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CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

THE PLEASURE AND PROFIT OF READING

Carlyle has said that a collection of books is a university. What a pity that the thousands of ambitious, energetic men who missed their opportunities for an education at the school age, and feel crippled by their loss, fail to catch the significance of this, fail to realize the tremendous cumulative possibilities of that great life-improver, that admirable substitute for a college or university education—reading.

Eliza Burritt, working all day in a blacksmith's shop, yet through his industry and love of reading and study he became one of the greatest linguists in the world, and won for himself the honorable sobriquet of "the learned blacksmith."

There is a wealth within the reach of the poorest mechanic and day-laborer in this country that kings in olden times could not possess, and that is the wealth of a well read, cultured mind.

How heroic we feel after reading the inspiring life-story of some one who has achieved great things under difficulties! We feel almost as if we were the hero ourselves for the time being, just as we do sometimes after seeing some great character in a stirring play.

What would a business man accomplish if he did not attend to important matters until he had time that was not needed for anything else? The good business man goes to his office in the morning and plunges at once into the important work of the day.

The greatest things of the world have been done by those who systematized their work, organized their time. Men who have left their mark on the world have appreciated the preciousness of time, regarding it as the great currency.

DOES A WASHING JUST LIKE PLAY!

Nothing else will more quickly ruin a good mind than familiarity with frivolous, superficial books. Even though they may not be actually vicious, the reading of books which are not true to life, which carry home no great lesson, teach no sane or healthful philosophy, but are merely written to excite the passions, to stimulate a morbid curiosity, will ruin the best of minds in a very short time.

Emerson says, "I can not even bear of performance, without fresh resolution." This is the moral of biography.

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OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

A boy of thirteen was often brought to Judge Lindsey's Juvenile Court in Denver, charged with truancy. Notwithstanding the Judge admonished him many times, it did not seem to do him any good. The teacher kept writing, "Tim will stay out of school to work."

At last the work was done. Father and son washed themselves and got ready for supper. After supper when the father had stretched himself out for a pleasant hour with his newspaper the boy came to him.

"I guess, father," he said with an air half ashamed, and yet of new manliness, "I guess it was a good thing for me to do something that I didn't want to do."

"I realize fully that in attempting to criticize the assertions of a doctor of divinity, I am engaging in a difficult enterprise, perhaps a rash undertaking, for I know that the learned doctor's very long residence in Rome—a most trying and by his own accounts eventful period of almost eight days spent in sight-seeing—gives him exceptional facilities for gauging and weighing with due poise the varying linguistic features of the last century, aware also, that his lifelong familiarity with the great leaders of Catholic thought at the Vatican gives him an insight into high diplomacy which one in my humble station could not obtain. I understand, too, that the doctor's 'extraordinary' knowledge of the Italian language (you will remember his brilliant linguistic feat on the train when he silenced the loquacious descendant of Dante by waving over them the American flag) qualifies him in a special manner to address the Roman populace, in bare the root of all their evils—the wretched Catholic Church. Yet, in spite of this redoubtable equipment of a learned doctor, I venture to dissent from his judgment, and I beg to remind him that the Great Doctor of Divinity has laid down as a standard principle of life, 'Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.'"

The doctor says "The Protestants now control most of the schools of Italy." Will the learned doctor take down any encyclopedia, find the population of Italy and the number of Protestants, native and foreign in that country? As a man of honor the learned doctor must then confess that the present population of Italy is 30,000,000. And yet the learned doctor says that the Protestants now control most of the schools.

Again, the learned doctor says that the Catholic Church is stronger in the United States than in any other country. While justly proud of our splendid

body of 15,000,000 of Catholics in this country, I must, nevertheless, again ask the learned doctor to open his encyclopedia at the word "Germany." As a grandson of the Fatherland, he ought to be well informed on the religious statistics of the land of his ancestors. As a man of honor he will admit that in Germany we have over 17,000,000 of Catholics, the pride of the nation, the gallant defenders of the Rhine.

The talkative sight-seeing doctor of divinity also brought upon him the ire of the Methodists in Italy, proving indeed, that too many words often confound a wise man.

Kellogg's TOASTED CORN FLAKES

Kellogg's meets hunger more than half-way and it stays by you to the next meal. The cost is small. The taste is great.

"My father was a man," replied the boy, "and he did not work. He went off and left mother and me. I guess that's what killed her."

At last the work was done. Father and son washed themselves and got ready for supper. After supper when the father had stretched himself out for a pleasant hour with his newspaper the boy came to him.

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