



Raggedy Dick.

All tattered and torn and very forlorn,  
And tired and lame and sick,  
He came at our call one day in the fall,  
And we named him "Raggedy Dick."

When we spoke a word he scarcely heard;  
His end seemed very near,  
But we fed him up—poor little pup,  
And for him shed a tear.

Do you ask if we cried on the day he died?  
We should—but the pup's alive—  
He's the jolliest cur that wears his fur,  
You should see him swim and dive!  
—New York Tribune.

#### How Bobby Learned a Proverb.

Bobby was a little Manx kitten. By that is meant that he had no tail on his plump little body. He was very quaint and playful, but he could not frisk quite like other kittens, since he had no tail to chase, so he used to amuse himself by rolling over and over, making a pretty gray ball of himself.

It was Monday morning and the washing was well begun. In the tub where the laundress' stout arms were swiftly rubbing back and forth the white foam was piled up in soft, rounded heaps. Perhaps they looked like cotton to Bobby, who had climbed to a shelf set near the tubs and a little above them. As he watched eagerly, cocking his head now this way, now that, one could seem to see shining in his bright eyes the thought: "That white stuff would make a lovely bed to roll on." So—he tried it.

The laundress fished him out, a wretched, dripping little object, and gave him to his mistress.

As his loving little mistress, after rubbing him, put him in his warm basket by the stove, she said, "Oh, Bobby, I hope you have learned the meaning of the proverb, 'Look before you leap.'"—Boston Herald.

#### An Up-to-Date Parlor Trick.

If anybody should tell you that you can cut in two without touching it a thread hanging from the cork inside a sealed up bottle you would be likely to think that he was making fun of you. But it may be easily done, and in such a way as completely to mystify the spectators.

Get a clear glass bottle—a pickle bottle will do—and to the under part of the cork attach a bent pin. To the pin tie a piece of thread long enough to reach three-fourths of the way down the inside of the bottle, and to the lower end of the thread fasten any small object, say a shoe-button, to make the thread hang taut.

Insert the cork and seal it with wax, and say to the company that you are going to cut the thread in two without opening the bottle—in fact, without touching the thread.

To accomplish this, you need a reading glass, or sun glass, and access to a window where the sun is shining clear and bright. The feat is more mystifying if you perform this part of it in private.

You go to the window, hold up your sun glass so that you can focus the rays from the glass directly on the thread through the side of the bottle, and in a short time the heat from the focused rays will burn the thread into two pieces, the end with the button attached falling to the bottom of the bottle. Then go back to the company with the bottle, and they will see that the cork has not been moved and yet the thread has been cut.

It would be better to use black thread for the experiment, for hat color absorbs heat best and will burn more readily.—New York Sun.

#### Our Canaries.

Last May we had given to us a pretty little yellow, fluffy canary, which children welcomed with many a tender greeting, their bright eyes watching the bird's every motion as they made his acquaintance.

At first he seemed so wild and frightened when any one approached his cage that we feared he would beat himself to death, but he soon grew tamer. One day, while we were giving him fresh water, he made his escape from his cage, and was only trapped again by our placing the feed-cup within the cage. After a few days we determined to give him more liberty. So I tied the door back and Dickie was given the freedom of our kindergarten rooms. Although one window is generally down from the top a few inches and the screen door has quite a hole in it, still our birdie never has shown the least inclination to leave his pleasant surroundings.

He spends most of his time during the morning above the windows, flitting from plant to plant and warbling. At noontime he comes to share my luncheon; and often a child will ask permission to stay in at noon to watch Dickie enjoy the morsels at my feet.

Toward autumn one of the children brought a little mate for Dickie, and this has made quite a change in our bird's ways and doings. Call notes are the only ones heard now, and at

about 11 o'clock each morning the birds fly to their respective bath dishes. The birds' baths furnish an impressive object-lesson to the children on cleanliness. The children exclaim: "See! Dickie washes his face first!" and make other remarks of like nature. During story hour I place the seed cup on my knee, and the birds come there to eat. Soon I shall let some quiet child hold the cup.

For many days the children have been bringing bits of cotton, worsted, straw, etc., and placing them in Dickie's box; and the birds have now rewarded us by beginning their nest-building in earnest.

