

ous questions that will naturally arise. Once a month each member should hand in a story, sketch or poem (without signature), which should be read aloud, in turn, by the presiding officer, or an appointed reader. No name being appended, the party should feel free to discuss the merits of each manuscript submitted, criticise and suggest improvements, while at the conclusion a vote should be taken as to which of those offered should be entitled, in the general opinion, to the highest place. Each girl should endeavor, not so much to copy the style and manner of any particular friend, or admired writer, but to improve, prune and embellish her own natural production. At stated intervals, some older and experienced literary friend should be invited to be present, and give the benefit of his or her opinion and criticism. One subject might be agreed upon as the theme for all pens, or each individual could be left to her inclinations, and the intermediate readings or study would, of course, bear upon the articles written. Patience, perseverance, and good-nature are most essential to the success of any such undertaking. Nothing would be accomplished were it pursued intermittently, or taken up and presently dropped again. Nor unless all agreed to a free expression of opinion, without offence, would the general criticism be of service. To this object, the absence of signatures would greatly conduce; though, doubtless, in time, some, if not all of the writers, would come to be recognized by their style. Faithfully carried out, such a plan forms a useful school for the young writers of the future.

To-Day's Duty.

"It will not last long. Your day, my day, the world's day, the day of opportunity, the day of grace, the day of salvation—all days are swiftly passing away; and the great day, the last day, will surely and speedily come." So speaks the wise man. He speaks well. Time is short. Our waking hours are soon over. The cradle and the death chair of Frederick the Great in the Hohenzollern museum are placed side by side. With all of us they stand near together. The time allotted us to do our work for God will soon have emptied itself into the ocean of eternity. We must seize the present opportunities. Their neglect can never be repaired. We have our work to do. We have a daily work. It is more important than we know. Let us be up and doing. Remember what Jesus said, "I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." Only one conscious of this necessity will be able to say, when the sun is setting, "I have glorified thee on earth, I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do."

Good Reading.

"Oh, dear! how I hate to come back to this everyday world. Oh, dear! why could I not have been born rich and handsome, and have a fate, instead of delving away here," and Maggie Dalton closed her book, "Emmeline's Fate," with a sigh. She had spent her whole morning reading it, and had neglected her dishes, just to see how it would "come out," as girls will. Maggie's dishes lay in the pan, waiting to be washed. The kitchen fire was out, but the work had to be done, and Maggie reluctantly left

her seat in the sunny window to do her work. It seemed to Maggie that the dishes were ever so greasy, and the water never cooled so quickly, and during all the time she was bemoaning her fate, just because she was plain Maggie Dalton, with a good comfortable home and kind parents, and not the beautiful Lady Emmeline.

What caused Maggie's discontent?

A book—just a romantic, impossible story, such as often changes the tenor of a girl's whole life, and makes her to look down upon the simple home life and the little homely duties that are as heroic in their small way as all the dashing deeds of the pictured people in the books.

Now if Maggie had given her morning to profitable reading, how different a picture life would present that shows the sweetness of everyday life!

If the girls would give their spare moments to literature of that kind they would find the time well spent; and not only that, but unconsciously, perhaps, they would learn to take their lives and make them as fruitful as those of the noble model held up for their emulation.

ONE HONEST MAN.

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