

RECIPROCAL DUTIES OF PARENTS AND CHILDREN

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Reciprocal Duties of Parents and Children by Mrs. Taylor

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MRS. TAYLOR

**RECIPROCAL
DUTIES OF PARENTS
AND CHILDREN**



Hilton, del.

Freeman, sculp.

RECIPROCAL DUTIES.

Published June 1, 1848, by Taylor & Hessey, 23 Fleet Street.

RECIPROCAL DUTIES

OF

PARENTS AND CHILDREN.

BY MRS. TAYLOR,

AUTHOR OF MATERNAL SOLICITUDE, PRACTICAL HINTS,
&c. &c. &c.

"Children, obey your parents in all things; for this is
well pleasing to the Lord.

"Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they
be discouraged." *Col. iii, 20, 21.*

LONDON:

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93, FLEET STREET.

1818.

CONTENTS.

	Page
INTRODUCTION	1
CHAP. I. Mutual Respect	10
2. Family Harmony	24
3. Self-Will	35
4. On some Mistakes in Education, and the Correction of them	51
5. Pecuniary Affairs	66
6. Rising Rank in Life	74
7. Parental and Filial Conduct, as it relates to the Sexes	86
8. Partiality	105
9. Settling in Life	113
10. Religion	132
11. The Death of Parents	147
12. To Childless Persons	154
13. The Orphan	160
Conclusion	166

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INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER.

BEHOLD that lovely cherub in the arms of its fond mother! It has been but a few months in existence, yet it has already learned to recognise its best friend: her faithful bosom is the receptacle of all its tiny sorrows and joys; its hopes are derived from her experienced kindness; its fears are allayed by her protecting care: on this well known being it depends, for all that can soothe and delight. The utmost ingenuity of the nurse, though aided by the delicious morsel, or the glittering toy, is

of little avail when *she* appears, in whom is concentrated every gratification of which its infant mind is susceptible. Soon, under her assiduous care, its bodily and mental powers begin to expand; its joys and its woes are more intelligibly expressed; it grows fertile in schemes and contrivances for its own amusement (as yet it dreams not of existing for any other purpose); in these the fond parent participates, and is consulted on all occasions without reserve. In the frolicsome gambol she renews her interest, and again enjoys the pleasures of infancy with a double zest.

" She feels and owns an interest in their play,
Adopts each wish their wayward whims unfold,
And tells, at every call, the story ten times told."

The companion in health, the watchful, assiduous, and anxious friend in sickness, the prime of a mother's days imperceptibly glides along, bearing away her personal graces, and not unfrequently leaving her constitution a wreck.

As infancy ripens into childhood, her duties alter, but her zeal continues una-

bated: she perseveres in accommodating her services to the growing necessities of her charge, till that important period arrives, when childhood emerges into youth, and a new epoch commences in the maternal feelings. Then, then it is, that the subjects of her solicitude begin to seek their gratifications from other sources; and in proportion to their success, are prone to forget whence they were once derived: confidence gradually declines; and that society which heretofore comprised all that was desirable, becomes, perhaps, irksome,—a burden and a restraint: so that the reserved and distant being we now contemplate, could scarcely be identified with the smiling cherub of former days.

The brute creatures, like the human species, attend their young progeny with anxious solicitude; and when their services are no longer necessary, the parent first breaks the tender tie, and chases them away to know them no more: but human ties can alone be dissolved by death; and whatever alienations ensue, they are not warranted by nature, or by nature's God. "Honour thy father and thy mother," is a command coeval