

WHY NOT SAVE MOTHER.

The farmer sat in his easy chair
Between the fire and the lamp-light's glare,
His face was ruddy and full and fair,
His three small boys in the chimney nook
Conceded the line of a picture-book.
His wife the pride of his home and heart,
Bat of the basin and made the tart,
Laid it on table and steeped the tea—
Dutifully, swiftly and sweetly;
Tired and weary weak and faint,
She bore her trials without complaint,
Like many another household saint
Content all selfish bliss above
In the patient ministry of love.

At last, between the clouds of smoke
That wreathed his lips, the farmer spoke:
"There's taxes to raise and inter to pay,
And if there should come a rainy day
I'd be mighty handy, I'm bound to say
I'd have something put by. For folks must
die."
An' there's funeral bills, and grave-stones
to buy
Enough to swamp a man, purty nigh;
Besides, there's Edward an' Dick an' Joe
To be provided for when we're all
So, if I were you, I'll tell you what I'd do:
I'd be savin' of wood as ever I could;
Extra fires don't do any good;
I'd be savin' of soap an' savin' of fire,
And run up some candles once in a while;
I'd rather be savin' of coffee and tea,
For sugar is high.

An' all to buy
And cider is good enough drink for me;
I'd be kind o' careful about my clothes;
And look out sharp how the money goes
Gegaws is useless, nater knows:
Extra trimmin'
'S the bone of women.
I'd sell the best of my cheese an' honey,
An' eggs is as good, nigh about my money.
An' as to the carpet you wanted new—
I guess we can make the old one do;
And as for th' wash-ran' sewin' machine,
Them smoothed tugged agents, so poky
mean.
You'd better get rid of 'em slick an' clean.
What do they know 'bout women's work?
Do they calkiate women was made to
shirk?"

Dick and Edward and little Joe
Sat in the corner in a row.
They saw the patient mother go
On ceaseless errands to and fro;
They saw that her form was bent and thin,
Her temples gray, her cheeks sunk in;
They saw the quiver of lip and chin—
And then, with a wail he could not
smother.
Outspoke the youngest, frailest brother:
"You talk of savin' wood an' fire,
An' tea an' sugar, all the while,
But you NEVER talk of SAVIN' MOTHER!"

Economies of Science.

The fact that an aniline black can be formed with vanadium has provoked investigation into the feasibility of the production of that metal for commerce. M. M. Osmond and G. Witz have found a considerable source of supply in the foundry scorias of Creuzet, France, which contain two per cent. of vanadic acid. The scorias have only to be treated with hydrochloric acid to obtain from them a green liquor which can be used directly in dyeing.

A foreign technical journal gives the following method for detecting the presence of lead in tin foil: A drop of concentrated acetic acid is let fall upon the suspected leaf, and a drop of the solution of potassium iodide is added. If there is lead present there is formed in two or three minutes a yellowish spot of lead iodide. Dr. Kopp moistens the leaf to be examined with sulphuric acid. If the tin is pure the spot remains white, but if lead is present there is a black spot.

Works are projected in Vienna for obtaining a great quantity of electrical power by means of the water of the Danube. The electricity is to be stored in "accumulators," of different dimensions, which would be delivered to customers for use either for electric lighting or for motive power. Besides being thus accumulated the electricity is also to be conducted through underground wires. By combining the two methods together electrical centres will be erected in several parts of the town, from which the manufacturers, etc., will receive the required current.

The case of the City of Worcester, which went ashore in New York Harbor just at the lower end of Blackwell's Island, suggests the plan proposed some time ago by Edison to light the channels of New York Harbor by a number of submerged incandescent lights. "Even in a fog," says *Mechanics*, "a row of these lights along the banks of a channel would probably be sufficiently visible to enable a steamboat to feel her way in and out with comparatively little danger. The wrecks of a single year would pay many times over for the establishment of the system, and the continued saving in wreckage would more than pay for the cost of maintenance."

