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mence active work in the Spring.

FALLS CITY

Is crying for a Railroad from this City.

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Is crying for a Railroad from Independence.

INDEPENDENCE is in the Center.

DO YOU "CATCH ON."

## A GRIEVOUS COMPLAINT.

"We had on a fellow, I do declare," said Tommy one day, with a pout; "he was every one of the mile I was!"

"The problem was," said Tommy, "they were 'bout as big as the ear of a mole. And I never have more than three. And there's always coming a mean little hole that has my knife for me."

"I can't make 'em hold but a few little things. Some cookies, an apple or two. A bottle and pencil and bunch of strings. Some nails and small nails. And marbles, of course, and a top and ball. And shoes and petticoats and such. And some odds and ends. You know, that's all you can see for yourself. That's all."

"I'd like a suit of some patent kind. With pockets made wide and long; Above and below and before and behind. And some odds and ends. You know, that's all you can see for yourself. That's all."

"I've lost my pepper pot," said Deborah, looking sharply at the kitchen. "I wonder if you've been up to any of your tricks, Jim?"

Jim gave no answer except a toss of the head as he slowly walked across the kitchen, but Deborah's quick ears caught a little chuckle as he went out the door.

"I'll give it to you some day, you young rascal, if you carry away my things!" went on Deborah, shaking her fist at the little fellow.

"What's the matter, Deborah?" asked her mother, coming into the kitchen. "Oh, it's that little fellow. He's always up to mischief. It comes natural to that gipsy sort to be tricky and sneaky, and there's no such thing as gettin' 'em out of it."

"If it's natural to them we ought to make some allowance for it," said Mrs. Graham, with a smile, as she helped Deborah to hunt for the missing pepper pot.

"No use a-harborin' such, seems to me," said Deborah. "May be so," said Mrs. Graham, "but some of us somehow seems to have the heart to drivin' him away."

"I have," said Deborah very decidedly. "Look-a-there now—a everlasting tease!"

The two watched Jim as with a roguish twinkle in his small black eyes he made his way to where old Carlo was taking his morning nap under the lilac bush and gave him a sudden poke.

The dog raised his head with a growl, but Jim stood at a little distance, with a grave and innocent look at something on the ground.

Carlo settled down again, and quick as lightning Jim gave him another poke. Up jumped Carlo, with a savage look at his tormentor, but Jim stood in the same place, half asleep, and Carlo lay down with a long drawn sigh. Jim kept it up until the poor dog went to find a quieter place.

"I've seen him do that a dozen times," said Deborah laughing. "And I know he's hidden my pepper pot. Why, it ain't so long since I read a story about a cat that set—must 'a' been first cousin to Jim I reckon—that stole a poor young girl that worked in the family. She was disgraced and turned off, and ever so long after it was found out that that creature'd been the thief. I've no use for such!"

And so every member of the family could have declared, but no one would be the one to say that Jim must be. In the course of a long drive over country roads through a heavy storm the farmer had found Jim drenched and half starved. Of course he brought him home, and after being warmed, fed and made comfortable the wild, dark looking little vagabond had wisely settled himself in such good quarters, and had since showed no desire to leave them.

"You can come and help me, peel the peaches now, Marian," called Mrs. Graham to her daughter.

Marian came, looking admiringly at the baskets of rosy cheeks, downy fruit on the great table, all of which was waiting to be made into peach butter.

"Is that your pearl ring?" asked her mother.

"Oh—yes. I was clearing my drawer and put it on to see how pretty it looked and forgot it. I'll take it off."

The pretty lassie worked for hours over the peaches, piling, stoning, mashing, stirring and tasting. At length she skipped up to her room to dress, but soon came running back with an anxious face.

"My ring, Deborah! I left it on the corner of the table—back here. Have you seen it?"

"The last, Miss Marian! No, I ain't. And I've just this blessed minute escaped up all the peels and flung 'em out to the pigs."

