

STREET ARABS MAKE TOYS.

New Philanthropic Institution of Wealthy Parisian That Has Become a Success.

In every city to-day almost every month some new scheme is devised for the purpose of alleviating human misery. The latest public benefactor in this direction is a wealthy Parisian.

He decided to take these poor children from the streets and to teach them to become self-supporting. Instead of employing paid agents the philanthropist added his wife went out daily on their errands of mercy.

One of the shops is devoted to girls, and in it daily instructions are now being given in the art of making paper flowers.

The task of teaching these street arabs is not easy can be imagined, but the founder of this novel school is not lightly discouraged, and, though some of his pupils are dull, all are so eager to learn that he has grand hopes of their future.

Their patron assists them at the work, showing how it should be done and commending those who do it properly. In like manner his wife instructs the girls, and some of her pupils have already made so much progress that they are able to manufacture paper flowers as deftly as though they had spent a full year learning the art.

The excellent feature of this work, according to those who have seen the busy children, is that it is not charitable in the strict sense of the word.

There are no more independent urchins in the world than the street children of Paris, and among them are many who would far sooner remain vagrant arabs than become inmates of a comfortable home, where they would be fed, clothed and taught.

Full these same children, however, that you will teach them to make beautiful toys and flowers as lovely as any Lily or rose, and they will look to you for instruction. Very soon, too, they will understand that the work of their hands has a monetary value, and proud they will be to know that they are not accepting charity from any one.

This is explained the success of this new philanthropic institution.

SECRET OF ENGLAND'S POWER

According to This Authority It is the All-Absorbing Desire for Commercial Supremacy.

The motive force in the creation of the British empire to-day has been the desire for commercial aggrandizement, states the Chautauquan. In a speech in parliament in 1896 Mr. Chamberlain, the present colonial secretary, stated this fact with business characteristic at once of the man and of the English people.

"It is not too much to say that commerce is the greatest of all political interests, and that that government deserves most the popular approval which does the most to increase our trade and to settle it on a firm foundation."

This has no very altruistic or humanitarian ring, to be sure, but it lays bare as a stroke the lines along which England's remarkable expansion during the last 300 years has moved, and is still moving.

Hegel, in his "Philosophy of History," has given us probably as discriminating a definition of the English character and purpose in the world as has ever been formulated. "The national existence of England," he says, "is based on commerce and industry, and the English have undertaken the weighty responsibility of being the missionaries of civilization to the world; for their commercial spirit urges them to traverse every sea and land, to form connections with barbarous peoples, to create wants and stimulate industry, and, first and foremost, to establish among them the conditions necessary to commerce, viz., the relinquishment of a type of lawless violence, respect for property and civility to strangers."

The Queen's Flower. A coronation flower is the Alexandra peony. It is a novel and lovely specimen of the plant, with a blossom like an open water lily. The petals are white, showing a deep golden heart.

The peony is a favorite flower in landscape gardening, and its present popularity in English gardens assures it a vogue in America. The queen of England, who is a great flower lover, gave the originator of the new peony permission to call it by her name. At the same time she requested that some of the new specimens be set out in the garden at Sandringham, her country home.—Philadelphia Press.

Glaciers Getting Smaller. In Switzerland the studies of many years have determined the fact finally that the glaciers are not only steadily receding, but that their rate of recession is becoming greater each year. There are only a few glaciers that still grow. The Boyevye glacier in Canton Wallis is the only one that has increased steadily since 1822. The famous Rhone glacier has receded almost 500 yards since 1876.—Brooklyn Eagle.

FEAR IS THE CAUSE.

Many Diseases Directly Attributable to This Source.

Innumerable Cases on Record Where Fright Was the Only Assignable Cause—An Interesting Chapter.

Almost every malady catalogued in the portly tomes of the M. D.'s may be produced through the influence of fear, says Dr. I. J. Franklin, of Rush medical college, and this in spite of the pronouncedly materialistic methods of the medical diagnosis of to-day, reports the Chicago Tribune.

Brothers there are who think fear in the role of disease maker is superstitious and folly. But science in this instance, says Dr. Franklin, is on the side of the superstitious.

