

BABY MIDSHIPMEN.

In the Old Days When Children Were Sent to War.

Among other improvements in the art of war as attained by the world in these later days is the abolition of the practice of sending children to sea, as was the case when the midshipmen of the old "oak walls" of England often were boys of less than fourteen years.

The Marquis of Dufferin and Ava in telling about the siege of Bomarsund, in the Crimean war, which he witnessed from the frigate Penelope, related this story of one of these little fellows.

"What pleased me most during the whole business," he says, "was the gallant behavior of a little midshipman, a mere child, thirteen or fourteen years of age. About the time when the fire became pretty hot I happened to come across him, and, as he seemed to be as much out of a job as myself, I touched my cap and took the liberty of observing that it was a fine day, to which he politely replied that it was.

"Encouraged by his urbanity, I ventured to ask him how long he had been at sea, to which he answered, 'I have only left my mamma six weeks, but I ain't going to cry on her majesty's quarterdeck,' a remark which I think as worth recording as many a one made by more illustrious heroes. Soon after this, however, a man was killed close to him, and the little fellow fainted and was taken below."

OUR USELESS BUFFALOES.

They Have Passed Away Because They Were Economically Unfit.

As a typical species of American fauna the buffalo had his place in our history, but take him by and large he was a rather useless beast, with no adaptability for civilization. He served his purpose on the plains when men led a nomadic life there and existed on his rife. But as soon as the range land, over which the buffalo "roamed in countless thousands," became fit for settlement the buffalo was decidedly drop.

Very little of him was fit to eat. He was worth a bullet when there was no other meat to be had, but a people accustomed to modern steaks and roasts would find him not overappetizing once the novelty wore off. In a word, the buffalo was economically unfit, and he went the way of the unit.

Had he been conserved he might now be affording opportunity for big game hunters to enjoy themselves in moderation. They are really the only persons who have suffered by his disappearance. To preserve the buffalo as a specimen in our zoos is proper. He is a curiosity and has a historical value. But entirely too many tears have been shed over his destruction. One steer was and still is worth a dozen bison.—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

Japanese "Movies."

Even the remotest towns in Japan have their moving picture shows, and in large cities they seem to be nearly as plentiful as on this side of the Pacific. In Yokohama there is a whole street of them, and, as the program of each is endless and each picture is announced in huge symbols on a separate variegated banner flying from a tall bamboo pole, the aspect of Theater street is startlingly unique. The pictures illustrating the sensational points of the programs above the entrances and at their sides have a certain quaintness about them, which is accentuated by the fact that they are all originals, not mere stereotyped advertisements printed in raw colors. The "getas" or wooden sandals of the spectators are deposited on a rack before the entrance to a moving picture show, for where other people take off their hats the Japanese leave their shoes.—Popular Mechanics.

Basketball.

Basketball was the invention of one man and was completed at a single sitting. In 1891, in the course of a lecture at the Young Men's Christian association in Springfield, Mass., the lecturer spoke of the mental processes of invention and used a game, with its limitations and necessities, as an illustration. James Naismith, who was a member of the class, worked out basketball that same night as an ideal game to meet the case. It was presented the next day in the lecture room and put in practice with the aid of the members of the gymnasium. From there it spread to other branches of the Young Men's Christian association and subsequently to athletic clubs and the general public.—New York Press.

An Optimist's Epitaph.

The Carlsbad invalid has ordinarily a surprisingly robust appearance. He looks strong. Scoffers say he has to be to live through the rigors of the cure. There is an apocryphal legend of an epitaph in a Carlsbad churchyard:

I was well.
I hoped to be better.
Here I am!

—Harper's.

Important to Him.

An old lady was telling her grandchildren about some trouble in Scotland in the course of which the chief of her clan was beheaded. "It was no great thing of a head, to be sure," said the good old lady, "but it was a sad loss to him."

Spanish Peasants.

In Spain the peasant works all day and dares half the night, yet rarely is his food varied from black bread, onion and watermelon.

Things that never could have made a man happy develop a power to make him strong.—Phillips Brooks.

A QUEER LAKE.

With Neither Inlet Nor Outlet It Has a Mysterious Tide.

There is a curious Swiss lake, Lake Marjean, which at regular intervals completely disappears and does not begin to refill until the following winter or spring. On these occasions it empties itself so rapidly that the Rhone rises several meters in a few hours and overflows its banks.

But it is not necessary to go to Switzerland in order to find a freakish lake. There is a pond in the center of Long Island, at the present end of the Motor parkway, called Lake Ronkonkoma. It has neither inlet nor outlet and lies at the foot of the hills that form the backbone of Long Island. Round its shores are many pretty summer homes. The trees about it are much larger and more beautiful than elsewhere on Long Island. The waters of the lake are very clear and cold. In some places it seems bottomless.

The strange thing about Lake Ronkonkoma is that it has a tide; not a tide like the ocean that rises and falls every twelve hours, but one that takes seven years to rise and seven more to fall. The difference between high water and low water mark is between thirty and forty feet. Many scientific men have studied the curious phenomenon, but no one has found out what causes this mysterious tide. Neither long continued rains nor severe droughts affect the quantity of water in the lake.

The Indians used to hold the lake in great awe, and few dared to cross it in a canoe. There is a legend of one brave who, while fishing, was drowned in the lake. His body was found six months afterward nearly ten miles away in Long Island sound.—Youth's Companion.

HIS BACKING WAS GOOD.

And President Tyler Found a Place For Old Jack Dade.

