

forest, of which there are innumerable graphic and entertaining writers, of river and lake, of bird and bee, ever keeping closely to the truth, and I do not think the little ones will ask for anything more interesting or exciting if they should teach them of the starry heavens above, with its myriads of worlds and suns, and there surely will be enough in all this to feed the most ardent imagination. We have begun with the theory of keeping closely to the truth, and I believe it will bear fruit. An eminent divine has said, "Give me the first seven years of a child's life, and I will not feel so anxious for the future."

When they have arrived at the stage when it is better for them to vary their reading, and they must have fiction, let them read such conscientious writers as "A.L.O.E.," Elinor Lewis, Hesba Stretton, Miss Mulock, Sir Walter Scott, Mrs. Stowe, and many others. The Rev. Dyson Hague tells us in *Parish and Home* of some of the dangers of reading fiction, even of the best. In the first place, he tells us, it is a waste of precious time to give as much as is frequently done to a custom, which, when indulged in, creates a slavishness of anxiety for a still greater waste of valuable time, to the exclusion of serious