Fear is a wizard with the germs, microbes, bacilli and other matter of fact creatures who do wondrous business in the human frame, bewitching them into unreasoned alertness and mischief. They suddenly appear in places where it was supposed they had had no habitations, smaling about like wraiths and ghosts until some appointed hour comes when fear leads them forth to do their foul deeds.

They go about in such extremely wraithlike and spectral guises that the subtlest science is required to detect their presence and to give to the malady that has been frightened into existence a lawful reality.

There are cases innumerable on record where fright was the only assignable cause for the development of disease. It is only by the application of the latest medical theories to their diagnosis that they are associated with germs and bacilli, microbes and toxins.

With to-day's knowledge of medicine the most romantic vagaries of superstition can be reconciled with the strictest science. Dr. Franklin does not abandon the necessity of microbes in producing disease, but he shows how microbes may be present when there is no reason to suspect them to be.

This fact, together with the influence exerted by fear upon the nervous system and through that upon the whole body, is sufficient to explain the role played by fear in producing illness.

In 61 per cent of the autopsies made at the Cook county hospital, says Dr. Franklin, either latent or active tuberculous germs are found. Yet the subject in question may not have been affected in the least by the "white plague." Of these was Prof. Christian Fenger, Chicago's celebrated surgeon, who died last winter of pneumonia. Although his body was active and healthy it revealed at the autopsy the presence of tuberculous germs. The same is true of other germs.

If the lungs and air passages of the most healthy person in Chicago were submitted to examination they would probably disclose colonies of germs not suspected by the devotee of hygiene and which all his life through may not afford him the slightest appreciable inconvenience. The wee, villainous organisms of pneumonia, of typhoid fever, of influenza, of tonsillitis, of diphtheria, of scarlet fever, of small-pox, measles, or any other disturber of mankind's constitutional peace, in fact, almost all pathogenic organisms, would probably be found, either fully alive and wide awake or in a latent state.

It is with such a typical, healthy, happy man that the history of the power of fear in producing disease begins. While he is happy and healthy the mischievous germs are powerless. They have nothing on which to thrive. His happiness and health are a defensive armor which renders him proof against them. But suppose one day he begins to feel afraid that he will have influenza. This fear preys upon his mind; he worries. All his worry is stamped on his nerves and they in turn stamp it upon his body from tip to toe, reflexly lessening the nourishment of the body and thus lessening the resistance of the body to the hostile little strangers within its gates. Unless the worry is checked there will come a time when the poisonous germs will have power to make a successful attack, or, in less figurative language, to grow, multiply and increase. At last, the disease will set in in the plenitude of its virulence.

Site of the Gila Monster.

The gila monster is a native of Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. It is fat and soft and about two feet in length. A kind of bead work, very regular and brilliant, covers it in patterns of black and salmon pink. It is sluggish in its habits and of a mild disposition, but when angered or alarmed it fights obstinately. It sticks its teeth into an object—into a thumb, a cheek or a wrist—and olings with the tenacity of a crab. And while it clings it bites down harder. For its poison lies in a spongy tissue at the crown of each tooth, and unless the bitten flesh is brought into actual contact with this tissue no infection can result. Hence, the gila monster holds and grinds on its victim, determined to sink the teeth so deep that the poison-soaking sponges at their base may be rubbed and squeezed upon the flesh.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Experimental Fishing.

A research steamer belonging to the Norwegian government recently carried on in the North sea some experimental fishings, which yielded important results. In three days 117 halibut and 300 large cod were caught at a depth of 200 fathoms, thus proving the existence of large quantities of these fishes at a time of the year when they are not to be found on the coast of Norway.—Albany Argus.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

France has just about half as many inhabitants as the United States. Colorado's building at the St. Louis world's fair will be 75 by 100 feet. A race horse galloping at full speed clears from 20 feet to 24 feet at every bound.

Roman architects placed earthen jugs in the theater walls to increase the resonance.

The children of different countries have different tastes, but tin swords are wanted all over the world.

Germany is the only European kingdom which by its constitution has but a single minister; he is called the imperial chancellor.

