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YOUNG FOLKS' COLUMN.

AN OBLIGING LITTLE GIRL WHO DID NOT UNDERSTAND ETIQUETTE.

The Shortest Grammar of the English Language in Existence—The Queen of England's Dogs and How They Are Cared For.

Domestic pets are a never ending source of amusement, not only to children but to grown up people as well. The lively companionship of dogs is gratifying to everybody, and to watch the graceful antics of cats and kittens has been the solace of great minds, like Frederick the Great, Voltaire, and others in their moments of leisure.
Her majesty, the queen of England, is a great dog lover, and various breeds are represented in the canine part of her household. The collie is the dog which the queen has raised into the most popular favorite.



THE QUEEN'S PUGS.

The old fashioned pugs, which came with her majesty's ancestors from Holland, are also great favorites at court, and especially appreciated by the queen's grandchildren. Books in attached to the young Prince of Battenberg, and Mistress Rosney, whose picture and that of her puppies is given in the cut, belongs to the little Princess Margaret of Connaught, who loves to pull and crumple the soft, pliable skin of the good natured pup.

The queen's dogs are well reared and cared for. They are not over pampered, fed at night only, and groomed daily. They walk with the queen in the grounds, and are admitted to her rooms and society.

A Very Easy Grammar.

The grammar in poetry here presented, is without doubt the briefest one of the English language in existence, and any one ought to commit the lines to memory:

- Three little words you often see,
Are articles, a, an and the.
- A noun's the name of anything,
As school or garden, hoop or swing.
- Adjectives, the kind of noun,
As great, small, pretty, white or brown.
- Instead of nouns the pronouns stand—
Her, he, his, face, your arm, my hand.
- Verbs tell something to be done—
To read, count, laugh, sing, jump or run.
- How things are done the adverbs tell,
As slowly, quickly, ill or well.
- Conjunctions join the words together,
As men and women, wind or weather.
- The preposition stands before
A noun, as in, or through the door.
- The interjection shows surprise,
As Oh! how pretty, Ah! how wise.
The whole are called nine parts of speech,
Which reading, writing, speaking teach.

Antiquity of Some Humorous Sayings.

If we are to believe the statements made by writers who are supposed to be well versed in such matters, mankind has been laughing for ages at the same humorous stories. The famous rhyme

"Mother, may I go out to swim?"
"Yes, my darling daughter,
Hang your clothes on a hickory limb,
And don't go near the water,"
which no one can read or hear for the first time without laughing, is, we are told, 1,300 years old at least, for it was in a book of jests issued in the Sixth century by Hierocles. In the same book is the story of the man who complained that his horse had died just as he had taught it to live without food; and of the one who, meeting a friend, asked whether it was he or his brother who had just been buried!

Bottle of Smoke.

Rinse out one bottle with hartshorn and another with spirits of salts, then bring the bottles together, mouth to mouth; both will at once be pervaded with white vapors. The vapors in question are composed of sal ammoniac, a solid body generated by the union of two invisible gases.

Where is She?

Frisky as a lambkin,
Busy as a bee,
That's the kind of little girl
People like to see.
Modest as a violet,
As a rosebud, sweet—
That's the kind of little girl
People like to meet.
Happy as a robin,
Gentle as a dove—
That's the kind of little girl
Every one will love.
—Wide Awake.

Accommodating.

Jane Lowclass—Can't you come to my tea party?
Eva Hightone—No, I can't. Ma says if I



did she would have to invite you to mine.
Jane Lowclass—Oh, no, she needn't. I will come without an invitation.—Golden Days.

Agree with People When You Can.

A disagreeable trait to be guarded against is the habit peculiar to some people of always being on the opposite side of a question. Call attention to the good points of a book, a person, a public movement, a work of art, or what not, and this individual is ever ready to interpose, "Yes—but"

Application to Check Bleeding.

A solution of chloroform in cold water applied to bleeding or wounded parts is among recent means in use for checking the flow of blood.

PHYSIOLOGY AND HYGIENE.

Some Useful Suggestions on Whitenening and Softening the Skin.