The *Textile Record* says that a new departure in cotton mills will be found in Augusta, Ga., viz., The Riverside Mills—a cotton mill whose source of raw material is the waste that is gathered from other mills, and from this waste is turned out a product in threads and twines that are fully equal to those made by mills using cotton as it comes from the gin. Every part of the waste is in some way utilized here, even to burning the trash and seed husks; and even the old bagging is sewed together and put on the market again in rolls like as first, before it was used at all. This mill has the very finest machinery, all moved by a 300-horse-power Corliss engine.

Dr. Merkel states that the height of an individual after a night's rest, measured before rising from the bed, is two inches greater than it is in the evening, measured standing. There is a gradual diminution in height, caused by the

yielding of the plantar arches and of the intervertebral disks, and a sudden diminution, when the individual rises, occurring at the articulations of the lower extremities. The sinking at the ankle is one-third inch; at the knee, one-twelfth to one-eighth inch; at the hip, two-fifths inch. The shortening at the knee is probably due to the elasticity of the cartilages. At the hip there is, in addition, a sinking of the head of the femur into the cotyloid cavity.

Algiers is said to abound in deposits of copper, silver-bearing lead, zinc, and especially iron, and one of the principal mines is reported to yield 1800 tons of iron-ore per day. Materials for construction, building stones, lime, marble, etc., are also abundant, and salt is found in a great many places. The number of men employed in the various mines already exceeds 3500. The cultivation of tobacco has increased largely within the past years, but the greatest future expectations are based upon the culture of vineyards, and the extent of land devoted to vines is about 50,000 acres. Public works also have reached considerable importance, and there are now 552 miles of highway and about 800 miles of railroad in course of construction.

The Philadelphia *Medical Times* has found some choice reading in a small manual used for children of 11 or 12 years old in the schools of Manchester, England. In one of them the author explains scientifically the things of common life. Youths of 12 are quite ignorant of what jumping means. It tells them "jumping or leaping is effected (1) by the sudden contraction of the muscles of the calf, by which the heels are suddenly raised and the body jerked off the ground; (2) by the simultaneous contraction of the muscles which bend the thigh upon the pelvis; (3) by the sudden extension of the legs by the contraction of extensor muscles, this movement following immediately on the two movements first described." Should this be called condensed milk for babes?

Professor Reinsch, in a lecture lately delivered, gave the results of his researches regarding the manner in which coal had been formed. He had examined with the microscope not less than 2500 sections of coal, and had come to the conclusion that coal had not been formed by the alteration of accumulated land plants, but that it consisted of microscopic forms of a lower order of protoplasm, and although he had carefully examined the cells and other remains of plants of a higher order, he computed that they have contributed only a fraction of the mass of coal veins however numerous they may have been in some instances. He referred to the fact that Dr. Muck, of Bochum, held that alga have mainly contributed to the formation of coal, and that marine plants were rarely found in coal because of their tendency to decompose, and that calcareous remains of mollusks disappeared on account of the rapid formation of carbonic acid during the process of carbonization.

A Wonderful Party at Windsor Castle.

The following good story comes from a quarter where we are assured "its correctness can be vouched for." Many years ago, at the time of a great ceremony, Windsor Castle was honored with the presence of three sovereigns. After breakfast the three potentates walked and talked on the celebrated "Slopes," and were of course, in "mufti." They were delighted with the grounds, and presently entered into conversation with a gardener, who evidently took them for a party of "gentlemen's gentlemen" out for a stroll. After some little affable talk he could not resist the query: "Now what may you gents be?" "Well," said the spokesman, "this gentleman here happens to be the King of Prussia; that one standing by your side is the Emperor of Austria; and as for myself, I am the Emperor of Russia." This was carrying the joke too far, thought the gardener. "I've seen a lot of queer furrin gents here lately, but this beats me;" so he burst out in a rather rude guffaw. "Well, my friend," said the Emperor Nicholas, "you seem amused; perhaps you will tell us who you are." "Oh, certainly!" so taking up the skirt of his coat with the action of a great eagle spreading his wings, and spinning round on his heels, he said: "If you are all what you say you are—why, I am the Great Mogul!" The three majesties roared with laughter, and, returning to the castle told the story at the luncheon-table to the immense amusement of the Queen and Prince Albert.

