

USES TO WHICH PAPER MAY BE PUT.

Paper, being nearly air-tight, will exclude the cold, and should be used more than it is. Builders place paper between the boards and clapboards of a house, and we should do well to follow their example in smaller matters. Farmers have found that the extra warmth secured by tacking several thicknesses of newspaper around the inside of henhouses, etc., has saved extra food. A layer of paper under a carpet is preferable to straw, which is sometimes used, and if the paper made for this purpose cannot be obtained, several layers of newspapers will do nearly as well. Paper spread between bed coverings will take the place of extra blankets. A folded paper is an excellent lung protector; one over the chest and another around the shoulders, under the outside garment, would often save a cold, and perhaps pneumonia. Dissolved in flour paste, newspapers make a useful filling for cracks in floors and elsewhere. Scraps of paper, wet and scattered over the floor when sweeping, will save dust in the room as well as brighten the carpet. Bits of paper with soap-suds are effectual in cleaning bottles, and are easily removed with the water. Greasy dishes and saucers, if first rubbed with paper, wash much easier; the paper absorbs the grease and is all the better for kindling the fire. A greas-spot can often be taken out of a carpet or garment by placing two or three layers of paper over it, then putting a warm iron on the paper. The heat softens the grease, and the paper absorbs it, and by changing paper and iron occasionally, all the grease will disappear. Soft newspaper or tissue paper is preferable to cloth for cleaning lamp chimneys, windows, mirrors, etc., as leaves no lint; also for knives, spoons, tinware after scouring, and a stove will not need blackening, so often if now and then rubbed with paper. Scraps of writing paper or that used on one side only may be utilized in several ways. Bowls and glasses without covers may be used for jelly by cutting a round of paper the size of the top, rub with glycerine, and press down evenly upon the jelly, out another cover of softer paper large enough to paste down on the outside of the jar. Paper in bread and cake tins protects the loaf from burning, and insures its safe removal from the tin; by this help a tin with holes in it may be used. Laid over a loaf of cake in the oven, paper is also a protection, but unless it is warmed first, the cake may settle. Cut in strips and curled with the scissors, writing paper makes a good filling for pillows for hammocks. Postal cards and thin pasteboard can be cut in strips for lamplighters; newspapers for the same use are cut in strips and rolled.—*The Family Friend*.

NO TIME TO READ THE BIBLE.

"I have no time to read the Bible," says the hard-working father; "I am out the first thing in the morning, and home late at night." And he buries himself in the newspaper for which he is not too busy.

"I have no time to read the Bible," says the busy mother, "my time is fully occupied in mending, looking after the children, and working from morning till night." But we see her gossiping with her neighbors in her spare time.

"I have no time to read the Bible," says the son, "I am out at business all day, and when I come home I am too tired." And he goes off to some place of amusement with his friends.

"I have no time to read the Bible," says the daughter, "what, with helping mother all day, making the clothes, and mending, I have no time to myself." But she finds time to peruse the trashy novel, and read the latest fashions.

"We have no time," says the children, "we are at school all day, and preparing lessons until bed-

time." And they bound carelessly away to their play.

If people want to do anything very much, they make time for it. We never heard any one say, "I have no time for sleep, I must work all night."

If a letter came from some one they loved very much, they would not put it away in a drawer and say, "I have no time to read it."

The Bible is God's letter to His people; can any one refuse to read that letter? Everyone has time for at least a few verses each day, if not more. A few verses well digested and thought about will be far better than two or three chapters hastily glanced through. As bodily food is needed to make a man strong, so spiritual food is necessary for growth in grace, and the quickening of the inner life. May we study the Scriptures often, asking God to interpret them to us.

A HAPPY DISCRIMINATION.

The Disciples of Christ in California, Pa., where the writer is now engaged in a meeting, were some years ago holding a prayer-meeting in the town of Greenfield, which is a little distance farther down the river. They had invited some members of the Methodist Church, who lived in Merchanttown, just across the river, to assist them. They came—and as the meeting was progressing, several persons having offered prayer, the leader called for Scripture recitations. Quite a number were given by Disciples who were then present; whereupon a Methodist man arose and said that he would give a recitation, but not from Scripture. He continued to speak, and among other things said that he thought the time could be more profitably spent in praying than in reciting and reading scripture.