The interest of the children over the nest is intense, and I will leave you to imagine their enthusiasm when the birdlings appear.—Kindergarten Review.

#### Raising Goldfish.

To the boy or girl who desires to make a few dollars on a small outlay of capital, the breeding of goldfish offers itself as not only a profitable business, but also as an interesting diversion. For \$5 a boy can set himself up in this business and in less than a year have 100 percent return on his capital.

Said a prominent dealer in goldfish: "There are certain times in the year that we would gladly pay 25 cents apiece for goldfish of average size, although now we can afford to sell them for even less than that. Most of them come from China and Japan, and are brought here by the sailors of the Oriental steamships in kerosene tins. During the winter this is almost impossible, as the cold kills them, but the few fish that do come here then are sold at high prices."

There is a Chinaman in this city who makes the breeding of goldfish his means of living. He has constructed a number of wooden tanks 10 by 3 feet and 3 feet deep. In these tanks he raises his fish. The bottoms are covered with sand and pebbles. Every four or five days he freshens the water by pouring in several bucketfuls, allowing the tanks to run over through notches in the sides at the top. Otherwise he never disturbs them. In the sand and on the rocks he has encouraged the growth of fresh water aquatic grasses, which help to keep the water constantly fresh by supplying it with oxygen. On the bottom, among the grasses, the goldfish deposit their spawn, and if not disturbed the young hatch out. Great care must be taken in keeping the tanks free from other animal life, as goldfish spawn is considered a dainty morsel by almost all fresh water creatures.

During the winter the tanks should be protected from the cold, as goldfish cannot stand ice. In China thousands of persons are employed in raising fish, but on a larger scale, in large ponds out of doors. Even in California this is done. All shapes and colors can be made by artificial selection, no fish being more susceptible to development in this way than the goldfish. This requires years of patient and, for the time, profitless labor, however, if a thick, globular shaped fish is desired, all those in the pond whose shape is least like that desired are taken out, leaving the others. These, in breeding among themselves, will produce fish of shapes more like those desired, but still the weeding out process must continue for several years before any results can be seen. By these methods the Chinese have produced goldfish of all colors—orange, blood red, white, silvery, blue, green—and of almost all shapes—round, square, triangular, half moon—and other more grotesque forms being produced. This, however, can only be done where great numbers of them are raised together.

If kept in tanks or ponds where weeds and grasses grow it is not necessary to trouble much about feeding goldfish, as they find plenty to eat on the green leaves. It is even better not to place the fish in the tanks before the plants have grown, but if this is done they should be fed daily, but sparingly, on the prepared foods to be bought in almost any bird store.—New York Tribune.

#### Genius in Retirement.

"I noticed your paragraph yesterday about the Poet Swineburne living in great retirement now," said a lover of that singer's verse, "and it set me thinking. I understand the natural timidity of genius, but I still think that literary men who have taught the world to love them should not be so exclusive. They shouldn't be on dress parade all the time; but they might at least give the world a glimpse of them once in a decade."

"They owe the world that much; and they would gain a world's gratitude for a glance. Still, there is no accounting for genius, and we are glad enough to get it, even if it sings to us only from the mountain top."

#### A Vague Pleasantry.

Collector—Can't you give me any encouragement at all about this old account?

Mr. Go-Easy—Why, yes, of course; I will pay you as soon as I pay anybody.—Detroit Free Press.

#### QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

The first profile taken was that of Antigonus, in 330 B. C., who, having lost one eye, his likeness was so taken as to conceal deformity.

The bridal veil of a Japanese young lady is subsequently used as her shroud. Directly after the marriage it is carefully put away and reserved until death makes its use again necessary.

The intestines of the ox are 187 feet—small ones, 150 feet; large, 37 feet. Sheep, 107 feet; small ones, 35 feet; large, 22 feet. Those of the hog measure 77 feet; small, 60 feet; large, 17 feet.

Granite is the lowest rock in the earth's crust, it is the bed rock of the world, and shows no evidence of animal or vegetable life, it is the parent rock from which all the rocks have been either directly or indirectly derived.

The greatest cavern in the world is Mammoth Cave, 85 miles southwest of Louisville, Ky. It is about 10 miles long, though to explore its multitude of avenues, chambers, grottoes, galleries, domes, rivers and catacombs entails 150 miles of travel.

