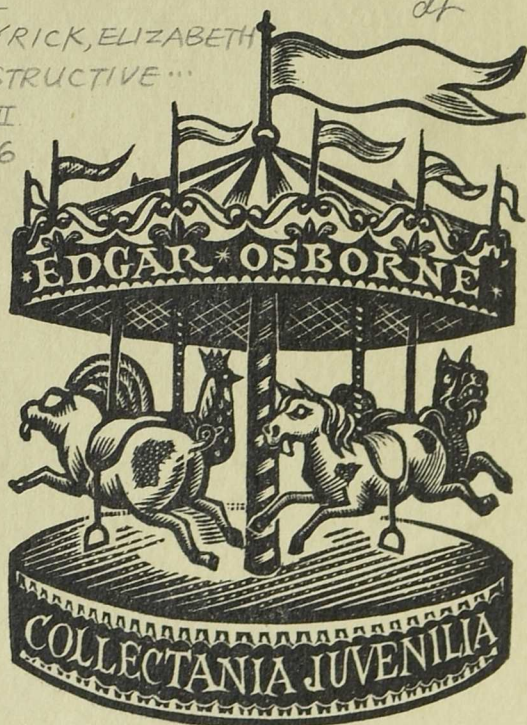


INSTRUCTIVE HINTS.

PART II.

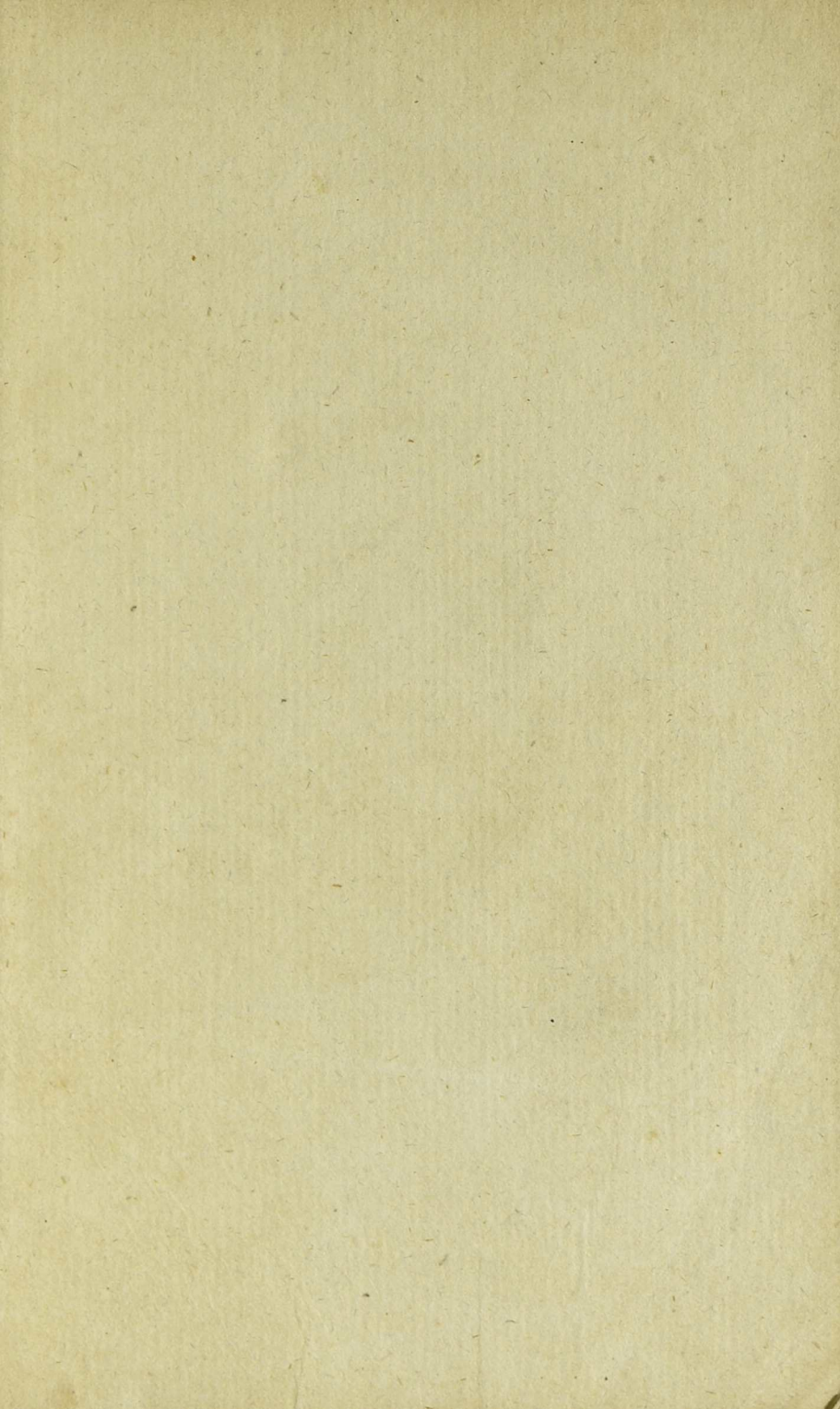
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INSTRUCTIVE HINTS.

