

For the Little Folks.**NAMES OF THE MONTHS.**

Our young readers would, doubtless, like to know how the months of the year came by their names. The names were given by the Romans, who used the Latin language, which at one time was spoken over most of the known world, and are as follows:

January, the first month, which was so called from Janus, an ancient king of Italy, who was deified after his death. The word was derived from the Latin word Januaries.

February, the second month, is derived from the Latin word Februa, to purify; for this month the Romans offered up expiatory sacrifices for the purifying of the people.

March, the third month, anciently the first month, is derived from the word Mars, the god of war.

April is so called from the Latin word Aprilis—i. e., opening; because in this month the vegetable world opens and buds forth.

May, the fifth month, is derived from the Latin word Majores, so called by Romulus, in respect toward the senators; hence Mates or May.

June, the sixth month, from the Latin word Junius, or the youngest of the people.

July, the seventh month, is derived from the Latin word Julius, and so named in honor of Julius Caesar.

August, the eighth month, was called in honor of Augustus, by a decree of the Roman senate A. D. S.

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October, the tenth month, from the Latin word Octo, the eighth, hence we have October.

November, the eleventh month, from the Latin word Novem, nine, being the ninth from March.

December, the twelfth month, from the Latin of Decem, ten, so called because it was the tenth month from March, which was anciently the time of beginning the year.

A FABLE

One night a warrior was examining the blade of his sword by the light of a lamp, which was suspended over a polished mahogany table.

"Touch the point of my blade to the surface of the table," said the sword, "and then tell me what you see."

"I see a shadow on one side, and a reflection on the other."

"Very true," answered the sword; "and their starting-points touch, do they not?"

"They touch," said the warrior.

"Now lift my point higher in the air."

He did so; and the higher the sword arose, the further the streak of light receded from the streak of darkness.

"Now, lower me, point downward," said the blade.

And, lo! the more rapid the descent, the more rapidly did the two contrasting columns approached each other.

"Thou hast taught me a good lesson," said the warrior, sheathing his weapon, and uttering a short prayer. "It is even so with the human soul in her downward flight from virtue; it is thus that, when in contact with the earth, she reflects a gleam of heaven on one side, and casts a shadow on the other. These two touch each other when she touches the earth, and recede continually as she ascends nearer heaven."

PERSEVERANCE.

Young people should learn that perseverance is the great secret of success in life. Without it nothing of real magnitude and importance can be accomplished. Wishing for a thing will not bring it, nor will the most earnest desire for the performance of any work, great or small, succeed unless and persevering efforts will make both the wish and the desire realities.

Had Columbus ceased to labor amid the discouragements he met on every hand, America would not have been discovered—at least not by him. But he was not to be driven from his purpose by sneers, derision or discouragements, and at last he succeeded in his grand undertaking—it was, therefore, Perseverance that found the New World.

Washington would never have gained our independence had he followed the example of many others, become disheartened, accepted the pardon offered by the British Government, and given up the struggle. But in sunshine and storm, in darkest hours, and when cheered by hope, in summer's heat and winter's cold, steadily and untiringly he pursued his way, and God gave him victory. So we owe our Liberty and its blessings to Perseverance.

We might say other examples history is full of them—but will only say to the youth, be like these noble men—RIGHT—then PERSEVERE.

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