Illinois bankers have adopted strong resolutions against such amendment of the national banking act as would provide a branch bank system.

A novel tournament was held at Avalon, Cal., recently. Thirteen boats took part in it, and their anglers landed 10,000 pounds of albicore, few of which weighed less than 25 pounds. In all 318 fish were brought in. The winning catch was 77.

A cylindrical pillow of old papers placed under the neck is helpful to inducing slumber. The pillow thus checks the flow of blood to the head. The Chinese and Japanese use this method to woo the god of slumber, and nearly always with success.

Hungary, which was the first country on the continent to adopt cycles for the collection and delivery of letters, is about to make another notable departure in the use of motor cars for this work. It is probable that in a short time the use of horses for this work will be entirely discarded.

BRIBED BY COMFORT.

The Love of Ease and Convenience Interferes with the Success of Many a Man.

Many a man has bought his comfort at the cost of the achievement of his aims. Few people are willing to be inconvenienced, or to submit to discomforts, even for the sake of future blessings. They would succeed, if they could do so in an easy and pleasant way; but, the moment they have to sacrifice their ease or their comfort, they shirk from the effort, says Orison Sweet Marden, in Success.

It is astonishing what people will sacrifice in order to get comfort, or even temporary relief from whatever annoys or harasses them. They will let golden opportunities slip, by procrastinating, for the sake of their comfort, until the chances have gone. They do not like to get up early in the morning, because they are so comfortable in bed. They do not like to go out in a storm or in cold weather, because it is so cozy at home or in their offices, and so they lose many a chance.

Many people can be bought by comfort, when hardly anything else will tempt them. They think so much of their ease that they cannot bear to exert themselves. Love of comfort and ease must be classed among the great success-hinders.

People like to do pleasant, easy things. They cannot bear to take pains, or to put themselves out in any unusual way, if they can possibly avoid it.

Thousands of people are earning small salaries to-day because they cannot bear to exert themselves to win promotion. They prefer to remain on a low rung of life's ladder, for the sake of temporary comfort and ease, rather than to put forth the efforts that would carry them upward.

COMMON SENSE CURD.

For Women Who Have Acquired the Habit of Worrying, There is Nothing Better.

I once asked a physician what cure he could suggest for the worrying habit. "I would prescribe common sense," he said, "if a man or woman hasn't got a stock on hand and cannot cultivate one the medical man is powerless." This worrying nonsense grows. The best means to cure it lies in the hands of the woman herself, says a writer in the Philadelphia Inquirer.

If she will just call a little horse sense to her aid, resolve not to borrow trouble, to be cheerful and think upon the right side of things, she will live longer and be able to retain her beauty. Every woman has the strongest desire to keep her good looks. Why then does she take the course which is sure to make her yellow skinned, dull eyed and thoroughly unlovely?

The English woman is greatly admired for her utter refusal to worry or to be worried. Consequently she looks young at 50. Undertaking no more than she can comfortably carry out, and firmly believing in the coming of another day, she does not procrastinate, but simply will not let the domestic machinery grind her down to ill health and an early old age.

She is a frequent bather and regards health as the prime factor of life, to be looked after before everything else. She sleeps nine hours and also takes a nap during the day, arranging her work in the most systematic manner.

Her little memorandum slip always shows two vacant hours—they are for rest. She eats heartily, but of the most digestible food, and would rather have a mouthful of good food and go partly hungry than eat a whole meal of cheaper things.

Grapes in Strap.

Fill cans with fresh ripe grapes, pour full of boiling water and let stand until the grapes change color, then turn off the water; fill with a sirup made of half sugar and half water boiled together ten minutes; pour over the grapes hot, seal air-tight. These are delicious.—Housekeeper.

GLACIAL MAMMOTHS.

Theories of Scientists Regarding Their Tombs in Glaciers.

Climatic Conditions of the Extreme North in Ages Past a Matter of Conjecture—Substance of Some Theories.

A long study of the conditions which produced the sudden "freezing up" in the arctic regions has satisfied me that it was caused by the falling of a water canopy or ring such as is now seen above the poles of Jupiter, writes Isaac N. Vail, geologist, in the New York World.