Another curious fact. According to Captain Maury the gulf stream runs up hill. After leaving the Gulf of Mexico, this current of warm water broadens out toward the north and becomes more shallow. Its depth off the Island of Bermuda is about 200 fathoms, off Cape Hatteras, about 100 fathoms. He calculated the ascent at 10 inches to the mile.

The largest flower in the world is the Rafflesia Aroid, of Sumatra. Its size is fully three feet in diameter—about the size of a carriage wheel. The five petals of this immense flower are oval and creamy white, growing round a center filled with countless long, violet-hued stamens. The flower weighs about 15 pounds and is capable of containing nearly two gallons of water. The buds are like gigantic brown cabbage heads.

#### What Do You Question?

Here are some questions about things you've seen every day and all your life. If you are a wonder you may possibly answer one or two of the queries offhand. Otherwise not.

What are the exact words on a 2-cent stamp, and in which direction is the face on it turned?

In which direction is the face turned on a cent? On a quarter? On a dime?

How many toes has a cat on each fore foot? On each hind foot?

Which way does the crescent moon turn? To the right or left?

What color are your employer's eyes? The eyes of the man at the next desk?

Write down, offhand, the figures on the face of your watch. The odds are that you will make at least two mistakes in doing this.

Your watch has some words written or printed on its face. You have seen these words a thousand times. Write them out correctly. Few can do this. Also, what is the number in the case of your watch?

How high (in inches) is a silk hat?

How many teeth have you?

What are the words on a policeman's shield?

How many buttons has the vest or shirt waist you are wearing?

How many stairs are there in the first flight at your house?

How many steps lead from the street to the front door of your house or flat?

What is the name, signed in facsimile, on any \$1, \$2, \$5 or \$10 bill you ever saw? You've read dozens of those names. Can you remember one?—Washington Times.

#### Deep Plunge.

The submarine Silure has just been subjected to some interesting experiments. It was sunk to a depth of 135 feet with the view of testing the effect of the water pressure, which, at this depth, is 63 pounds to the square inch. The commander and the engineer were provided with instruments to measure the compression, which showed that the hull yielded to the extent of one millimeter (.039 of an inch), says the London Express. The crew experienced no more discomfort at this depth than at the average submerison. The lowest depth reached by a diver is said to be 204 feet, with a pressure of 88 1-2 pounds; the lowest depth attained in a caisson was 110 1-2 feet, with a pressure of 51 pounds, at the sinking of the piers for the St. Louis bridge over the Mississippi.

#### His Explanation.

"What makes you employ such a bad band?"

"Because I understand my business," answered the advertiser promptly. "I don't want to get the music-so good that the people will become entranced and forget to read my advertisement."—Washington Star.

Some of King George IV's hair was sold in London recently for 2s.

#### DR. CHAPMAN'S SERMON

##### A SUNDAY DISCOURSE BY THE NOTED PASTOR-EVANGELIST.

Subject: A Man Without a Country—A Text Which is the Saddest Expression Possible in Human Language—Fifty For Those Without a God.

NEW YORK CITY.—The Rev. Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman, the noted pastor-evangelist, continues to excite popular interest by the series of remarkable sermons he is delivering in the Fourth Presbyterian Church. Apropos of patriotic celebrations he has prepared the following discourse for the press, entitled "A Man Without a Country." It is preached from the text, Ephesians 2: 12, "Having no hope and without God in the world."