The academy of sciences decides that raw meat is easier of digestion than that which is cooked. In prescribing it preference should be given to flesh that has been frozen, as very low temperatures destroy the eggs of the many parasites which often infest meats of all kinds.

For Our Youth.

To Young Men.

Young man, in the following paragraph you will find the entire law and the testimony: Young man, save that penny; pick up that pin; let that account be correct to a farthing; find out what that bit of ribbon costs before you take it; pay the half dime your friend handed you to make change with; in a word, be economical, be accurate and know what you are doing; be honest, and then be generous, for all you have or acquire this belongs to you by every rule of right, and you may put it to any good use you please. It is not parsimony to be economical. It is not small to know the price of the article you are about to purchase, or to remember a little debt you owe. What if you do meet Bill Pride bedecked out in a much better suit than yours, or the price of which he has not yet learned from the tailor who laughs at your faded dress, and old-fashioned notions of honesty and right—your day will come. Franklin, from a penny-saving boy, walking in the streets with loaf of bread under his arm, became a companion of kings.

Poor Billy.

Among the most remarkable of canine experiences was Billy's, who went into the jaws of a crocodile and came out alive. His master, an Englishman, on a sporting excursion in South Central Africa, was strolling along a narrow, deep stream one evening, looking for birds. The dog Billy, was running along the water's edge, doing his best to drive up game for his master.

There was, however, a small crocodile who was also on the still hunt, and as Billy ran along the bank, he seized the poor animal by the hind quarters and pulled him into the water. Seeing what had happened, the master jumped down the bank, and standing close to the water, waited for a chance to save his dog. Poor Billy's head soon came above the surface, but was the next instant dragged out of sight again. As the crocodile turned with the dog, its white belly seemed to be just under the water. Thinking to make the reptile lose his hold, the hunter fired both barrels at it.

But when Billy's head again appeared, the crocodile was still clinging to the dog's leg. Reaching out the gun by the barrels, the hunter put out the stock near the dog's mouth. It was seized by the dog and held with the grip of death. Getting hold of Billy's ears, his master pulled with such force as to draw the crocodile's head out of water.

Just then, a friend appeared on the bank, and fired a charge of shot into the reptile's eyes, which made him let go his hold in a hurry and swim away. The narrowness of the stream—it was only six feet in width, but deep—prevented the crocodile from using its strength, though it left three bad wounds on Billy, which marked him as a dog who had "escaped by the skin of his teeth."

A Knowing Mouse.

Have you ever wondered, children, how animals and insects carry on their conversations with one another? I have frequently; and perhaps when we see little dogs, as we do so often, standing at the corners of the streets, wagging their wise heads and knocking their noses together, they are communicating some grand piece of intelligence that would be well worth our hearing, and would interest us very much, if we could only understand them.

When ants want to warn their neighbors of approaching danger, they knock their heads against one another; and surely the little bees must have a very wonderful way of making themselves understood, to be able to form, and carry out, all their little business arrangements as cleverly as they do.

But we seldom hear, or think anything about mouse conversation, and perhaps it is a very good thing for the little mice that we do not overhear their plans; put I cannot help thinking these pretty little creatures—and surely they are very pretty—have also a good deal to say to one another, and that they, too, plan and arrange things in a very clever manner, as the little true story, that I am now going to tell you, will show.

A little mouse, living somewhere in the vicinity of a dining-room chimney, showed his fondness for cheese by coming down the chimney every evening when part of the meal consisted of that commodity. He was encouraged to do so by having little bits regularly thrown to him which he quickly picked up, and with which he hurried back to his home.