With tears in her eyes Marian ran out to the lot in which the pigs were kept, and searched eagerly. But the grunts had made quick work of their luscious meal, and no ring was to be found. More slowly she went back, and looked about the kitchen with a forlorn hope that the ring might have escaped. But Deborah's scraping had been vigorous, and she went upstairs again with a weebone look.

"How's a dreadful careless little piece," said Deborah, looking after her, "always a-leavin' her things round. But I ain't a-goin' to say it to her now she's a-feelin' so bad."

"Ha, ha—you thievish rascal! I've caught you at last, ain't I?" Mrs. Graham and Marian hurried out at sound of Deborah's excited voice to see Jim struggling in her grasp. He was uttering short, angry cries and doing his best to free himself.

"I was just a-washin' my dishes," cried Deborah, "when this limb comes a-peekin' and a-eyrin' round. I mistrusted he was up to something, and I kep' my eye on him and seen him pick up one of my teaspoons and sneak off with it. I took after him, and just got hold of him right here—see? He was just a-slipin' that spoon into that hole fer to hide it!"

Mrs. Graham looked curiously at the hole, a small one near the ground in the weather boarding of the spring house.

Deborah did so, and the three bent over what they saw.

"I'm blessed if there ain't my pepper pot!" exclaimed Deborah.

More than the pepper pot was there. Keys, nails, screws, a button, a cork, a gimlet, and as they turned them over Marian gave a scream of delight and snatched up her pearl ring.

Then she made a quick rush for Jim, and hugged and fondled him until he bit her to make her let him go, when he flew to the top of the spring house, and stood there chattering his discontent at such rough handling.

## A LOST BATTLE.

"You dear old crow!" exclaimed Marian. "If you hadn't stolen my ring off the table that day I never should have seen it again. Oh, Deborah, you have pulled out half his tail feathers!"

"Never mind," said Deborah; "they'll grow again."—Sydney Dayne in Youth's Companion.

Costly War Implements.

Tens of thousands of pounds of capital have to be sunk ere a single 111 ton gun can be manufactured. A particular reason for its being costly to make is that its production consumes a great amount of time. To build such a gun takes as long as to build a first class cruiser. Yet another reason lies in the fact that the gun is made of iron and steel, and the material is not only expensive, but it is a great waste of labor, if not of material.

The 111 ton gun, without their mountings, cannot be produced or sold to the government for much less than \$15,000 apiece. The 67 ton gun for less than \$10,000, and the 45 ton gun for less than \$6,000, and the expense of firing these guns, apart from the wear and tear of the weapons, mountings and ships, may be judged from the amount of powder and the weight of projectile used.

In the case of the 67 ton gun the full powder charge is 900 pounds of slow burning cocoa. The 45 ton gun uses 600 pounds, while the projectile is 1,300 pounds weight. In the case of the 111 ton gun the full charge of brown priming powder is 300 pounds, and the projectile weighs 214 pounds. The estimated cost of one round from the largest gun is about \$20, from the second about \$10 and from the smallest about \$5; but this is the cost of powder, cartridge and projectile only.—London Tit-Bits.

A Singular Dental Operation.

Ansion Washburn, the 14-year-old son of Austin Washburn, of the Bee line, set in Dr. J. B. Morrison's office reading a paper and fanning himself unconcernedly. He has passed through one of the most remarkable operations known in dental surgery. When he was about 5 years of age he had an attack of scarlet fever that caused the retention of four teeth on the right side of the upper jaw. Dr. Morrison made an exploration and found the teeth and drew two of them down. One of them did not require much attention, except careful watching.

When exploring for the eye tooth he found it between the hard palate and the floor of the nose, pointing toward the left jaw. The tooth was imbedded in a sack of pus, and the most careful treatment was needed in removing the one and to prevent it from aggravating the cut parts and causing blood poison.

The tooth and its bony attachments were cut loose, carefully cleaned of all foreign substances and placed in their proper position. The central incisor was kept out of the boy's mouth for two and a half hours. The teeth that were changed about are growing nicely, and young Washburn said that he is suffering no pain, no inflammation has set in and his teeth are in good condition. He was thoroughly under the influence of ether during the operation. The operation is out of the ordinary.—Indianapolis News.

