

I Will Try.

There is a society in London known as the Society of Arts. Its object is the encouragement of talent in the various departments of art.

More than half a century ago, a little fellow, named William Ross, not twelve years of age, was talking with his mother about an exhibition of paintings at the society's rooms.

William knew that his mother was no flatterer, and he said, I have a mind to ask permission to hang one or two of my paintings on the walls at the next exhibition.

'Why not try for one of the prizes?' asked his mother. 'You can but try.'

'And I will try, mother dear,' said William. 'I have a historical subject in my head, out of which I think I can make a picture.'

'What is it, William?' 'The death of Wat Tyler. You have heard of him; headed a mob in the time of Richard the Second. Having behaved insolently before the king at Smithfield, Tyler was struck down by Watworth, Mayor of London; and then dispatched by the king's attendants.'

'It is a bold subject, William, but I will say nothing to deter you from trying it.'

'If I fail mother, where will be the harm? I can try again.'

'To be sure you can, William! So we will not be disappointed should you not succeed in winning the silver palette offered by the society for the best historical painting.'

Without more ado, little William went to work. He first acquainted himself with the various costumes of the year 1831; he learned how the king and noblemen used to dress, and what sort of clothes were worn by the poor people and laborers, to which class Wat Tyler belonged.

After having given some time to the study of these things, he acquainted himself thoroughly with the historical incidents attending the death of the bold rioter. He grouped, in imagination, the persons who were present at the scene—the king and his attendants, Watworth, the Mayor, Wat Tyler himself, and in the background some of his ruffianly companions.

The difficulty now was to select that period of the action best fitted for a picture, and to group the figures in attitudes the most natural and expressive. Many times did little William make a sketch of the scene on paper, and then obliterate it, dissatisfied with his work.

At times he almost despaired of accomplishing anything that should do justice to the conception of his mind. But after many trials and many failures, he completed a sketch which he decided to transfer to canvas.

He now labored diligently at his task, and took every opportunity to improve himself in a knowledge of colors and their effects. At length the day for handing in his picture arrived. He then had to wait a month before there was any decision as to its merits. On the day appointed for the announcement of the decision, many persons of distinction were present, including ladies. The meeting was presided over by the Duke of Norfolk.

William's mother was present of course.—She sat waiting the result with a beating heart. What a proud mother she was, when after the transaction of some unimportant business, it was announced that the prize of a silver palette for the best historical picture was awarded to the painter of the piece entitled, "The Death of Wat Tyler."

When it was found that little William Ross was the successful artist, the applause of the audience broke forth with enthusiasm. To see such a little fellow gain a prize over competitors of mature age, was a novelty and surprise. William was summoned, with his picture, to the Duke's chair, and there he received such counsel and encouragement as were of great service to him in his future career. He is now Sir William Ross, miniature painter to the Queen, having risen to fortune and to fame by carrying out, with determination and perseverance, his simple promise to his mother of 'I will try.'

A String of Curious Facts.

The following striking scientific facts were picked up in the course of our reading, from various reliable authorities. We think many of them will be new to our readers:—

The difference between the skulls of the domestic hog and wild boar, is as great as that between the European and negro skull. Domesticated animals that have subsequently run wild in the forests, after a few generations lose all traces of their domestication, and are physically different from their tame originals.

It is not natural for a cow, no more than for other female animals to give milk when she has no young to nourish. The permanent production of milk is a modified animal function, produced by an artificial habit for several generations. In Columbia, the practice of milking cows having been laid aside, the natural state of the function has been restored. The secretion of milk continues only during the suckling of the calf and is only an occasional phenomenon. If the calf dies, the milk ceases to flow, and it is only by keeping him with his dam by day, that an opportunity of obtaining milk from cows by night can be obtained.

The barking of dogs is an acquired hereditary instinct, supposed to have originated in an attempt to imitate the human voice. Wild dogs, and domestic breeds become wild, never bark, but howl. Cats, which so disturb civil communities by their midnight "caterwaul," in the wild state in South America, are quite silent.

The hair of the negro is not wool, but a curled and twisted hair. The distinction between hair and wool is clearly revealed by the microscope.

The dark races have less nervous sensibility than the whites. They are not subject to nervous disease. They sleep sound in every disease, nor does any mental disturbance keep them awake. They bear surgical operations much better than the white people.