For whitenening the skin few things are more highly esteemed in the feminine world than almond paste. This, however, should be the real article, and not a compound of lard or other fatty substances with almond oil. A recipe for pure almond paste, together with useful advice on the care of the hands, is given as follows by The Lady:

For hands that are coarse and red the following treatment will soon effect a change, but it must be persevered in, as it is quite impossible to change the color and texture of the skin in a few days. Your first precaution must be to use warm water always; but if you are subject to rheumatism or chilblains let it be of medium warmth only. Keep a pot of fine oatmeal and a puff on your washing stand, dry the hands with a bath towel, rub briskly and dust with oatmeal. At night use rather warmer water, apply a flesh or ordinary nail brush all over the hands, and when quite dry apply almond paste and sleep in easy fitting gloves.
To make good almond paste obtain of bitter and sweet almonds two ounces each, pound 'em in a mortar and work up with half an ounce of Windsor soap cut in fine shreds. To this add two drams of spermaceti and half an ounce of oil of almonds, oil of bergamot twelve drops. Subject to gentle heat, stir well and cool in china pots.
A mixture of honey, lemon juice and eau de cologne is exceedingly useful to whiten the hands, when discolored by sun, wind or work, and may be kept mixed for the purpose in a small toilet jar. Take a wineglassful of each ingredient and mix well; then pour into the jar and keep closely corked. This may be applied night or day, and the inside of the fingers rubbed with pumice stone.
When the hands are of good color, but the skin lacks softness, glycerine is useful, but it has no effect on the color. The hands may be, however, greatly improved in texture if, after the nightly wash, they are well coated with glycerine and dipped into oatmeal or well powdered with the same. Gloves are of course necessary, and should fit well at the wrist, otherwise the loose oatmeal becomes disagreeable.
Bran is supposed to have great influence on the skin, and some manufacturers advise glycerine and bran that have been stewed in water. The bran is used quite moist.

When to Keep the Eyes Shut.

We are told to keep our eyes ever open, but it is often well to keep them shut. One of the chief causes of nervous disease is the straining of the eyes and the constant tension of the mind. When stretched out in the barber's chair do not try to read a newspaper, but close your eyelids under the soothing undulations of the lather brush, or the dreamy sensation of the shampoo, with the darkey's big hands gliding over your pate. In a railway carriage, instead of staring out your sockets at the landscape that is being torn into shreds before you, fold your arms, bow your head, and listen to the whirr of the wheels that make an accompaniment to the wordless song crooning in your heart. Again, in the concert room, in place of surveying the audience critically, or watching the beauty of the singer behind the footlights, shut your eyes once more and let the music sink into your soul, rocking it on waves of emotion, and wafting it insensibly into the ideal world.

The Poison of Human Teeth.

The poison conveyed by human teeth is reported one of the most annoying, that physicians have to deal with. One of them says: "I have under my attention severe and most complicated cases of blood poisoning, in which the patient had but slightly abraded the hand in the course of a fight by striking the knuckles against the teeth of his opponent. I have known hands thus poisoned only saved from amputation by the application of all the resources of science. Tobacco or whisky or derangement of the stomach from many other causes may be responsible for this poisonous condition of the teeth."

Remedy for Gall Stones.

Dr. Robert Sabin recommends a teaspoonful of bicarbonate of sodium in a tumblerful of water, drunk at intervals through the day, to correct the acidity of the system, which he asserts to be the cause of the formation of gall stones.

SOCIAL ETIQUETTE.

How the American Young Man Makes Himself Presentable and Agreeable.

"If a young man has some accomplishment, if he can sing a good song, has a pleasant faculty for private theatricals, a neat trick at elocution and especially, if he be a good dancer, he is much helped along in society," affirms Mrs. Sherwood. However, the same authority adds that if he be intelligent and well mannered, he gets on without any of these helps, but they are undoubtedly an assistance. Above all he must never be fatigued, disgusted, bored or anguished in the society of ladies.

According to the etiquette of the east, as stated by Mrs. Sherwood, a young man should seek first to know the mothers of the young ladies whom he admires and wishes to visit. He should on a first visit send in his card. After his first visit he can dispense with that ceremony. In an evening visit he should always be in full evening dress—black dress coat, vest and trousers, faultless linen, and a white cravat. A black cravat is permissible, except at dinner. He may carry his hat and gloves in his hand. As giving him something to hold, a cane also is a great help to a shy man. His feet should be in low shoes and silk stockings if he wishes to be very nice. This is not indispensable except for dancing, but it is very becoming. A white cravat is indispensable for dinner or ball. No jewelry of any kind excepting shirt studs and rings. The hand should be especially cared for, no matter how big and red and masculine it is, if it is clean; the nails kept carefully cut and trimmed. Like Lord Byron's, if possible, "a rose leaf, with half a moon in it," such should be his nails. If he is asked to form a theatre party, he must be punctual, in full dress, taking any place his hostess may offer him. He must not ask to be allowed to send a carriage, or to pay for his ticket; his hostess does all that. In this eastern and western etiquette are at variance.