The remarkable discovery by Dr. Herz of the body of a huge mammoth in a bed of glacier ice in eastern Siberia has again revived among scientific thinkers the discussion of the manifold changes the earth has undergone since these mammoth quadrupeds fed in lands of abounding pastures where snow and ice have held sway for thousands of years.

A mammoth locked in glacier ice has seemed to be an enigma difficult to solve, and in this case we have one peculiarly hard to solve as linked to existing causes and all manner of suggestions, wise and otherwise, have been put forth to aid in the longed for solution.

As far back as the summer of 1799 a mammoth was found by Dr. Adams frozen in a glacier of clear ice, which abutted against the beach at the mouth of the Lena river, in northern Siberia. The skeleton of this animal, I believe, is mounted in the museum of St. Petersburg. It was so well preserved in the matrix ice that Cuvier, after close review of the accompanying conditions, declared that the animal was suddenly killed and immediately buried in a frosty grave, and that it had remained in that condition from the day it was overtaken by some sudden catastrophe. Since that time many of these animals have been found in the arctic world.

It seems that a theory is needed to account for a warm climate affording provender all over the Arctic world where once the mammoth luxuriated, and which continued warm for a vast length of time to afford such hordes of mammals to breed and occupy that region. Then, too, the same theory must account for a sudden desolating fall of snow upon a land of abounding life. There is such a theory being advocated by some, which seems in a very satisfactory way to account for both of these north-world conditions. I will present it as I understand it.

The Annular theory asks us to believe that some of the earth's primitive watery vapors lingered about this planet till very late in geological times, even down to the advent of man. These vapors, it is supposed, revolved about the earth as a world canopy, just as similar vapors revolve about the planets Jupiter and Saturn to-day. Such a canopy, it is claimed, would be competent to modify the climate of the whole earth, even causing a temperate climate about the poles, and ample pasturage for the mammoth and his cognates.

Now astronomers say that Jupiter is at times dropping portions of his canopy or watery vapor at his poles. If this be true, and if law presides universally in the evolution of worlds, we are asked to admit that earth's canopy of lingering vapors, competent during its existence to make a warm climate, was also competent in its fall in the polar region to desolate a land of exuberant life. Certainly we can place no metres and bounds to such avalanches of world snows, nor can we put any estimate upon their suddenness. Such snowfalls may have covered polar pastures and their feeding hordes hundreds of feet deep in a single day or in an hour.

There seems to be nothing unnatural or improbable in this canopy theory, and through it we escape the alternative of making the earth cold in order to cover it with snows. For here we cover it with snows to make it cold, just as Tyndall demanded a quarter of a century ago. Then, too, if this theory be true, we have an all-competent cause for all the "glacial epochs" and all the "deluges" the earth ever saw. If some of the primitive vapors lingered about the earth till the mammoth died, then some of them may have fallen in grand instalments through all the "ages," in fact, the ages may have been more or less modified and regulated by them, and the geologist may find the canopy's impress all through the past, from Mona to Man.

Infantile Plundering.

Hoax—I saw the doctor at your house yesterday. Some trouble with the baby?

Joax—Just a little financial trouble. "Financial trouble of the baby?"

"Yes; he swallowed a penny."—Philadelphia Record.

Old Acquaintances.

Mrs. Dearborn—Have you a speaking acquaintance with that woman next door?

Mrs. Washburn—A speaking acquaintance. I know her so well that we don't speak at all.—Yonkers Statesman.

Speed Aristocracy.

Mrs. Newrich—Mercy! Samuel, is it necessary that we go 30 miles an hour?

Mr. Newrich—But, Henrietta, if we go slower people will say that our automobile cost only a thousand or so.—Boston Journal.

Know Where It Hit Him.

Whyte—What denomination is your church?

Brownie—Well, I don't know for sure, but they charge \$500 a year for a pew on the center aisle.—Somerville Journal.

PUNYEST PARAGRAPHS.