A certain species of fungus has been known to attain the size of a gourd in one night; and it is calculated that the cellulose, of which it is composed, must amount to forty seven thousand and a million. If it grew in twelve hours, this would give four thousand million per hour, or more than six million each minute.

Animalcules have been discovered so small that one million would not exceed a grain of sand; and five hundred million would sport in a drop of water. Yet each of these must have blood-vessels, nerves, muscles, circulating fluids, &c., like large animals.

One of the most wonderful achievements of astronomers, is the weighing of the bodies of the solar system. It is certain that the mass of Jupiter is more than 322, and less than 323 times the mass of this globe—so accurately has the work been accomplished. The mass of the sun is 359,551 times greater than that of the earth and moon, and 700 times greater than the united mass of all the planets.

The planet Saturn is composed of matter only half as heavy as water; Mercury is considerably heavier than quicksilver, and a third heavier than lead; and our own globe is twice as heavy as common rock, and half as heavy as lead—a fact which shows the great density of its internal parts.

A flash of lightning on the earth would be visible on the moon in a second and a quarter; on the sun, in 8 minutes; on Jupiter, when farthest from us, in 52 minutes; on Uranus, in two hours; on Neptune, in four hours and a quarter; on the star Vega, of the first magnitude, in 45 years; on a star of the eighth magnitude in 4,000 years; and such stars are visible through the telescope.

La Place, the great French astronomer, says:—"I have ascertained that between the heavenly bodies all attractions are transmitted with a velocity which, if it be not infinite, surpasses several times the velocity of light." His annotator estimates it as eight million of times greater than that of light.

The circumference of the earth is 25,020 miles. A railway train, traveling incessantly night and day, at the rate of 25 miles an hour, would require six weeks to go round it. A tunnel through the earth, from England to New Zealand, would be nearly 8,000 miles long.

I'd RATHER CARRY IT.—Going from market the other day, we observed a very small boy, who gave no very special indication, by dress or face, of other than ordinary sensations or training in life, carrying a basket that was so heavy as to nearly bend him down beneath it.

We observed, "my boy you have a heavy load." "Yes," said he, "but I'd rather carry it than mother should." The remark was one of a nature we love to hear; but we do not know that we should have thought enough of it to have chronicled it, had we not seen across the street, a highly accomplished young lady playing the piano, while her mother was washing the windows. We have no reason for forestalling the reflections and comparisons of our readers on facts.—Wheeling Gazette.

'WELL JONES, how much did your pig weigh?' 'Well, sir, it didn't weigh as much as I expected, and I always thought it would.'

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Wellsboro, April 1, 1855. J. A. ROY.

TO THE LADIES! A New Kind of Soap

has recently been invented, which promises to supersede all other kinds of hard soap. It is used extensively for washing clothes, and possesses the remarkable property of extracting dirt without boiling the clothes and without the use of the rubbing board. The process of washing requires less than half the time, and only about half the labor, by using this Patent Soap. This article is peculiarly excellent, and superior to any thing else called Soap; because while it saves time and labor, it never rots or injures the clothes. It is just the article it is represented to be, and never disappoints the expectations of purchasers. It does not take out stains. For sale at Roy's Drug Store, Wellsboro, Pa.

BLANK MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES, FOR sale at this Office. June 24, 1855.

HOWARD ASSOCIATION.

PHILADELPHIA.

Important Announcement. TO all persons afflicted with Sexual diseases such as SPERMATORRHEA, SEMINAL WEAKNESS, IMPOTENCE, GONORRHEA, WREATH SYPHILIS, the Vice of ONANISM, or SELF-ABUSE, &c., &c.

THE HOWARD ASSOCIATION of Philadelphia in view of the awful destruction of human life and health, caused by Sexual diseases, and the deceptions which are practiced upon the unfortunate victims of such diseases by Quacks, have directed their Consulting Surgeon, as a CHARITABLE ACT worthy of their name, to give MEDICAL ADVICE GRATIS, to all persons thus afflicted, (Male or Female,) who apply by letter, with a description of their condition, (age, occupation, habits of life, &c.) and in case of extreme poverty and suffering, to FURNISH MEDICINES FREE OF CHARGE.

The Howard Association is a benevolent Institution, established by special endowment, for the relief of the sick and distressed, afflicted with "Venereal and Epidemic Diseases," and its funds can