BROKEN RESOLUTIONS."

Strongth and Coursge to Make New ormer Fathures Resulves a Healthful and Hopeful Sign.

A New Year possibility, a whole new year! It is a fresh beginning time-when all that we failed to do inst year can really be tried again. that year can really be thed again. The studies of problems, near, or re-mote, that we thought we should pursue, the books we meant to read, the new work we were going to undertake, above all, the faults we in tended to conquer, the virtues we meant to cultivate, the growth in character which we both resolved and failed to acquire, now, we can take a fresh start and really accou-plah some vital things, for the new year is so rich in promise, so full of hope so alluring in its siggestion of beautiful pessibilities! Are we sometime tempted to look

all cynically at this ever-recurring the of hope, of belief in our better enduaver, and better performance? Does it sometimes seem a mere mockery-perhaps hypotriay-that we should so regard the New Year? Are we tempted to say-1 will make no New Year's resolutions to be again broken and next year again renewed? If this is our experience, let us remember, says the Washington Home Magazine, the very fact that we have the hope and courage to make new resolves, after all our fail ures, is a healthful and hopeful sign Some wise teacher has posited out that one of the most difficult thing. in the world is to retain our self respect sufficiently to retrieve our solves after a mistake of failure. So long as we keep a clean record we can go on, although the way may be hard. But once having failed, the effect of a broken record paralyzes and renders it far easier to fall out by the way than to "about face." and start again. Yet one of the greatest of victories is ours when realizing and deploring our mistakes our "manifold size, negligences and ignorances," we yet refuse to simply jit and mean over them but re iit and moan over them, but re solutely rise up, press on, saying: I failed that time, but I shall not always. I can and will learn to be more than conqueror through Onwho loved us. One whose strong is in our weakness perfect" leaning on Him, remembering that true rependance consists not in mere remorse but in regret that bears frai in new life; we shall find that ou worst failures muy become part a that "stepping stone" on which w that "stepping sto rise to higher things .-- Washington Home Magazine.

NEW YEAR'S CALLS.

This Practice of Former Years Might Become Once More a Custom If Revived by the Children.

As merry a day as Christmas is for the children, it is usually rather quice for the grown people, their principal occupation being to watch the your; folks enjoy themselves. From three mas until New Year, though, th grown people make up in grivery for their Sunday-HRC quiet on the 20th but the children have just as much fun at the same time. There are more partles at Christmo

time than there are even during the long summer holidays, and they are jollier, because the children feel man energetic and oright and lively with the cold weather and the luppy spiri of the sensor. There are to many delightful ways to entertain too: so many games and things that are only suitable for indoors.

There is one holiday practice which has almost passed with history, and yet it is a beautiful one which the chil-dren might do well to revive. It is it e ald custom of New Year's calls. Up til a few years ago it was the usu In a rew years any of way the uni-ting for everyhody to call on every body else the first shy of the very People who had homes opsined there to their friends, and popular people had a steady stream of callers all do who paid their respects, were server refreshments and went on their way to the avert forced below. to the next friend's home. It was to the next Friend's home. It was all very pleasant, but it has passed out, although efforts are being made to renew the practice. Why should not the children help

STARTING RIGHT. The Custom of Making Good New Year Resolutions One of Indef-Inite and Foriunate Troneity.

Unless there has been a marked change in human nature during the past year, as many people will begin the new with a series of good, if not actually new, resolutions as legan the preceding year under similar condi-tions. Not all of these will subscribe to a complete formulated con-tract for improved behavior-the ma-Jority, in fact, will re-cive subconscionaly. But the yearly making of resolutions comes so pat with the herinning of a fresh calendar on the firsh f each succeeding January that the ustom has an indefinite and altogeth-

custom has an indefinite and altogeth-er fortunate remarky. It has been often repeated that these good resolutions are like ginss-halls, in that they are made for the sole purpose of being liroken. The figure shows an indequate knowledge of the uses of ginss halls; before irreaking they are incoded to arree a more weath currence in continue the a more useful purpose in training the eye and hand of a marksman. A good resolution; even when Broken, gives meanal training very much in the same fashion. The process of making it and of honestly trying rocarry it out is a long and necessary first step toward the mental strength that unless a human being actually master of his own actions. A faculty for comfort, for example, is a pleasant thing to

carry on a journey, but hadness is a useless piece of longage. Surreasful resolutions, all comic wellers to the contrary, are really made on the first of every January, but they depend, like genularly success-tal politics, much more on common sense than on emotional impulse. A man who has been intemperate in his own comfort-to keep to the disc crete example of laziness, or to or to its even worse form, procrastination-even worse form, procrastination-can hardly leap into activity and hold the pace very long at a time. He can, however, divide his daily existence into two parts, during one of which he may busily lie up the loose ends of his occupations, and during the other during the other devote himself to doing nothing with all the success to be expected of his of his past experience. Even if he falls in the effort the attempt is sourcehing toward a future success along the more reason to respect the man who makes and breaks a yearly set of res-olutions than to respect the discour-aged individual who gives up trying after a few fallures.