One day a large piece of rind was thrown to him, so large, that although the little visitor ran at it greedily, he could hardly lift it at all. The persevering little fellow, however, managed to take it a very short distance, but he could not anyhow succeed in getting it up the chimney. He tried so often to do so, that those who watched his anxious little efforts were quite sorry for him; and then at last he disappeared,

to go home, as they thought, tired and disappointed, with the task given up.

But not so! A short time afterwards he reappeared, bringing with him another mouse—evidently of a former generation, being both larger and stronger than himself—and this "friend in need" he conducted to the piece of rind, which he at once picked up, the two then returning triumphantly, through the chimney, home together.

We may well be astonished at the sagacity of the little mouse who so cleverly gained his end. Perhaps he had said to himself, as he gave up his task, "I am too little to carry it, but I know one who is older and bigger than I am, and therefore stronger, so I will fetch him to carry it away for me." Then he had his friend (perhaps his own mother), to tell his trouble, to communicate his wishes, to persuade to encounter danger and come with him; or perhaps he had said that they were kind people whence that cheese came, whom she need not fear, and then he had led her to the spot. There was much for a little mouse to settle before his rind could be safely taken home for him; but, as we see, he succeeded, and then, no doubt, the friends gladly shared and distributed their nice supper, for I believe mice are very good and generous in sharing food with one another.

Surely there seems to be something very like reasoning in all this!

How wonderful is the instinct of a little animal! I read a beautiful definition of instinct in a book one day, which said that "instinct was reason without reasoning as it came straight from God." But does there not seem to be also sometimes reason without reasoning.—*Children's Friend*.

The Mound Builders.

Ferdinand de Soto and his army were the first to discover the mounds. Mention is frequently made of them by the historians of the expedition. This mention is incidental, and so connected with the account of the people and the various incidents of the expedition as to escape notice, yet the descriptions correspond closely with the works as they are now found. Some of the villages were surrounded by stockades, and were so situated as to be used for defenses or for fortifications, but a large number of them are also described as having elevated mounds which were used by the Caciques for their residences and as observatories from which they could overlook the villages. It is not unlikely that some of the more prominent of these mounds had been identified. There are many such mounds described in the narratives. One such is mentioned in Georgia, one in Alabama and one in Mississippi. One mound is described around which there was a terrace wide enough to accommodate twelve horsemen. On another mound the platform was large enough to accommodate twelve or thirteen large houses, which were used for the residence of the family and the tenants of the Cacique. This was not far from New Madrid, in Arkansas. It was upon the terrace of one of these mounds that De Soto stood when he uttered his reproach against his followers, having found out the dissatisfaction and revolt which had arisen among them. This was after he had passed the Mississippi River, and about the time when he became discouraged in his fruitless expedition. The narrative shows that these prominent earthworks were associated universally with village life. Sometimes the dwelling of the cacique would be on the high mound, which served as a fortress, the only ascent to it being by ladders. At other times mention is made of the fact that from the summit of these mounds extensive prospect could be had, and many native villages could be brought to view. The villages are described as seated "in a plain, between two streams; as nearly encircled by a deep moat, 50 paces in breadth, and where the moat did not extend was defended by a strong wall of timber," "near a wide and rapid river, the largest they discovered in Florida"—this was the Mississippi. "On a high artificial mound on one side of the village stood the dwelling of the cacique, which served as a fortress." Thus, throughout this whole region, from the seacoast at Tampa Bay, in the States of Florida, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, these ancient villages appeared, occupied by the various tribes, such as Creeks, Catawbas, Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Quapaws, Kansas, and, possibly, Shawnees. They were situated on all the larger streams in the more favorable localities, and the sites of many of them can be identified at the present time.