YOU have fi-nish-ed your book,
you say, and want a new les-son.

Ve-ry well. Here it is.

But first, you must go and put
a-way care-ful-ly the book you have
just read o-ver; that is not to be
thrown a-way be-cause you have

got a new one. Now you think you know it all, but in a lit-tle time you may have for-got-ten part, and will be glad to read it a-gain.

Be-sides, some of your play-fel-lows may not have such a book, and per-haps they would like to bor-row it of you.

We en-joy a great deal of plea-sure our-selves in giv-ing o-thers plea-sure; and those things which we can-not give, we may, and ought, to lend.

If your book be kept whole, and in its place, you will feel pleasure in thinking, that it is ready when-e-ver you or a-ny body else want it.

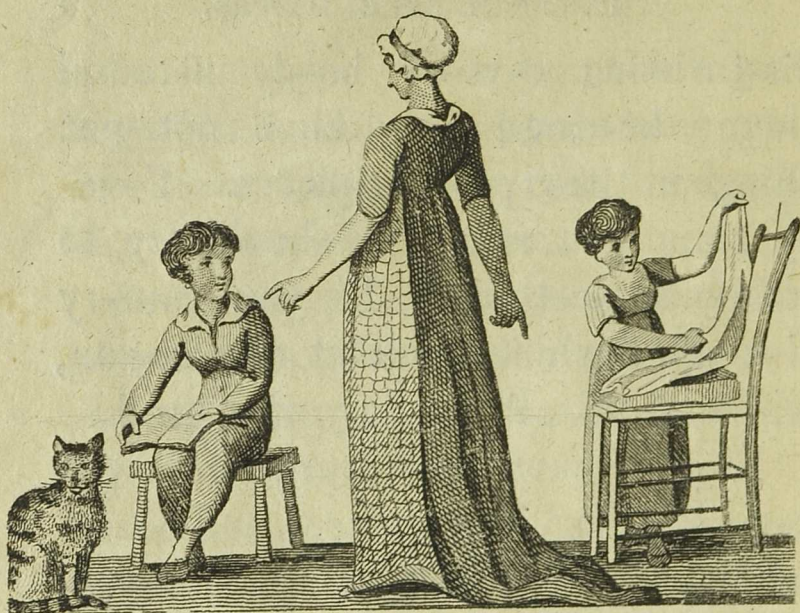
O, I can-not find my book, or my hat, &c. is the com-mon com-plaint of ma-n-y lit-tle boys and girls; and they run a-bout the house, ma-king a great noise, lo-sing their time, and

dis-turb-ing e-ve-ry bo-dy a-round them, be-cause they have not put things in their pro-per places. E-ve-ry time you read you should try to learn some-thing. If you hur-ry through a whole book at one les-son, with-out this, it will do you no good.

If you have now learn-ed to put e-ve-ry thing in its place, and to re-mem-ber where it is, you have learn-ed what will help to make you ea-sy and use-ful through life.

Go, sit down and think up-on this short les-son, "to re-mem-ber a lit-tle, is bet-ter than read-ing a great deal."

You can-not learn too soon, nor re-col-lect too of-ten, that there is a right way and a wrong one, of do-ing e-ve-ry thing: e-ven of hold-ing your nee-dle, fold-ing up your work.



and turn-ing over the leaves of your book.

If you learn the right way at first it will soon be ea-sy and plea-sant to you: but if you get the wrong one it will be dif-fi-cult to leave it off.

When you wish to turn o-ver the leaves of your book, do not push them up from the bot-tom with your thumb, this dir-ties and wears them out; but with your fore-fin-ger, just touch the leaf at the top, and it will

se-pa--rate from the rest, with-out being spoil-ed.

When you lay a-side your work, it is not to be tum-bled to-ge-ther, and put a-way like a piece of rum-pled pa-per; but it is to be fold-ed up smooth, and put a-way neat-ly; then, when you want it a-gain, it will be much plea-sant er to see, and much ea-si-er to do.

When your clothes are ta-ken off, they are not to be thrown to-ge-ther in heaps, like so ma-ny old rags, but to be laid smooth and folded up; thus they will keep clean long-er, wear bet-ter and when put on a-gain, they will look much more ti-dy.

Those who will not be care-ful of a stuff gown and a cot-ton a-pron, would not take care of a cot-ton gown, and a mus-lin a-pron.

These you may think are little



things, but it is by be-gin-ning to do right in lit-tle things, that we learn to do great ones well.

