

FIRESIDE MISCELLANY.

"IT'S THE EARLY BIRD, ETC."

BY A LIA ABED.

More than one has shown how hollow is this proverb, and absurd; For the worm, it sure must follow, Got up earlier than the bird.

Double, too, the bird in question Eating with too great a zeal, Suffered much from toothache, Owing to that morning meal.

And it would not be surprising If that bird fell a prey To the sportsman, early rising Makes the aim so sure they say.

Perhaps it's young, too—had it any— By their parents left before, Caught external ailments many From the keen, cold air of morn.

Other birds—for birds will chatter— When they saw the bird alight, Might have chirped with scornful ratter— "Ah! the rick's been out all night!"

Summing up the case concisely, This decidedly I say: Early birds don't get on nicely! Early rising does not pay!

BABIES.

We love babies, and everybody who does love babies. No man has music in his soul who don't love babies. Babies were made to be loved, especially girl babies when they grow up. A man isn't worth a shuck who hasn't a baby, and the same rule applies to woman. A baby is a spring day in winter; a hot-house in winter; a ray of sunshine in frigid winter; and if it is healthy, and good natured and you are sure it is yours, it is a bushel of sunshine, no matter how cold the weather. A man cannot be a hopeless case so long as he loves babies, one at a time. We love babies all over, no matter how dirty they are. Babies were born to be dirty. We love babies because they are babies, and because their mothers were lovable and lovely women. Our love for babies is only bounded by the number of babies in the world. We always look for babies, we do, indeed we do. We always have sorrowful feelings for wives that have no babies and don't expect any. Women always look down hearted who have no babies, and men who have no babies always gamble, and drink whisky, and stay out nights trying to get music in their souls; but they can't come it. Babies are babies, and nothing will take their place. Pianos play out, and sweet tempers play out, and beauty plays out unless there's a baby in the house. We've tried it; we know, and we say there's nothing like a baby. Babies are as productive subjects, and we intend to tell our young friends if they want to be happy in this world they must have a baby in the house—one of their own preferred. Babies stimulate exertion; they make a young man scratch gravel; and in this view of the case they are all the while laying the golden eggs. A man is hardly worth three red cents until he gets a wife and baby. They push him into it. While he is making enough for their support, he is sure to have something over. We love babies.—Houston Times.

I WOULDN'T MARRY A MECHANIC—A young man began visiting a young woman and appeared to be well pleased. One evening he called when it was quite late, which led the girl to inquire where he had been. "I had to work to-night." "What! do you work for a living?" she inquired, in astonishment. "Certainly," replied the young man. "I am a mechanic." "I dislike the name of mechanic," and she turned up her pretty nose. That was the last time the young man visited the young woman. He is now a wealthy man, and has one of the best women in the country for a wife. The lady who disliked the name of a mechanic is now the wife of a miser, a fool, a regular vagrant about rag shops, and the soft, verdant and miserable girl is obliged to take in washing in order to support herself and children.

CHEERFUL PEOPLE.—God bless the cheerful person—man, woman or child; old or young, illiterate or educated, handsome or homely. Over and above every social equality stands cheerful ness. What the sun is to nature—what God is to the stricken heart which know how to lean upon Him, are cheerful persons in the house and by the way side. They go unobtrusively, unconsciously, about their silent mission, bright ening up society around them with the happiness beaming from their face. We love to sit near them; we love the glance of their eye, the tone of their voice. Little children find them out oh! so quickly, amid the densest crowd, and passing by the knotted brow, and compressed lip, glide near, and laying a confiding little hand on the knee of the cheerful one will lift their clear young eyes to the loving face.

PURE BLOOD is essential to sound health and long life. No chronic disease, sore, ulcer, skin eruptions, glandular swellings, discharges from the ear, nose, eyes, or canker in the mouth, will ever appear if the blood is pure. To secure this great desideratum, take Dr. Walker's Vegetable Vitamin Bitters. This is the great Blood Purifier and life-giving principle, increasing the power of digestion, and exciting the absorbents into healthy action, whereby all impurities of the system are carried off.

HOW SUT LOVEGOOD KILLED HIS DOG.

