

LITTLE PLEASURES.

Why Young Children Should Be Taught to Appreciate Them.

It has been said, so many times, that it has become hackneyed, that it is not the great troubles of life that wear one out, but the petty annoyances that...

Children should never fail in courtesy to each other; this should be exacted as rigorously as courtesy to their elders. Children should early learn to have things of their own, and they should have an exclusive right in these articles...

VIOLIN STRINGS.

Valuable Suggestions for Inexpert Players and Old Hands. In selecting violin strings it is safe to choose those of greatest transparency. Dullness of color indicates too many threads or indifferent material.

He Couldn't Be Hired.

Banker—Your references are all that could be desired. What salary do you expect?
Clerk—Seventy-five dollars a month.

The Virginia (New) Chronicle says: Mrs. Langtry has purchased a lot in Oregon's addition, Carson. She is quoted as saying to a newspaper man: "This is a delightful valley and I wish a little spot I can call my own near Lake Tahoe, so that I can build and come up here when I am at leisure and enjoy the healing Nevada air, and occasionally take a dip in the hot springs, which seem to me the most wonderful curiosity in the State."

—The original of a long lost letter written by General Washington in acknowledgment of an address from the citizens of Newport has just been found in that city. It is written on both sides of two square pieces of heavy paper and is still distinct and readable.

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY.

A Quarrel That Might Have Separated Lonnie and Bessie Forever.

These lovers' quarrels are sad, sad affairs, resulting, as they so often do, in the separation of young hearts and making withered leaves out of all the fond hopes and golden dreams and high aspirations of young lives.

"You needn't deny it," said Bessie, coldly. "Bessie, I never in all —" "You did, Mamie Blank told me that she saw you."

"No, it looks as if you didn't—flirting with her every time she crosses your path."

"Oh, yes, I know all about it, Mr. Lonnie Marshall." "Now, Bessie, don't talk that way." "I will, too."

"I mean just exactly what I say, sir, every word of it." "I can manage to live without you, Lonnie Marshall. And if you think I'm one of the 'Rough on Rats' kind of girls you're badly off."

"If you don't like it you can jump it, sir! I'll let you know that you can't twist me around your finger. Do you want your ring?" "You know I don't, Bessie."

"At last the worm turns and says, scoldily: 'Very well, Miss Watford, just as you please about it.'"

A High Road to Wealth.

First Omaha Man—Barack! I've struck it at last. It's a new invention. Millions in it.
Second Omaha Man—I don't take much stock in patents.

—When we are least worthy, most despised, hardest, unkindest, but yet commend our spirits into His hands. "Remember also that we must thank Him."

BOTANY FOR CHILDREN.

A Study Which Develops a Love for Gardening and Horticulture.

What would do more for gardening and horticulture, and be more beneficial to the pupils, than to make botany one of the foundation studies in our common schools, instead of a finishing study taken up by very few?

"I believe the girls would receive more benefit from a botanical study than the 'earliest studies of the sciences.' It is true that the fate of many of them is to become farmers' wives, but a woman is better fitted to be such a 'helpmeet' by the acquisition of a thorough knowledge of botany.

We no longer need foreigners to tell us that our women are weakly and colorless, and that this comes of lack of out-door exercise. When the wife or daughter gets a little leisure, instead of spending it out of doors in the enlivening sunshine and invigorating air, she sits down to do some fancy work, injuring her lungs by bending over it, injuring her eyes by close attention to the colored wools, and rises from her 'play' more tired than when she began it.

CHEATING THE LAW.

A Remarkable Incident of Life in the Jungle Territory of America.

A family recently moved into a Central Dakota county from the East. Three or four mornings after a lumber wagon drove up and a man got out and rapped at the door. The woman appeared, and the man said: "Good-morning, ma'am; I hope you ain't fished him out yet?"

"There hasn't been any death here, sir." "There hasn't? Didn't your husband fall down the well?" "No, sir." "Didn't he get wanderin' round in the night an' tumble down an' old well into four feet of water an' drown?"