This is one of the saddest texts in the New Testament, for while it describes our own condition when we were aliens from Christ and strangers to the covenant and promise of God, yet I take it in my presentation of this subject to describe those who have wilfully rejected Christ and who have deliberately decided that they will not accept Him as a Saviour. With this interpretation put upon the Scripture we have in the text the saddest expression possible in human language. I suppose there is no one of my hearers to whom the words may be strictly applied, for if we take hope out of a man's life it is not worth the living. The young man may have failed yesterday, but he has hoped that he may succeed to-morrow; the business man who has lost his fortune in the wreck of past days is not discouraged because hope buoyed him up, and he is confident that prosperity will be his once again. Take hope from our lives and we are of all men most miserable, and if in addition to being deprived of hope we have no God we are not only hopeless for time, but hopeless also for eternity, for since we were made to be filled with God and all our being was so adjusted as to be at tune to His nature, there is no sadder picture than to be without Him. Some years ago I came across that interesting and pathetic story written by Edward Everett Hale entitled "The Man Without a Country," and it has furnished for me an illustration of this text to which your attention is invited. I found in the man who drifted everywhere across the sea without being able to enter a harbor, a presentation of many a man who has buried Christ out of his life. The man was Philip Nolan by name. Whether the story be truth or fiction it does not matter, for the illustration is the same. This young lieutenant in the army had come under the influence of Aaron Burr, and he had fascinated him. The young soldier wrote to Burr long letters expressing his hopes and his desires that he might serve him, but had no letters from Burr in reply. At last he came one day to see the young man, and then his hold upon him was complete. The regular life of the soldier became tame; he was utterly unfitted for service. There came a time when in company with others who were also under the influence of Burr he must appear before the army court to be tried for misdemeanor. The others for one reason or another escaped sentence, but Philip Nolan was pronounced guilty. He was asked by the judge if he had anything to say why sentence should not be passed upon him because he had been false to his country and had sinned against the United States. His reply was an oath, and in the presence of the court he cursed his country and said that he wished he might never again hear the sound of the name United States; that he hated his native land. The judge, with a white face, answered, "It shall be as you say, and subject to the approval of the President of the United States, you shall never again hear of your country." At this Philip Nolan laughed, but no one else did; there was a deathlike stillness over the court. He was taken to New Orleans, given over into the charge of a commander of one of the vessels, with the distinct understanding that no one was ever again to speak to him of the United States, and he was to be allowed to speak to no one of his old home. He was at last put upon a Government vessel and given quarters befitting his late rank. It was expressly stipulated that he was to be exposed to no indignity; he was not to be reminded of the fact that he was a prisoner, and while he could wear the uniform yet he must not have the buttons of the United States Government upon this uniform. Indeed he was to be a man without a country from this time on. He was permitted once each day to dine with the officers, but they did not care to have him, because when he was present they could not talk of home; under no circumstances was he to ever see his country again and never was he to hear of it. He was not permitted to go on shore wherever the landing might be. If he read books at all they must contain no reference to his home, and if he read the foreign papers it was only after some one had carefully cut out every reference to the United States. If the vessel upon which he was a passenger came near his country it must wait until it would be overtaken by another vessel going seaward. Philip Nolan became a passenger with his face set away from his home. It has ever been to me one of the saddest illustrations I know, and yet a perfect picture of the man who has deliberately rejected Christ, has said, "I will not have this man to rule over me," and who is, therefore, described by the words of the text as "having no hope and without God in the world."

We have rejected Him. He has said in His word, "He that is not with Me is against Me," and not to accept is to reject. It is true we have never said in so many words that we would not have Him as our Saviour, but we have resisted the entreaties of the minister and spurned the prayers of our loved ones, and what we have not been bold enough to say with the lips we have said in our hearts, and God knoweth the language of the heart as men know the language of the lips. I am very sure that Philip Nolan did not mean what he said. He had spoken in a passion, and I am perfectly positive that no one here could for a moment reject Christ if he felt that Christ would take him at his word, and possibly he might never have a chance again. Mr. Moody used to say that no one wanted to be excused. "Would you sign a letter like this?" he said. "Sitting in the house of God this Sunday evening I received a pressing invitation from one of your servants to be present at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. I pray thee, have me excused." No one would sign it. Then, would you sign this? "Sitting in the house of God this Sunday evening I received a pressing invitation from one of your servants to be present at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. By the grace of God I will be there." If you could but sign that there would be joy in heaven and joy in your own heart.

II.

We are by nature afar off. Our hearts

are deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. Our minds are carnal and therefore at enmity with God; our wills are stubborn and will not yield to the touch of His power; we are in midnight darkness, and it is in this condition that He comes to us. In the 13th verse of the second chapter of Ephesians we read, "But now in Christ Jesus, ye who sometimes were afar off are made nigh by the blood of Christ," and to all the unavenged it is my privilege to say that by the grace of God you are brought nigh to Christ. This is true because you have been under the influence of the Spirit, and you may be saved if you will, but if you reject Christ no word can describe this sin of which you are guilty. In the Old Testament the man who despised Moses' God died without mercy among two or three enemies, of how much greater need of mercy shall he be that hath trodden under foot the Son of God, hath counted the blood wherewith He was glorified a common thing, and has insulted the Spirit of grace. In this picture of Philip Nolan, a sailor on the sea without a harbor, I find an illustration of the man who in spite of God's grace has rejected the offer of mercy.