If it be right to do a thing at all, it is right to do it well; and chil-dren should al-ways be thank-ful to be taught; but if they fan-cy their own way best, they will grow up ob-sti-nate and fool-ish.

It is a great plea-sure to teach chil-dren who are will-ing to learn; and those who do not un-der-stand why

they are told to do a thing one way rather than another, should ask the reason.

If you wish to learn the best way of doing every thing, you may go on improving as long as you live; but if not, you may be ignorant until you die.

Come, bring your work, and let me fix it.

What are you making?

A shirt for my father.

Very well. He labours for you, and you work for him; that is very right. Sewing is a very useful employment; without it our clothing would hang loose about us, which would be very troublesome, and it would not keep us so warm. She who sews quick, and well, is likely



to be a ve-ry use-ful wo-man, and need ne-ver be seen in rags.

The great end of sew-ing is to make us de-cent and com-fort-able, and she is not like-ly to be ei-ther long, who can-not sew.

But there is a great deal of sew-ing: which is ve-ry use-less, and some which is hurt-ful, as it in-jures the eyes, and con-sumes a great deal of time. Of this sort are fine sam-plers. The co-lours and the verses may be

ve-ry good, and the fi-gures and the flow-ers ve-ry gay. But it is ve-ry te-di-ous to do, and ve-ry use-less when done.

In a little time the co-lours will fade, the moths will eat the can-vass, and the poor sampler will be laugh-ed at.

How much better is it to knit stock-ings. Stock-ings are al-ways want-ed: the poor should knit them for them-selves, and the rich may knit them for the poor.

This is work that is al-ways rea-dy. Many peo-ple can knit when they walk, when they read, when their eyes are weak, and some, when they are blind.

Stock-ings which are knit-ted, wear much lon-ger than those which are wo-ven; and no-thing is more cre-dit-a-ble to a lit-tle girl, than to see her with stock-ings of her own knit-ting.



Ma-ny poor chil-dren, who are born blind, help to main-tain them-selves by knit-ting.

Such chil-dren are much hap-pi-er than those who do no-thing that is use-ful.

It is much better to make or mend shirts and shifts, than to work muslin; to knit stock-ings, than to or-na-ment sam-plers.



Per-haps, you may have heard silly peo-ple say to children when they were cry-ing, “if you are not good Tom Dark shall take you.”

There is no such per-son as Tom Dark. Go, and shut the win-dow-shut-ters, and the door—now there is no light in the room. We all remain in our places: the books and the work lie where they did. There is no-thing more, or less, in the room, than there was be-fore.

You re-mem-ber where the spell-ing book lay. Go, and fetch it to me.

O, I can-not find it.

Feel a-gain; you know its size, do not bring an-o-ther.

Ve-ry well. This is the book. Go, and o-pen the shut-ters. Look at it; you did not think you could have found it in the dark.

It is of use to go in-to different pla-ces, to find what we want in the dark; to know the form and the siz-es of things, by feel-ing. Some-times a candle is blown out, by ac-ci-dent; and if we have gone a-bout the house in the dark, we shall be bet-ter a-ble to find what we want, or, at least, can ea-si-ly go back to light it.

Some per-sons, you know, be-come blind. Those who have learn-ed what things are by form and sound,



will suf-fer less by such a loss than o-thers.

When your eyes are shut, you can ea-si-ly tell a table from a chair, and a hat from a coat.

You may ea-si-ly try a num-ber of o-ther things, and you will soon learn the dif-fer-ence.

Some blind per-sons can tell the foot-steps of the per-sons they know, and name them from hear-ing them walk.

They can go on er-rands, and on jour-neys, and e-ven serve as guides to tra-vel-lers, through dan-ge-rous ways.

Some can make nets, and whips, and bas-kets; and a great many o-ther use-ful things.

It is only like be-ing in the dark; they can hear, and feel, and taste, and smell, and think; and by u-sing these pow-ers, as well as they can, they are of-ten cheer-ful and hap-py.

Think of this, and you will see that it is ve-ry sil-ly to cry or to be fright-en-ed in the dark. Blind people are al-ways in the dark, yet they do not cry.

Do you like to see fine sights?

Yes: in-deed I do.

Well. I can show you one of the fi-nest it is pos-si-ble to be-hold.



What is that? Let us go and see it.

Can you get up ve-ry ear-ly in the morn-ing, and go to the top of the hill?

Yes.

Well, if it be fine, then we shall see the sun ri-sing in all his glo-ry; and I scarce-ly know a-ny thing so beau-ti-ful.

At first, a faint light appears in the east, which grows gra-du-al-ly bright-er and bright-er.

