

SMALL BOY OBEYED ORDERS.

But Perhaps His Methods of Play Were Too Strenuous.

He is a very small boy, but he has a very much smaller sister, a baby, who arrived only a few weeks ago. The small boy was delighted. Never had he seen anything so little or so interesting.

Could the baby see, could she hear, could she eat, did she have teeth, and why didn't she talk and walk? Those were a few of the questions he asked.

HARD LIFE OF BACHELOR SEAL.

Has Nothing Like So Good a Time as Human Counterpart.

"This skin," said the furrier, "came from a young seal bachelor, a youth ignorant of love and of life." "How do you know?" the lady asked.

Why Snow is White.

The reason that snow is white is that all the elementary colors are blended together in the radiance that is thrown off from the surface of the crystals, which may be examined in such a way as to detect these colors before they are mingled together to give the eye the impression of whiteness.

Sartorial Wisdom.

A Manhattan magazine announces upon the authority of the leading writer on men's fashions that "double-breasted trousers" will be the vogue next spring.

Failed to Work.

"Yes," said the elderly passenger, "I married the widow of a man who was hanged, and I thought, under the circumstances, I would be able to avoid odious comparisons in connection with the late lamented. But I was mistaken."

Irksome for Both Parties.

A long friendship and a short engagement is, perhaps, the best combination. A prolonged engagement is the most trying relationship between the sexes possible to conceive. For the woman it means the drawbacks of matrimony without the charm of restful finality, or any of matrimony's solid worldly advantages.

Best He Could Do.

"Sir," said the irate parent as he unexpectedly entered the parlor, "what do you mean by kissing my daughter?" "Excuse me," replied the poor but otherwise honest young man, "but I desired to show my appreciation of your daughter's loveliness, and kisses are the only things I can afford to give her at the present stage of the game."

GENTLE VOICE A GREAT CHARM.

One of the Most Powerful Attractions in a Woman.

Very few women realize what an effect a sweet voice has on a man. A woman may be very pretty to look upon, may be faultlessly and bewitchingly attired and attractive in every way, and yet directly she opens her mouth and speaks the spell is broken, the charm is gone. And this need never be.

Very few voices are so naturally that they will not succumb to training, and the voice can be trained to be just as sweet and gentle as one pleases to make it. A woman should speak in a low voice. She should not allow her voice to raise itself to a high pitch.

MOTHER INSTINCT WAS STRONG.

Old Lady Ready to Aid Any One She Thought Needed It.

"A woman who looked as if she had a commuter's ticket in her handbag kept a long line of customers waiting in a New York bank one morning recently. She was writing something and was in no hurry. She was not one of the fashionable 'no hips' creatures, but was of such generous proportions that she could not be circumnavigated. There was nothing to do but wait and wonder what her business was. The cashier himself was in doubt, but waited politely to see.

Take Celestial Bridegroom.

At Los Angeles, Cal., the other day a rich Chinese merchant was married to a colored woman, and almost the entire colored population turned out to witness the marriage. The ceremony was performed in one of the colored churches by Rev. C. H. Anderson, for which he received a fee of \$50. The Chinaman, whose name is Keen Schneck, was attired in American clothing of the latest fashion, and his bride, Miss Anna Laura James, was dressed in a manner that would have been envied by many a white belle.

Boy Originated Safety Pin.

"The originator of the safety-pin," said an historian of inventions, "was a little boy, an English blacksmith's son. The little boy—Harrison by name—had to look after his baby brother. The baby often cried, and its tears were usually to be traced to pin punctures. The boy nurse tried a long time to bend pins into such a form that they could be used with safety to his brother's flesh.

Ignorance of South America.

One of our contemporaries referred yesterday to "little Paraguay." That republic is four-fifths as large as Germany. Many persons have erroneous notions as to geographical sizes and lengths in South America. They have not the slightest idea that Brazil is nearly as large as the whole of Europe, that the distance between the north and south ends of Chile is as great as that between the North Cape of Europe and Gibraltar, and that steamers ply almost straight north and south on the Parana and its Paraguay affluent for a distance about equal to that between New York and Omaha.—New York Sun.

Model of Economy.