—A strolling photographer on Western avenue yesterday was taking the picture of a mansion and asked a little girl who stood by an stand on the steps. She did so, and had her picture 'took.' On her return to her home she informed her mother of the incident, and garrulized it with the pertinent remark: "And it didn't hurt me a bit."

A RAILROAD INCIDENT.

Experience of a Young Lady Who Knows How to Help Herself.

It was the first time she had ever traveled alone, and all the family came down to the station to see her off.

"All aboard!" yelled the conductor. "Good-bye, Phoebe! Don't forget the new cheese in the hand basket! Tell Jim's wife to send me the receipt for buying cotton yarn a primrose cast. Take care of Kitty, an' be sure an' —"

"Allow me," said the spruce traveling man with a mashing smile.

"Thank you," said Miss Phoebe, coolly. "It's kind of inconvenient going anywhere alone."

"Only to visit my brother Jim in Newton Center. I get there after dark, though, and am awfully afraid they won't meet me."

"I'm going that way myself," hazarded the untruthful traveling man. "Why, how nice! I wouldn't be a bit afraid of you."

"Mew! mew! mew!" came from a remote corner of the car. Miss Phoebe made a dive for her kitten's basket. "Oh, won't somebody catch the kitty for me? Oh, dear, it will be lost, and it's a real Maltese! Oh, where's the conductor? Won't somebody please ring for him?"

Then the boy with peanuts came in and she snared him into getting some milk for kitty from the restaurant car. The book fiend dropped an armful of burning novels into the seat at last left vacant by the conductor.

"Have you 'How He Won Her,' or 'Love on a Railroad?'" she asked, sweetly.

"How in the world Phoebe did you get along with all those traps?" "And her musical laugh, as she answered: "Oh, you know, Jim, father brought me up to help ourselves."

Sufficiently Protected.

It is all too common to misunderstand the true nature of a medicine, as any one must confess, remembering the story of the name who awoke her patient in order to administer a sleeping potion.

"She was a fool for her pains," said the doctor, impatiently. "That's not the way."

—Mr. Goodhead is a spiritual fellow. "Yes; a wonderfully fine fellow. I never saw his match. So intelligent and well-informed, and such an excellent man every way. He is from New York. I believe." "Is he?" "Well—yes—it is evident that Nature bestowed that he should have been born in Boston."

MODERN JERUSALEM.

The Poverty and Unsatisfactory Condition of Its Inhabitants.

Jerusalem has no wealth. Fifty or one hundred years ago, it could boast of some wealthy families. Their property has, however, been scattered and reduced, until their descendants of the present generation are either poor, or possessed of barely enough to support them.

But, poor as people and city are, rents are exorbitantly high. Since the houses are built of stone, there is no danger of loss by fire. Hence families having a little money on which they are dependent for support will build a house with it, because the investment is the best one they can make.

Only a well-to-do family can occupy an entire house. In hundreds of cases a family numbering four or eight persons will occupy but a single room. In a house of six or eight rooms, there will be as many families. They all cook and wash in a large open court, to which each family has access.

It is very expensive building houses in Jerusalem. The first step is to dig a cistern. This costs so much that the owner will dig only a small cistern, when he should build one five times the size. All the families in the house use water from this cistern. During the rainy season there is sufficient water; but by May or the first of June at the latest, the cistern is dry.

Houses are invariably built of stone and are much more expensive than one would suppose. Stones have to be quarried, transported on the backs of camels, cut into proper shape, and finally built into walls. If the house is two stories high, and the rooms are large, the walls have to be two, and sometimes three feet thick, in order to support the great weight resting upon them.

SWORDS OF INDIA.

Deadly Weapons Carried by the Sepoys, Persians and Afghans.

Among some military trophies I once saw a very rude, rusty teglar—locally worth a shilling—which had cleanly decapitated a raw recruit, severing coat collar, brass buckle and caste necklet of hard enamel beads. The nimble village reeve had sprung on the Sepoy from ambush while trimming his flintlock after a mistle.

The metal and finish of cutting arms improve when we enter North India. Hard steel of fine temper and high workmanship used to be common until two Sikh wars and the great mutiny abolished the demand for such deadly weapons.

