

Happy Days

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HELPS FOR THE FUTURE.

A WELL KNOWN journalist recently advised all boys and girls at once to begin keeping a scrap book in which they should set down descriptions of any noteworthy place or scene which comes in their way, also accounts of any remarkable person whom they met, with their photographs, or little personal details.

"In thirty years," he says, "such a book will be invaluable to the owner, especially if he be a journalist or literary man."

The most trifling details in such a book as Pepys' Diary or the Memoirs of Madame de Remusat, are read now with keen interest, as they make flesh and blood of historical characters who else would be but shadows to us. There are other habits which boys and girls can cultivate that will be of incalculable use to them hereafter.

Frederick Robertson made it a rule, at ten years of age, to commit one or two verses of Scripture to memory every morning while he was dressing, and kept it up all his life. It became the daily bread of life to him in his years of suffering.

Benjamin Franklin counted that day lost in which he had not mastered a sentence in a foreign tongue.

Certain families in Virginia have adhered for generations to the custom of putting beside each child's bed some little gift which



HOME-WORK.

would be a pleasant surprise in the morning. The gifts are of little or no value, a fruit or flower or picture cut from a paper. But the child wakens to the consciousness of a watchful, tender love, with its first sight of the day.

Delcamp, most cheerful of philosophers, prepared such pleasures for himself when he was a boy. "I always managed to have something pleasant to which I could look forward on wakening, if it were only a walk

of Hope."

The men looked at one another, but no one was found to repeat the temptation. The man then said, "Well, if you won't take the beer, here's a penny for you to buy some bull's-eyes."

The boy took the penny, and said, "I thank you, but I had rather not buy bull's-eyes. I shall put it into the savings-bank."

The men looked at each other, and for some moments were entirely silent. At

or a page in a fairy story. Come what might, I was resolved to force happiness into my life."

The Germans, with the same purpose in view, observe all birthdays and other anniversaries in the family, and crowd into the daily life as many cheap, simple pleasures as possible. If American young people would imitate these homely, cheerful customs, our households would be more happy, and we should hear of fewer deaths from overwork and nervous disease.

A CHILD'S WORD IN SEASON.

AN English clergyman says: Very recently a little boy in my parish, only six years of age, was sent by his mother to fetch his father from a public-house. He found his parent drinking with some other men, one of whom invited the little fellow to take some beer.

Firmly and at once the boy replied, "No, I can't take that. I am in the Band