

The JOURNAL JUNIOR.

Mae Harris Anson

Editor

The Junior is published by the Minneapolis Journal for the public school children of the northwest, in and above the fifth grade, and is devoted principally to their own writings. There is no expense attached, and all are welcomed as competitors. The editor wishes to encourage correspondence and suggestions from teachers. All correspondence should be addressed to the Editor Journal Junior.

The New Australia.

ONE hundred and two years ago the thirtieth of April it was that George Washington was inaugurated president of the United States under the newly adopted constitution. On the ninth of May Australia set up a separate government for herself—but what a difference there was between the attitude of England in the two cases. The United States had forcibly torn itself from the mother country. Australia lights the fires upon her own hearth with England's full consent and approval. Indeed, the tour of the heir to the British throne was planned with the end in view that he should be present, to represent the king, his father, at the opening of the first parliament of the new commonwealth of Australia.

Britannia gives her children much freer rein than she used to do. Hence, Australia, while setting up a parliament modeled closely upon our congress, still remains a subject of Great Britain, ruled over by a governor general appointed by the crown. As in the United States, each state sends the same number of senators, while the number of the members of the house of representatives is in proportion to the size of the state. This parliament has many important duties to perform, because an entire new set of laws must be made to fit the united governments.

When the United States set up for itself, there were but 3,000,000 people scattered along the Atlantic coast. Beyond the Alleghany mountains was an unknown land, owned by foreign governments, and peopled by red men whose savage hostility periodically drove back the advancing line of civilization. Today, Australia has 5,000,000 inhabitants, her dividing line of mountains, one hundred miles back from the coast, separates greater and less civilization, rather than civilization and barbarism; and, best of all, no flag floats over the broad domain but the six stripes, the Southern Cross and the Union Jack of the new Australian banner.

Everything points to a great future for Australia. It starts with a clean and happy record. There has been no strife with the mother country; there are no old wounds to heal, no burden of debt to shoulder, local and national pride is leveling all differences of political opinion, all, in fact, are putting aside petty personal prejudices and working heartily toward the common aim of laying foundations for a good government in Australia.

Those who have studied the fauna of North America know that there are several extinct animals, and others which would be extinct were the remnants not protected in private parks and zoological gardens. In India, however, not a single species of mammal, bird or reptile has been lost within the period of definite history. This is a strange record and taken with the dangerous destruction of our forests does not speak well for the foresight of Americans.

If a second Rip Van Winkle were to open his eyes after a sleep of one hundred years, the most noticeable change in the personal appearance of the people of to-day would be, according to an eminent observer, the large number wearing glasses and the very small number who are pitted with smallpox. Surely a desirable change. Perhaps another century may teach men how to preserve their sight, as the past century has shown them how to curb the ravages of the dread smallpox.

The son of Minister Wu is a student at one of the high schools at Washington, and one of the most enthusiastic members of the battalion of cadets. Recently he took part in a sham battle and rallied 'round the flag like a native born American. Moreover, his mother watched the battle and was evidently proud of the action of her son. If there were more foreigners like the Wus coming to us from the Orient there would be no need for an exclusion act.

Did you ever stop to think how much "fuel" you consume when you ride your wheels? A Wesleyan university professor has been trying some experiments to determine the matter. Why will people be so curious about such things? When the rest of us have been brought up not to think of the mechanics of living, when we are content to accept Topsy's argument and "jest grow," it is decidedly trying, to say the least, to have everything reduced by science to exact weights and measures.

When George Washington made the first presidential tour there were only eleven states in the union, for North Carolina and Rhode Island had not yet accepted the constitution, and were not represented in congress. At that time, too, there were not more than 3,000,000 people in the United States. To-day, on the tour of the twenty-fifth president, there are forty-five states and the country has 75,000,000 inhabitants. This is a record of growing that pretty nearly equals that of Jack's wonderful beanstalk.

