

The arable lands bear as yet a small proportion to the wilderness parts of the country; and there, as in all other places in America, are chiefly confined to the neighborhood of the rivers, harbors, and coasts, though small scattered settlements are to be found in the interior, where the lands are of sufficient value to invite cultivation. But the appearance of the old townships will vie with any part of America for beauty. The extended and well cultivated valley of the Annapolis River, the diversified and picturesque country of Horton and Cornwallis; the richness, extent, and variety, of the views in the vicinity of Windsor; the unrivalled beauty of Mahone Bay, with its numerous Islands: the whole country bordering on the Shubenacadie; very many places in the Eastern parts of the Province, and the extensive townships of Newport and Yarmouth, cannot fail to excite the wonder of strangers, that they exist in a country which has always been represented as the most uninteresting part of America.

General Selections.

HOW THE EYE IS SWEEPED AND WASHED.

For us to be able to see objects clearly and distinctly, it is necessary that the eye should be kept moist and clean. For this purpose it is furnished with a little gland, from which flow a watery fluid (tears), which is spread over the eye by the lid, and is afterwards swept off by it, and runs through a hole in the bone to the inner surface of the nose, where the warm air, passing over it while breathing, evaporates it.

It is remarkable that no such gland can be found in the eyes of fish, as the element in which they live answers the same purpose. If the eye had not been furnished with a liquid to wash it, and a lid to sweep it off, things would appear as they do when we look through a dusty glass.

Along the edges of the eyelid there are a great number of little tubes, or glands, from which flows an oily substance, which spreads over the surface of the skin, and thus prevents the edges from becoming sore or irritated, and it also helps to keep the tears within the lid.

There are also six little muscles attached to the eye, which enable us to move it in every direction; and when we consider the different motions they are capable of giving to the eyes, we cannot but admire the goodness of Him who formed them, and has thus saved us the trouble of turning our heads every time we wish to view an object.

Although the eyes of some animals are incapable of motion—as the fly, the beetle, and several other insects—yet the Creator has shown His wisdom and goodness in furnishing their eyes with thou-

sands of little globules; and placing their eyes more in front of their head, so that these little insects can see almost all around them without turning their heads.

A gentleman who has examined the eyes of a fly, says, that the two eyes of a common one are composed of 8,000 little globes, through every one of which it is capable of forming an image of an object! Having prepared the eye of the fly for the purpose, he placed it before his microscope, and then looked through both, in the manner of the telescope, at a steeple which was 299 feet high and 750 feet distant, and he said he could plainly see through every little hemisphere, the whole steeple inverted or turned upside down.

"I WISH I WAS OLDER."

It makes me feel very sad to hear children wishing that they were older, and to see them impatient to have the time hurry away. I can remember when I felt just so, and thought the time very slow in coming when I would be a young lady.

I know, if those children live, the time will come when they will wish, (as I often do now,) that they could have back again some of those precious hours of youth; and they will think, oh, how differently they would spend them! How they would improve every moment, and every hour in gaining useful instruction, and in learning to live useful and happy lives! Do not wish to hurry away the time, dear children. Use it all diligently. Manhood and old age will come soon enough; and when you look back at your childhood then, it will seem as if the time had been almost nothing.

TWO WAYS OF BEING USEFUL.

There are some boys (and girls too) who are not exactly useless, but they have a way of doing proper things which is very troublesome. If they are asked to bring a pail of water from the well or pump, they will do it; but it will be in such a slovenly, "slouching" way, spilling it all along the floor, so as to make us wish we had done it ourselves. So if they are told to dust a room, they will do it; but in such a careless way as to break or bruise or scratch something at every turn they make.

It is our duty not only to try to be useful, but to be useful in the highest degree. Hence the manner of doing good is sometimes quite as important as the good done. Indeed, the good intended is often lost by an unhappy manner of doing it.

AN OBEDIENT CHILD.

No object is more pleasing than a meek and obedient child. He reflects honor upon his parents, for their wise management. He enjoys much ease and pleasure, to the utmost limit of what is fit. He promises excellency and usefulness; to be, when age has matured the human understanding, a willing subject in all things to the government of God. No object, on the contrary, is more shocking than a child under no management! We pity orphans, who have neither father nor mother to care for them. A child indulged is more to be pitied; it has no parent; it is its own master—peevish, forward, headstrong, blind; born to a double portion of trouble and sorrow, above what fallen man is heir to; not only miserable

himself, but worthless, and a plague to all who in future will be connected with him.

BOTANY.

There are few more agreeable studies for the young than the study of flowers and plants. Uniting recreation with utility, it leads us to the knowledge of some of the most exquisite forms of creative skill and benevolence, and opens to us inexhaustible sources of wonder and delight.

When we have seen school boys and girls roving through the meadows or the woods, in a bright summer day, we have often said in our heart what objects of grace and beauty these children continually pass without a thought! They seem like a blind man walking through a gallery of magnificent paintings. The walls of the gallery might as well have been bare for all the pleasure they confer on him.

The elementary principles of botany are very simple and easily learned, and, when once in the mind, they can be applied without study or labor. A solitary walk through the fields then brings us into silent communion with a thousand forms of life and beauty; and where there was before no voice nor sound, every plant and flower and blade of grass now seems to utter its tribute of praise to the great Creator.

LESSONS BEFORE PLAY; OR, THE CHECK AND THE SPUR.

There is nothing more natural than that children should love to play. They have a home, and food and lodgings provided for them. Their clothes are supplied without any care or expense to them, and they have good schools through the week and on Sunday, which cost them nothing, and where they can get good knowledge if they will supply themselves.

Now it is not wonderful (as we have said) that children with light hearts and warm blood and active limbs should love to play.

But while it is very right and natural that children should play, it does not follow that they should do nothing else, or that they should think of play more than of any thing else. The true way to enjoy play-hours is to improve all other hours. We have seen children completely "tired out" with play. This is a sort of intemperance. It is putting a thing good in itself to a hurtful end. It is like eating too much. In both these cases we indulge a natural appetite so as to make ourselves uncomfortable, when a temperate indulgence of it would have been pleasant and healthful.

We all know that the mind is of more than the body. Hence the improvement of the former is more important than the enjoyment of the latter. As it is very easy to play, and not very easy to study, we must have a check to the former and a spur to the latter. Lessons all well learned, duties all well done, with a light heart and a good conscience we can go to play, and make the most of it.

PEACE.

It is unpleasant to quarrel, even if we don't fight. Every child feels happier when friendly with his school-fellows than when at enmity with them. And so it is with nations. What enjoyment can there be in fighting? Ought it to please us to see men, strangers to each other, shoot and cut each other down? From the earnestness with which some read