The near-er the sun is to ap-pear-
ing a-bove the earth, the clouds are
tin-ged with crim-son; light spreads
it-self far-ther, and the whole east-
ern sky be-comes red and glo-ri-ous.
Then you see a small part of the sun.
The mist, the dark-ness, flee be-fore
him. He ri-ses high-er and high-er.
His rays spread far and wide—and
soon the whole bo-dy ap-pears!
Light and glad-ness beam a-round.
The cat-tle low to their fel-lows.
The sheep bleat to their lambs. The
birds a-wake and sing. All is beau-ty
and de-light.

To en-joy such a scene, is in-deed a
great plea-sure. Who would sleep
a-way all their morn-ings, and ne-ver
be-hold so glo-ri-ous a sight?

There is a Be-ing who made that
glo-ri-ous sun; who bade him shine
on all; who form-ed this beau-te-ous



world, and gave us hearts to love,
and tongues to praise him.

That Be-ing loves chil-dren; and
they can love and praise him. His
fa-vour is life, and his lov-ing-kind-
ness is better than life; and he hath
said, “they who seek me ear-ly shall
find me.”

When you have done your work,
you may go and take a walk in the
fields.

You will see a great many beautiful things. Look at them a-gain and a-gain. E-ve-ry thing will be found to be cu-ri-ous; e-ve-ry thing use-ful.

No two blades of grass, no two flow-ers, are ex-act-ly a-like.

There are mil-li-ons of in-sects in e-ve-ry field. All have their homes, their fa-mi-lies, their plea-sures.

It is sil-ly to be a-fraid of them, if they creep or fly up-on you. They would ra-ther be in a flow-er cup, or on a blade of grass, than on a coat or a gown; and are as glad to get a-way, as we are to have them do so. Watch them a lit-tle; and you will soon see them creep a-way in haste.

Fear them not. They have more rea-son to be a-fraid of you, than you have of them. You might hurt them, but it would be ve-ry wrong to do so. You might, in-deed, kill some of

them, but what good would that do you?

If an in-sect could not feel, it would not live. You must put it to a great deal of pain in ta-king a-way its life. Can you de-prive a crea-ture of all its plea-sures, and kill it, be-cause you do not like to see it? You sure-ly can-not bear to think of this.

The girl or the boy, who could wan-ton-ly kill an harm-less in-sect, is fit-ting the mind for a great ma-n-y worse things.

Bro-thers, sis-ters, and play-fel-lows, all want kind-ness; and he who is cru-el to dumb crea-tures, will not long be kind to his re-la-tives, or play-mates.

A hard heart is a dread-ful thing; if you would not have it, you must ne-ver wil-ful-ly give pain.



Do you not some-times like to play at build-ing houses ?

Yes ; ve-ry much.

Well. Sup-pose you could get bricks, and slates, and wood, and mor-tar e-nough, to build a pret-ty, lit-tle, neat house, in which you might play, and eat, and sleep, if you chose, should you not like that ?

Yes ; of all things.

Well. If you had, with a great deal

of la-bour, col-lec-ted the ma-te-ri-als, and had rai-sed such a house, what, if some per-son should come, and pull it all in pie-ces, de-stroy your la-bour and pre-vent all your play; should you not think it a most ill-na-tu-red, cru-el thing; and should you not feel an-ger a-gainst those who had been thus un-kind?

Yes; to be sure.

You have doubt-less seen a bird's nest; that is the cu-ri-ous and beau-ti-ful house which birds build, not for a play-thing, but in which to lay their eggs, and to hatch their young; and where the lit-tle ones live, shel-ter-ed from the cold winds of the ear-ly spring, till they are a-ble to get food for them-selves.

Ex-a-mine a nest; it is made with the ni-cest care, of moss, and hair, and wool, and down; and round-ed



in-to the most con-ve-ni-ent form. No boy or girl, nay, nor the most cle-ver man, could make a bird's-nest, so well as birds do themselves. Af-ter the birds have had all the la-bour, and enjoyed all the plea-sure of mak-ing this beau-ti-ful lit-tle house, what think you of those cru-el chil-dren, who will go, and take the nests, the eggs, the all that be-longs to the poor birds? Could they speak they would ac-cuse such



of wanton bar-ba-ri-ty. But they do speak, and they show, by fly-ing in the great-est dis-tress round the place, and fill-ing the air with their cries, how much they suf-fer, and how great has been their loss! When the nests have young ones in them, it is more cru-el to take them, as the lit-tle birds of-ten die for want of the pro-per food, which their pa-rents on-ly know to pro-vide. Some-times, when the old birds have seen the nest ta-ken

a-way, they have watch-ed where the chil-dren took it to, and have gone e-ve-ry day and fed their young, though at the ha-zard of their lives. Birds are the most in-no-cent and beau-ti-ful of crea-tures, and the high-est plea-sure they can have, must be in tend-ing and nur-sing their young.

Chil-dren, if you would not grow up cru-el and wick-ed, take no bird's nests; tell your play-fel-lows how wrong it is so to do, and ne-ver keep com-pa-ny with those, who walk in the fields for no o-ther pur-pose, than to rob a poor bird of its on-ly trea-sure.