Some one remarked recently that Agulnaldo is wearing out his benighted brain trying to figure out whether he is a citizen, a subject, a traitor or a hero. There are others who are quite as much in the dark as he.

MACHINES TAKE THE PLACES OF PENS.

The pen manufacturing business is on the decline. Typewriting machines are forcing them to the wall. Some persons predict that in less than a hundred years from now handwriting will be among the lost arts.



II.

Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grades.



ANY of the books given for the first three grades overlap into the fourth, fifth and sixth grades, and in order that no good book suitable for the latter grades may be overlooked, several of those given in the first list are referred to in the one given below.

Nature Books.

Some of the books given in the first list which are also suitable for this one, because there is little or no difference between the teaching in the third and fourth grades, are those by John Burroughs, John Monteith, C. D. Pierson, James Johnnot, Olive Thorne Miller and Mary E. Bamford. The difference between the nature books for these two divisions is that in this present list the information is more specific, more scientific, though not at all in the nature of textbooks. The books take up more of the real study of birds, flowers, insects and animals.

"Citizen Bird," by Mabel Osgood Wright, is written in story form, but is nevertheless full of information and wonderfully helpful in identifying the little creatures. Her "Tommy Ann and the Three Hearts," and its sequel, "Wabeno, the Magician," tell the story of a little girl who is initiated into the language and lives of plants and animals. They are very wholesome stories of outdoor life. She also has a new book called "The Dream Fox Story Book." Then there is her "Four Footed Americans," illustrated by Ernest Seton-Thompson.

"A Modern Puck," by Agnes Giberne, is a fairy story of an elf who shows a little girl the homes and habits of bees, spiders and ants, but it properly comes under the head of nature studies because of the way the subject matter is presented.

"My First Book of Birds," by Olive Thorne Miller, may be added now to those given in the first list. This book is a very attractive one with colored plates. It tells where the birds live, what they eat, where they sleep and how they get their beautiful plumage. There is also information as to how different birds feed. Best of all, she gives a valuable list of points to observe in studying birds. "Funny Friends" is another good nature book by Mrs. Miller.

"Plants and Their Children," by Mrs. William Starr Dana, is a description of stems, buds, leaves and flowers.

"The Bee People," by Margaret W. Morley, is a very valuable book, put up in charming shape. She gives an interesting description of the 12,603 eyes of the bee and wonders how a child would feel if his mother should have so many eyes and should stare solemnly at his naughtiness. Whittier's poem, "Telling the Bees," is referred to. In connection with this book the essay, "An Idyl of the Honey Bee," by John Burroughs, should be read. "A Song of Life" and her new book, "Wasps and Their Ways," are equally interesting.

"Water Babies," by Charles Kingsley, has become a classic, though it is not as much of a favorite with modern children as it would be if the moral were not so much in evidence. "Madam How and Lady Why," by the same author, treats of volcanoes, coral reefs, etc., and is preparatory to the study of geology.

"Winners of Life's Race" and "Life and Her Children," by Arabella B. Buckley, are full of general information in natural history.

"Squirrels and Other Furbearers" is a new book by John Burroughs, and full of the same charm that marks the rest of his books. He knows just how to bring in the personal touch and one can imagine him tramping through the woods he loves so well, with such a kindly look in his eyes that the chipmunks, squirrels, weasels and the rest of the little animals are glad to reveal their secrets to him.

"Nature in Verse," by Mary I. Lovejoy, is a collection of poems about flowers, insects, birds, etc., grouped under the four seasons.

"Parables from Nature," by Mrs. Alfred Gatty, teach the lessons of life from the growth and evolution of nature.

"Little People and Their Homes," Stella L. Hook.

"True Bear Stories," Joaquin Miller.

"From Many Lands," "Rover and His Friends," and other nature books by Edith Carrington, are very good.

"Ways of Wood Folk," W. J. Long.

"Animal Life on the Sea and on the Land," Sarah Cooper.

"Little Pussy Willow," "A Dog's Mission," and "Queer Little People," Harriet Beecher Stowe.

