

PATHETIC PLEA FOR CHILDREN

Words of Charles Kingsley Worth Hearing by Every Man and Woman of Any Age.

Do not despise the little dirty, offensive children in the street. If they are offensive to you, they are not to him that made them. Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones...

GAVE HIM SOME NEW IDEAS

Philosophic Man of Forty Wonderfully Cleared by a Few Remarks Made by His Wife.

"Darnation, I'm forty today," he groaned. "Look at my wrinkles. Look at my bald spot. Look at the gray hair above my ears. Youth is gone—the grave approaches—and I'm so wretched that I think I'll go and drink 50 beers."

PREVENTION RARELY TAKEN

A German medical journal draws attention to a possible factor in the spread of infectious conditions of the mouth, nose, and pharynx that is not sufficiently recognized in many households.

It points out that common table utensils, such as forks, spoons and glasses, which come into contact with the mouth, are usually washed altogether, often with little care, and dried on the same cloth. This gives great opportunity for the distribution of infective agencies.

SHERIDAN'S "DEBT OF HONOR"

A "debt of honor" story that may be worth recalling concerns that prince of debaters, Richard Brinsley Sheridan. One day a creditor came into Sheridan's room and found him seated before a table strewn with gold and notes.

DEEP BREATHING BEFORE BED

English Physician Gives Some Simple Rules That Will Aid Seekers After Health.

A correspondent of the Medical Times sends an interesting note on deep breathing. The best time (he says) seems to be immediately before retiring to bed, as, doing nothing more before lying down, the habit continues and becomes fixed; the window, of course, should be open more or less.

BYRON FOND OF CHILDREN

Frances Lady Shelley Describes the Famous English Poet as She Saw Him.

Frances Lady Shelley, who knew most of the celebrated people between the dates 1787 and 1817, gives a description of Lord Byron as she first saw him in 1813. "From Althorp we went to Colonel Leigh, near Newark, for the shooting. We stayed there a few days. The house is far too small even for the company it contained. Lord Byron was there. Mrs. Leigh told me that she spent most of the night writing a poem which is to be called 'The Corsair.'"

CORNELIUS NOT IN WANT

It has long been a literary tradition that Cornelius, the great French poet, died in want. But it seems clearly established that this is a mistake, dating from an apocryphal and ill-interpreted letter, since a recent study of various old documents at Rouen shows that he was possessed of property in lands and houses which would have made many a latter day poet happy.

LOCKS IN ANCIENT EGYPT

The Egyptian lock, states the Ironmonger, was an assemblage of wooden pins or bolts. It is possible that this suggested to Bramah his remarkable invention. The Roman lock was practically a padlock; and it seems probable that the key was of Green origin.

GUANACO UNIQUE

I have seen the Indian guanaco-skin capes (cloaks) sold by the fur dealers of Punta Arenas, but this was my first glimpse of the animal itself, many thousands of which I saw later during my expeditions through Tierra del Fuego and Patagonia. "You are a queer animal, indeed," apostrophized an Argentine Lieutenant as he and Captain Masters once viewed a solitary guanaco.

STRANGE GUESTS AT ST. BERNARD

An enormous flock of swallows was overtaken by a heavy snowstorm near the famous Hospice of St. Bernard in the Alps last winter. When the good monks saw the birds, they opened the doors and windows of their building that the little feathered strangers might have shelter.

LIKE SO MANY GREAT MEN

Napoleon's Handwriting So Bad That He Himself Was Unable to Decipher It.

"As showing Bonaparte's carelessness as to correctness in writing and spelling, Las Cases says: 'One day he said to me: "You do not write orthographically, do you?" At least, I suppose you do not for a man occupied with public or other important business—a minister, for instance—cannot and need not attend to orthography. His ideas must flow faster than his hand can trace them; he has only time to place his points; he must put his words in letters, and phrases in words; and let the scribes make it out afterward.'"

TRAINING FOR LIFE'S WORK

Adoption of Ruskin's Views Would Mean the Making of This into a Different World.

As to the distribution of the hard work, none of us, or very few of us, do either hard or soft work because we think we ought, but because we have chanced to fall into the way of it and cannot help ourselves. Now, nobody does anything well that they cannot help doing; work is only done well when it is done with a will. And no man has a thoroughly sound will unless he knows he is doing what he should and is in his place.