In 1776 Sarah Goddard printed a paper in Newport, Rhode Island, ably conducting it, afterward associating with her John Carter. The firm was announced Sarah Goddard & Co., she taking the partnership precedence, as was proper and right.

Selected Humor.

"In choosing a wife," says an exchange, "be governed by her chin." The worst of it is that, after choosing a wife, one is apt to keep on being governed in the same way.

A single Pennsylvania establishment sent out last year \$60,000 worth of frogs. It is not likely that a cent's worth of these will be eaten, however. Not because epicures don't like frogs' legs, but because these particular frogs had no legs, and were intended for railway tracks.

"Can you help me a little," said a tramp, poking his head into a country shop. "Why don't you help yourself?" said the proprietor angrily. "Thank you, I will," said the tramp, as he picked up a Dutch cheese and two loaves of bread and disappeared like a lightning streak, followed by half-a-dozen lumps of coal.

A preacher, raising his eyes from his desk in the midst of his sermon, was paralyzed with amazement to see his rude boy in the gallery pelting the hearers in the pews below with horse chestnuts. But, while the good man was preparing a frown of reproof, the young hopeful cried out: "You tend to your preaching, daddy. I'll keep them awake."

ANECDOTES OF LAWYERS.—Erskine observed, on coming into court one day, that Mr. Balfour, a brother barrister, had his ankle bound up with a silk handkerchief. "What's the matter, Balfour?" he inquired. The sufferer, whose mode of expressing himself was always very elaborate, replied: "I was taking a romantic ramble in my brother's grounds, when, coming to a gate, I had to climb over it, by which I came in contact with the first bar, and grazed the epidermis of my leg, which has caused a slight extravasation of blood." "You may thank your lucky stars," observed Erskine, "that your brother's gate was not so lofty as your style, or you must have broken your neck!"

Lord Erskine, while going circuit, was asked by the landlord of the hotel how he had slept. He replied dogmatically, "Union is strength, a fact of which some of your inmates appear to be unaware; for had they been unanimous last night they could easily have pushed me out of bed." "Fleas?" the landlord exclaimed, affecting great astonishment. "I was not aware that I had a single flea in the house." "I don't believe you have," retorted his lordship, "they are all married, I think, and have uncommonly large families."

Lord Ellenborough showing some impatience at a barrister's speech, the gentleman paused and said: "Is it the pleasure of the court that I should proceed with my statement?" "Pleasure, sir, has been out of the question for a long time; but you may proceed."

Ireland's Native Language.

The inability to speak English of several of the prisoners recently tried for grave crimes in Ireland may cause some speculation as to whether the native language is dying out. The recent census seems to prove that such is the case. The number of persons returned as speaking Irish only in 1871 was 103,562, while in 1881 the number so returned was 64,167, or 39,395 less than in 1871; and that in 1871 the number of persons who spoke Irish and English was 714,313, while in 1881 it was 885,765, or 171,452 more than in 1871. These differences are, however, more apparent than real. The decrease in the number of those who spoke "Irish only" is in part attributable to a more minute inquiry being instituted in 1881, upon which occasion, in all cases where persons resident in localities where that language was seldom spoken were returned on the family forms as speaking Irish, a circular was issued to the enumeration of the district to which the person or persons resided, asking whether the return was correct in this respect. The largest number of people speaking Irish only live, as might be expected, in Connaught, where there are over 33,000 so described. In Leinster the number whose speech is confined to the native dialect is only 50, in Munster over 18,000, and in Ulster over 12,000.

I'll Not Trust Ye.

Two centuries ago, in the Highlands of Scotland, to ask for a receipt or promissory note was thought an insult. If parties had business matters to transact, they stepped into the air, fixed their eyes upon the heavens, and each repeated his obligation without mortal witness. A mark was then carved on some rock or tree near by as a remembrance of the compact. Such a thing as a breach of contract was rarely met with, so highly did the people regard their honor.

