

BUYING A HAT FOR JIMMIE.

Jimmie, on the drop seat of the brougham, leaned forward and asked his aunt where they were going. She named a big department store and his face lighted up. "They have ice cream soda in the basement," said he.

"Oh, I'm sure it can't be good!"

"No-o-o-o." Jimmie always agrees with a lady. "It isn't so bad, though. When we bought the kitchen coal-hod Courtney treated me. We had chocolate and strawberry mixed—oh, fine! Don't you think I might treat him to-day? I could carry a glass out to the carriage without spilling a drop." He suddenly thrust his head out of the carriage. "Courtney, what kind—"

His aunt dragged him inside. "Some other time," she said.

"What can I do?" he asked, after a gloomy pause.

"We're going to buy a hat, dear."

"I don't want any old hat."

"A nice new hat."

This feebly jocose correction fell flat. Jimmie grasped the hat on his head with both painfully gloved hands and dragged it down to his ears. "It's just got comfortable!" he moaned. "She"—he meant no disrespect to his mother—"wants to send this one to the Indians or the Florida children, I s'pose." A gleam of hope illuminated his face. "I wish they might have the new one. I wouldn't mind having it fitted on me. Don't you think they'd be pleased?"

Jimmie's aunt ignored this artful appeal. "You know your mother wishes you to be speck and span when grandma comes Thursday."

"Oh, my grandma won't mind," confidently. "And I'd brush up great!"

His aunt shook her head.

"Perhaps boots would do? They'd be all right. New ones kick fine."

This easy sacrifice to the home goddess was promptly rejected, and Jimmie knew then that it was to be a hat.

"When I buy them myself they'll be old and big, and everything new will go into the barrel—and maybe there won't be any barrel," he threatened, darkly.

Jimmie helped his aunt to alight at Cut & Cash's store, and followed her to the hat counter, the sullen tread of his feet speaking volumes of disgust. The counter was surrounded by women, mostly mothers, but Jimmie's turn came at last.

"Well, lady," said the perspiring clerk, "what can I show you for your little boy?"

"She's not my mother!" said Jimmie. "She's my aunt. She isn't even married. My father says—"

"Show me something in a white straw, please," Jimmie's aunt said, hastily. "Something suitable for a boy of nine."

"Nearly ten," corrected Jimmie. "My father says—"

"Something a little wider in the brim, and I prefer a navy-blue band," said Jimmie's aunt.

"My father—" began Jimmie. But his aunt promptly clapped a hat on his head, and his tune changed. "It don't feel good! It's too small! And I don't want an elastic under my chin; only small kids wear them. Oh, it hurts my head!"

When the clerk was on his knees opening boxes, trying to find another hat, Jimmie again became amiably sociable.

"The last time the New London man was there, he said—"

"Something similar to his old hat will be right," said Jimmie's aunt, in an agitated falsetto.

"The New London man said, 'A kiss is as good as a smile,'" continued Jimmie. "I was under the sofa, and I heard—"

"This will do. You need not look any further," said Jimmie's aunt, seizing a hat and placing it on Jimmie's head with a determined hand. The clerk rose, but not before he was master of her countenance, and began to turn over the slips in his book.

"You must be awfully rattled, aunty," said Jimmie. "This is my old hat."—Youth's Companion.

The Canals of France.

Few who have not traveled in southern and central France know of her vast systems of canals and canalized rivers. Many persons spend months or years in Paris and know nothing of the great basins in that city from which canals radiate, binding all parts of France to the great heart of the capital. These canals run into rivers connecting those of the water sheds north, south and west. Through many of these small streams—we at home would call them creeks—you will see little towboats puffing, grunting and lifting up a heavy chain from the canalized river bed, winding it round a drum and thus towing long lines of barges with a most economic expenditure of power.

Greenland's Ice Mountains.

The ice in Greenland is melting more rapidly than it is formed. Comparison of the descriptions of the Jacobshaven glacier shows that its edge has receded eighty miles since 1850, and it has lost twenty to thirty feet in depth.

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History Set Right.

William Tell had just shot the apple from his son's head.

"It was green," he explained nervously, "and I had to do something quick before the boy ate it."

Subsequently a more artistic version was given to the newspapers, but truth, crushed to earth, will rise again.

Rigid Etiquette for Women.

In northern India it is still considered not genteel for a woman, even when veiled from head to foot, to walk on a railway platform to get into the cars. She has to be carried in a closed palanquin right up to the window of her compartment.

For coughs and colds there is no better medicine than Pisco's Cure for Consumption. Price 25 cents.

The Retort Courteous.

Snapp—He's got a scheme for making money that seems to be all right in theory.

Skrapp—Huh! all men with theories are fools.

Snapp—Indeed. That's your theory, is it?—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Something Amusing.

"You mustn't cough so much, Willie," his mother said.

"I can't help it, mamma," replied the little boy with the long, golden curls. "Something amuses me in my throat."—Chicago Tribune.

Where We All Quail.

"Colonel," asked the beautiful grass widow, "have you ever really known what it was to be frightened?"

"I should say I have," replied the gallant warrior. "At the dentist's office the other day I could actually feel the blood congealing in my veins when he came at me with his buzz saw."

Not a Game of Chance.

Rev. Dr. Thirdly—Young man, don't you know there is no such thing as a certainty?

The Gambler—Say, partner, I reckon you never ran a shell game.—Boston Herald.

Origin of Ox-Tail Soup.

Ox-tail soup, now regarded as a national English dish, was first made by the very poor of Huguenot refugees from France, after the revocation of the edict of Nantes, because ox tails then had no market value.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, ss.

FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & CO., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

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Status of the Club.

Tomson—Do you think the saloon is the poor man's club?

Jonson—I don't know about that, but the club is the rich man's saloon all right.

Mothers will find Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup the best remedy to use for their children the teething season.

A Victim.

"I see that the superintendent of a cooking school has had to retire on account of her health."

"What is the matter with her?"

"Dyspepsia."—Judge.

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DISAGREEABLE REFLECTIONS

The mirror never flatters; it tells the truth, no matter how much it may hurt the pride or how humiliating and disagreeable the reflections. A red, rough skin is fatal to beauty, and blackheads, blotches and pimples are ruinous to the complexion, and no wonder such desperate efforts are made to hide these blemishes, and cover over the defects, and some never stop to consider the danger in skin foods, face lotions, soaps, salves and powders, but apply them vigorously and often without regard to consequences, and many complexions are ruined by the chemicals and poisons contained in these cosmetics.

Skin diseases are due to internal causes, to humors and poisons in the blood, and to attempt a cure by external treatment is an endless, hopeless task. Some simple wash or ointment is often beneficial when the skin is much inflamed or itches, but you can't depend upon local remedies for permanent relief, for the blood is continually throwing off impurities which irritate and clog the glands and pores of the skin, and as long as the blood remains unhealthy, just so long will the eruptions last. To effectually and permanently cure skin troubles the blood must be purified and the system thoroughly cleansed and built up, and S. S. S., the well known blood purifier and tonic, is acknowledged superior to all other remedies for this purpose. It is the only guaranteed strictly vegetable blood remedy. It never deranges the system or impairs the digestion like Potash and Arsenic and drugs of this character, but aids in the digestion and assimilation of food and improves the appetite. Being a blood purifier and tonic combined, the humors and poisons are counteracted and the blood made rich and pure, and at the same time the general health and system is rapidly built up and good health is established, and this, after all, is the secret of a smooth, soft skin and beautiful complexion.

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