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The Eureka Planter Co., Ltd., Woodstock, Ont.

Too often the boy grows up and goes away to college without ever talking with his father about manhood. Many parents do not speak freely with their children on matters of development. Nowadays parents wish their children to know the great truths and are beginning to realize the necessity of teaching these things in a right manner. In all matters concerning his business relations and success, the boy has received careful instruction. He has not been left to work out those problems by himself but is given the benefit of the experiences of those who have trodden the road before. But in this matter so vital to his whole life, he has been left to clear his own path through the woods. With no guide and bewildered with the new ideas and experiences that crowd upon him, is it any wonder that he loses his way, wanders off the straight path, falls oftentimes into some bog that perhaps was hidden from his sight by surrounding flowers and to which he has been lured by siren music? A most unusual boy, indeed, would he be if he did not encounter brambles or mudholes. Fortunate is he if he eventually climbs back to the road again with no deep scars to mar his future. Who is to blame for the many falls of youth? Surely not the boy, for he was not capable of seeing the hidden dangers. Is it necessary for every boy to sow his wild oats, seeds of which always may be intruding upon his happiness? Could he not be wisely and gently taught by his father that he might avoid the pitfalls which cause him so many regrets in later years?

In school days the boy is led by the wise teacher to see the right way of gaining the knowledge he needs. But there is a knowledge of the structure of the body, of the meaning of certain desires, of the functions of their organs, the necessity of cleanliness, the result of abuse and the danger of acquiring certain diseases known as the black plagues, that cannot be given in the public schools by the teachers; that cannot be given by the mothers, for the boy is inclined to think, "Aw, you're not a man, you can't understand a man." Who, then, is to give this knowledge so necessary to the boy's welfare? It is "up to" the father to see that the boy is given this knowledge and given it in the right manner, and early enough to forestall wrong ideas.

How to present this knowledge to the child depends upon his age, environment

and circumstances. With the very young child who lives almost entirely in a world of imagination, the poetical fancies can often be used to good advantage. But when the boy has reached a school age and associates with older boys, things begin to assume more natural proportions and the world takes on a more real aspect. Then it is the boy wants more material explanations, demands practical truths. A man can ill-afford to allow vulgar representations of these most sacred truths to be given to his boy by his companions, but he may rest assured they will be and harm will result unless this knowledge is forestalled by a wise father.

THE CHILDREN'S HOUR

Between the dark and the daylight, When night is beginning to lower, Comes a pause in the day's occupations, That is known as the children's hour.

I hear in the chamber above me The patter of little feet, The sound of a door that is opened, And voices soft and sweet.

From my study I see in the lamplight, Descending the broad hall stair, Grave Alice and laughing Allegra, And Edith with golden hair.

A whisper and then a silence, Yet I know by their merry eyes, They are plotting and planning together To take me by surprise.

A sudden rush from the stairway, A sudden raid from the hall, By three doors left unguarded, They enter my castle wall.

They climb up into my turret, O'er the arms and back of my chair, If I try to escape, they surround me: They seem to be everywhere.

They almost devour me with kisses, Their arms about me entwine, Till I think of the Bishop of Bingen In his Mouse-Tower on the Rhine.

Do you think, O, blue-eyed banditti, Because you have scaled the wall, Such an old mustache as I am Is not a match for you all?

I have you fast in my fortress, And will not let you depart, But put you into the dungeon, In the round-tower of my heart.

And then will I keep you forever, Yes, forever and a day, Till the walls shall crumble to ruin, And moulder in dust away. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

SOME HINTS ON BABY TENDING Cutting the Teeth.—When a child is cutting its teeth its nervous system seems to be very much upset, and young mothers sometimes fly to "teething powders" as a means of relieving the little sufferer. This practice, however, is dangerous, and only such soothing medicine as the doctor can prescribe should be administered.

Baby's Eyes.—The eyes of young babies should not be exposed to strong light or much air during the first month of life. When carrying baby up and down stairs or from one room to another, be sure to arrange its head flannel so that its eyes are well protected from air currents.

A Baby's Birthday Gift.—A useful gift to make for a baby is a blanket in which it can be wrapped after the bath. Use cream or pale blue flannel, and bind the edges with washing ribbon.

Barley Water.—A little barley water mixed with the milk is often found to suit baby's digestion very well. Wash two tablespoonfuls of pearl barley, and let it simmer gently in a pint and a half of water for two hours. Barley water must be made fresh every day.

HOMESTEADS FOR WOMEN

Dear Madam:—I wish to add my name to the list of women who are in favor of homesteads for women, as I have myself been on my husband's homestead for four years and I know a little about homesteading. I think it is nothing but fair that women should be entitled to a homestead as it would tend to establish more dairy farms and produce more butter, also more poultry would be kept. I will do all I can to help the cause. I wish you every success in this matter. I remain,

Sincerely yours, MRS. A. BURWOOD. Hurdman Lodge, Sask.

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