



MOST BEDTIME.
A QUIET HOUR.

A restless or convalescing child may be kept contented and happy, which means rest and quiet for the weary mother, with a lead pencil and composition book. Take the book and letter the pages, giving four pages to each letter, put the letter on each page, in the center at the top. Fancy letters in colors will please and interest the child more than common black ones. Beneath each letter write a subject; for instance, on the first page Fruits, on the second Toys, on the third Books, and on the fourth Flowers.

This will take the A's. Now let the child take the book and pencil and fill the pages, as nearly as possible, with the names of all the articles, beginning with A, under each classification, that she can remember or that are her favorites. Other letters of the alphabet should follow in regular order, till the book is filled. More pages might be given to each letter, giving a greater variety of headings, such as Lakes, Rivers, Towns, Animals, Authors, Birds, Proper Names, etc. This will furnish topics for perhaps several books, therefore employment for many otherwise weary hours. Do not spoil the sport by keeping the child at it too long, but put the book aside the moment it loses its charm. It will then seem new for another time. Buy a box of colored pencils, the ones that come six colors in a box, not the very cheap ones, for they are of a poor quality, breaking easily. Let them use these when they tire of the black ones, and they will enjoy it much better. Or, teach them to make their capitals with the colored pencils and the others with the black. Take time to look over their work occasionally and praise or criticize, as needed. It will only take a few moments each time and will insure you many a quiet hour for rest or reading, that otherwise would be disturbed by the child's restless movements.—[Hale Cook.

HELPING WITH THE LESSONS.

There was a hopeless wall from the corner where Janet sat studying her geography lesson. "I have to learn the capitals of all these western states for to-morrow; and I've studied, and studied, but I just can't remember 'em!" she cried, desperately. Mamma looked up from her sewing. "Bring your book here, girlie," she said, pleasantly. Janet came forward eagerly. "Just try me, mamma," she coaxed, "and see how many I can tell." So they went over the list of states together, but alas! Janet could not name a single capital city in its proper place. Some of them she could not even pronounce correctly. She had always lived in New England, and was not familiar with names of places in the far west. At this point a happy thought came to mamma. "I wonder," she said, reflectively, "if I could give all these capitals correctly. You know," she added in response to Janet's surprised look, "the western states and capitals have been greatly changed since I went to school. Suppose you hear me recite the lesson now, girlie, and we'll see who can learn it first." Janet laughed. The geography lesson had assumed a delightful aspect.

She took the book and stood before her mother, with smiling alacrity. Poor mamma! She hesitated and guessed and blundered at every answer; and Janet, her eyes aglow with sympathy, became deeply absorbed in aiding the efforts of her struggling pupil. "Begins with a C and ends with an e," she suggested, artfully, when mamma became hopelessly stalled at Wyoming.

They slowly and laboriously traversed the long list together, and then it was Janet's turn to recite. What was her joy and mamma's surprise to find that she could give nearly every answer promptly and correctly! A little more drilling on both sides, and the troublesome lesson had been quite mastered. This experience may serve as an illustration of a principle in helping with lessons. The mind of a discouraged child is passive and unresponsive. You cannot then help him if you remain above him on your heights of knowledge and years. Come down and be a child and play with the lesson. His attention thus pleasantly fixed and his courage restored by sharing the burden with another, the little mind opens freely and fully to the lesson.—[Adelaide Davis Reynolds.

A LITTLE OPTIMIST.

"What is an optimist?" Willie asked— (He was reading the Daily Press). "An optimist, why, I know that; just see if I don't," said Bess. "An optimist—well, when it rains real hard. So he can't go out doors to play. Is one who don't fret 'cause it storms, but finds fun right in the house that day!"

ADELBERT F. CALDWELL.

PLANTING.

Plant a king's scepter, what will grow? Goldenrod.
Bury a puppy, what will grow? Dogwood.
Bury a broken bone, what will come up? Boneset.
Plant a dandy, what will grow? A coxcomb.
Bury part of an animal, what will come up? A cowslip.
Plant a breeze and what will you reap? A wind-flower.
Plant a girl's crowning glory, what will come up? Maidenhair.
Plant sunrise, what will you reap? Morning-glory.
Plant what is worn in a convent, what will you reap? Monkshood.
Plant money, what will grow? Mint.
Bury a cow, what will come up? Milkweed.
Bury your hand, what will result? A palm.
Plant Cupid's arrow and reap what? Bleeding heart, or love-les-bleeding.
What plant grows when the thermometer registers zero? Ice plant.
Bury a Richmond caterpillar, what vine will grow? Virginia creeper.
Plant a popular shellfish and what will grow? Oyster plant.—[Sarah E. Wilcox.

Making Home Attractive.—In reading an article recently on farm life and how to make it pleasant, I was impressed with this thought: That there were many farmers' wives whose lots were certainly not to be enviously desired, and that it was almost always to some extent at least the fault of both husbands and wives. Carelessness upon the part of the husband and doggedness, or a disposition to suffer and say nothing, upon the part of the wife, is the starting point of it all. When John married Susie, his intentions were good and he would have laughed to scorn the idea of his being a tyrant, yet to some extent that is what he has grown. He has all the improved tools for caring for his crops to lessen labor and increase the income and add enjoyment to his work. In the house, there is a great contrast, nothing for the wife to work with but the very primitive tools. No handy conveniences, and the wife must make a hundred steps where a dozen ought to suffice. For instance, in so simple an operation as making biscuit, how many there are who must make many needless steps! First, the flour must be brought from somewhere outside the kitchen, next the milk from somewhere else, then the lard will be found far distant, the soda, salt and all call for extra steps to get them and also to return them. The possession of a kitchen cabinet will do away with all these extra steps and give much-needed time for other duties or pleasures. It is pos-

sible for the housewife to have such conveniences as to make her desire for the culture of music and the beautiful in every respect much more easily gratified. Try it, my brother farmers, and be convinced!—[A. N. Springer.

For Croup—A good remedy for colds and croup is tobacco and lard stewed down, then rub on chest and under armpits. Use a flannel cloth. Leave cloth on chest. By morning child is well. Sure cure.—[Scotlin.

Salve for Burns—The following is a fine salve for burns, cuts, swelling or piles, also for frostbites: One handful of tansy, 1 tablespoon lard, 1 teaspoon carbolic acid, five cents' worth of sugar of lead. Put 1 qt water in a pan. Add tansy and boil half hour. Strain and add the other ingredients and boil until a thick salve is formed. When cold it is ready for use. Before using wash with Ivory soap and apply salve. [Scotlin.

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Her Father: No, young man, my daughter can never be yours.
Her Adorer: I beg pardon; I don't want her to be my daughter; I want her to be my wife.

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