Stories of animals are a distinctive feature of modern juvenile literature, and they have added much to the enjoyment of reading. Among these "The Jungle Books," by Rudyard Kipling, easily lead. These were not given in the first list, because while they may be appreciated by a few children of those ages, they are better for the grades considered in this paper.

"Wild Animals I Have Known," "Wahb, the Biography of a Grizzly," Ernest Seton-Thompson.

"The Animal Story Books," by Andrew Lang, are capital and appeal to older children as well.

"A Hunting of the Deer" and "How I Killed a Bear," by Charles Dudley Warner, are matchless, and among the best of modern animal stories.

"Loveliness," by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, is a beautiful story of a pet dog.

"Mooswa of the Boundaries," by W. A. Fraser, is a new story of the Rocky Mountains, similar in treatment to the jungle books.

Heroic Tales.

The heroic tales for this class of readers differ from those suggested for the younger ones in that they go a little deeper. The classic myths of all literature should be read as a basis of true culture so that from them the child may find the key to modern thought.

It is hardly necessary to make any comment upon the books in this line which are suggested as especially appropriate, so the list is merely given.

"The Age of Chivalry" and "The Age of Fable," Thomas Bulfinch.

"The Story of Selgfried" and "Stories of the Golden Age," James Baldwin.

"Heroic Happenings" and "The Story of the Iliad," Elbridge S. Brooks.

"Greek Heroes," Charles Kingsley.

"Odysseus, Hero of Ithaca" and "The Story of the German Iliad," Mary E. Burt.

"Wanderings of Aeneas," Charles Hanson.

"Wonder Tales from Wagner" and "Story of the Rhinegold," Anna A. Chapin.

"Wagner Story Book," William Frost.

"Heroes of Chivalry," A. J. Church.

"The Japanese Fairy World," William E. Griffis.

"Story of Troy," M. Clarke.

"Greek Gods, Heroes and Men" and "The City of the Seven Hills," Caroline H. Harding.

"The Wonder Book," Nathaniel Hawthorne.

"Adventures of Ulysses," Charles Lamb.

"The Nine Worlds," Mary E. Litchfield.

"Jason's Quest," James Russell Lowell.

"The Boys' King Arthur," edited by Sidney Lanier.

"The Man Who Married the Moon," Charles F. Lummis.

"Old Norse Stories," Hamilton W. Mabie.

"Wagner's Heroes" and "Wagner's Heroines," by Constance Maud.

"Chaucer Stories," Mary Seymour.

"Idyls of the King," Alfred Tennyson.

"Tales of King Arthur," Margaret Vere Farrington.

"Stories of the Days of King Arthur," Charles Hanson.

"King Arthur and His Knights," William H. Frost.

History and Biography.

As has been said before, it is impossible to make a rigid line of division in such a list, for as the years slip by, steps are taken in different directions by different readers. Generally, however, it is at the age of eight or nine that a child begins to take an interest in the history of the world. The heroic myths and their significance begin to take a deeper hold upon his imagination, and the lives of the world's great heroes begin to strike into his character. So he should be given good biographies of men whose living marked epochs in history, and the stories should be told so as to show clearly the far-reaching effects of their actions.

Biographies of our own great men should be given him in order that he may come in touch with the heroism of endurance and the steady courage of our forefathers, and so trace the steps by which our country has become what it is to-day. The following are some biographies which will meet these needs:

"The Story of Lincoln," Frances Craven.

"In the Boyhood of Lincoln," by Hezekiah Butterworth, gives the influence which helped to develop his character.

"Four American Patriots," by Alma Holman Burton, treats of Patrick Henry, Alexander Hamilton, Andrew Jackson and U. S. Grant. "Lafayette, the Friend of American Liberty," and "The Story of the Indians of New England," by the same author, are excellent.

"Pioneer History Stories of the Mississippi Valley," by Charles McMurtry, gives the lives of De Soto, Lincoln, Daniel Boone, La Salle, etc.

