

"Contrary to order for a person to go out of the yard after evening meeting.

"Contrary to order to have right and left shoes under.

"Contrary to order to read newspapers in dwelling houses, at any time, unless indulgence for that purpose is granted by the elders.

"Contrary to order to fold the left thumb over the right in prayer, or when standing up in worship.

"Contrary to order to kneel with the left knee first.

"Contrary to order to put the left boot or shoe on first.

"Contrary to order to kneel with handkerchief in hand.

"Contrary to order to put the left foot on the stairs first, when ascending."

FAMILY AND SOCIAL READING.—The benefits of social reading are manifold. Pleasures shared with others are increased by the partnership. A book is ten-fold when read in the company of beloved friends by the ruddy fire, on the wintry evening; and when our intellectual pleasures are bathed in domestic affection. An elegant writer commending the practice of reading aloud, says:

"Among a thousand things of making home attractive—a main point in ethics—this stands high. What is more pleasing? What is more rational? What more tributary to the fund of daily talk? What more exclusive of scandal and chatter? He would be a benefactor indeed, who should devise a plan for redeeming our evenings, and rallying the young men who scatter to clubs and taverns, and brawling assemblies. Such a reformer and inventor would deserve a garland of heart's-ease from the hands of slighted woman. Families which are in a state of mutual repulsion have no evening together over books or music. The master is at his bar-room. The boys are at some public room or place of amusement. The girls are abroad in full dress. The mother sits at home in spectacles. And the several parties struggle in, wearily and sometimes surly, at such hours as suit their whim, and then only because nature demands sleep. It is well if even this, at length, is not sought away from home.

"There is a higher reason still, in favour of the practice here recommended. Written language is the vehicle of a vast body of truth relating to our spiritual and immortal part; truth which we are prone to neglect, and truth which is never without a social reference. Nowhere is the volume of holy wisdom more appropriate, than when read aloud in the household assembly; nowhere is religion more sweetly intermingled with the attachments of the heart. Heavenly counsels are not the less impressive when conveyed by the familiar and cherished voice.

"I beg leave to add, this is a pleasure for the poor man's house; and for this I love it. The poor man, if educated, is one day almost placed on a level with the prince, in respect to the best part of literary wealth. Let him ponder the suggestion, and enjoy the privilege."—*American Messenger.*

MERCIFUL DELIVERANCE.—Extract of a letter from a British officer, dated Kandy (Island of Ceylon), 14th October, 1817, to a friend in Quebec:—"I must mention a most appalling sight I had to witness two days ago: at the same time it will give you pleasure to learn the result of the matter. A heathen, who had been convicted of a double murder was sentenced to be hanged. A few days before the execution was to take place, he was converted from heathenism by one of our missionaries; at the scaffold the same missionary prayed with him, and, on parting with him, as he supposed for this life, had him trust in Christ. The sentence was read, the bolt withdrawn, but lo! the rope broke: on being asked how he felt when being cast off, he said 'happy'; for in his fall he distinctly saw his Saviour waiting to receive him. The unfortunate man, however, had again to go through the same dreadful ordeal; when, wonderful to relate, the rope, (though much stronger than the first.)

broke again; and in the fall his head was severely cut. When, on being raised, he felt the blood trickling down his face and shoulders, he merely remarked, before all present, 'it is nothing! how more did Jesus Christ bleed for me.' The Europeans present interceded for his life; and the Governor being just then in Kandy, the man was reprieved. Poor fellow! I saw him the day after in his cell, he seemed most grateful, knowing we had interceded for him; he said nothing, but pointed in a significant manner to his Cingullese Bible which lay beside him."

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