

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

TALES TOLD ABOUT AND FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

A Boy Who Owns an Electric Road—Smoothing Bossy Down—A Little King's Army—A Guessing Game—Mamma's Story—Dainty Paper Dolls.

A Little Magnate.

Little Archie Cowley, of Dellwood, Minn., is probably the youngest railway manager in the world. Archie is but 7 years old, yet he controls an entire electrical railroad. It is true that the road is but one tenth of a mile in length, nevertheless it is fitted out just as completely as any road that is run by grown persons.

There are three cars on the road—one motor car and two passenger cars. Each car is five feet long and two feet wide. It is not a trolley road. Instead of a trolley wire there is a long strip of iron, which lies between the tracks and supplies the electricity which makes the cars move along.

At one end of the road is the powerhouse where the electricity is produced. The electric current comes from a small dynamo, which is driven by a petroleum engine. There is also a shed where the cars are stored at night and in winter time.

But Archie is the company in this case. His road is on the hill by the side of White Bear lake, and he is the only boy in that region who is able to go coasting in the summer time.

My grandmother is very old now. She wears great silver spectacles through which her blue eyes still look kindly, though age is telling on their vision.

Sometimes, when the supper dishes have been "cleared" my grandmother gets into a reminiscent mood and tells us good stories of the time when she was a girl "back in Pennsylvania."

"It was when we lived on the old farm up in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and my old man had bought a 'fresh' young cow of John Beins, you remember him, don't you, William?"

"Mama's Story." "Now mama, tell me a story, please." "Well, what shall the story be?" "The Three Little Bears?"

"Very well. When I was less than four—" "No, mama, half-past three!" "On yes, I went when the moon was bright—" "Your papa looks you—no stary at all—" "You are right. He carried me."

"Oh yes. And so he left me there—" "All so you didn't go back?" "An' next day when you saw four mowver you found the bear's nest little—braver!"

"Dainty Paper Dolls." One may make beautiful little paper dolls by taking pains and time for the work. The gaily colored heads, arms and feet that are bought outright may be affixed to paper or cardboard bodies, and then the costumes may be separately prepared.

When Hazel Went to Church. Hazel has an eye for the practical, which fact was illustrated on the day she first saw people baptized. She looked on in silence for awhile and then asked: "Mamma, do they have to pay to get drowned?"

kit skirts, puffed sleeves, revers and almost any of the present day styles, all of which have been seen done in paper. Then a sun bonnet is a possibility, too, and little hats and bonnets. There is almost no limit to the wardrobe, given tissue paper, glue and some knack in handling them, with a pair of sharp scissors for aids.

The king of Spain is the youngest ruler in the world. According to some people it is a hard thing to be a king, but there is not a boy anywhere who would refuse the title if he could have as much fun as Alfonso did, not long ago.

When a ruler takes command of his army he reviews them. But that wouldn't do in this case. How would it look to see a boy who has only worn trousers about a year and a half, reviewing a lot of grown soldiers? So just here is where the fun came in.

It was a great sight. On a broad esplanade in the city of San Sebastian the 700 boys were drawn up, two deep. They were dressed just like Spanish regulars, the trousers having gold stripes down the sides, the swallow-tailed coats trimmed with gold braid and buttoned across the breast with gold frogs.

There they stood, waiting for the king to come. After awhile a grown-up orderly, on a big horse, dashed up, saluted the lieutenant-colonel, who was on a beautiful pony, with a long white tail and mane, gave an order to the lieutenant.

A cloud of dust was now seen in the distance. Up dashed the king in a carriage, with the great General Tolavega, who had drilled the boy army. They were followed by the king's personal staff.

Present arms! cried the young lieutenant-colonel. The boys did so well that the thousands of people looking on cheered lustily.

Then King Alfonso, with golden spurs on his boots, mounted a beautiful white pony and walked back the whole length of the regiment, taking his stand under a purple silk canopy to review the troops.

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THE YELLOW TERROR

GEN. YEH OF THE IMPERIAL CHINESE ARMY.

He is the Wellington of the Flowery Kingdom—His Field Tactics, However, Resemble Those of the Corsican Conqueror of Europe.

GEN. YEH THE imperial Chinese army now operating in Corea seems to have a treasure. Every one who knows anything of Chinese soldiers knows that all they require is good officers to lead them.