The Well Bred Girl.

A social authority gives prominence to the following sayings of which a well bred girl is never guilty:
She never laughs or talks loudly in public places.
She never turns around to look after any one when walking on the street.
She never accepts a seat from a gentleman in a street car without thanking him.
She never takes more than a single glass of wine at a dinner or entertainment.
She never snubs other young ladies, even if they happen to be less popular or well favored than herself.
She never raises her lorgnette and tries to stare people she doesn't know out of countenance on the street.

THE CURIOSITY SHOP.

Why the Year 1900 Will Not be Counted Among the Leap Years.

The year is 365 days, 5 hours and 49 minutes long; eleven minutes are taken every year to make the year 365 1/4 days long, and every fourth year we have an extra day. This was Julius Caesar's arrangement. Where do these eleven minutes come from? They come from the future, and are paid back by omitting leap year every 100 years. But if leap year is omitted regularly every 100th year, in the course of 400 years it is found that the eleven minutes taken each year will not only have been paid back, but that a whole day will have been given up. So Pope Gregory III, who improved on Caesar's calendar in 1582, decreed that every centennial year divisible by 4 should be a leap year after all. So we borrow eleven minutes each year, more than pay our borrowings back by omitting three leap years in three centennial years, and square matters by having a leap year in the fourth centennial year. Pope Gregory's arrangement is so exact, and the borrowing and paying back balance so closely, that we borrow more than we pay back to the extent of only one day in 3,666 years.

Foreign New Jersey.

The origin of the allusion to New Jersey as a foreign country is as follows: "After the downfall of the first Napoleon his brother Joseph, who had been king of Spain, and his nephew, Prince Murat, sought refuge in this country, bringing with them great wealth. Joseph Bonaparte wished to build a palatial residence, but did not wish to become a citizen, having hopes of returning to Europe. To enable him as an alien to hold real estate required a special act of the legislature. He tried to get one passed in several states, but failed. He was at length graciously received in Pennsylvania. After this he applied to the New Jersey legislature, which granted both him and Prince Murat the privilege of purchasing land. They bought a tract at Bordentown, built magnificent dwellings and fitted them up in the most costly manner. Rare pictures, sculptures, etc., were profuse and selected with the greatest care, and the grounds laid out with exquisite taste. Joseph Bonaparte's residence was, perhaps, the finest in America. Thousands of people from all parts of the country visited him and were treated courteously. He was extremely liberal with his money, and gave great impetus to the business of the little town. The Philadelphia financiers, finding that he had apparently no end of money, and that he used it to benefit business generally, regretted, when too late, that they refused to let him locate among themselves, and to keep up their mortification, would continue to taunt Jersey men with having a king—with importing the king of Spain to rule over them. They were called Spaniards and foreigners on that account. But these taunts harmed no one, as the Jersey men lost nothing by allowing him to settle among them, and thus "foreigners," jokingly applied to Jersey men, has come down to us long after its origin has been forgotten, except by a few of the past generation.

Adobe Houses.

Adobe houses are made of unburned brick. They are in common use in Texas, Mexico, Central and South America. The bricks are made of loamy earth, containing about two-thirds fine sand and one-third clayey dust. This mass is mixed with water and then pressed into molds of the required size. Taken from the molds the adobe are placed on edge on the ground and left to harden in the sun. In a few days they are hard, compact bricks, without a crack. They are laid with mud mortar, and at the completion of every two feet of the structure, an interval of one week is allowed for drying, and a similar space of time between the completion of the walls and the putting on of the roof. The houses are usually one story high, and the inside is plastered before the roof is put on. The duration of these houses is much greater than would be supposed, as there are a number now in existence which have stood for more than a century.

The Moon and the Weather.

Superstitions concerning the effect of the moon on the earth are very common, but are wholly without foundation in reality. The relation of the moon to the earth is simply that of a satellite, whose attraction has an important influence on the motion in its orbit, and on the shifting level of its oceans, causing the tides. It might be supposed that if the moon can attract the water upon the surface of the earth she can also attract its atmosphere, and thus, through movement of the air currents, have a perceptible influence upon the weather. But investigation shows that as the aerial mass is in no way confined in estuaries or gulfs, its tide caused by external attraction must be slight. So far as can be indicated by the barometer it is too small to be worth reckoning, being less than .001 of an inch.