Where have you been, that you are thus wet and dir-ty?

I have been walk-ing with my play-fel-lows; we stop-ped at a pond to



near the side, and I slip-ped in.

How did you like be-ing in the wa-ter?

O, not at all, I thought I should have been drown-ed, and had hard work to scram-ble out.

Well, I am ve-ry glad that you did not fall into a deep-er place. But if you would not like to be drown-ed, you must take care and not fall into the water till you can swim.

Should you like to learn to swim?

Yes; ve-ry much, then I need not be a-fraid of be-ing drown-ed.

It is de-si-ra-ble to learn to swim, if it be on-ly for the sake of health and plea-sure. Keep-ing the bo-dy en-tire-ly clean, is a great help to both; and it is not ea-sy to do this with-out bath-ing, and those who can swim, have a great deal more plea-sure in bathing, than those who can-not; they can stay lon-ger in the wa-ter, and have no fear of be-ing drown-ed.

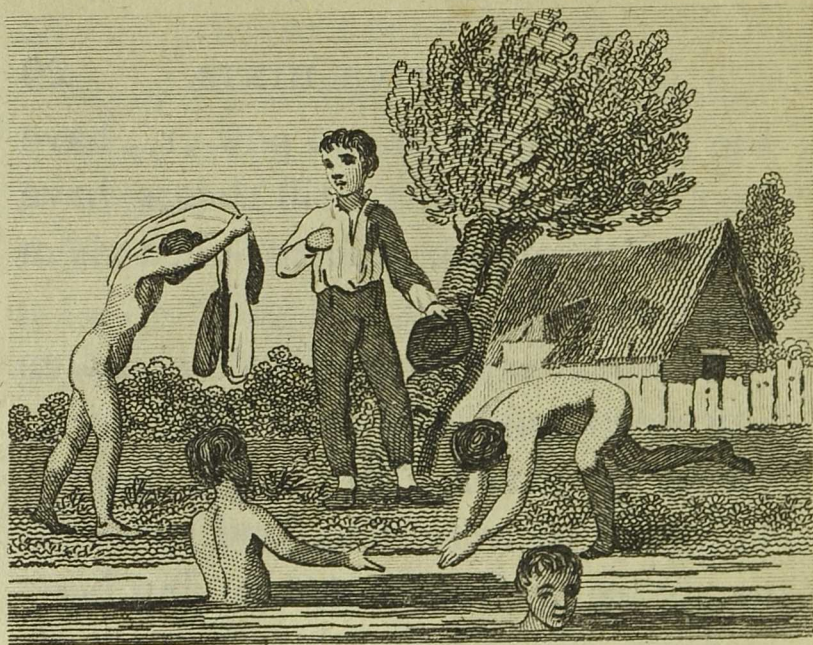
But the great-est ad-van-tage of swim-ming is, that we may be able to save our own lives, or those of our fel-low crea-tures, should a-ny with-in our reach be in dan-ger of be-ing drown-ed; for it is our du-ty in all ca-ses to pre-serve life, as long as pos-sible.

Ma-ny per-sons have swam se-ve-ral hours to-ge-ther, and by try-ing

the ut-most of their pow-er, have kept from sink-ing, till boats have ta-ken them up, and car-ri-ed them on shore.

In some coun-tries lit-tle chil-dren can swim, and dive in-to the wa-ter for a long time, with-out dan-ger, be-cause their fa-thers and mo-thers ear-ly teach them so to do; but here, peo-ple are not taught so young as they should be. How-e-ver, you must not think of swim-ming by your-selves, or of go-ing in-to the wa-ter with on-ly lit-tle chil-dren; you must ask your fa-ther to teach you: you will soon learn, and then you will be a-ble to swim with-out help. But by go-ing in-to im-pro-per pla-ces, and get-ting in-to deep holes, ma-n-y chil-dren have been drown-ed.

Bath-ing is one of the ma-n-y plea-



sant a-muse-ments of sum-mer. Have not you seen the school-boys, be-fore sun-set in a fine e-ven-ing, when they have been ti-red and dir-ty, dive off the bank, into the river, and af-ter-ward come back cool, and re-fresh-ed, and clean? I am sure they would sleep much bet-ter, than those chil-dren who go to bed all over dirt. O, it is a sad thing, in-deed, to live in dirt. Learn to swim as soon as you can, and till then, wash your-self of-

ten in cold water ; for this is the way to be well, strong, and active.

Who says that chil-dren can-not be use-ful ?

