

ship with them, and
wilt, no preacher of those theories
should stand in it with my consent.
Behold! now is accepted time, and
now or never is the deep undertone
of the gospel in its call to repentance
and in its offer of salvation."

And again he writes: "I accept
Christ's words as they stand, nor dare
I tamper with them, nor will I last
forever. If there be any among our
ministers, young or old, who are dis-
posed to count in the Universalists
among the Evangelical denomina-
tions, I am not of them."

The sad consequence of defection
in principle is corruption in practice.
Dichens;

From the Christian Weekly.

"While the Days are Going By."

BY MARY J. PORTER.

"Eleanor, Sister Eleanor, will you read to me a while?"

"Not now, Birdie dear, I'm going down stairs to practice."

"But you have practiced over so long to day, and Sarah isn't a good reader at all. She has to spell out all the words."

"Well, never mind now, Birdie, I told you what I was going to do. You mustn't interrupt sister when she is busy. Good-by."

So saying, Eleanor descended to the parlor and seated herself at the piano. Very soon, in the enjoyment of Mendelssohn's exquisite harmonies, she had forgotten the pleading voice of her baby brother.

In the course of an hour Mrs. Fay, her mother, opened the door, asking, "Eleanor, can you spare time to do an errand for me? I would like to send down town for some sewing materials."

"Oh, mother! You know that our literary club meets to-night, and I have some preparation still to make before reading my essay. How can I do that and go down town too?"

Mrs. Fay, disappointed, closed the door. Then, donning bonnet and cloak she undertook the walk to her tailoring—whither the young daughter would have been wholly unprepared to go.

Eleanor's practice over, she retired to her own room, to put the finishing touches to her essay. She was doomed to receive another application. This time it was Sarah, the maid, who disturbed her.

"I'm sorry to be such a trouble to you, Miss Eleanor, but could Mrs. Brangan's below—the same as down the stairs for your mother last week—she says she has any more machine-stitching to give her, she says."

"Go to mother, Sarah. She knows about the work."

"Sure an' yer mother's aftergoon' out, miss; and the poor body's a shakin', she's that tired with the walk."

"Well, I can't help it now, Sarah, I'm very busy. Tell Mrs. Brangan that she will have to come again when mother is at home."

Somehow after that the essay needed a great many corrections. It did not seem half so good as the day before when its author had said to herself, "That needs only to be well read, and I am sure it will make a sensation."

Somehow Birdie's wistful face, and her mother's inquiring look, and the wrinkled countenance of the old Irish woman would put themselves between the lines and spoil all the good points in the sentences.

But Eleanor finally banished them with the thought, "I can never make any improvement, if I allow myself to be constantly interrupted. It is my duty to attend to my work."

Only a month before Eleanor had taken upon her the vow of the people of God. In company with a number of her young friends she had professed faith in the Savior and a desire to follow in his footsteps.

But this was a very solemn act, and the service was very impressive. It was delightful, too, to feel one's self welcomed to the goodly fellowship of the saints, and to know that one's name was inscribed on the roll of the church militant. Then, how stirring was the music when the large assembly sang in chorus

"Must I be carried to the skies On flowery beds of ease?"

Yes, it was a solemn occasion, and Eleanor recalled it with pleasure every Sunday when she took her accustomed seat in the family pew, and every Friday evening when she attended the regular weekly prayer meeting.

At other times she was so busy with her occupied with various matters, that truth to tell, she often entirely forgot her new obligations.

Eleanor Fay was a very industrious young lady. When she graduated, a year before her introduction to the reader, at the Williston Collegiate Institute, she resolved that she should not be a "butterfly existence." She would not imitate the example of the multitude of girls who, after taking their diplomas and thus reaching the summit of their scholastic ambition, henceforth devote themselves to the enjoyment of aimless pleasure. She would lead a worthier life than theirs. She would give herself to the pursuit of literature and art. She would perfect herself in those accomplishments which she had already made a beginning. She would spend a certain portion of each day in study. She would develop her existing powers—would make herself a power to be imitated and admired.

With commendable energy she set herself to the carrying out of this resolution. Mr. Fay, who could well afford the outlay, was easily persuaded to engage eminent masters in painting and music.

The hours which were left free from the conscientious following of their instructions were carefully laid out in a programme of every studies. All this, the reader will observe was for the benefit of Eleanor Fay.

Nobody else was included in the arrangement. Nobody else was to reap advantage. The methodical life was entirely to her, and Eleanor did not know that it was entirely hers. She did not know that in the arduous task which she sought her own improvement she overlooked all other demands upon her time. Neither did she know that she was tasking seriously her powers of endurance.

But at length, soon after the time of her debut in this story, her delicate frame gave way, and the family physician ordered "country air and exercise."

Really too worn out to follow her regular routine with any sort of pleasure, Eleanor readily agreed to what she once would have looked upon as a banishment to the mountain-cottage of a maternal relative—Aunt Betsy Patton.

Aunt Betsy was able and willing to bestow all necessary motherly care, and her home was decided to be just the place for a weary student to recruit in. Thither accordingly, Eleanor was dispatched.

The railway journey was ordinary enough, but the nine miles ride in a primitive stage coach was more of a novelty to the city girl. Her only fellow passenger was an elderly gentleman whom "by the cut of his coat" and by the broad expanse of white necktie, Eleanor easily recognized as a country minister.

His manners were so evidently country that she could not be offended when he began a conversation,

"I am glad to meet you, Mr. Minister."

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