When you read about Chinese soldiers running away from the battle field it is, without doubt, the fault of the officers, not the soldiers. As long as their officers stay on the field the troops will remain. Sometimes, however, when a soldier is promoted and has become rich by robbing the men of the money sent him to pay them off, he wants to enjoy himself here before testing the pleasure in store for him in another world.

Low Wing Fook, the famous commander of the "Black Flag" army in Tonkin, always remained in the front line with his troops, and his officers also set a becoming example to the men



QUEENS IN 1831.

Curious Modes of Hair-Dressing and Embellishing Revealed by Their Portraits.

All women will be interested in the accompanying reproduction of a curious old engraving, published in 1831, half a dozen years before the accession of Queen Victoria to the throne, in which are given portraits of Queen Adelaide and the various European queens who were her contemporaries.



John Chinaman's Reasoning.

A little time since, so the story goes, one of the Chinamen attending the Bromfield Street Methodist Episcopal Sunday school renounced his heathenism, embraced Christianity and was duly baptized by the pastor, Dr. Mansfield, according to Methodist usage.

Gen. Yeh's force of 4,000 men joined the main body of Chinese troops at Ping-An on the morning of Aug. 23. The retreat from Assan was a brilliant feat. The heat was intense and the route lay through a difficult country. In addition to these obstacles the column was harassed along the whole distance by bodies of the enemy. But notwithstanding all

this the march of 350 miles west was effected in good order, the Japanese lines at Chung-Chow being broken."

For this achievement and his subsequent victory over the Japanese army at Ping-An, after the junction with the main army was effected, Gen. Yeh and 100 of the officers of the imperial army have been rewarded by an imperial edict.

Gen. Yeh is not the commander-in-chief of the army in Corea, that function developing upon Gen. Liu Ming Chuen, who was Viceroy of Formosa during the time of the Franco-Chinese war. Liu is looked upon as the probable successor of Li Hung Chang in case of that statesman's removal by death or imperial edict. At least he is the most prominent candidate for the succession now in the field.

LIVING WITHOUT HEADS.

A Fly May Survive After the Head is Removed.

To go about the usual affairs of its daily existence minus a head would appear to be a rather unsatisfactory business, but this is precisely what certain insects seem capable of doing. Experiments have been made with common house flies, with the curious result that thirty-six hours after decapitation the bodies were seemingly as lively as ever.

SCIENTIFIC MATTERS.

INTERESTING AND USEFUL INFORMATION.

Electricity and the War in the East—Curious Property of Aluminum—New Lightning Calculators—An Electric Quilt.

It is interesting to note the important part played by electrical appliances in the war now being waged between China and Japan. The Japanese, especially are quick to turn to account any advantage offered by scientific appliances, and in Corea they have materially strengthened their hands by taking possession of the lines and stations of the telegraph service.

The inventor gave some practical illustrations of what his machine can do to a number of gentlemen recently. They were convinced that it can handle multiplication, division and percentage calculations.

The machine is quite similar in appearance to the cover of a Remington typewriter. The printed figures are fastened to a slide board that fits into a cylinder which turns back and forth by means of knob handles; these slides are lapped behind an index board having nine divisions or sections, on each of which stand the numerals.

The inventor declared his invention dispensed with multiplication, and that the true percentage could be found at any rate, from one-tenth of 1 per cent to 99 per cent, or any sum from the thousandth part of a cent to any sum capable of being written. It substitutes mechanical correctness for mental uncertainty, saves valuable time, and prevents physical exhaustion. He styles it the "nine by nine" calculator.

Electric Despotism.

The Koreans appear to be a happy-go-lucky people. Their wants are few, and they buy little, but the one object of their life is to defer the evil day of payment as long as possible.

The great chemist, Faraday, claimed to have demonstrated that each drop of water in a thunder cloud is the sheath of electric force sufficient to charge 800,000 Leyden jars. The explanation of the phenomena of atmospheric electricity is that, whenever water is evaporated, and especially when it contains salt in solution, the rising vapor is always to be found electrified.

Curious Property of Aluminum.