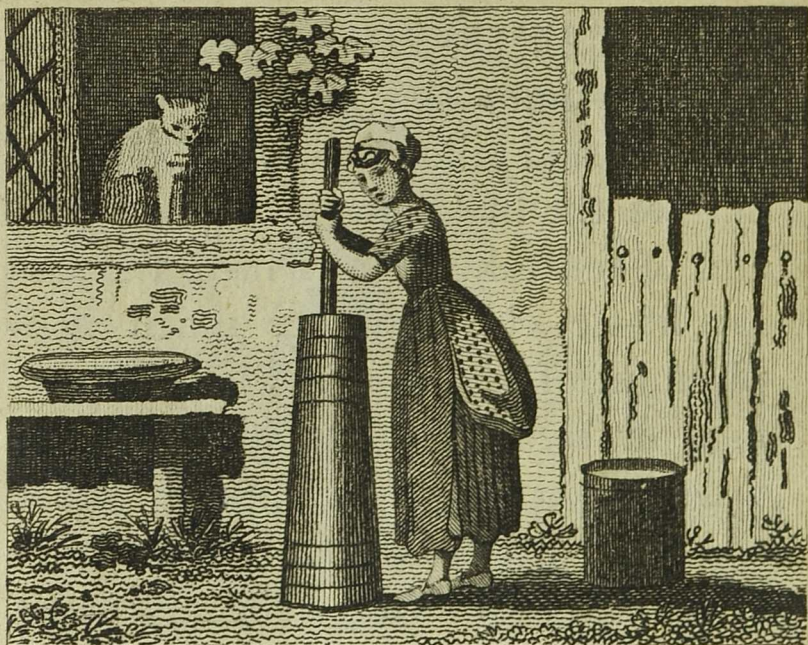
Who likes to see fine sights ?

I have seen a very fine sight to-day ; shall I tell you a-bout it ? It was not a danc-ing bear, nor a ra-ree-show, nor the I-rish Gi-ant, nor the Cor-si-can Fai-ry. It was a good girl ! she does not ride in a coach, nor wear mus-lin frocks, nor go to a danc-ing-school, nor wear red shoes. Her father would be a ve-ry poor man if he did not work hard ; and she is the eld-est of six chil-dren. She is only twelve years old ; but by be-ing ve-ry ac-tive, di-li-gent, ti-dy, and o-be-di-ent, she is ve-ry use-ful. She rises in sum-mer at half past five ; makes the fire, and



clean the hearth. Then she puts the yoke on her shoulders, takes the milk-ing-tins, and goes a-bove a mile to milk. On her re-turn, she dresses the lit-tle chil-dren, and gives them their break-fast. If there is but-ter to be made, she churns the cream, and ga-thers the but-ter; some-times she makes it in-to pats, and pre-pares it for the mar-ket. If li-nen is to be wash-ed she puts on her lit-tle wool-len a-pron, and helps to wash it.

Some-times she makes the bread her-self, and takes it to the o-ven. She nur-ses the lit-tle ba-by a good deal, and of-ten takes it out in-to the air; for lit-tle chil-dren are much hap-pi-er out of doors; and when not eat-ing, or sleep-ing, should almost al-ways be kept in the fresh air. When this good girl has fi-nish-ed the active bu-si-ness of the day, she sits down, mends some-thing which wants re-pair-ing, or knits stock-ings for the fa-mi-ly. What a trea-sure is such a child to her fa-ther and mo-ther, her bro-thers and sis-ters:—I am sure I would ra-ther see such a one, than all the Irish Gi-ants and Cor-si-can Fai-ries in the world. The chil-dren who read this may not have bread to make, or but-ter to churn, but if they would be hap-py, let them strive, like



her, to be as use-ful as they can in their own pla-ces.

What a bless-ing it is to have rea-son and un-der-stand-ing! And what a hap-pi-ness for chil-dren, that there are al-most al-ways some a-bout them, who are glad to teach them what they do not know.

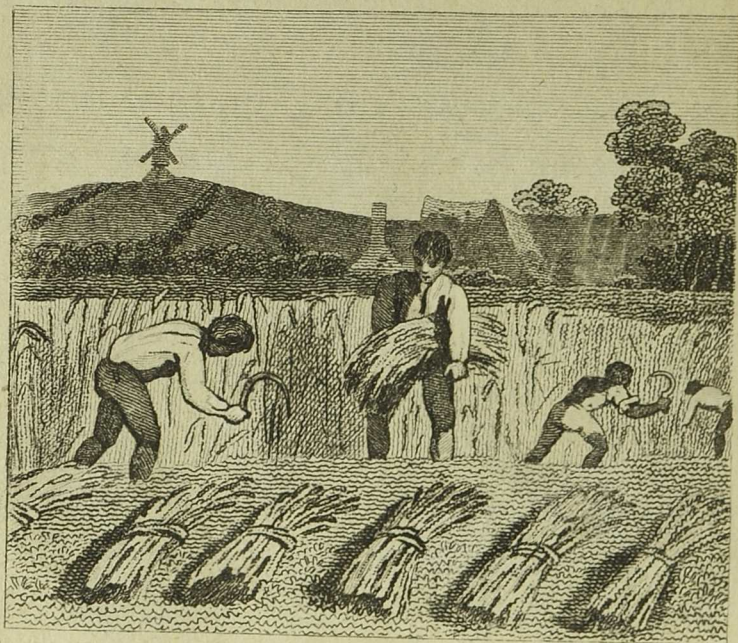
The world is all new to lit-tle chil-

dren, and al-most e-ve-ry thing they see is cu-ri-ous and en-ter-tain-ing. But some boys and girls are apt on-ly to stare and won-der, with-out de-si-ring to be in-form-ed of what they do not know.

