Miscellaneous.

THE BEST MANNER.

Always make it a rule to do everything, which it is proper and a duty to do, in the best manner and to the best of your ability. An imperfect execution of a thing, where we might have done better, is not only unprofitable, but it is a vicious execution: or, in other words, is morally wrong. He who aims at perfection in great things, but is willing to be careless and imperfect in little things, will essentially fail in an imperfect man. The perfection of the greater will be no compensation and no excuse for the imperfection of the less. Such a person wants the essential principle of universal obedience. Consider well, therefore, what God in his Providence would have you perform; and if you feel the spirit of those directions, which require us to do all things as unto God rather than unto men, you will not fail to perform the duties, which lie in your path. And there are things, as well as in great, in those which are unseen as well as those which attract notice, it shall be said of you, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

HINTS TO A MOTHER.

The influence of a mother upon the manners and salvation of children, especially the latter, is probably greater than that of all other secondary agents combined. On them, it chiefly depends, under God, what your children shall be in both worlds. If you lose your authority over them, you lose of course the chief part of your influence, and then your children lose the choicest means which God has appointed for their happiness here and hereafter. If you once form such habits of management as to lose your authority, you never can regain it; for not only your own habits will stand in the way, but the grown children will be depraved and untamed children, who will no longer brook restraint. The present is your forming period. Two or three years to come will settle the question unchangeably (especially if the habits are wrong), whether you are to have a government which will bless your children to honor and glory, and immortality, or one which will leave their corruptions to take their natural course. God will certainly hold you answerable for their young immortals, and for the distinguished talents which he has given you for their benefit. If you have any piety, my dear child, let it be brought to the bearing. Make the management of your children the object of your most anxious exertions, and the subject of your earnest and unceasing prayers. I have no time to go into a full treatise on family government, but will lay down the following rules for your daily and prayerful examination: Never lay your authority as seldom as possible, and instead of it employ kind persuasion and deliberate reasoning; but, when you exercise it, make it irresistible. 2. Be careful how you threaten, but never lie. Threaten seldom, but never fail to execute. The penalty must be proportionate to the offence, and threatenings that are but irresolute to punish, and when the child is not subdued by the first threat, repeats it half-a-dozen times with a voice of increasing violence, and with many shakes and twitches of the little body, will certainly possess no authority. 3. Avoid tones and gestures expressive of agitation for trivial matters indicative of no depravity, such as scolding, the heedlessness or forgetfulness of children, or pettiness nothing more than is common to all young animals—love to use their limbs. In all such cases, the tones should be kind and persuasive, rather than authoritative; and the severity, and even the gravity of authority, should be reserved exclusively for cases of disobedience or depravity, or for the prevention of serious evil. A perpetual fretting at children for little things will inevitably harden the heart, and ruin the family government and authority and influence. There never was a fretting parent, who often threatened and seldom performed, that had a practical or efficient government.—*Dr. Griffin to his daughter.*

AEROLITES IN INDIA.—The museum of the Asiatic Society in Calcutta has been lately enriched by two remarkable Aerolites, donations from officers in the East India Company's service. The first was presented to the society by one of its members, Captain Sir Robert S. Farewell, engineer in the revenue survey, who procured the Aerolite from the Kurrukpoor hills, on the bank of the Ganges. It is 15 inches in length, 12½ inches in extreme breadth, and weighs 156 lb.; its original weight, however, was 160 lb; the other pieces have been broken off for the purpose of analysis, which, according to Mr Piddington, the curator of the geological section of the museum, gives the following as the contents of the scoriaceous portions of this formidable projectile:

Metallic iron	77·00
Nickel	1.00
Cobalt	3·20
Chromium	1·00
Sulphur	17·00
Alumina	1·50
Arsenic and selenium	traces
	100·20

For the second specimen the Society are mainly indebted to Thomas B. Mactier, Esq, the magistrate at Bancoorah, in Bengal, who proceeded to the spot, ten miles from Bancoorah, where the Aerolite fell; and saved the portions known only to the depredation of the superstitious natives, who were conveying the fragments away as fast as possible for charms, objects of worship, and for medicinal purposes.

This Aerolite fell on the 20th of November last, with a great noise, into a soft, muddy rice field, where it buried itself three feet in the soil, having in its fall scattered a shower of fragments around, within a radius of twenty feet. The Aerolite, judging from circumstances, must have been three feet in length; it is of a beautiful ash colour, friable, soft and gritty, and somewhat resembles pumice.

(From Wilmer & Smith's European Times, Dec. 27.)

SUICIDE BY A LADY.—We briefly alluded in our last to a strange, sad tragedy recently disclosed at Leicester, a lady of birth, connexion, taste, and literary accomplishment, having put an end to her existence by poison, under circumstances of peculiar distress. Her name was Charlotte Vessey Gilden, and from the evidence disclosed at the inquest, as well as from the papers which she has left behind her, we gather, that she was the only daughter and sister of two distinguished and decorated British officers; that her property in Ireland has been placed in Chancery, during the last eleven years, to liquidate the debts of her husband; and that during this period, her literary exertions, and a few tutions, had been the sole means of support for herself and her son, as well as for the cost of the education of the latter. Last March, however, her few pounds of saving were all expended in procuring a berth for her son as midshipman on board a mercantile vessel bound for Port Philip, as well as for his necessary outfit, and since this time it would seem she has been in the greatest distress, vainly endeavouring to make ends meet by selling several little works, poetical and prose, of which she was the author. These were brought before her death to went to lodge at the house of Mrs. Cobbin, a widow, in Hill-street, Leicester, and here the only persons who came to see her, offer