When the march of improvement brought the new mode of doing business, they were often pained by those innovations.

An anecdote is related of a farmer

who had been to the Lowlands and learned worldly wisdom. On returning to his native parish he had need of a small sum of money, and made bold to ask a loan from a gentleman of means named Stuart. This was kindly granted and Mr. Stuart counted out the gold. This done, the farmer wrote a receipt and handed it to Mr. Stuart.

"What is this, man?" cried Mr. Stuart, opening the slip of paper.

"It is a receipt, sir, binding me to give ye back the gold at the right time," replied Sandy.

"Binding ye? Weel, my man, if ye canna trust yourself, I'm sure I'll no trust ye. Ye canna have my gold." And gathering it up he put it back in his desk and turned the key on it.

"But, sir, I might die," replied the canny Scotchman, bringing up an argument in favor of his new wisdom, "and perhaps my sons might refuse it ye; but the bit of paper would compel them."

"Compel them to sustain a dead father's honor?" cried the Celt. "They'll need compelling to do right if this is the road ye're leading them. I'll neither trust ye nor them. Ye can gang elsewhere for money; but ye'll find none in the parish that'll put more faith in a bit of paper than in a neighbor's word o' honor and his fear o' God."

Early Women Journalists.

The first daily newspaper printed in the world was established and edited by a woman—Elizabeth Mallet, in London, 1702—almost two hundred years ago. In her salutary she said she had established a newspaper "to spare the public half the impertinence which the ordinary papers contain." Woman-like, her paper was reformatory.

The first newspaper published in America of which we have any record was in Massachusetts. It was called the *Massachusetts Gazette and News-Letter*. After the death of the editor the widow edited it in the most spirited manner for two or three years. It was the only paper that did not suspend operations when Boston was besieged by the British. The widow's name was Margaret Crafer.

In 1632 Rhode Island issued the first newspaper. It was owned and edited by Anna Franklin. She and her two daughters did the printing, and their servants worked the printing press. History tells us that for her quickness and correctness she was appointed printer to the colony, supplying pamphlets, etc., to the Colonial officers. She also printed an edition of the colonial laws of 340 pages.

In 1772 Clementine Reid published a paper in Virginia favoring the Colonial cause, and greatly offended the Royalists; and two years after another paper was started in the interests of the Crown by Mrs. H. Boyle, borrowing the name of Mrs. Reid's paper, which was the *Virginia Gazette*, but which was short-lived. Both of the papers were published in the town of Williamsburg. The Colonial paper was the first newspaper in which the Declaration of Independence was printed.

In 1773 Elizabeth Timothy published and edited a paper in Charleston, South Carolina. After the Revolution, Annie Timothy became its editor, and was appointed State Printer, which position she held seventeen years. Mary Crouch published a paper in Charleston about the same time, in special opposition to the Stamp act. She afterwards removed her paper to Salem, Massachusetts, and continued its publication there for years after.

How to Shake Hands.

There are only two or three people now living who can successfully shake hands. There is a great deal of hand-shaking done through the country, but only a small per cent. of the shakers and shakees know how to do it so as to get the entire amount of exhilaration out of it. Some grab the hand of an adversary in a quick, nervous manner that scars the victim nearly to death, while others slide the cold and clammy paw at you so that you feel the same as when you draw a cold oyster with vinegar on it down your back. If you are shaking hands with a lady incline the head slightly with a soft and graceful yet half timid movement. Look gently in her eyes with a kind of pleading smile, beam on her features a bright and winsome beam, say something you have heard some one else on similar occasions and in the meantime shake her hand in a subdued yet vigorous way, not as though you were trying to make a mash by pulverizing her fingers nor in too conservative a manner, allowing her hand to fall with a sickening thud when you let go. Care should be taken not to hang on the hand more than half an hour in public, as bystanders might make remarks.

An Illinois court has decided that woman's be about her age doesn't vitiate her insurance policy.