GIANT CONFLICT

Two huge fish, a shark and a Jewfish, fought to their death late the other afternoon, off the municipal pier at Santa Monica, Cal., while hundreds of fishermen looked on. Both sea monsters followed a school of mackerel inshore and as soon as they sighted each other the battle was on. During the combat, which lasted an hour, both fish were nearly entirely out of the water. Then they disappeared for a few moments, when both again came to the surface dead. With gaff hooks they were hauled on to the pier. The shark, measuring six feet in length, weighed 142 pounds, while the Jewfish, a fraction over seven feet, tipped the pier scales at 226. Both were frightfully mangled. The shark's head was chewed to a pulp, while the Jewfish's body was nearly severed by the sharp teeth of the shark.

INSANE MAN GARRICK'S TEACHER

Garrick had been acquainted with an unfortunate man in Leman street, Goodman's Fields, who, playing one day at an upper window with his two-year-old child, accidentally let it spring from his arms and fall into a flagged area. The child was killed, and, from that moment, the miserable father lost speech and reason. He passed the remainder of his existence in going to a window, playing in imagination with a child, dropping it, then bursting into tears, and filling the house with shrieks of anguish. Afterwards he would sit down, passive and still, and at times look slowly round as if imploring compassion.

THE BRIGHT SIDE

Algernon Daininger went back last summer to his old home in Kentucky on a visit. He had been absent considerably. The old negro cook, a family servant of many years' standing, was brought in to see him. "Don't you think Mr. Algy has grown very stout?" asked one of the family. "Wellum," said the old woman, "he is took on a right smart fleshness, and that's fact." Then she hastily added, "But a stomach that sticks out like his do is jess made fur showin' off a watch-chain."—Saturday Evening Post.

GIVING THE PLUG HIS DUE

Steadygoing, Sensible Qualities Are Not Always Accorded the Recognition That They Deserve.

Don't make fun of the plug. He may be slow and awkward and never get to the stable until dark, but he is the fellow who in the end will bring home the coin, says a Kansas City writer. The plug horse that pulls the lister all day in the field puts more money in the bank for the honest farmer than the race horse that goes out and turns a half in 9:50 flat and then loafs for two weeks waiting for another race to be matched. The old plug goes out in sunshine and storm and pulls in a few dollars every week, but the race horse waits for the day when the track is good and then generally loses more than he wins. The steady old plug keeps the wolf from the door, while the race horse causes the mortgage to be foreclosed.

MADE HIM GOOD AMERICAN

Act of Wise Father That Kept His Boy in the Path of His Birth and Duty.

It is claiming rather a great deal to say that a child's whole future career may depend upon the hearing of a story! But, unquestionably, it is true. A boy I know, whose parents were obliged to live in England during two of his early years—from the time he was eight until he was ten—said to his father one day: "Am I an Englishman, an American, or haven't I any country at all?" His father, a loyal American, started at this question, read to the boy "A Man Without a Country."

AUSTRALIAN "TEA FIDDLE"

The "tea fiddle" is still in vogue in New South Wales and Queensland, writes a correspondent. The term has nothing in common with "fuddling" in the sense in which that word is used in England. A "tea fiddle" in Australia is a means of raising money—usually at a bazaar in aid of some church or chapel. Those who enter their names as subscribers to the "fiddle" each subscribe a shilling. Their names are pasted on to teacups which are jumbled together on a tea table. Each subscriber, after being blindfolded, picks up a cup. Should he happen to pick up the one bearing his own name he gets a prize. As there are usually about a hundred entries this very seldom happens and the money of course goes to the bazaar funds.—London Chronicle.

WATER SURFACE OF GLOBE

The portion of the earth's surface that is covered by water, when the lakes and inland seas are included, is three times as great as the dry land area. The surface area of the oceans is 127,000,000 square miles—an area more than 40 times as large as the United States. The ocean waters teem with life. Though thousands of water creatures are known and classified, scientists are continually discovering new life forms in the ocean depths. Harvestable drag-nets have been mainly depended upon, but there are doubtless many sea animals that elude these trawls.

