

# PLEASANT HOURS

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLK

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## THE PICNIC.

OUR young readers will all understand what this picture means and will not need any explanation. We hope that all our Sunday-school scholars will enjoy their picnic on the green grass, and under the green trees.

Give the children holidays!  
Let them be jolly days!  
Better men hereafter  
Shall we have, for laughter  
Freely shouted in the woods till the  
echoes ring again.

## A FARMER'S KITCHEN.

"THE chief peculiarity of our house," said a lady the other day, "is that our books are all, or nearly all, in the kitchen."

As the home with this "peculiarity" is a fair type in many respects of the average well-to-do farmer's household in the country, it may not be unprofitable to sketch the daily life that has gone on there during the years past. The father was in his early manhood a teacher, and when he settled with his wife on a farm, took with him habits of reading and intelligent observation. As children grew up around the table, he shared with them the results of his acquaintance with literature, science, and nature, and while they worked with him in the field, they were instructed in the formation of the soil, in the natural history of the plants and animals of the locality, and taught to call the birds and insects by their names. The days were given to work, and in the evenings, after the children began to attend school, the father went with them over their lessons for the following day. "He would sit up sometimes till ten o'clock," said his daughter, "drilling me in arithmetic and algebra, insisting that I should thoroughly understand every point, and this when we had been hard at work all day on the farm." The mother, with her mending, knitting, sewing, intelligently listened and helped the children with their lessons also. As the girls grew up, after attendance at the neigh-

bouring academy, they taught school. When the "Chautauqua idea" dawned upon the world, they were among the first to embrace it, and the kitchen library grew steadily, enriched with the various issues of the Chautauqua press.

her medical tutors, and to lay a broad and enduring foundation for success in her chosen profession.

Books in the kitchen invite the weary house-mother, when resting from her work, to forget her fatigue in their interesting pages; and when

entice the children to "see the pictures," and then to hear the stories connected with the pictures. Children thus introduced to the world of literature, and as they grow older carefully formed in their tastes so that they love the best authors and reject impure and vicious writers, will not be likely in maturer years to associate with the low and profligate. "No man having drunk old wine, straight way despoth new, for he saith, the old is better."

## HUNTING THE TIGER.

You must know, first of all, that the tiger as seen cooped up in a cage at some circus, or in a zoological garden, is very different from the animal as he appears in his native jungle. In the circus he is so "caged, cribbed, confined" that he is never able properly to stretch his muscles, and the roar with which he greets his keeper who is bringing his food resembles the roar with which he awakens the echoes of the forest, as the piping of a tin trumpet resembles the screech of a steam whistle. It is difficult to describe the roar of a tiger when he is angry. It is not like the lion's, which is more nearly a "bellow," but perhaps you can realize it when I say it is as if a thousand tom cats gave one wild and prolonged "meow." Tigers are generally hunted in two ways. One is, shooting from the *hardak* of a "pad" elephant, which is a comparatively safe method, and the other is to shoot them from a *meecham*, or platform of boughs fixed in a tree. When the latter method is adopted a bait, in the form of a bullock, either alive or dead, is generally used to attract the tiger; or else the *meecham* is built within range of the place to which the animal is accustomed to come for his morning drink. The latter is perhaps the commoner way, as shooting tigers from the back of an elephant is rather expensive work and only within reach of those who have long purses.—From "An Adventure with a Man-eater," by Walter Campbell.



THE PICNIC.

It is not surprising that with such antecedents as these, one of the daughters, coming to the city to study medicine, should easily take highest rank in her class, and win eulogy from her teachers. The careful cultivation of her mind by her father had prepared it to receive and assimilate the various and elaborate instruction of

she resumes her tasks her mind is refreshed and fed with what she has read. Books in the kitchen tempt the hired man or the hired maid to see what is inside their covers, and may lead them to further search into the wonders of this divine creation all about us, to which so many of us are deaf and blind. Books in the kitchen