

**THE RIGHT READING FOR
CHILDREN IN
THE SCHOOL, THE
HOME AND THE LIBRARY**

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The Right Reading for Children in the School, the Home and the Library by Charles Welsh

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THE LIBRARY.

LITERATURE presents the ideal of human life as it has expressed itself in the great institutions of family, church, state, and society. It clothes these ideals in the flowing robes of the imagination and adorns them with the jewels of well-chosen words, set in rhythmic and melodious forms. To feed the mind of youth on the ideals of a noble and elevated human life; to win his fidelity to the family through sweet pictures of parental affection, and filial devotion, and pure household joys; to secure his loyalty to the state by thrilling accounts of the deeds of brave men and heroic women; to make righteousness attractive by pointed fable, or pithy proverb, or striking tale of self-sacrificing fidelity to the costly right against the profitable wrong; to inflame with a desire to emulate the example of patriot, martyr, and philanthropist,—this is the social mission of good literature in the public schools. To interpret this literature, so that it comes home to the boys and girls, so that they see reflected in it the image of their own better selves, so that they carry with them its inspiration through all their after lives,—this is the duty and privilege of the public school. It is not of so much consequence what a boy knows when he leaves school, as what he loves. The greater part of what he knows he will speedily forget. What he loves he will feed on. His hunger will prompt his efforts to increase his store. The love of good literature—a genuine delight in Longfellow and Whittier, Lowell and Tennyson, Hawthorne and Scott, Shakespeare and Homer—is, from every point of view, the most valuable equipment with which the school can send its boys and girls into the world.

WILLIAM DE WITT HYDE,
President of Bowdoin College.

The Right Reading for Children

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In the School the Home
and the Library

COMPILED BY

CHARLES WELSH

Author of "Some Notes on the History of Children's
Literature," "A Bookseller of the Last Cen-
tury," "Publishing a Book," Etc.

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