Pawnbrokers' and Barbers' Signs.

The pawnbroker's sign is supposed to be derived from the arms of the corporation of Lombard, or from the armorial bearings of the Medici family, the wealthiest Lombard merchants. In former times the barber's craft was conjoined with the art of surgery. The sign consisted of a striped pole, from which was suspended a basin. The fillet around the pole indicated the ribbon for bandaging the arm in bleeding, and the basin the vessel for receiving the blood. Blood letting and drawing teeth were practiced by early barbers.

"Blue Hen's Chickens."

In the revolutionary war Col. Smallwood's Delaware regiment was attired in blue, and the soldiers, being spirited fellows and good soldiers, to distinguish them from the Virginia "Game Cocks," were called "chickens of the Blue Hen." The name at length was applied to all the soldiers of that state, whence it has been adopted as a common appellation of any citizen of Delaware.

The Word Negro.

Negro is pure Spanish for black, and is derived from the Latin word Nigra—black. The Spaniards being near Africa, appropriated the word to the inhabitants of that continent in early times. They applied it more particularly to slaves, and hence the English application of the said term to the dark skinned race.

Blue Eyed Presidents.

It is said that all the presidents of the United States, except Gen. Harrison, had blue eyes. Among the great men of the world blue eyes appear to have been predominant. Socrates, Shakespeare, Locke, Bacon, Milton, G. ethe, Franklin, Napoleon and Humboldt, all had blue eyes.

Uniforms of '76.

The uniforms of English and American officers during the Revolutionary war were as follows: English wore scarlet or blue, according to arm of service they commanded. Trousers, white in summer, blue in winter. Americans blue and drab. See G. W.'s small clothes.

The African Diamond Fields.

The African diamond fields are situated in Griqua Land West, which is in northeastern portion of colony. To reach there one should take ship from New York to Port Elizabeth, or steamer from London. Rail from P. E. to Kimberley.

SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE

Prospectus for 1888—Beautiful Christmas Number.

Among the important articles to appear during the year 1888 are the following—Send for prospectus;

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON will contribute regularly to each number during the year. He will write of many topics, old and new, and in a familiar and personal way, which will form new bonds of friendship between the author and his thousands of readers. In his first paper entitled "A Chapter on Dreams," appearing in the January number, he relates incidentally, in connection with the general subject, some interesting facts concerning the origin of the now famous story "Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde."

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS, by W. S. CHAPLAIN, will be the first of an especially important and interesting series of papers on railways, their administrations and construction, including great engineering feats, famous tunnels and passes and, indeed, those branches of the subject which in this day engage the attention of the whole country. The illustrations which will accompany this series will be very elaborate, original, and beautiful. The authors and the titles of the future articles will be announced later.

DR. D. A. SARENT'S papers on Physical Proportions and Physical Training will be continued by several of increasing interest, with as rich and unique illustration as those which have already appeared.

ILLUSTRATED ARTICLES of special interest will be those of the Campaign of Waterloo, by JOHN C. ROPES; on "The Man at Arms," by E. B. BLASHFIELD; two papers by EDWARD L. WILSON, illustrating results of recent Egyptian research; a further article by WILLIAM F. APTAORP, on a subject connected with his recent contribution on Wagner, and many other of equal interest. PROFESSOR SHALER'S articles on the Surface of the Earth will be continued and articles upon two of the most interesting groups of contemporary European writers will be accompanied by rich and novel portrait illustrations.

ELECTRICITY in its various applications as a motive power EXPLAINS, etc., will be the subjects of another group of illustrated articles of equal practical interest, by leading authorities upon three topics.

MENDELSSOHN'S LETTERS written to his friend, Moscheles, at a peculiarly interesting time of his career, will furnish the substance of several articles of great interest to musical readers, which will be illustrated with portraits and drawings from Mendelssohn's own hand.

THE FICTION will be strong, not only in the work of well-known writers but in that of new authors, who co-operation the Magazine has been so fortunate during its first year of publication. A serial novel, entitled "First Harvests," by FRIDERIC J. STIMSON, will be begun in the January number, and early in the year no stories will be published by HENRY JAMES and H. C. BUNNER. The short stories are of noticeable strength and freshness.

ILLUSTRATIONS. The Magazine will show increased excellence in its illustrations. They will be more abundant and elaborate than ever. It is the intention of the publishers to represent the best work of the leading artists, and to promote and foster the most skillful methods of wood engraving.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—To enable readers to possess the Magazine from the first number (January, 1887) the following inducements are ordered.

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