M. Margot has discovered a peculiar property of aluminum. If glass be rubbed with a piece of this metal, very brilliant markings will be obtained which cannot be washed out. This tendency of aluminum to adhere firmly to glass, and to silicious substances in general, is especially manifested when the rubbed surface is wet with water or simply covered with a stratum of aqueous vapor.

Modern Quick-Firing Gun.

A naval correspondent who was present at a demonstration in England of the powers of the improved Maxim gun, speaks of it as being "a terrible exhibition of the murderous power of the new weapons. The storm of bullets from them cut the water like rain on the advancing edge of a tropical squall. With one of these guns a gunner of very moderate skill can, at 500 yards range, cut down an ordinary park falling almost as neatly as a workman can do the business on the spot with an ax, and it is not therefore astonishing that the targets, small though they were, quickly disappeared."

worth polar expedition. When the expedition is crossing ice or land the middle part will be placed on the sledges and be used for carrying provisions, while at night it will, when the seas, etc., are taken out, form a sleeping place. The two end sections set upright and placed one against the other make an excellent tent. The rowlocks and ropes are of aluminum, as well as the cooking utensils with which the boat is provided.

New Lightning Calculators.

A lightning calculator, the invention of an expert mathematician, is one of the newest labor and time-saving devices out, and many people will be interested to learn a machine has been produced which entirely eliminates multiplication from percentage computations.

The machine is quite similar in appearance to the cover of a Remington typewriter. The printed figures are fastened to a slide board that fits into a cylinder which turns back and forth by means of knob handles; these slides are lapped behind an index board having nine divisions or sections, on each of which stand the numerals.

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The Koreans appear to be a happy-go-lucky people. Their wants are few, and they buy little, but the one object of their life is to defer the evil day of payment as long as possible. The coin of the common people is the copper or brass "cash" or spook, a thousand of which go to the Mexican dollar. These little coins have a square hole in the center, and are strung on cords of straw, and it is said that when a traveler journeys into the interior of the country he has to take along an extra horse to carry his money. It is related that Dr. Scaptoz, a medical missionary, sold to the Korean government 1,800 Mexican dollars, and the "cash" he received in exchange required the service of fifty-six stout men for its removal to the mission house. Under such circumstances, it appears rather a misfortune to be paid one's just dues. There is one official, however, who suffers no inconvenience either from the national shiftlessness or the unworkability of the common currency. In Corea, at all events, the state electrician has the whip-hand. Not only is he the only European not paid by the customs who gets his pay regularly, but he is paid either in bullion or gold dust. The secret of his "pull" is that the king and all his court are so afraid of ghosts that they sit up all night. There are sorcerers, and the electric light, also, to keep off the ghosts. If the electrician's pay fails into arrears the light apparatus breaks down, and cannot be repaired until he is paid up.

Electricity in Water.

The great chemist, Faraday, claimed to have demonstrated that each drop of water in a thunder cloud is the sheath of electric force sufficient to charge 800,000 Leyden jars. The explanation of the phenomena of atmospheric electricity is that, whenever water is evaporated, and especially when it contains salt in solution, the rising vapor is always to be found electrified. This has been demonstrated by experiments of a very interesting and successful nature. Plates of porous earthenware were placed in water and in the ground, delicate instruments were then associated with them in such a way as to be able to trace an electrical disturbance set up at the surface of contact where the solids and liquids met. By further experiments it was proved that whenever water thrown upon earthenware crucibles heated to redness very energetic extremes of positive electricity were generated. The positive electricity thus set free by such agencies is, as a matter of course, carried up by the vapors which rise into the air, each little particle bearing with it in its ascent its own proper portion of the charge. The vast accumulation of water which rests in the wide basins of the ocean and seas thus becomes a perfectly inexhaustible source of supply of free electricity.

Modern Quick-Firing Gun.

A naval correspondent who was present at a demonstration in England of the powers of the improved Maxim gun, speaks of it as being "a terrible exhibition of the murderous power of the new weapons. The storm of bullets from them cut the water like rain on the advancing edge of a tropical squall. With one of these guns a gunner of very moderate skill can, at 500 yards range, cut down an ordinary park falling almost as neatly as a workman can do the business on the spot with an ax, and it is not therefore astonishing that the targets, small though they were, quickly disappeared."

CHICAGO THEATERS.

AMUSEMENT ATTRACTIONS FOR COMING WEEK.