"Heroes of the Middle West," by Mary Hartwell Catherwood, has the same fresh spirit that pervades her stories for older folks. She always seems to catch the real spirit of the adventure that is needed to make any sketch interesting.

"Stories of Our Authors," by H. E. Macomber, fills the demand for good biographies of that notable group of American authors containing Longfellow, Whittier, Emerson, Irving, Hawthorne, etc.

"Stories from Other Lands," by James Johnnot, tells the stories of the Maid of Orleans, Grace Darling, etc. Other books by Johnnot are "Stories of the Olden Time," historical sketches of Greece, Rome and mediaeval times; "Stories of Heroic Deeds," and "Stories of Our Country," telling of John Smith, Israel Putnam, Valley Forge, etc.

"Chivalric Days," "Historic Boys" and "Historic Girls," by Elbridge S. Brooks, give admirable sketches of life in the old world of Carthage, Rome and colonial New York. Other books by Brooks are "True Stories of Washington, Lincoln and Grant," "The Century Book of Famous Americans" and "The Century Book of the American Colonies." These are all attractively illustrated.

"The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin" is one of the best revelations of Franklin's greatness. He pictures colonial life and conditions with a faithfulness worthy of being remembered.

"The Whole History of Grandfather's Chair," by Nathaniel Hawthorne, should be in the library of every child. It contains a sketch of the life of Hawthorne, which gives it an added value.

"Stories of American Life and Adventure" are some healthy Indian stories by Edward Eggleston, which will appeal especially to boys, as their interest in Indian stories never seems to flag. Another good book by the same author is "Boys' Heroes," treating of Hector, Alexander, Napoleon, etc.

"The Story of Caesar," M. Clarke.

"Italian Child Life, or Marietta's Good Times," by Marietta Ambrosi, describes the home life of Italian children and is especially interesting because of its excellent account of silk worm culture.

"Four Great Americans," by James Baldwin, contains sketches of the lives of Washington, Franklin, Webster and Lincoln.

"Our Country East" and "Our Country West" are composed of travel papers by various authors, which originally appeared in the Youth's Companion, and are well written descriptions of some of the natural wonders of America, among them being Mammoth Cave, Pike's Peak, etc.

"A Boy I Knew and Four Dogs," Laurence Hutton.

"Fair Women and Brave Men," by Barbara Hutton.

"A New England Girlhood," Lucy Larcom.

"Shakspeare the Boy," by William J. Rolfe, the noted authority on Shakspeare.

"About Old Storytellers," by Donald G. Mitchell (Ik Marvel), has chapters about such interesting men as Goldsmith, the Grimm brothers, De Foe, Scott, etc.

Fairy Stories and General Literature.

Grimm's fairy stories and those by Hans Christian Andersen are now suitable, while Hawthorne's "Wonderbook" and "Tanglewood Tales" should also be read. The edition of Andersen's stories with an introduction by Edward Everett Hale is the most desirable one. The fairy books by Andrew Lang, given in the first list, are appropriate also for this one, as are those by Howard Pyle and Joel Chandler Harris previously mentioned.

"Snow Bird and the Water Tiger," by Margaret Compton, is a collection of American Indian fairy tales.

"Book of Legends," edited by Horace E. Scudder, tells in simple style of the Flying Dutchman, William Tell, the Wandering Jew, etc.

"Arabian Nights" is not only delightful because of the peculiar quality of the stories themselves, but because of the insight they give into the old way of passing stories on by means of professional storytellers. That edited by Andrew Lang is especially attractive.

"Fairy Tales from Arabian Nights," edited by E. Dixon, is finely illustrated.

"Mopsa the Fairy," Jean Ingelow.

"King of the Golden River," John Ruskin.

"A Jolly Fellowship," Frank R. Stockton.

"Prince and Pauper," S. G. Clemens (Mark Twain).

"Play Days," Sarah Orne Jewett.

"The April Baby's Book of Tunes," by the author of "Ellis-