A certain farmer, who is noted for his closeness in money matters, has a 12-year-old son, who is as industrious as his father is parsimonious. Recently the father and son made a compact whereby the latter would receive ten cents for every cord of wood he sawed and piled in the woodshed. Immediately the boy became very busy at the woodpile and his earnings have been piling up at a rapid rate, his mother keeping her son's hard-earned savings for him. "What are you going to do with all your money?" the thrifty youth was recently asked. "Goin' to buy a now saw with it," was the reply.

BIRD ROSE TO THE OCCASION.

Male Ostrich Assumed Duties of Mother in an Emergency.

George and Martha Washington, the distinguished names of a pair of ostriches on a farm in southern California. In "Wild-Animal Celebrities" Miss Ellen Velvin tells a curious anecdote concerning these birds. On one occasion, when Martha had laid the requisite number of eggs, she absolutely refused, for no apparent reason, to sit. When George saw that his wife was not doing her duty in the way of sitting on the nest, he did all in his power first to persuade, then to compel her to do all that was required of her. He would tap and turn over the big eggs with his wide bill, go over to her and peck her, and then back again to the eggs; and when Martha still refused, he tried to drive her over to the nest.

But after a time he seemed to realize that it was no use; and one day, although it was midday, to the astonishment of the onlookers, he deliberately sat down on the nest and stayed there. This is an extraordinary fact, especially when one considers what a tactless, unintelligent bird the ostrich is. He sat patiently on that nest during the ensuing 40 days and nights, kept the eggs warm, and finally hatched out the finest brood of chicks which had ever been hatched on the farm.—Youth's Companion.

SOCIAL CHARM OF PUNKVILLE.

When It Came to a Question of Exclusiveness, Why—

"You ought to come to live in New York," said the young lady whose father had struck it rich in a mining venture. "Really, it is the only place. Chicago—ugh! I couldn't think of living where society is so primitive, don't you know. San Francisco—it used to be rather pleasant there, but everybody who is anybody has moved away. No, there is only one place worth considering. Or, of course, if one could live in London it would be even more pleasant than New York, but I suppose one ought to stick to one's native country as long as one can stand it, so while one has to remain on this side, New York comes nearest to the ideal, which, of course, is London. I can't imagine how your are able to stand it living out here in this little bit of a town."

How the Young Idea Shoots.

Many children are so crammed with everything that they really know nothing. In proof of this, read these veritable specimens of definitions, written by public school children: "Stability is taking care of a stable." "A mosquito is the child of black and white parents." "Monastery is the place for monsters." "Tocsin is something to do with getting drunk." "Exposition is to have the small-pox."

Hooked a Big Shark.

The officers of the steamer Limon, which reached her berth at Long wharf yesterday afternoon, told a story of the capture of a man-eating shark while the big trawler was taking on a cargo at Port Limon, Costa Rica, says the Boston Globe. One of the negro fruit handlers was fishing over the side. He had thrown out a small hook baited with meat and almost immediately it was snapped up by an exceedingly voracious man eater. Every one on board ship ran to see the fun. The negro played the shark until it was exhausted, and then one of the crew went down the Jacob's ladder and slipped a noose under its fins. The monster was hauled to the deck, but before it was killed it knocked one negro down. Two of the sailors killed it with a heavy club. The shark measured 12 feet and weighed 500 pounds. It was the largest of its species ever seen at Port Limon.

The Flatterer.

The tramp had applied to the farmer's wife for assistance. "You have a beautiful voice, lady," he said. She looked interested. "Have I?" "Yes, ma'am. I'd rather hear you say no, lady, than most other women say yes."

Hard to Explain.

"Really," said the first speculator, "it's a wonder that stock hasn't taken a tumble. It's steadily rising, although I believe it's full of water." "But," remarked the other, "how can it be full of water if there isn't a drop in it?"—Catholic Standard and Times.

RIGHT MAN IN THE RIGHT PLACE.

Where Courage and Sympathy Were Needed and Found.

Abstractions are made to cover such a multitude of things that perhaps some definitions of courage may not come amiss. First, courage to meet the "every day," thorough belief in some ideal; second, courage to do the right though impelled to do the wrong; third, courage to help and to sympathize in spite of criticism.

An example of the latter came up the other night. People were discussing the real significance of New York. Into this, of course, there entered the "indifference" of the crowd. Of this a seemingly "every day" man told this incident: He was walking uptown one evening when attention was drawn to a large man holding a boy by the collar. The little fellow was crying lustily. A crowd had gathered. No one spoke. The plain man pushed to the center and asked the big man what was the trouble. He said the boy had tried to steal something from an electric car. He was going to have him arrested. The man asked: "Have you any idea why the boy should try to steal?" "Well, I'm sure I wouldn't do it at his age."

TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING.

Street Urchin Drew the Line at Hash Twice in One Day.

Mr. George Marshall, a philanthropist who always kept a sharp lookout never to be wasteful, decided to go for a week's camping, taking as his guests some ragged street urchins. One morning he used the bits of meat left from the evening before and made hash for breakfast. There was some left over, which he concluded to re-heat and serve again at noon.

Birds Sacrificed to Fashion.

The savageries of fashion were illustrated afresh by the visit of a bird lover to a colony of egrets after having had been wrought by a party of plume hunters. The bird lover made his visit during the height of the breeding season. On his arrival at the colony he found the painful evidences of the recent raid in some 50 carcasses of adult birds floating in the water. These 50 birds had been ruthlessly shot while brooding their young. The young were left remorselessly to die a lingering death from hunger. Many had already succumbed. Others from time to time fell from the nests to share the same fate, while others again died from exhaustion as they sat in the nests. Perhaps the most pitiable sight of all was to watch those which still had sufficient strength to move and act attempting vainly to attract the attention of old birds flying heedlessly by with food in their beaks.

Most Popular Name for Brides.

Ann was the most popular name for brides in 1907. The Maagies, the Marys, the Kates and the Rosies, all of whom have in past years carried off the honor, must bow to Ann. Thomas C. Smith, the application clerk of the marriage license bureau, has for years kept a record of the most popular names of brides, and his records for 1907 show that there have been more brides with Ann as a handle to their names and surnames than any other.

Criticism is Surprising.

The recent criticism of Dr. John Brown on the books of George Elliot will not voice the opinion of most of her readers. Dr. Brown says she is "full of nasty, unwomanly knowledge, which she is always hinting at; she is unwholesome." And again he speaks of the "offensiveness" of "The Mill on the Floss." Many good women who have read the books again and again have failed to discover any of the faults referred to, but no doubt an evil mind could easily construe evil where it was never intended.

Dallying with Leap Year.

"Do you think Biggins would make a good husband?" asked the conventional youth. "Why do you ask?" inquired the girl, in surprise. "Because if you think such a fool as Biggins could manage it, I have a good mind to take a chance myself."

ARTIFICIAL HONEY IS COMING.

German Laboratory Sends Out Formulae for its Production.

From one of those amazing German laboratories which produce everything from tanbark to turquoise has come a formula for the making of artificial honey. It is tossed into the lap of the world without price, take it or leave it. We might as well resign ourselves to the coming of the day when the honey which lubricates the breakfast biscuits shall come from a red factory in the suburbs, guiltless of loot from the busy little bee and utter stranger to every opening flower. The crusher of tartaric acid may in one shoveful duplicate the task at which a thousand bees toiled for 40 days. The flame under the evaporator may replace sun and dew and the wind at morn. There will be no test by anything so uncertain as the tongue. The housewife will have no dread lest taint of chestnut, asparagus or onions come with her from the grocery. The food inspector will relieve her of this fear. He will see that the honey has a fine, golden color, that it has a specific gravity of 1.37 and that the picture of the bee on the label is not an admission that some disreputable little insect had something to do with its manufacture.

NEW IDEA IN BRIDAL GOWNS.

Descendant of Robert Bruce Sets Fashion Much Admired.

Women have been slaves too long to this tyranny of the bridal gown, and a novel suggestion is hailed with universal delight. To a Scottish bride belongs the honor of having set the pretty fashion of legendary wedding gowns. She is a direct descendant of King Robert Bruce of Scotland, and she utilized the lesson, taught to her distinguished kinsman by a spider, as an ornament for her marriage costume.

Bridge in the Country.

"If you want information on the spread of the bridge whistle craze," said the exile from Vermont, "just borrow some country papers from people who still hanker after home news, and look over the society notes. The correspondence from the most sparsely settled four corners is composed largely of bridge items. This change in the tone of the social gossip in country papers is the growth of the last few months. A year ago the weekly letters from tiny villages still spoke of old-fashioned parties, quiltings, and missionary meetings. Now, when Mrs. John Smith entertains, her guests play bridge. To any one who knows these primitive hamlets the echoes of metropolitan customs sound ludicrous. Imagine the dear, prim ladies whose social gatherings have been devoted to fashioning flannel garments for the heathen these many years, now scrapping over bridge. But notwithstanding the incongruity of the fact the news of its prevalence ought to bring to the devotees of the game, which, according to present reports, threatens to become our national pastime."