When his speech was ended a Scotch brother arose and said that an important subject had just been mentioned, viz., how they could most profitably spend the time they might remain together? whether in praying or singing exclusively, or in reading and reciting and setting forth the scriptures in connection therewith. To this he added that as it respects the ideas that it should be praying and singing rather than in reading and reciting the word of God he had this to say,—“In prayer we talk to God; but in the Scriptures God talks to us. In view of this it seems strange that we should in a meeting like this spend all the time in talking to God and not allow Him by His word to talk to us.”

It is needless to inform the reader that no more speeches were made on the subject. That one HAPPY DISCRIMINATION had the happy effect of settling that question happily at rest.—*Selected*.

MY OWN SPECIAL WORK.

There is a work for all of us. And there is a special work, for each of us; work which I cannot do in a crowd, or as one of a mass, but as one man acting singly, according to my own gifts and under a sense of my personal responsibility. There is, no doubt, associated work for me to do; I must do my work as part of the world's great whole, or as a member of some body. But I have a special work to do, as one individual, who, by God's plan and appointment, has a separate position, separate responsibilities, and a separate work; if I do not do it, it must be left undone. No one of my fellows can do that special work for me which I have come into the world to do; he may do a higher work, a greater work; but he cannot do my work. I cannot hand my work over to him, any more than I can hand over my responsibilities or my gifts. Nor can I delegate my work to any association of men, however ordered and powerful. They have their own work to do, and it may be a very noble one. But they cannot do my work for me. I must do it with these hands or with these lips which God has given me. I may do little or I may do much.

That matters not in the least. It must be my own work. And by doing my own work, poor as it may seem to some, I shall better fulfil God's end in making me what I am, and more truly glorify His name than if I were either going out of my sphere to do the work of another, or calling another into my sphere to do my proper work for me.—*John Ruskin*.

A LARGE CITY.

If any one were to walk one way through all the streets of London, he would be obliged to go a distance of two thousand six hundred miles, or as far as it is across the American continent from New York to San Francisco. This will give an idea of what would have to be done in order to see even the greater part of London.

In our approach to this city, as well as in our rambles through its streets, we shall not be struck so much by its splendid and imposing appearance as by its immensity. Go where we may, there seems to be no end to the town. It is fourteen miles one way, and eight miles the other, and contains a population of nearly four million people, which is greater, indeed, than that of Switzerland or the kingdoms of Denmark and Greece combined. We are told on good authority that there are more Scotchmen in London than in Edinburgh, more Irishmen than in Dublin, and more Jews than in Palestine, with foreigners from all parts of the world, including a great number of Americans. Yet there are so many Englishmen in London, that one is not likely to notice the presence of these people of other nations.

This vast body of citizens, some so rich that they never can count their money, and some so poor that they never have any to count, eat every year four hundred thousand oxen, one and a half million sheep, eight million chickens and game birds, not to speak of calves, hogs, and different kinds of fish. They consume five hundred million oysters, which, although it seems like a large number, would only give, if equally divided among all the people, one oyster every third day to each person. There are three hundred thousand servants in London, enough people to make a large city; but as this gives only one servant to each dozen citizens, it is quite evident that a great many of the people must wait on themselves. Things are very unequally divided in London; and I have no doubt that instead of there being one servant to twelve persons, some of the rich lords and ladies have twelve servants apiece.—*From "King London," by Frank R. Stockton, in St. Nicholas for June.*

The common house-fly has two wings, six legs, and two great eyes, which are made up of four thousand small eyes. We often wonder why it can walk on the ceiling of a room, or straight up the side of a wall, but its feet are made in such a peculiar manner that it can walk one way as well as another. Some people say that it holds on by means of gum, or sticky substance on its feet; some say it has sharp hooks on its feet, and others say that when it presses its feet down on the ceiling or glass, that they will hold fast in the same way a boy's piece of leather does when it is wet, and he sticks it down on a flat surface. We all know how hard it is to pull the leather up with the string fastened to it. Most flies die when the cold weather comes, but enough are left to lay a great many eggs in warm corners and cracks, so that the fly family is always ready to visit us every summer. There is a great deal to be learned from a fly; its eyes alone are a great study.

The knowledge of facts, whether much or little, will often be worse than useless to those who are deficient in the power of discriminating and selecting; just as food is to a body, whose digestive system is so much impaired as to be incapable of separating the nutritious portions.