

## For the Children

A Baby Llama and His Knee Braces.



In an attempt to cure a bad case of knockknees a unique mechanical experiment is being performed upon a valuable baby llama at the Cincinnati zoological garden. He persisted in rubbing his fore knees together. Various ways to correct the fault were tried, but not until the steel forms with their straps were made and applied was any success noted. The little fellow now walks and frisks about with the braces on without having his knees bother him. The mechanical device will be continued until he has outgrown the fault.

### The Admiral and the Sentry.

When Admiral de Horsey, who some years ago had command of the British fleet in the Pacific, was admiral of the north Atlantic squadron he was one evening dining on shore at Port Royal, Jamaica. On returning to his boat his way led across the barrack square. A black sentry of one of the West India regiments halted him at the gate with "Who comes dar?" Great was the admiral's annoyance to find that he had neglected to get the password before leaving the ship. "That's all right," he said carelessly, hoping to overcome the man's scruples by indifference. "You know who I am." "Dunno nobody, sah," replied the soldier stonily. "You can't pass here." "Why, I'm Admiral de Horsey!" The man evidently thought he was being made fun of, and he replied quickly: "Well, you can't pass. I don't care if you're Admiral de Donkey!" And the windup was that the admiral had to get the order of the officer of the guard to pass him.

### A Pearl Diver's Peril.

We all love pearls, yet few of us realize the perils of diving for pearls. The successful diver must be courageous, active and have great presence of mind. A diver once engaged in pearl fisheries in the gulf of California tells this story of one of his many experiences: "I had filled my bag with oysters and was about to ascend when, looking up, I saw a big man eating shark watching me. I knew that to rise to the surface would be fatal, so I moved quickly to the opposite rocks, stirred up a great cloud of mud, rose in the darkness and reached the side of the boat just in time to escape the jaws of the big fish. Had I hesitated an instant in doing what I did I would have paid the penalty with my life."

### Little Things.

Little things are sometimes important. Here is an instance: There was cold weather and then a little warm weather and then cold again in York, Pa. An icicle formed on the water-spout of a certain house. The weather turned warm again. The icicle fell in the night and made a loud noise that awakened one of the sleepers. The awakened person found that the house was full of coal gas that was escaping through a hole in the stovepipe and that might have killed the whole family if one of them had not been aroused by the fall of the icicle.

### The Game of Menagerie.

All the players take the names of animals. If played indoors they sit in chairs, if outside on benches. A leader then tells a story about animals, bringing in some of the names chosen. When a name is mentioned the owner gets up, gives the sound of the animal and sits down, but if the word "menagerie" or "animals" is used all must get up and give the sounds of the animals they represent. A new leader is chosen after awhile by the old leader, who is blindfolded and then feels about until he touches some one.

### To Suspend a Needle in the Air.

Place a magnet on a stand to raise a little above the table, then bring a small sewing needle, containing a thread, within a little of the magnet, keeping hold of the thread to prevent the needle from attaching itself to the magnet. The needle in endeavoring to fly to the magnet and being prevented by the thread will remain curiously suspended in the air.

### The Hilltop Road.

The road that ends against the sky I love the very best. It starts near by the open square, Exactly like the rest. But then it winds and winds uphill As far as it can go. And stops just where the sky begins And where the poplars grow. I wish that I might live up there, So close against the sky. To touch the little stars at night And watch the moon go by. —Youth's Companion.

### Origin of Firewater.

When the Hudson Bay Trading company began its trading among the Indians it was found that by selling the Indians liquor they could more easily be induced to trade their peltries. The first whisky or intoxicant of inferior quality was distilled in England and brought to America in large barrels, but in transporting it overland it was found more convenient to divide it into small kegs. The traders soon became aware of the fact that by diluting the whisky with water more furs could be obtained. This was practiced for some time, but the Indians learned that good whisky poured on a fire would cause it to flame up, whereas had the whisky been diluted the fire would be quenched. It was by this simple experiment that the term "fire-water" became a common word among the Indians. A chief who had experienced the bad effects of whisky among his people said it was most certainly distilled from the hearts of wildcats and the tongues of women from the effects it produced.—Red Man.

### Symbolism Didn't Appeal.

"Charlie," sorrowfully sighed the young lady in the parlor of the concrete house on Washington avenue, "it is nearly 12 o'clock." "Yes, Bellinda," was the breathing response of her poetical companion, who was sitting on the sofa beside her. "The minute hand is drawing closer and closer to the hour hand, and when the time of midnight is chimed the two hands will be even as one. Oh, darling Bellinda," he continued as he literally simulated the action of the minute hand, "may not the coming together of those two hands be symbolic of us?"

She broke away and stood firmly on her feet. "No, Charles Henry Smith," she retorted angrily, "those two hands will remain as one but a single second, and then the minute hand will divorce itself and go on its way alone. No, Mr. Smith, a minute hand that doesn't stick isn't the kind of symbolism I want!"—Boston Post.