Performers.

Sweet odors for the bath and the toilet are of three kinds—the floral, the aromatic and the balsamic. The first includes those derived from sweet smelling flowers and plants, the second those derived from musks and resins, the third those derived from essential oils. The floral odors are the most delicate and the most essential. The aromatic odors are the most powerful and the most enduring. The balsamic odors are the most soothing and the most refreshing.

The Bible of the Buddhists.

The bible of the sect is not without beauty and high moral as well as poetic conceptions. There is much in it of the nature of mythology and mysticism, which Buddhists do not pretend to understand themselves, yet there is much to be learned from a book of extracts and translations from the Buddhist bible. It gives a few examples:

"The perfect man is like a thistle, unsolicited by the mud in which it grows." Another: "The perfect man will not be angry with him who brings him evil reports of himself, lest he be not able to judge truthfully of the matter whereof he is accused." "Do not steal." "Do not lie." "Do not kill." "Do not be a drunkard." "Do not to another what you would not wish done to yourself."

From these examples it may be observed how nearly their moral law runs parallel with our own; and that this has exerted a potent influence in forming the Chinese character is evident. Also, that they cover the cardinal rules of right living in good society none will question.

The system offers motives in the way of rewards for right living and punishments of evil doing. It develops sympathy, the source of many virtues. It teaches the equality of all men. One man is better or worse than another only as he observes the laws of good society or breaks them.—W. G. Banton in Popular Science.

All Mail Matter Is Counted.

Persons who read the reports of the number of pieces of mail matter handled at the New York postoffice may have wondered how the figures were obtained. The explanation is simple: Every piece was actually counted. Every employer who stamps mail matter must keep an accurate account of the number of pieces he handles and must make a daily report of the amount of work he has done. The master not only gets the grand total, but tell what part was in each of the four classes of mail matter, and also how the pieces reached the postoffice.

The letters, etc., are mailed at the postoffice, in which case they are known as "drops," collected by carriers, arrive by trains, or, in the case of foreign mail, are brought by steamers. A report must be made of every piece that comes in by any one of these ways.

When one considers that an average of about 600,000 letters alone reach the general postoffice here every day, it will be seen that the task of counting them is a big one. Let a person count 1,000 and then try to get some idea of the labor involved in keeping a record of 1,000 times that many, and his head will swim at the thought. As the counting is done by a number of men, and the letters are subdivided into batches, the labor is not so enormous as might at first be supposed.—New York Tribune.

Send Respectable.

Friend—Why don't you give up this business for something that is semi-respectable?

Banco Man—I'm going to. I intend to study law as soon as I get a little money laid by.—New York Ledger.

## A LOST BATTLE.

As they had been fighting for two days and had passed the preceding night with their knapsacks on their backs beneath the dreaching rain, the soldiers were exhausted. Nevertheless, for three mortal hours they had been kept waiting, with grounded arms, in the middle of the highways and the mud of the soaked fields.

Overcome with fatigue and loss of sleep, their uniforms heavy with water, they huddled together to keep warm, to sustain themselves. There were some who slept as they stood leaning on their neighbor's knapsacks, and weariness and privation were lessening to slumber. Rain, mud, no fire, no soup, a black and threatening sky, and the enemy on all sides. It was wretched.

What were they doing there? What was taking place?

The cannon, the muzzles pointed toward the woods, had been silent for some time. The masked mitrailleuses stared fixedly at the horizon. Everything seemed ready for an attack. Why did they not attack? For what were they waiting?

They were waiting for orders, and the headquarters had not sent them.

The headquarters, however, were far distant. They were at a handsome chateau in the style of Louis XIII, the red bricks of which, washed by the rain, glistened on the hillside among the trees. It was truly a princely dwelling, and well worthy of bearing the banner of a marshal of France, behind a great ditch and a stone railing which separated them from the highway the grassy plain ran straight up to the steps of the mansion, even and