BRASILIAN STATUES

In the South American republics it is not alone warriors and statesmen who are remembered by public statues. Some months ago in the republic of Brazil a monument was erected to a poet, and a month ago in the city of Rio de Janeiro, in the "Jardim Publico" (the public garden), a statue was erected in memory of Ferreira de Araujo, founder 27 years ago of the Portuguese journal, Gazeta de Noticias, who is considered the father of Brazilian journalism.

VEGETATION IN THE SNOW

Delicate and Beautiful Flowers in Abundance, Though Absence of Franchise Is Marked.

Snowstorms during the summer months are of frequent occurrence in the Rocky Mountain region at an elevation of 10,000 feet and upward sometimes covering the ground to a depth of several inches. The flowers at this elevation are usually small, of delicate tints and very beautiful, but lacking in fragrance. Owing to the absence of moisture in the atmosphere freezing does not affect vegetation at this altitude as it does nearer sea level. The flowers, after having been completely covered with snow for a day or two, will regain their former vigor after the snow departs, although they will appear slightly wilted for a few days after their snow bath.

MAN CREATOR OF CHARACTER

Portion of the Immortal Life That is Law of Nature Must Endure For Ever.

Nature works upon the lower forms of life. A higher power than the stone has formed it; the trees, the flowers, even the insects and beasts are plastic materials in the hands of the Great Potter. Through it, in unthinkable time, the bodies are formed for man. He enters the temple prepared for him, and nature, who has been supreme, now bows before the mystery. She sees before her not alone the world stuff to be fashioned, but the very creative spark. No longer can she mold unaided. It becomes her office now to furnish the opportunities for the entering man, who has before him the herculean task of evolving the human mind. No outside force alone can make him. The creative seed is itself within him. Every event, every circumstance, is something to be met and acted upon by him, the creator of his own destiny. Whether ignorantly or consciously, he works in the illimitable and exhaustless laboratory of nature, and therein slowly but surely fashions—character. Human laws may be framed and forgotten; temples may be reared and crumble; whole races may pass through their allotment of sorrow, despair and joy, and be no more; continents may rise and sink; but character, by means of which all these things are formed and colored, character, as part of man, the immortal, endures.—Gertrude van Pelt in the Theosophical Path.

BOUND TO LOVE EACH OTHER

Probably Third Woman Was Right but the Other Two Must Have Felt Somewhat Uncomfortable.

There was a great crowd at the picture exhibition, and empty seats were at a premium, when two pretty women signed and made for a place at the selfsame moment. They reached the prize together, both pretending ignorance of the other, and, flopping themselves down, succeeded in squeaking breathlessly and miserably in. Then they sat there, each scowling and staring at the rudeness of her respective neighbor, each wriggling and squirming as much as possible in order to crowd that neighbor still further. Finally the situation became acute, and one of the women spoke with fine sarcasm: "I beg your pardon, but do you need the whole seat?" "I beg yours," the answer came, "but I never talk to strangers."

HEAL JOY COMES FROM CREATING

Though the Object May Not Be of Great Significance.

While every man who makes a living is not a genius, yet the real joy of creating can belong to each of us in just as real and true a way. If we put into farming or banking, or our school work, the sense of making something, we get the great pleasure out of it. When we fill any task with ourselves, we make something. A girl says: "I made the room tidy," which simply means she put something of herself into the disorderly room, and so beautified it. After she had made it tidy it reflected something of herself; it looked some idea of order such as she had in her own mind. A boy says: "I made a good recitation in school yesterday," and he is right, for, although the lesson was already there, it had to wait for him to come along and make it a recitation.

MAKING SOMETHING OF LIFE

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TELLING THE BEES

The custom of "telling the bees" is often referred to by those interested in curious happenings. In some parts of England it has always been the habit to inform the bees whenever there is a death in the family, particularly when it is that of the master or mistress.

AMERICA'S OLDEST UNIVERSITY

The comparatively small connection the people of the United States have with Peru makes it difficult for many to realize that in the city of Lima is the oldest university in the new world, the University of San Marcos, founded in 1552. At this historic educational institution a students' congress was held recently that was noteworthy in its character. The minister of instruction gave a magnificent banquet in honor of the delegates, at which a large number of distinguished guests were present, and at which several speeches appreciative of closer intercourse between the American nations were made.

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