President Tyler had a curious office seeking experience at the very beginning of his administration. Old Jack Dade, a character about Washington, who had been the president's classmate at college, went to the White House, and said he, "Jack, I want an office."

"You do?" said President Tyler. "What office on earth do you think you are fit for?"

"Why, one o' these 'sinecures' I hear so much about—no work and good pay," Dade promptly replied.

"Well, Jack," said Tyler deprecatingly, "you know that I am president now and must have some kind of warrant for making an appointment. Can you get anybody to indorse you? Could you bring me a letter of recommendation?"

"Oh, yes," said Dade. "I'm fixed for that," and he produced a letter of four pages written by Tyler himself to President Harrison, whom he had just succeeded, urging the claims of his dear friend and classmate, Colonel John W. Dade, for a good, fat office.

"Cast your eye over that!" he exclaimed in triumph.

Tyler read the letter attentively to the end, folded it carefully and said: "Jack, your backing is irresistible. Come up here tomorrow, and I'll have a place for you."

The next day Colonel John W. Dade was appointed keeper of the Federal prison of the District of Columbia.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Appropriate Excuse.

"Before the establishment of righteous courts and trials by jury where justice could be obtained," explained the teacher, "persons suspected of certain crimes were tried by what was known as the 'ordal.' One of these was the 'ordal of fire.' Hot plowshares were laid at short intervals along the victim's path, and the suspected person was blindfolded and compelled to walk over them. If he succeeded in doing it without stepping on the hot irons he was deemed innocent. But if he received burns he was adjudged guilty. Who would submit to such an ordeal now? Johnny, would you?"

"No, ma'am," said Johnny.

"And why not?"

"I'd get cold feet."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Other Woman.

"I don't see how that woman can gnd about the way she does and neglect her little children."

"How do you know that she gnds about?"

"We get the same girl to take care of our babies when we're away from home, and she's kept busy over there fully half of the time. It provokes me so to have to be put off so often when I want to get away."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Where Ma Was Strict.

Little Girl—My mamma is awful strict. Is yours? Little Boy—Orful. Little Girl—But she lets you go anywhere you want to and— Little Boy—Oh, she ain't strict with me. Little Girl—Then who is she strict with? Little Boy—Pa.

In This Rapid Age.

"Mamma's good little boy want a slice of bread and"—

"Oh, mother, cut out that sort of thing. I'm nearly four years old."—Chicago Tribune.

Sweet Salt.

The Professor—Life itself is but a chemical combination of the constituent atoms of chloride salts. The Girl—Well, it's sweet to me, anyway.—Puck.

Joy is not essentially bad, but good, while grief is essentially bad.—Spinoza.

Notice to Hunters.

Notice is hereby given that I have leased the hunting rights on M. W. Harrison's farm, and forbid any person from hunting there without my permission. Those who do so will be prosecuted. E. N. Cranson.

Cranberries.

SanMake cranberries are now on the market. All the stores in Tillamook have them, be sure and get yours, the price is \$3.00 per box.

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"EXTRA"

FROM THE UNDERWRITER'S REPORT

Cheap Insurance a Delusion—Pacific Coast Inter-Insurers Give up the Battle

The Pacific Coast Inter-Insurers, the consolidation of the Retail Grocery Underwriters, Retail Hardware Underwriters, Retail Harness Underwriters, Retail Merchants Underwriters, and Retail Druggist Underwriters, has been ordered by the California State Insurance Department to cease writing business and close up its affairs. Under date of October 1st, Secretary B. C. Fischer called upon the subscribers to meet the assessment with the following letter:

"Pacific Coast Inter-Insurers, 'Mills Building, 'San Francisco, Cal., Oct. 1, 1913.

"With regard to the business of the Pacific Coast Inter-Insurers, of which you are a subscriber.

"On account of excessive losses and diminishing premium income, we have been directed by the insurance commissioner of California and authorized by your advisory committee to discontinue business and cancel every policy immediately, also to levy an assessment against every subscriber amounting to one annual premium, in order that present losses may be paid.

"You are therefore notified that your policy No. for \$..... is hereby canceled and that an assessment of \$..... which amounts to one annual premium, is hereby levied against you. The amount of this assessment is charged against your account and when paid the unearned premium under your policy will be credited against it.

"As the exchange has gone out of business, you are advised to protect yourselves by securing other insurance,

as you are no longer protected under a policy of the P. C. I.-I.

"As soon as the assessments are received and all losses and indebtedness are paid, a statement of your account will follow.

"In order that the business of the P. C. I.-I. may speedily be closed, you are urged to return your policy and mail a check for the amount of your assessment at once.

"Yours truly,
"PACIFIC COAST INTER-INSURERS,
"Merchants Underwriters' Exchange (Attorney in fact).
"By (Signed) B. C. Fischer,
"Secretary.

"Temporary Offices: 807-809 Trust and Savings Building, Los Angeles, Cal. "B. C. F.—E. H."

It was promised by its projectors that property owners who participated in the concern would make large savings over the stock company plan of insurance, as profits from the operations would be divided equally among the participants. Now its policyholders are without insurance, and are compelled to pay an assessment equal to one year's premium. Cancellation of policy does not terminate liability for assessment. It is to be hoped that the public has learned its lesson.

The large number of policyholders will now have to replace their insurance. If you have been insured in the past to get "Old Line, Conflagration Proof Policies." Such insurance is the *safest* and the *cheapest* in the long run.

Rollie W. Watson
"The Insurance Man"

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