Ceylon Elephants Tuskless.

It is a singular thing that Ceylon is the only part of the world where the male elephants have no tusks; they have miserable little grubbers projecting two or three inches from the upper jaw and inclining downward. Nothing produces either ivory or horn in fine specimens throughout Ceylon. Although some of the buffaloes have tolerably fine heads, they will not bear a comparison with those of other countries. The horns of the native cattle are not above four inches in length. The elk and the spotted deer's antlers are small compared with deer of their size in India. This is the more singular, as it is evident from the geological formation that at some remote period Ceylon was not an island but formed a portion of the mainland. It is thought that there must be elements wanting in the Ceylon pasturage for the formation of ivory.

Refuge in the Abstract.

"Ethelinda seems to prefer the most classical pieces she can find," said the fond mother. "Of course she does," answered Senator Sorghum. "Some people play the piano just as some people make speeches—the more difficult and unfamiliar the subject, the less liable they are to be corrected when they make mistakes."

Fearful Condon.

"What do you think of my new book?" asked the woman who writes. "I haven't read it," said the woman who reads. "And since there seems to be nothing in it that prevents your discussing it, I don't suppose I shall take the trouble to get it."

TEETH AS CAUSE OF INSANITY.

Medical Records Contain Many Instances of the Fact.

Approx of a dispatch from Cleveland referring to the cure of certain forms of insanity by the extraction of teeth, by Dr. E. Ballard Lodge, attention has been called to a thesis on the same subject written by Dr. Richard Grady, a dentist of the city of Annapolis, more than 18 years ago. It was the prize thesis in 1891, and Dr. Grady was awarded the first gold medal ever given by the alumni of the Baltimore Medical college. In this connection Dr. Grady wrote:

"The occurrence of insanity as a result of the pain and irritation caused by the eruption of the teeth was first noticed by Esquirol. Dr. D. Corbett relates a case of insanity from overcrowding of the teeth, in which a girl 13 years old would run about the room, biting at chairs, tables and door handles. In the street she would run away from her attendants and attempt to bite lampposts. The biting propensity completely disappeared on the removal of two teeth. Dr. Tyler relates a case of mania from carious teeth, in which a young woman had several decayed teeth removed, remaining for 24 hours under the influence of the ether which was given at the operation; after that she was cured of her mania. Dr. Pepper relates another interesting case of insanity caused by the irritation of carious teeth, the removal of which cured the patient. The trouble again returned after three weeks, when a portion of the inferior dental nerve (about half an inch) was removed, and the patient was permanently cured."

READY TO FACE THE WORST.

English Woman's Resignation Really a Thing to Be Wondered At.

There was an amusing incident at a little tea last week, amusing in the light which it throws on the much-vaunted feeling of brotherly love existing between ourselves and our English cousins. An American girl was presented to an Englishwoman who has been in this country but a few weeks, and who looked a little lonely and out of it.

Good Joke on Billiardist.

"I had a great joke played on me while shooting billiards at a hotel in New York last week," said A. S. Jenkins at the Republic. "Having a little time on hand I sauntered into the billiard room. I became engaged in conversation with a fellow in the room and I proposed a game, while he readily accepted. At first things went along splendidly and I had 20 to his 10. But soon he forged ahead and beat me out by a close score.

First Lead Pencils.

"One of man's best friends," says "Prometheus," will have a 250th birthday some time in 1908. The day cannot be fixed when the lead pencil was first used, but all signs, all records, show that it was just about 250 years ago that the useful article was invented. The "praeductura" of ancient Rome, which was a leaden disk used to draw lines, was undoubtedly its progenitor. In the fourteenth century lead and silver points were used in Italy, but employed exclusively by artists. For the sake of cleanliness these were encased in wood and became the first lead pencils, but the pencil similar to those of the present day came after discovery of graphite in 1665. The first German pencils were made in Nurnberg, where there are now 30 pencil factories, which turn out about 800,000,000 pencils every year.