If the whole nation should start out to keep the same resolution the real value of individual endeavor would stand out more clearly, and the result, one may be optimize enough to be-lieve, might prove a revelation to those who mixame the broken glass theory. There is the subject of good citizenship, for instance. We have re-cently seen, writes R. W. Forgergreen, in the Philadelphis Saturday Fouring Post, in one rais the result that fol-lows when a whole community becomes vitally interested in his polities and in another the result that come from a merely conventional interest filmen fu the com try should resolve for one year to unferstand political quantions, to think for himself, and to set up to his ear Even counting these fail by the mayshin, the result mighthing back the generally informed pullthent entriestness of our first nuclei al elections; and the actual power fe by each man, in the strongth of hi own knowledge, might go far to re-affirm that resolution universally on the first of next January.

SOME FOREIGN CUSTOMS.

New Year's the Great Day of the Year in France-Boys Musters of the Situation in Russia.

In France New Year's day is the grent day of the year. It is to the French child what Christmas is to the young people of America-the day for the giving and receiving of ITTERE AND A

In the gloomy old royal palace of Madrid, also, the first day of the year is a happy and merry fastival. the queen regent takes care that all



in this revival? They have nothing to do, as a rule, on New Year's day, and they would doubtless find it delightthey would doubtless find it designt-ful to put on their best bib and tucker and call oneil their young friends. It would be a splendid opportunity to Glaplay their new Christmus finery, and at the same time extend to their friends their new filter. friends their cordial good wishes for a happy year. Should the children hegin calling, it would be a habit with them and thus as they grow older New Year's calls would become an established custom; as it used to be.

Not Dying. The old year is not dying. It is sim-ply about to go aside into the witness room of God's court, there to await the judgment.-Chicago Interior.

DECEMBER 51. DECEMBER 11. ** Bert day of all the year, since I. May see thee pairs and know That if thou don't next leave ma they Thou has not found mix low, And same, as I behind they die. Thus I uswers me the tight no say This I uswers we the tight no say With them that keep the upward way.

Deet day of all the year to me, Sing T may stand and game Arrow the grayish part and set in many quadied ways Test might have led to minery. Gr. index, while dist leave me freo-liert day either their deet leave me freo-Te fook the future in the face.

Best day of all down of the year, That was so blind, as good, Easy thus don't bears use stills the deaf Old firth in bootteningd-Dest day three I, arth striking here. May view the part with small regret, And, underturbed by Oceaniz or fear, Seek paths that are united as yet. -# E Kiner, in Chinago Record-Herald.

try lifte a alure in the nocalled againaldos, or New Year's bountles.

But it is in Russin that the boys find themselves most completely masters of the altuntion on New Year's day, mays the Youth's Com-panion, for in that land the opening day of the year is especially the child-ren's festival.

The boys rise with the sun, taking care to fill their pockets with dried peas and wheat. Then they go from house to house in a riot of fun. As doors are never locked it is easy for them to effect an entrance. The them to effect an entrance. The dried peas are to be thrown at their creating pass are to be thrown at their enemies, but the wheat is for their friends. They sprinkle it upon any of their friends whom they may be fortunate enough to find asleep, and hurl the peas with stinging force at their ensuies. their enemies.

After breakfast the handsomest horse in the village is brought out, its trappings are decorated with evergreen and berries, and the animal is led to the house of the publicman of the place, followed by the pea and or the place, rolowed by the pea and wheat-shooters of the early morn-ing. The lord admits horse and guests to his parlor, where all his family are gathered. This is the greeting of the peasants, old and young, to their lord and master. The origin of the custom is shrouded in mastery, but 6, is surroused to date mystery, but it is supposed to date from very early times.

The Old, Old Story. Blinks-I suppose you will swear off the first of the year. Jinke-Oh, yes: off and on, as usual --Chicago Dally News.



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