

**A NEGLECTED ACCOMPLISHMENT.**

Reading aloud well is an accomplishment ranking next to music as a means of entertainment at home and in the family circle. In a past generation the long winter evenings were looked forward to with pleasing anticipations, which were realized when they were chiefly spent at home, and going to parties was the exception. The father, mother and children all gathered in the common living room, and one read aloud while others busied themselves with some handiwork, and all, save very small ones, who had an early bed time, listened with attention and interest. There is much talk just now about the study of child nature. It would astonish some of these students could they know how much of the good literature intended for mature minds was comprehended and appreciated by the children when they were given a chance to become acquainted with it. Scott's novels, 'Paradise Lost,' Scott's poems and other similar reading have been a strong factor in forming a good taste in literature when heard by children from seven to ten years of age. Such children have of their own volition learned large parts of 'The Lady of the Lake,' 'The Lay of the Last Minstrel,' and many small poems of great merit. One lady, recently dead, took great pleasure, when long past her eightieth year, in repeating gems of poetry learned in her early girlhood.

There is too much light and trashy reading for children. They are left too much to themselves in choice of books. Parents are too apt to be engrossed in their own pursuits to give their children the proper training in reading aloud at home. Too much dependence is placed on their being taught at school. At school there is not sufficient time to give each child all the exercise in this that is needed. Reading aloud should be a home habit. One principal of a school has recognized this, and is making an effort to encourage children in the habit. He gives a credit to the children for home reading aloud, and asks a report from the parents, and also gives the pupil an opportunity to tell his class the things he has read. The responsibility of a child's education is not wholly the teacher's. The teacher is simply to supplement the efforts of the parent, to supply what it is inconvenient or impossible for the parent to give. Schools are not intended to take the parent's place—Milwaukee 'Journal.'

Rinse out milk bottles, pitchers and egg cups with cold water. Empty and rinse cups. Put any dishes used in baking to soak in cold water. Fill kettles and spiders full of cold water and set away from the stove to soak. If left on the stove the heat hardens whatever has adhered to the sides in cooking and renders it harder to remove.

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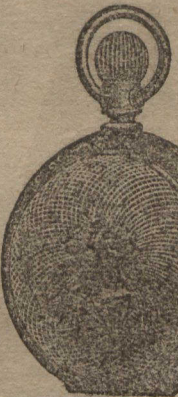
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