### Vernet in a Storm at Sea.

Vernet, the celebrated painter of sea pieces, eager in the study of nature, made several long voyages in his younger days in order to observe the various scenes which the changeable elements exhibit. In one of these excursions undertaken merely for the love of the art a most violent gale of wind arose, when Vernet, without attending to the perils with which he was surrounded, desired one of the sailors to lash him fast to some of the rigging. Soon after this request was granted the storm increased, attended with thunder and lightning and with every circumstance that could add to the horror of the scene, and consternation and terror sat on every countenance, but in the young painter every emotion was lost in that of admiration, which so wholly engrossed his attention that he every now and then exclaimed in the most enthusiastic terms, "Good heavens, what a noble scene!"

### Knife Duels in Mexico.

A duel between cattle herders on the Mexican plains is about as savage and deadly a manner of fighting as one could possibly imagine. Each opponent extends his left arm, and a third party, who has been selected to act as referee binds their wrists together with a thong of rawhide. He then places a knife in the right hand of each, and the fight is on. Needless to say, it does not last long. Every stab may be calculated upon to do damage, and it often happens that both duelists receive fatal wounds. Yet, in spite of the severe rules of the game, there are men who become experts and terrorize a whole neighborhood. They pride themselves on being able to strike so quickly and so surely that they can kill an opponent with the first blow and get away unscathed.—Exchange.

### The Suicide of Hannibal.

Defeated at Zama, Hannibal fled to the east to avoid falling into the hands of the Romans and found temporary security in the dominions of Mithridates. He incited this monarch to engage in a Roman war, and his advice as to its conduct being rejected, the war proved unsuccessful, and Mithridates was required as one of the conditions of peace to deliver up Hannibal to his enemies, the Romans. The unfortunate Carthaginian heard of his approaching fate, swallowed the poison which for years he had carried about his person and expired just as the envoys arrived to take him in charge.

### Ancient Repartee.

A union of discordant particulars is laughable, as, What is wanting to him except fortune and virtue? Similar to this is friendly admonition by way of giving advice, as when Grant persuaded a bad pleader, who had made himself hoarse with speaking, to drink a cold mixture of honey and wine as soon as he got home. "I shall ruin my voice," said he, "if I do so." "It will be better," said Grant, "than to ruin your clients."—From Cicero's "Oratory."

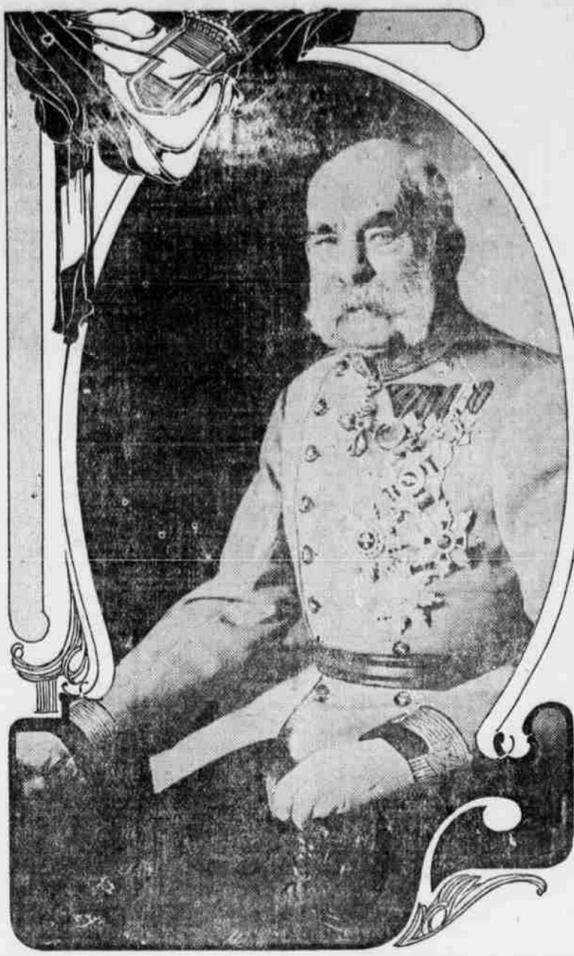
### An Exciting Contest.

Henson—I bet my wife that I could thread a needle before she could sharpen a lead pencil. Benson—Which won? Henson—I won in exactly thirteen minutes, but I believe I'd have lost if she had not run out of pencils at the end of five minutes.—Chicago News.

### Still Stronger.

Grocer—Good morning, Mr. Poppo. How are those eggs I sent you? Poppo—Better, thank you. They are gaining strength every minute.

Life is a plant that grows out of death.—Becher.



## EMPEROR FRANCIS JOSEPH, VETERAN AMONG MONARCHS

**D**ESPITE his eighty-one years Francis Joseph of Austria-Hungary is shown by his latest photograph, from which the accompanying half tone is made, as still hale and vigorous. Not only is the emperor old in years, but on the throne, having ruled over Austria since 1848 and over Austria-Hungary since 1867. Some notion of the length of his reign may be realized from the fact that when he was crowned in Austria the Mexican war was only at an end, and when he was made also king of Hungary the American civil war had been over but two years.