"Joah bet Zeke that he could stay under water two minutes." "Did Joah win?" "Yep!" "Where is he now?" "Under thar yeth."—Philadelphia Record.

In the Name of the Frost.—I began idly. "The fool and his money." "Are the salvation of the industrious," interrupted the shrewd promoter.—Puck.

"What is optimism, anyhow?" asked the inspired idiot. "Getting the best end of it and congratulating the people who didn't!" said the cynical codger.—Baltimore Herald.

"It was funny that the Widow Way should hunt up and marry a man of the same name." "Not at all. She said she couldn't be happy without having her own way."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Judge—"Yes, Richamudde declares that he is a 'self-made man.'" Judge—"That's true enough; if he only had stopped there." "Indeed." "Now he's gone to work and made a fool out of himself bragging about it."—Baltimore Herald.

"Are they fond of their New York home?" "Oh, awfully fond. They spend their winters in Florida, their springs in Lakewood, their summers at Newport and their autumns at Lenox, but they are simply devoted to their New York home!"—New Yorker.

"Auntie," said the judge to the battered lady of color, "did your husband strike you with malice aforethought?" "Deed he didn't, judge," was the indignant reply. "He didn't hit me wid dat mallet afore he thought; he'd been aggrivin' on dat er long time, judge, 'deed he had."—Baltimore News.

"See here," she said, "just tell that clerk I can't wait. I've got to catch a train, and he's been gone fully ten minutes looking for a pair of shoes for me." "Pardons, madam," replied the floor walker, "but the smaller the size the harder it is to find, you know." "Well—er—if he'll only hurry a little I'll wait for the next train."—Philadelphia Press.

IDENTIFIED THE CALLER.

Amelia Was Able to Remember, But She Helped Her Mistress Out Very Well.

Servants left at home to look after the house do not always give lucid descriptions of callers that come in the absence of host or hostess. They frequently do give vivid, if ludicrous, details, however, says the New York Herald.

A Georgia lady having in her employ a young negro whose strong point was not remembering names, one afternoon went away, leaving the colored woman in charge of the premises.

Callers in that town were not always so formal as to leave their cards, and upon return Mrs. G. found that a visit had been paid her, but that Amelia had forgotten the person's name.

Mrs. G., being a punctilious individual, was anxious to know to whom she owed the courtesy of a return visit.

"Think, Amelia," she said, earnestly, "think hard now." She sat down opposite the girl and waited for the process to go on.

"No'm," said the darky, pathetically, "I can't recall dat person's name to sabel mah life fer glory."

Mrs. G. groaned—visions of the angry caller, who would receive no call in return for hers, rose before her.

"Amelia, now listen to me—what was she like—what did she wear—was she tall or short—had she dark eyes?"

seized with an inspiration that it was Mrs. D., a well-known and mercantile acquaintance, who lived far downtown.

Amelia was suddenly inspired—"I know what she were like," she said, solemnly, "she had box toes and rosy jaws."

In a flash Mrs. G. knew the fair visitant's name, and Amelia was vindicated.

TARANTULAS IN SEVILLE.

The Spanish City Is Suffering from a Plague of the "Dance-Compelling" Insect.

In Seville, in addition to the many other things that bite, and those who have visited that wonderfully interesting place know they are not few, the townspeople and those who live in the neighborhood are suffering from a plague of tarantulas, reports the New York World.

The Sevillians do not mind the ordinary biting things, but the big spiders drive them frantic. The Spaniards believe that the bite of a tarantula produces a madness for dancing.

Although it has been scientifically proved that the bite of the tarantula is not really dangerous and does not of itself inspire the bitten with the dancing mania, it is impossible to disabuse the ordinary Spaniard of their ancient superstition. As soon as the bite begins to work the sufferer believes that he is compelled to dance, and that his dancing impulses can only be allayed by the tones of the "tarantela-guitarre."

FOR DEADLY TRADES.

Safety Devices Invented for Protection of Workers.

Various Employments Which Are Attended with Great Risk and Require Special Apparatus and Clothing.

