

THE DIFFERENCE.

Two little girls were sitting near a brook in the woods.

"Listen to that noisy brook," said one, "it scolds and scolds. I wish it would keep quiet."

"Why, sister, it is not scolding, it is singing," said the other.

"The leaves are falling from the trees. How bare and ugly they look," cried the first speaker.

"Oh, but it is so pleasant to gather the leaves," was the reply; "then we see more of the blue sky, and the sun shines on us better."

The other frowned angrily and said: "Your ears and eyes must be made differently from mine."

Ab, children, the difference was not in the ears and the eyes, but in the heart. If the heart is right the brooks will sing, not scold, the sky will look blue, and through the bare branches God's love will shine.

PLAY.

Play is a good thing in its place. We love to see children play and enjoy themselves—and grown up people too—by way of change and recreation from more serious duties.

The way people play also shows character. If any one is fair, truthful, honest and good-tempered in play, he is likely to be the same in other things and so the reverse.

Good, earnest play has its temptations and dangers, as well as other things, and our young friends have need to be cautioned against yielding to them. To be cheating, mean, and full of ill-temper when beaten, or ugly when things do not go as desired, is very improper. Disputes and quarrels may easily arise, and of these every one should beware. Play but always play fair; keep in good-temper, avoid wrangling and disputes, and play will be a good and healthful thing.

HOW THE BIRD SAVED ITS YOUNG.

In the island of Java there grows a tree, which may perhaps be the upas, the leaves of which are said to be a deadly poison to venomous reptiles and to snakes especially. Once as a traveler was passing a wood, he heard a sharp cry of distress from a bird overhead, and on looking for the cause of alarm, he saw a snake climbing up a tree to the nest of little ones. The snake was then beyond his reach, but he felt curious to watch what was about to happen. Suddenly the bird ceased crying and flew away, but only to return in a few seconds with a large leaf which she carefully spread over the nest. By now the snake was very near its intended prey. At the moment, however, that it opened its mouth, its eye caught sight of the guardian leaf, and the vile creature dropped to the ground as if it had been shot and darted into the jungle. One does not quite understand, though, how this affectionate bird came to know that the tree possessed such useful properties against snakes.

FLASH LIGHTS.

As it is an actor's business to hold the mirror up to nature, he must expect all sorts of reflections.—Boston Transcript.

ONE of the biggest fools in the world is the man who thinks he can make something by only putting seven quarts in a peck.—Ham's Horn.

"WHAT'S this man arrested for?" "Impersonating an officer, yer honor. I saw him take two handfuls of peanuts and a banana off a corner fruit stand."—Washington Star.

THERE are two materials that women of all ages, figures and complexions may safely wear, and these are velvet and lace, especially in dark colors.

A THIMBLE is really etymologically considered only a "thumb bell," the original thimble having been worn on the thumb.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

A ROCHESTER physician, who has been experimenting on the subject, avers that the mosquito can readily be exterminated by the use of petroleum.

THOREAU observes that "the more slowly trees grow at first the sounder they are at the core," and he thought it was the same with human beings.

THE statement that the hardness of diamonds is not perceptibly reduced by cutting and polishing is confirmed by W. A. Rogers, of Colby university, who has had much experience in working with diamonds.

A GERMAN doctor of reputation prescribes aluminum as a cure for rheumatism. A finger ring made of this metal, joined with another, generates a gentle current of electricity which is said to make a permanent cure.

THE theory that the deepest place in the ocean will be found to correspond almost exactly with the height of the highest mountain has been disproved within the last year, ocean depths 10,000 feet deeper than the height of Mount Everest having been found.

AUTHOR'S CHAT.

WILHELMINE HENSEL, a relative of Mendelssohn, and a woman of some repute as a poet, celebrated her ninetieth birthday at Potsdam a few days ago.

OUIDA, the novelist, is distinguished for the exquisite beauty of her hands and feet. She constantly wears thin, dainty slippers and abbreviated sleeves.

When Lord Tennyson was asked to read his works aloud he almost invariably selected the "Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington" and after that "Maud."

RICE is the least nitrogenous of all grains. It is a good addition to bread, and is especially serviceable to combine with foods containing a large amount of nitrogen, such as peas, beans, etc. It is peculiarly adapted for invalids, as it is one of the most easily digested substances known.

BROILED SCALLOPS.—Drain medium-sized scallops in a napkin. Parboil them a moment. When cool put them on skewers, six on each, alternated with thin slices of bacon the size of the scallops in width. Brush over the scallops with melted butter and broil. Serve with water-cress and lemon.—N. Y. Observer.

AIR beds are the modern sine quo non of the invalid. Nothing can be more restful and comfortable to the sick frame than the relief from the bed fatigue which this invention affords. They are tick-covered and readily inflated. The slightest motion alters the position of the occupant, and there is no such thing as a lumpy surface possible beneath him.

It is likely that Tampico, Mexico, will become one of the deep-water ports of the world. The soundings now measure more than twenty feet over the bar, the greatest depth ever attained. The bar is wearing away.

COMPLETE statistics of the great fire at St. John's, Newfoundland, have just been issued. The number of houses destroyed was 1,550, the number of families burned out 1,874, and the total number of persons burned out 10,234.

THE longest canal in the world is the one which extends from the frontier of China to St. Petersburg. It measures in all 4,472 miles.

MACHINES for making tacks were first made by Thomas Blanchard in the year 1806.

ELECTROTYPING of wood cuts and plates for printing was first employed in 1850.

PERSONAL POINTS.

U. S. FLAGG is on the pension list. He is probably the man who always waives ceremony and things.

M. E. GALLADAY, of Holden, Mo., is proud of the fact that he is a lineal descendant of the original Mother Goose.

E. R. GUNBY, of Tampa, Fla., is collector of customs at that place, thirty-two years old, boyish looking, and said to be the youngest collector in the country.

PROBABLY the tallest G. A. R. veteran is William P. Boyne, of Green county, Pa., who stands seven feet in his stockings. During the war he was a private soldier in the Twenty-second Pennsylvania cavalry.

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