What the Managers of the Various City Play-Houses Offer Their Patrons—Drama, Vaudeville and Operatic Engagements.

McVICKER'S THEATER. Joseph Jefferson will begin his annual tour on Oct. 15 at McVicker's theater. It is more than likely that the eminent comedian will this year be seen in more characters than one.

SCHILLER THEATER. The new and successful society comedy "The Idler," presented by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lewis, and their London company, at the Schiller theater last week is succeeded by a play of the same high comedy class, but one much more celebrated, "The Crust of Society."

CHICAGO OPERA HOUSE. The last three weeks of "Aladdin, Jr." are announced and Chicago will soon say good-bye to the grandest spectacular endeavor ever put on the American stage.

Table with 2 columns: Theater Name and Description. Includes Alhambra, Academy, Columbia, Chicago Opera House, Frank Hall's Casino, Grand Opera House, Gale's, Hooley's, Haymarket, Havana's, Lincoln, Lyceum, Schiller, McVicker's, Sam T. Jack's Empire.

Health in a Coal Mine. A physician asserts that disease is no more demolishing in its raids among the workers in coal pits than it is among the agriculturists and laborers.

The Court Seat. A high seat called "kursi" is to be found in the courtyard of all well-to-do houses in Cairo and other large towns of the East.

The first reflecting telescope was made on the plans of Sir Isaac Newton in 1692.

The first recorded use of bricks and mortar was B. C. 2247, in the tower of Belus, built at Babylon.

The use of the Christian era in chronology began in Italy in 525. It was not employed in England until 816.

Tarring and feathering was once a legal punishment for theft. It is said to be found in the statutes of both England and France about the time of the crusades.

Playing cards were introduced into Europe by a crusader about 1290 to amuse Charles IV., King of France, who had fallen into a gloomy state of mind bordering on madness.

ACTING FOR ALMS

Methods of a Stranded Actor to Eke Out an Existence.

Strolling in the vicinity of the Battery, says a writer in the New York Telegram, my attention was attracted by what I thought was a familiar voice declaiming familiar lines with polished utterance.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, in the kindness of your hearts, bear in mind that if you were to see this performance in an uptown theater, where I have often given it, it would cost you probably \$1 each, perhaps more.

"Man alive," he exclaimed as he recognized me. "don't give me away! Come let's get away from here."

"I've been expecting this," he gasped, looking at me anxiously from under his made-up brows.

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Not So Certain About It. Neighbor—Of course the children are a great deal of bother, and you've got a house full of them, but if you were told you must lose one of your little ones you wouldn't know which one you could spare.

Legal Item. Sam Johnson—So you has hired Lawyer Jones ter sue me, has yer? Huh! After you has paid him you will go home in yer stockin' feet.

A Depressed Parent. "Your son is not conspicuous for business-like instincts," said the manager of the store to the proprietor.

A Late Marriage.

The parish register of Greenwich, Eng., records the marriage, 1695, November 18, of "John Cooper of this parish, almsman in Queen Elizabeth college, aged 108, and Margaret Thomas of Charlton, in Kent, aged 80 years, by License of ye Lord Bishop of Rochester, and leave of ye Governours of ye Drapers."

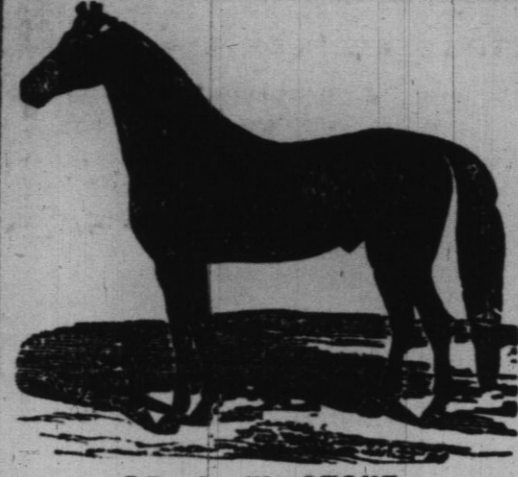
The Tower of Babel. Early English building was done with what would now be called very small stones, and the unwillingness or inability of the workmen to raise and deal with heavy masses is indicated in a sculptured representation of the building of Babel preserved in the Chapter house of Salisbury.



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