Many people, to secure the necessities of life, are forced to daily go close to death. There is an element of danger in almost all mechanical trades, but these risks, great as they are, fall into insignificance alongside of the possibilities of destruction which menace chemists and other men of science, as well as operatives employed in certain unfamiliar branches of industry. To reduce these chances of harm to the lowest limit has long been the aim of inventors, and many difficulties in this direction have been overcome. French ingenuity has especially occupied itself in this work, says an industrial journal.

A worker in an ammonia factory faces death at all times. The vapors of this material, as is well known, are altogether unbreathable and also affect the tissues. To avoid serious harm he protects his eyes by strong spectacles, fitting closely to the skin. His nostrils are pressed together by two rubber springs. A long tube of the same substance, connected with his lips, communicates with the outer air and permits respiration.

A French fireman dresses like a submarine diver when he prepares to dash into the flames. His garments are made of a nonflammable material. Air is furnished him by means of a long pipe supplied from the outside of the burning building.

One common source of injury to the hands, face and eyes is the bottling of carbonated beverages. The pressure of the gas breaks those bottles in which there is the least defect and the flying pieces are apt to cause serious accidents. These are guarded against by the inventor's ingenuity. In the filling the critical moment is when the bottle is taken from its iron holder. The operators have the face protected by a fine wire mask similar to that worn by fencers. Long thick wooden gloves cover the hands and arms. It has been found that this material does not cut so easily as leather or rubber.

A man uses a nonflammable glass when handling sulphuric acid. The gloves are of hard rubber. Without them the flesh would be rapidly destroyed.

Nothing in all the series of risky employments is more dangerous than the making of fireworks. When these are manufactured the presence of the smallest bit of iron might have terrible results. Nothing but copper nails are used in the erection of the wooden buildings occupied. In the case of women operatives, their very hairpins must be copper. Thick leather overshoes are worn without nails and close-fitting cotton jerseys. The workrooms are lighted by gas jets placed outside heavy glass windows. The worker stands before such a window when charging fireworks. All his utensils are felt and soft wood.

Common features of fireworks exhibitions in France are pyrotechnic models of men in motion and in flames. Their exceedingly natural action has often surprised people. There is reason for it. These figures are not automata, but human, being fastened to a wooden frame carrying the fireworks. The men who undertake this work are naturally in great danger, but not so much from the fire as from the smoke. Asphyxiation, sometimes almost ending in death, is by no means uncommon.

Great precautions are taken to provide against risk in the making of gun-cotton. The chief device is an apron, woven of thick rope. This protects the workman who watches the process of manufacture through a circular hole. In case of an explosion the elastic net of rope yields gradually and thus prevents the damage that might be the case if the intervening screen were of wood or iron.

The practical chemist is clothed entirely in leather, covered with gutta percha, when at work among certain acids. The room is full of the deadliest fumes. Had he the misfortune to inhale the atmosphere of the apartment but the fraction of a second it would mean instant destruction. Thanks to his leather armor and the accompanying tubes he safely breathes the pure filtered air provided mechanically from the outside.

The Knocott Cigarette. Capt. Peter Miller, the head of the detective bureau, showed a visitor the other night a cigarette. It was long and slim, with a straw mouthpiece, or tip, and looked like any other expensive cigarette except that it had no name on it. "This," said the chief, "is the latest device of the law-breakers—a knocott cigarette. Innocent as the small contrivance seems, the inhalation of ten whiffs of it would throw the strongest man into a coma. The cigarette was sent to me by a Chicago crook whom I once befriended. The man tells me that an Illinois chemist is manufacturing the nefarious things and selling them to 'the profess' at the rate of \$10 for a box of five. They look like a good cigarette and they taste like one, but they bring on a 10 minutes' unconsciousness, and in 10 minutes much can be done. I am glad to say that they are not deadly. The box they come packed in is yellow."—Philadelphia Record.

Robert Barr's Pen Name. Literary men sometimes derive their pseudonyms from strange sources. Robert Barr, when driving through the main street of an American town, came upon the name "Luke Sharp" over an undertaker's shop. It was a rather grim jest, but its grimness so tickled the humorist that he decided to adopt it as a pen name.—N. Y. News.