

What Have You Done in the Past Month to Make People Happier?

In last month's issue of OUR HOME we briefly sketched how the husband and father could do his part towards making people happier. In the article referred to, we dwelt particularly on the fact that this work should begin in the home, and that the wife deserved first thoughts. We have ever held it to be a great truth, that "the husband who does not use his best endeavors to make his wife's daily life happy in some little way, can never be of much use to the general happiness of the outside world." We know of a truth, that cold-hearted, selfish and ungenerous men never do much in brightening up life's dark and dreary path.

In this month's number, we still propose to keep hold of that interesting member of the *genus homo*, the husband and father; he is too important a factor in the world's make-up to cast aside after having administered to him one short and simple lecture on the art of making other people happy. It is our desire—our duty too—to show him that in the home, he can still be useful in cultivating and spreading pleasure, happiness and joy.

We must take it for granted that the husband and father has commenced the good work with his wife, as we suggested. We fancy some will impatiently ask: "Well, after this, what would you have us do, ye moralists?" Well, fathers, we think, after your wives have received due consideration and attention, that your dear children should also come in for a share of your care and time. We know perfectly well that you clothe and feed your little ones according to your means and ability; and we know that you are endeavoring to educate them properly. Well, there is nothing extraordinary in this work; the country's laws demand it, and proclaim the fact that it is your duty.

The work to which we would call your attention consists in making the children happy at home. This work admits of great variety; time and space will not allow us to minutely detail its various divisions and sub-divisions. Home is or ought to be the abode of purity and innocence,—of kindness, gentleness and affection,—of courtesy and refinement,—of morality and religious influence. Even when surrounded by such blessed influences, the boys and girls look for amusement and fun. Fathers, your children must be provided with something to while away the minutes and hours that are not occupied with school lessons and other duties. If you are desirous of cultivating a love for home in your children's hearts, make them happy at home, or they will certainly seek for pleasures outside and with neighbors.

The mother has had her share of work during the day, not only in household matters, but also in looking after the young folks. Fathers can surely devote a half-hour or an hour at night to their children, before they are sent off to bed. Enter heartily into some of their favorite games; introduce some new game; amuse and interest them with some good story; laugh when they laugh; sing with them and for them, and they will go to bed gladdened in heart, and they will feel that father is the best and jolliest man on earth. One of the noblest and grandest of scientists once said: "My happiest time is spent in the evening with my children gathered around me. For a time I become a child, and enter into all their plays and games with true glee. This work (I never miss it), is a wonderful tonic to me, and seems to give me strength and vigor for the next day's duties."

When the father helps to brighten home for the children, school hours are made happier, and every day is a pleasure. The intelligent, discerning and experienced school teacher, when he becomes acquainted with his pupils, can readily point out the boys and girls who receive a goodly share of father's attention in the home. The minutes and half-hours devoted to home amusements for the children, have an influence that is carried out with the little ones wherever they go; the remembrance of these childish games with father is often carried into the years of manhood and womanhood. We have frequently heard with delight, remarks made by children playing on the street, lawn or green field, as to "how papa plays the game." The innocent, childish hearts never forget papa's lessons—his efforts to amuse; and his way is made the rule of the game.

Let us have more help from fathers in the home. Give the little ones more chance to laugh heartily. Innocent games, and abundance of mirth and glee are better than all the medicines in the world. In after years, when our children are fathers and mothers, they will never forget what was done for them in youth, and they will act as they were taught. Fathers, do your duty; second with your whole soul the work of the mothers, and you will be doing a work that there is urgent need for; you will be making life happier for others as well as yourself.

To be continued.

Correspondence.

Dear HOME:

We take four papers in our house, but none of them interest me more than OUR HOME. Your May number was an excellent paper, and both papa and mamma thought it was more readable and interesting than any of the other papers. Many of our friends will become subscribers, as I have been showing them your last number, and they are quite surprised at the amount of good reading you give for twenty-five cents a year. May you go on to greater success.

EMILY, Toronto, Ont.

Editor of OUR HOME:

A short time ago you published some interesting Bible facts for the benefit of your readers; the information you gave was, I am sure, appreciated by many. Some years ago I was told the number of times the words "Lord," "Jehovah" and "Reverend" occurred in the Bible, but have forgotten all about it. Can you give me the necessary information in your June issue?

LOUISA, Montreal, Que.

The word "Lord" is found in the Bible 1,853 times, the word "Jehovah" 6,855 times, and the word "Reverend" but once, and that in the 9th verse of Psalm cxi.

Dear HOME:

I have a large quantity of carpet rags and would like to dye them; what are the best colors of Diamond Dyes for this work?

MRS. S. A., London, Ont.

For cotton rags use Stocking Black for cotton, Pink for cotton, Yellow for cotton and Green for wool. For wool rags use any of the colors for wool. The prettiest are Crimson, Orange, Violet, Olive Green, Old Gold, Green and Brown.

Dear HOME:

Last year I tried to cultivate the tuberose, but was not very successful. Can you give me any pointers that will help me?

FANNY, Montreal, Que.

To cultivate the tuberose, that most beautiful of all plants, put the bulbs in six-inch pots, three in each, and use a mixture of equal parts turfy loam, peat and leaf mould, and place in the pit. Give very little water at first, and as they commence to grow freely increase it and keep near the glass. When they begin to push up their flower-spikes they will, of necessity, require to be placed where they will have sufficient space for the proper development of the tall spikes. These will come into bloom from August to October, when they will require a temperature ranging from 60° to 70°, the latter being preferable. If wanted to bloom earlier, the pots should be placed in a warm pit, and on a hot-bed, the temperature of which is about 75°, to start them into a growth more quickly.

Dear HOME:

I have never had the privilege of visiting Montreal, but have heard it is quite a city. A friend of mine visited Montreal last summer and spoke of its magnificent mountain park, which, he said, commanded a grand view of the surrounding country. Please give me a few particulars as to the extent of the park and its height.

YANKEE BLADE, Manchester, N.H.

Mount Royal Park is Montreal's chief charm. It rises to the height of about 740 feet above the level of the river, and it is best approached by winding drives entering the park from the north-east and south-east. This park drive is something that no visitor to the city should miss, as the beauties of the mountain can be seen in no other way. The drive as well as the general plan of the park was laid out by F. I. Olmstead, of New York. Beautiful views are to be had from various points, notably, Prospect Point, the Look Out, the Observatory, and the Summit of the Mountain. The Park contains 462 acres, and was acquired in 1860 by buying up various properties. An incline railway runs up the mountain from Fletcher's field, near the Golf Club house. It is in operation from 1st May to the end of October.

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