You now know much more than you did when you was on-ly four years old ; but the whole is but a lit-tle, and you might gain some-thing new e-ve-ry day.

Should you not like, as you grow up, to know as much as o-ther peo-ple ? Then you must ask, and search ; and try to learn e-ve-ry thing you want to un-der-stand. If you ask one per-son, and he can-not tell you, nor put you in a way to find it out, go to an-o-ther, till you have found some one who can.

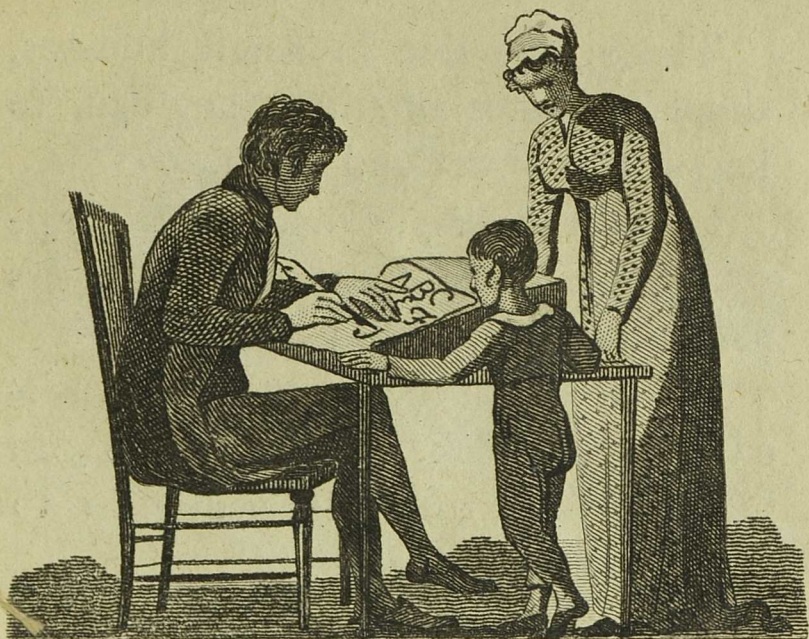
We are apt to fan-cy e-ve-ry thing dif-fi-cult till we try, and then we



are oft-en sur-pri-sed to find how
ea-sy it is: -

To look on a field of corn, a per-
son who knew no-thing of the art
would think it a very dif-fi-cult mat-
ter, in-deed, to make it in to such nice
food as the bread we eat; and yet
this is what e-ve-ry bo-dy can learn!

One who knows not how to read
or write, would be al-most fright-en-
ed at the thought of ma-king let-ters
like all these which you see on the



book. Yet, go and look o-ver a per-
son who is wri-ting, and you will be
pleas-ed to see how ea-si-ly it is done,
and will wish to learn to write al-so.

Ne-ver fan-cy that you can-not
learn, for some boys and girls, e-ven
chil-dren of the poor, have learn-ed
as ma-ny great and use-ful things as
the chil-dren of the rich; and we can
ne-ver tell what we can do, till we
try.

Those who live in small houses, should do e-ve-ry thing they can, to keep them sweet and clean.

It makes peo-ple sick and un-hap-py to live in dirt, and of-ten cau-ses fe-vers, and brings on death.

All dir-ty clothes should be wash-ed once a week. Lit-tle girls can help to wash, and that will help to make them com-fort-a-ble.

The win-dows should be o-pen-ed e-ve-ry morn-ing, to let out bad, and to let in good air, and the rooms mop-ped once a day in sum-mer.

Beds should be well shook, and left o-pen some time be-fore they are made, and no-thing dir-ty should be left to lie a-bout the rooms.

When the walls be-come smo-cked and dir-ty, they ought to be white-wash-ed with lime. This is ea-si-ly done.



E-ve-ry bo-dy likes to see a clean house rather than a dirty one; and how much might each do, to make it so! A great boy or girl, with a lit-tle di-rec-ti-on, might white-wash the rooms; and how plea-sant would it be, to make a nas-ty black hole, which is not fit for any one to sit down in, a pret-ty, neat, clean a-bode for a fa-mi-ly to live in!

No one should go to bed dir-ty; it is ve-ry un-whole-some to lie down

to sleep, with the face and hands, or a-ny part of the bo-dy, ditch-ed with dirt. Those who can wash themselves ought to do it, and then help to wash the lit-tle ones.