When I was a boy I had fetched home a durned, wuthless, youngy, five bitten gray, old fox hound, good for nuthin, but to swaller up what oter tined the howls of his brats. Well, I naterally tuk a distaste to him and had a sorter hankerin ater hurtin his feelins and discomfortin ov him every time d a back was turned. This sorter kept a big skeer allers afore his eyes, and an orful yell ready to pour out the fust motion he seed me make. So he larnt to swaller things as he run, and allers kept his legs well under himself; for he never knew how soon he might want to use them to tote his infernal carcass beyond the reach of a flyin' rock. He knowed the whiz of a rock in motion well, and he never stoped to see who threw it, but just let his hed opin wide enuff to gin a howl room 'o cum, and set his legs agwin the way his osc happened to be a pintin. He'd shy aroun every rock he seed in the road for he looked upon it as a calamity to cum ater him some day. I tell you, Georgy, that runnin am the greatest invehun on yearth when keortally used. Whar'd I bin by this time, if I hadn't relied on these ere legs? D'ye see 'em? Don't they mind you ov a pair of cummisses made to divide a mile into quarters? They'll do.

Well, one day I tuk a pigs bladder ni unto the size of a duck's aig, and filled it with powder, and corked it up with a piece of punk, rolled it up in a thin skulp of meat and sot the punk a fire, and threw it out; he swaller'd it at a jerk, and sot to get away from doin it. I hear a nois like bastin sumthin, and his tail lit on the top ov my hat. His hed was way down the hill, and his teeth took a death hold onto a roof. His fore legs were fifty feet up the road, and his hind ones straddled a fence. Es to the dog himself, as a dog I never seed him agin. Well, dad, daru his unsanctified soul flung five or six hundred und-r my shu with the dride hide of a bull's tail, and gin me the remainder next day with the waggin whip what he borrowe from a feller while he was waterin hi husses; the waggone got for me an hollerer for me to turn my beggin an quillin inter fust rate runnin, which emejutely did thanks to the ere han strings and the last hekk missed me about ten foot.

WISE SAYINGS OF THE ANCIENTS.—They who are a virtue of its rewards, lose the young of virtue itself.—Cato Major.

The young ought to use modesty in their gesture, in behavior, and in their dress.—Zeno.

The office of a wise man is to discern that which is good and honest, and to shun that which is contrary.—Socrates.

Three properties are essentially requisite to the attainment of wisdom: nature, learning and experience.—Aristotle.

The perfection of a man consists in foreseeing the future, as much as reason can possibly accomplish.—Chilo.

There is as much difference between a wise man and a fool as between a horse that is properly broken and one that is not.—Aristippus.

They who know what they ought to do, and do it not, are not wise and well-instructed; but foolish and stupid.—Thales.

The most difficult thing is to know one's self; the most easy, to give counsel to another; and the most delightful, to obtain the completion of our desires.—Thales.

To be ignorant of ourselves, to seem to know those things whereof we are ignorant, borders on madness.—Socrates.

To be commended by those who might blame without fear, gives great pleasure.—Agesicus.

To praise what is estimable is right; but to flatter what is wrong is the property of a designing, hypocritical soul.—Democritus.

The beauty of fame is blasted by envy, as by sickness.—Socrates.

To desire little levels poverty with riches.—Democritus.

To be engaged in good and useful; to be idle is pernicious with evil. They who do good are employed, but they who spend their time in vain recreation, are idle.—Socrates.

To prescribe physic for the dead, and vice to the old, is the same thing.—Diogenes.

The way to be admired to be what we affect to be thought.—Socrates.

To expose one's self to great danger for trivial matters, is to fish with a golden hook where more may be lost than gotten.—Augustus Cæsar.

The beauty of the mind is more lovely than that of the body.—Socrates.

BE FIRM.—The winds and the waves may beat against the rock, planted in a troubled sea, but it remains unmoved. Be you like that rock, young man—Vice may entice, and the song and cup may invite. Beware—stand firmly at your post. Let your principles shine forth unobscured. There is glory in the thought that you have resisted temptation and conquered. Your bright example will be to the world what the light house is to the mariner upon a sea shore; it will guide hundreds to the point of virtue and safety.

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Portland June 10th—1869

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