"Do you want any swords?" "Yes; but where are they?" "Here," and the vendor's hands were lifted to his head, where they groped awhile. Out sprang three or four shining steel snakes, elastic blades, unsharpened at a blade, £20 to £50 each in value, sometimes more.

Dealer (to clerk)—What did that young lady want, James?

Clerk—She asked for anatomical Brussels carpets, and I told her we hadn't such a thing.

—A volume, entitled "Plus d'Angleters," after the style of the "Battle of Dorking," has been published in Paris. It is another account of a successful invasion of England. The French forces land at Hastings after vanquishing a British squadron at sea, and after transporting one hundred and fifty thousand men rapidly and having cut the telegraph cable. A great battle is fought southwest of Tisbury.—Philadelphia Press.

ENGINES OF DEATH.

The Wonderful Progress in the Arts of Slaughtering Men in Battle.

The death of Herr Krupp, the proprietor of the great steel works at Essen, removes from the world one whose greatest fame was won in carrying to the highest-point of development the manufacture of the implements of human destruction. Although the Krupps have for generations carried on the business of making steel for peaceful uses, tires, engines, shafts and the one hundred and one articles called for by the complicated machinery of modern manufacturing, yet they are best known by the effective artillery they have furnished to the armies and fortresses of the world.

The wonderful modern progress in the arts of slaughtering men on the battle-field began about thirty years ago, and in the successful development the United States was one of the leaders. The Dahlgren gun, invented by the late Admiral of that name, was a wonder to the artilleryists of thirty years ago. It was the most effective of guns until Louis Napoleon developed the idea of rifling cannon. Up to the close of the Crimean war the sixty-eight-pounder was the heaviest broad-side gun in use, and the majority of men-of-war still carried thirty-two-pounders in their batteries.

Our war was the last great contest fought with muzzle-loading small arms. The war of 1866 demonstrated the great superiority that breech-loaders gave their possessors. The needle-gun, now regarded as a very primitive weapon, destroyed Austrian leadership in Germany. Then came the dreadful slaughtering matches in France in 1870, when both sides were armed with breech-loaders and the mitrailleuse came into play. Then it was supposed that the very highest development of arm making had been reached, but since then cannon and small arms have been manufactured, but happily not much used in the field, which made the contemplation of future battles simply a matter of theory.

is this competition among the nations in arming to continue? No sooner is a ship launched by one of the powers sheathed with plates deemed impervious and equipped with guns that surpass in power of penetration any heretofore known, than another power puts into the water a vessel that exceeds the first in both the powers of injury and resistance. No sooner is the army of France furnished with a rapid-firing rifle, than that of Germany is equipped with the Mauser, the fire of which can be thickened at will.

Men to-day can be shot dead at ranges which twenty years ago could not be covered by the most powerful rifles then known. Where shillings were expended for military purposes by the great European powers, half a century ago, pounds are put out today. Meanwhile the strain of militarism on the physical vitality of foreign nations is something of which we fortunate Americans can form but a faint realization. France proposes to sweep into the army the only sons of widows, a class heretofore exempt; substitutes are to be no longer allowed, and the richest and poorest are to be put into the ranks. In the long run the demands of militarism must defeat themselves. The dragon will bite himself in his fiery rage, and die. It is simply impossible for human nature to endure for another generation the exhausting process now in progress in the continental European powers. Unless disarmament is sooner brought about by the shuddering remorse of the nations, after some dreadful catastrophe, it must be reached by the sheer exhaustion of treasures and of men.—Boston Transcript.

A Mighty Stupid Clerk.

Dealer (to clerk)—What did that young lady want, James? Clerk—She asked for anatomical Brussels carpets, and I told her we hadn't such a thing.

Dealer—Great Scott, James, that young lady is from Boston! She wanted body Brussels, and we've got an overstock of 'em.—N. Y. Sun.

—"How does your wife have her dresses cut?" "V-shaped, I think, judging from the number of five-dollar bills she requires for making them."