III.

We begin to break away, not by great sins, but by small sins. Have you ever noticed in the three verses in the first chapter of Romans that wonderful description of sin, indeed the most remarkable of any the world has ever seen. In the 24th verse we read, "God gave them up to uncleanness;" in the 25th verse, "God gave them up to vile affections;" while in the 28th verse we read, "God gave them up to a reprobate mind." The uncleanness may have been sin of an insignificant character; to be given up to vile affections is to be permitted to set our hearts upon those things which are not right, and draw them to us as with hooks of steel, but to be given over to a reprobate mind is to be hopeless. I make an appeal to-day in behalf of those whose lives are in the least touched by sin; it is a dangerous position.

IV.

What is the greatest sin in all the catalogue as written in God's word? If this question were put to men there would be almost as many answers as there are men. It is not impurity, nor dishonesty. These

things are not even to be considered in the light of the greatest sin of all, which is unbelief. When we read in the gospels that the Holy Ghost is to come, it is said that He will remove the world of sin, and that sin is described as not believing on Him. To reject Christ, therefore, is the chiefest of all transgressions.

V.

Having no hope. I cannot imagine that any of my hearers would for a moment think of giving way to unbelief or taking refuge in infidelity. That is, indeed, hopeless. It is said that Adoniram Judson when he was a student in Brown University came under the influence of a fellow student who was an infidel. On his return to Providence at one time he was obliged to stop at a country inn. The innkeeper told him he had but one room, and that was next to a man who was supposed to be dying. Judson cared nothing for this, and said he would take the room. All through the night he heard this man crying out to God for mercy, shrieking in terror because of his unbelief, and at last Judson utterly worn out fell asleep. When the morning came all was quiet in the adjoining room, but the man was dead. What was the student's horror to find out that the dying man was his companion in infidelity, and when he came to the end there was no hope for him, and infidelity prevailed him nothing. It is an awful thing to be without Christ in the world.

VI.

Without God. If you could imagine God taken out of your life for a moment it would be a position of terror. No one would ever again say no to Him if they realized that they might say no for the last time. To have no help in temptation and no comfort in the hour of sorrow, and no support in the day of death would indeed be an awful thing. A friend of mine told me of a man in the West who had been constantly besought by his friends to come to Christ, and had resisted all their entreaties. He had been entreated by God Himself as He called him in prosperity and in adversity, and at last the call became so marked that it was as if God had actually spoken to him, and at last in a heat of passion he cried out as if he were speaking to God, "Oh, God, let me alone," and He did, and until the day of his death it is said he never again had even a faint desire to go to Christ. It is dangerous to resist. God pity the man who says no to Christ and speaks for the last time, and then comes to the place where he had no hope and is without God in the world.

#### SPORTING BRIEVITIES.

The Washington Athletic Association, of Newark, N. J., has organized a cycling team.

Yale won the 'varsity boat race; the freshmen rowed a dead heat. Harvard won the substitute fours.

"Gus" Ruhlin knocked out "Tom" Sharkey in the eleventh round at the National Sporting Club, London, England.

Automobile racing will be one of the attractions of the New York State Fair to be held at Syracuse beginning September 8.

The Uncle Sam, owned by Francis R. Briggs of New York City, won the first of the international special class races at Kiel.

Victor Rigal covered a mile on a motor cycle at Plymouth, England, in 1.37, lowering the world's standing start record by eight seconds.

Haverford College has again turned out the best team of college cricketers. They defeated both the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard.

The Paris-Vienna automobile race was won by Marcel Renault, who covered the distance in fifteen hours and twenty-two minutes, or at the rate of fifty-one miles an hour.

Towns, the Australian sculler, who wrested the world's championship from Gaudaur at Rat Portage, will shortly return to the Antipodes via Canada. He takes with him from England a bride.

Automobiles in St. Louis are limited to a speed of not more than eight miles an hour on the streets and six miles an hour in the parks. The penalty for violation is a fine of not less than \$5 nor more than \$500.