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Continued from Page 44

north when the fur is all gone it is hard to say. It might become a power house for the whole continent of America, or at least that portion of it between the Rocky Mountains and the basin of the cither way. The basic in too young a manner as it is to speak above the children's heads. They will not like for the whole Continent of America, or St. Lawrence. Of water power there is neither beginning nor end. Relatively to any at present imaginable human need

Before I leave the Grand Rapids to its solitary grandeur unvisited by tourists, and unviolated by whisky peddling, I wish to record the fact that a human being once went over the falls and emerged, not only alive but unhurt, except that he was rigid and unconscious from cold and terror. The way it happened was this: Some Indians were fishing on the ice in the wide backwater above the fall. The main stream was open water. The ice on which they were standing broke off in a large flake. They all jumped to safety, except one who was a little further away. He hesitated at the rapidly widening crack and was lost. He ran up and down the cake of ice in a frenzy for a moment or two, hoping for an eddy to close the crack. Then he buried his axe head in the ice and got down on his knees clinging to the axe handle. In this fashion he navigated the falls. The cake of ice was smashed to atoms, but the piece to which he was fastened remained sufficient to bear him up. His friends got him down below. They dislodged the axe from the ice, but they could not dislodge him from the axe for a long time. He had a fixed idea that the axe handle was the only solid thing left in this uncertain world to which to cling. It was reported to me that when he finally came out of his stupor he was none the worse or his adventure.

### Story Telling to Children

By Mrs. Nestor Noel

We all of us love a good story, and children are no exception to this rule. From their earliest babyhood, they will say:-"Please tell me a story," even before their baby lips can pronounce the words.

We know that in the olden days, before the Art of Printing was introduced, children were taught by means of Songs and Stories. Even now, when there are so many books, I still think we should continue telling stories to children. There are times when we cannot read to them. For instance, "between the dark and the daylight," in the "children's own hour", what better pastime can we find than telling them stories?

There is no limit to the lessons we can convey to their young minds when tell them a story. But in telling stories we must take care to be well up in the subject matter ourselves. There are children who like to hear the same stories two or three times and if we change some little detail in the second or third time of telling, they will be quick to remark it. If children like to hear the same story twice or even thrice, this is no fault. On the contrary, we can teach History by this method and find it useful.

Of course, there are all kinds of stories:-Fairy Tales, true tales and otherwise. Some children have a taste for one kind, some for another. Now, while I myself, personally, do not be-lieve in cramming their little heads with fairy lore, yet I tell them even some of these, from time to time. But I teach the little mites that Fairy tales are not true. There are so many opinions on this subject that each mother must suit herself. I know once that I condemned fairy tales strongly; but I raised too much controversy at the time, and I do not wish to do that here. So I say, let each mother use her judgment. Of course, I am assuming that the mother is the natural story teller in the family; but the eldest sister might sometimes take her

If children do not love to hear stories, it must be the fault of the narrator. Women can teach themselves how to

stilted language, nor must they use too babyish terms. It is just as much a fault to try to speak in too young either way. The best thing is to talk in an easy, flowing manner I once heard a woman tell a story to a child and she hesitated all the time. So the little girl kept saying:-"Please go on! What next?" etc. | Either that

woman was not well up in her subject or she told the story unnaturally, because a stranger was present. Perhaps she was shy. Some people seem o self-conscious while narrating a story. They should try to forget themselves. They are of no importance for the mom-

ent! It is the tale they are telling

If women want to know if they tell

which is of supreme importance.

stories well, they have only to watch the children. Either they will talk amongst themselves and look bored, or they will be enthusiastic and rapt in

you are a good story teller.

If you can carry story telling to an Art, you will be able to teach your children almost anything. I do not mean merely History, Geography and such like. There are other more useful lessons which only a mother can teach. If she can teach these lessons by means of stories so much the better. And so much the deeper will they sink into the little ones' minds and so much more impression will they have made. Children do not like to know that they are told stories "to have a moral imparted to them". The moral must not seem to be there; but it must be there all the same!

Now, surely there is no woman who does not see that to teach by story telling is not child's play. But once we have found out the way, we should be very grateful that we can reach our children's hearts and brains in this manner. And we should make the best of our ability.

attention. Two different people can tell the same story; but the children to children, for we can just naturally hanging on the wall! I think these will not enjoy it the same way. If use our spare time. Besides "telling" mothers are doubly blessed and loved the phrase is most in use:—

tell stories to children. They can read it a bother and try to put them off. while they tell a story. But be sure books on the subject, and stories they Rather take it as the highest comwant to tell. They must not use high, pliment. They are acknowledging that it will spoil our manner of telling a story. No child wants to have its attention interrupted while we pause to count the number of treble or double crochet stitches we are making!

And if there are women who cannot do these two things at once, then let them give an hour at least of their time, to "Story telling to children". We owe this to them. I would let some other work suffer a little if need

The mother ought to make one quiet hour which she can give to her children. Sewing, cooking and mending for them is not all our children need. They need us—US! O, if only mothers would really understand this, how much they would have learnt!

I love the picture of a mother sitting quietly by the fire while her children gather around her knees as she tells them a story. Such a picture should often be seen as we open the door of the sitting-room to visit the mother. No time is wasted by telling stories I mean the picture in real life-not your children are always saying:— stories is not like reading them. Many where the phrase is most in use:— "Please tell us a story," do not think women can knit or crochet or mend "Please tell us a story!"

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