frequently interferes with one's business success.

In business matters listen to the opinion of your colleagues. It is not well to go into consultation with your own opinion positively fixed—no man is infallible in his judgment, and a sound judgment depends largely on knowledge. It is advisable when acting with others to secure their opinion, sometimes before you express your own.

The most successful business men are those who, while having confidence in themselves, are able to appreciate the judgment of other intelligent men. A wise man will be influenced by the wisdom of someone else, as well as by his own reasoning.

### IRELAND'S CHANGELESS FIDELITY TO THE FAITH.

His Eminence Cardinal Manning, preaching in the Church of St. Isidore, Rome, on the Feast of St. Patrick, many years ago, said:—

"About two centuries ago the Catholics of Ireland, reduced by warfare and every form of suffering, were driven before the sword into the province of Connaught. They were hemmed in as in a penal settlement. Perhaps they were half a million. The conquerors, it may be, were at least as many in number. In less than a hundred years they had outnumbered their rulers almost twofold. In another hundred years they were sevenfold.

"Thinned, indeed, they have been in these late years fresh in our memory; and they who hope for the Protestantizing of Ireland point to their diminished numbers. But where are they now? Ask the roofless cabins which by the roadside make the traveller's heart desolate; ask the green homestead where the voice of children a little while ago was heard; ask the cold hearthstone round which father, mother, and child were gathered but the other day; ask the fever and ask the famine, and they will tell you that the anointed dead are in the green grave, and their spirits are mighty intercessors before the throne of God.

"They are joining in perpetual prayer with their great apostle for the benedictions of God upon the land of their love; for the light and grace upon those whose hand has lain heavy upon Ireland. Some are in the world unseen, and the rest, where are they? They are throughout the world, spreading abroad the true faith of Jesus. They have gone forth not only as emigrants, but as cross-bearers in every land.

"If you look in history for the glory of Ireland, you will not find it in the splendor of this world; . . . but it has a glory all its own, and a splendor of the world of grace. Poor Ireland, rich in that treasure which is from heaven, poor in all besides, out of the deep poverty in the last 30 years has built or rebuilt all its sanctuaries; churches, convents, schools, have arisen all over the face of the land; within the memory of the living, out of its faith it has produced three religious Sisterhoods for works of mercy; it has sent forth throughout the Empire of Great Britain a multitude of missionaries—greater in number, perhaps, than is to be found of any other race.

"For fidelity to its faith, for endurance of suffering, and for purity of life, what nation can be set before Ireland? . . . Fidelity to the Holy See has upheld Ireland unto this day. Fidelity to the Holy See would have preserved England from the worldly pride which goes before a fall."

### A MATTER OF TASTE.

A farmer took his wife to a grand concert, and after listening with apparent enjoyment, the pair suddenly became interested in one of the grand choruses: "All We, Like Sheep, Have Gone Astray."

First, a sharp soprano voice exclaimed: "All we, like sheep"; next a deep voice uttered in a most earnest tone: "All we, like sheep." Then all the singers at once asserted: "All we, like sheep."

"Well, I don't!" exclaimed the farmer to his partner. "I like beef and bacon, but I can't bear mutton!"

### SEATS STILL VACANT.

He stopped outside the tailor's shop and gazed earnestly at the smiling proprietor.

"Good idea, isn't it?" said the latter.

"Very good, indeed," said the solemn man. And he glanced once more at the three pairs of trousers which were hanging over the door labelled respectively, "Admission 10s, 12s, and 15s."

"See," said the tailor, "you can't get in without paying the price. My own idea; entirely original. If there's anything I believe in it's wit in an advertisement."

The solemn man looked again at the garments.

"You haven't any reserved seats, have you?" he asked.

The smile faded from the tailor's face, and he took down the tickets and groaned. This world is hard, indeed, on humorists.

### AMUSING THE MINISTER.

A country minister was much annoyed because of the somnolent dispositions of two members of his congregation. So he thought over the matter, and then called on one of them and said, in the course of conversation:—