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What a Baby Thinks. Who can tell what a baby thinks? When it wakes from its forty winks...

Soothing my sick little boy last night with the celebrated and venerable nursery rhyme about the black sheep...

Evidently he was not a one-third proprietor of the sheep herself; but only a part of the wool was going to him...

I doubt if anybody, even the learned editor of Notes and Queries, could confidently answer these questions...

No splendid carriage, with liveried driver and footmen, ever rolls along its mud. Beautiful ladies, with sweet children, in holiday attire...

These may be the people spoken of as "in darkness and the shadow of death," waiting for some great light to arise...

ists, quite back from the banks of the great channels of human life. They only hear the roar and are sometimes spattered with the dirty foam of these impetuous streams.

As a sample, there is Needle Lane. It is broad enough, to be sure, to allow the sewing-girls who are hived in it to draw their threads...

Some of the good people who are given to preaching say; Go now into these places and build there a church, so shall that purifying institution cleanse the whole neighborhood.

But would it not be almost as sensible, good people, to create somehow an outward current from these neighborhoods, that should set, at least every Sunday, toward the squares and avenues...

If you were to make a feast for your poor neighbors, which would you do? Would you take your well-filled baskets into the lanes and spread the loaves and roasts on those little dingy tables?

The truest results of religion cannot be secured so well by sending missionaries into Mud Alley as by getting the people out of the alley into Broad Avenue.

To look for an ordinary clerk's place is really a desperate undertaking, and the young stranger who comes to the city will find it a North Pole expedition in search of an uncertainty.

But the main idea is understood to be self defense. If there is danger of cholera, require the health officers to do their duty...

When the Third Napoleon wished to prevent mobs and barricades, he converted the lanes of Paris into spacious boulevards...

There is a crying need for reform in education of youth. We see evidences of this in the army of place seekers, who become politicians at first and often settle down into gamblers and rowdies afterward.

The future of girls is still more uncertain and dangerous. Without natural supporters in a city like this it is beset with difficulties...

The movement, started by certain ladies, would be productive of great benefit if properly directed...

Very few of our florists have any idea of the extent of the bulb business in and around the old Dutch city of Haarlem.

The soil for bulbs is prepared one year in advance by digging in a very heavy coat of pure cow manure and planting potatoes therein.

The method of propagating hyacinths is very interesting and, although a tedious operation, develops some new ideas to American florists.

The following year these are sown thickly in rows and by the ensuing autumn will grow to the size of marbles.

Another method of increasing the hyacinth is to make two deep inclinations crosswise on the bottom of the bulb and cultivate, very nearly as above described, the small bulblets forming at the scarified lines.

The theory of bulb growth, upon which the propagating operation depends, presents such an interesting as well as beautiful study in physiological botany that I cannot resist the temptation of explaining the process...

Subterranean branches, on the other hand, are always supplied with buds and mostly with branch-like appendages that answer to and are of the same general character as leaves...

During a recent visit to the Haarlem bulb farms I found that the bulbs had mostly been gathered and stored in the immense drying houses...

The Dutch have a very useful method of growing the well-known Lay of the Valley. This pretty little favorite has a habit of extending its underground branches...

In Kralage's collection one can find almost everything known in the way of bulbs and tubers. Lilies are a decided specialty and a bed of the enormous L. giganteum several feet high, covered with large flowers...

It is really wonderful how much attention is paid by the Dutch to what we in America term common wild flowers.

The true lover of flowers judges none too common for his admiration; and just here, as entirely appropriate, allow me to quote from Professor Russell, the eminent microscopic botanist...

Little to resume: take the lovely little Anemone nemorosa, or native "Wind-flower." It is here grown in quantity, with a double form of the flower as well. And then another of our well-known harbingers of spring, the Hepatica triloba, or "Liver-leaf," sporting into various unique colors and forms...

The collection of Iris, or "Flags," is especially worthy of remark, and the well-known I. Germanica, or "German Flag," by skillful hybridization has sported into such a diversity of color that the list of names, with descriptions of each, would form quite a little volume.

The American botanist will detect his own lovely species, I. Versicolor and I. Virginica, as in all other genera of bulbous and tuberous plants.

A LEGITIMATE INFERENCE.—That a dentist's office is a drawing-room.

A PLEASING INSTANCE of what an earnest, faithful woman can do single-handed comes to us from North Carolina. On the lower coast is Harker's Island, inhabited by poor fishermen, both white and black...

A RECENT work on gardening is called "The Six of spades." "The Rake's Progress" would not be an inappropriate title for a sequel.