What-e-ver you do, or where-e-ver you live, strive to be clean; for it is not to be ex-pect-ed that a ve-ry dirty boy or girl will make a good man or wo-man.

You have been read-ing a-bout clean-li-ness; now let us hear somewhat of ti-di-ness, which be-longs to it.

This is put-ting e-ve-ry thing in its place, keep-ing the per-son neat, and pre-serv-ing the house, draw-ers and cup-boards, and all that be-longs to us, in or-der.

When things are left out of place,



they soon get lost and brok-en, and it of-ten takes more trou-ble to find or mend, than it would have done to pre-serve them.

Stock-ings should be darn-ed as soon as the first hole ap-pears, or they will get too bad to be mend-ed at all.

Some of the half-pence that are gi-ven to you should be laid out in thread, nee-dles, and tape, that e-ve-ry thing may be kept whole and neat.

The rea-son why poor peo-ple oft-en look so shab-by and rag-ged, is be-cause they sel-dom think of mend-ing their clothes when they first be-gin to wear out. A patch would oft-en pre-vent a hole, and a lit-tle darn a great rent.

Ti-di-ness puts e-ve-ry thing to the best use, and makes the most of all it can get. It is a great re-com-mend-a-ti-on, and, in sick-ness or sor-row, will pro-cure the help of those who have it to be-stow.

There is lit-tle en-cou-ra-ge-ment to give, where there is on-ly neg-lect and dirt; but the neat and clean will make the best use of what is gi-ven, as well as of what is earn-ed.

You can-not do great things, but our com-fort much de-pends on small ones; and they who begin to be neat and clean be-times, will be so al-ways.



Per-haps you have not been told, and you can-not too soon know, that you should guard a-gainst ta-king what be-longs to a-no-ther, how-e-ver small.

If you want a pin, a nee-dle, a bit of thread, or a-ny thing else, ask those who have, to give or lend it to you.

An ap-ple or a plum, that is your

sis-ter's or play-fel-low's, may lie in your way: but should you like either of them to take it if it was yours? No; you would not: there-fore, you ought not to take theirs.

Have you e-ver seen a per-son who was blind, or lame, or had a-ny o-ther bo-di-ly mis-for-tune?

There is not a-ny thing more cruel or more wick-ed, than to make game of such per-sons, or to treat them with rude-ness.

Ask your-selves what you should ex-pect from o-thers, if you had been as they are.

Would you not ex-pect pi-ty, and kind-ness, and help?

These are what you ought to be-stow.

Think who it is that pre-serv-ed you from such mis-for-tunes.

These per-sons are e-qual-ly dear to the great Fa-ther of all; and if better, they are more love-ly in his sight, than the hand-some-est crea-ture that e-ver liv-ed.

God sees all that we do. This you can-not think of too often; nor is there a-ny mock-ing of the maim-ed, a-ny rude-ness to the blind, which he will for-get.

When you can read the bi-ble, you will meet with a most af-fect-ing sto-ry of a good man and some wick-ed chil-dren.

This good old man was bald, and as he was go-ing up a hill, some wick-ed chil-dren ran af-ter him and mock-ed him; crying out, "go up thou bald head; go up thou bald head."



This they thought was fine sport, and, as they fan-ci-ed no one saw them, they ne-ver thought they should be pu-nish-ed.

God saw them! He heard them mock his prophet, who was go-ing a-bout to teach peo-ple to for-sake their sins; “and he sent two bears out of the wood, who tore for-ty-two of them in-to pie-ces!”

What think you of this?

We have no bears in this coun-try

to de-stroy wick-ed chil-dren; but there are a thou-sand o-ther ways in which God can pu-nish them; and they who mock, or de-ride the un-for-tun-ate, need ex-pect no fa-vour.

Once, you know, you was a ve-ry lit-tle ba-by, and could not stand, nor walk, nor feed your-self.

If some-bo-dy had not car-ri-ed, and fed, and work-ed for you, you must have di-ed!

Who did all this?

My fa-ther and mo-ther.

Yes; when hun-gry they fed you, when na-ked they cloth-ed you, when a-sleep they watch-ed o-ver you, and when sick they nurs-ed you.

Do you not think that you owe them a great deal for all this?

As you grow, and are a-ble to work, you will find it a great plea-sure to do what you can for them.

The bless-ing of God is pro-mi-sed to chil-dren who love, ho-nour and o-bey their pa-rents.

They may be sick and help-less; they will be old, and may be lame or blind; and, in your turn, you may be call-ed up-on to feed, clothe, and sup-port them.

A child who fears God and de-sires his bless-ing, will strive to do all in his pow-er for his pa-rents

Ho-nour thy fa-ther and mother, both in word and deed, that a bless-ing may come upon thee from them.

THE END.

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