### Handing a Haddock.

"There is no better place than a fish market to pick up queer superstitions," said a restaurant proprietor. "The other day I held up a fine specimen of haddock. The dealer, who was an Italian, nearly choked on the bunch of Neapolitan expletives that rushed into his throat.

"Novalre, no, novalre take up haddock so," he said.

"How? I asked.

"By the head, so your fingers touch those dark spots on each side of the head," he said. "The curse fall on you if you do."

"Whose curse? said I.

"St. Petaire's," said he. "St. Petaire gave the haddock those dark spots. They are his finger prints. He catch haddock just so in the sea of Galilee, and every haddock born since then has shown those same marks. Let go."

"And I did let go. Of course I did not believe it, but when I found that half the fish dealers in that market did believe I deemed it prudent to handle haddock by the body or tail."—New York Sun.

### A Maniac's Poem.

Probably the mass of prison poetry which has been written on stools and bedposts and scratched on prison walls far exceeds that which has found expression on paper, and many a "mute, inglorious Milton" has begun and finished his poetical career with these "lost to sight" productions. There is in existence a short poem, said to have been scratched by a maniac on the wall of his cell, which runs thus:

Could I with ink the ocean fill,  
Were all the world of parchment made,  
Were every reed on earth a quill,  
And every man a scribe by trade,  
To write the love of God alone  
Would drain that ocean dry;  
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,  
Though stretched from sky to sky.

The authenticity of this being the work of a maniac has often been questioned because of the beauty of its expression and its sound reason, but the story stands.—London Saturday Review.

### Bird Stories.

A German scientific journal published in 1897 a story to the effect that a golden eagle shot in that year at Eszeg, Slavonia, was found to have a ring about its neck engraved on which were the arms of a Slavonian family and the date 1046.

In 1793 the Gentleman's Magazine told about a hawk, captured when flying in the vicinity of the Cape of Good Hope and taken by an Indian ship to England, which wore a gold collar inscribed:

"This goodlie hawk doth belong to his Most Excellent Majesty James, King of England, A. D. 1610."

If this bird really escaped from England in the reign of James, 153 years elapsed between its escape and its recapture, and it had flown a distance of 6,500 miles away from its former owner.

It is happiness to be nobly descended; it is not less to have so much merit that nobody inquires whether we are so or not.—La Bruyere.

### Relics of the Incas.

The Inca period has left us remarkable traces, especially in the magnificent roads. Broad, beautiful turnpikes, now only partially preserved, run for a distance of over 2,000 miles from the coast to the plateau and the foot of the highest peaks. We marvel at the skill of the Inca engineers, especially in the magnificent stairways hewn in the rock, in the filling up of deep ravines, in the paving with ponderous flags. In several places have been found the remains of a former asphalt covering to these roads. At certain intervals are found the ruins of custom houses and laid out grounds and fortifications, of which the most interesting specimen is the fortress of Cuzco, built about the year 1000, and plundered and destroyed by Pizarro in 1543.—Century Path.

### The Club.

An exclusive dining society in London is the one bearing the arrogant title the Club, which since its foundation has been limited to thirty-five members. Johnson, Burke, Reynolds and Goldsmith were among the original members. Garrick and Boswell joined in 1773 and Gibbon and Fox in 1771. Of the eighteen premiers in the nineteenth century nine were members of the club. Fox, Liverpool, Canning, Russell, Aberdeen, Gladstone, Salisbury, Lord Rosebery and Mr Balfour.—London Spectator.

### The Orator's Fate.

"Some orators," said Senator Sargent reflectively, "make me think of our parrot."

"The one whose head you chopped off?"

"Yes. He had to take all the blame for what somebody else insisted on his saving."—Washington Star.



"JAWN" McGRAW, the manager of the Giants who opened the season of 1911 with Philadelphia on Wednesday.



### Beethoven's Fits of Rage.

Beethoven's behavior was often atrocious. In giving lessons to young ladies he would sometimes tear the music to pieces and scatter it about the floor or even smash the furniture. Once when playing in company there was some interruption. "I play no longer for such hogs!" he cried and left the piano. He once called Prince Lobkowitz an ass because a bassoon player happened to be absent—Dole's "Famous Composers."

### Queer Human Nature.

"Man's a funny proposition"  
"What now?"  
"When he reads a medical book he fancies he has every disease described, but let him read the work of a moralist and all the faults pointed out he sees not in himself, but in his neighbor."—Boston Transcript.

### Stunted Maples

Stunted maple trees, grown in mountainous regions of eastern Austria, where the winters are long and severe and the snowfalls considerable, yield excellent wood for the manufacture of violins.

### How They Would Sound.

Mrs. Galey (musingly)—Suppose I should publish your love letters?  
Mr. Galey—Why not simply make a public acknowledgment that you married an idiot?

### Found a Rhyme.

A bold poet once tried to overcome the difficulty of finding a rhyme for carpet by the following: "Sweet maid of the inn, 'tis surely no sin to toast such a beautiful bar pet; believe me, my dear, your feet would appear at home on a nobleman's carpet!"—London Mail.

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