SOMETHING for the LITTLE ONES

TOY FOR TESTING THE LUNGS

Weight is Wound Up as Wind Wheel is Blown—Mouthpiece Indicate Relative Strength.

A device for testing the lung capacity that can be easily made has been designed by a Delaware man. A long piece of strong wire is bent to form a handle. One end of the wire is then bent at right angles to the handle, to form a shaft, and the other end is run for a short distance parallel to the shaft and then bent down and terminated in a loop. On the inner end of the shaft a wind wheel, made in it, to form a wind wheel, is journaled. On the outer end of the

Give me your paw, old fellow. That's the way!
Be a good dog, and mind on sight.
After the lesson we'll have some fun;
I'll take you off for a splendid run.

ORIGIN OF WEDDING RINGS

According to Ancient Ritual Husband Began by Placing Sand on Thumb and Next Finger.

According to the ancient ritual in marriage, the husband began the ring business by placing sand on the thumb and putting it successively on the next two fingers, pronouncing for each one a person of the Trinity; with a final amen the fourth finger was reached, and there the ring remained.

The Greek church ritual directs that the ring be placed upon the right hand. Napoleon Bonaparte sought to abolish the ring as a vain and heathen emblem, but the crowd did fashion of giving and taking emblem. "For our love's sake," yet remains to us.

Betrothal engagement rings vary in fashion nowadays and always depend, or should, on the purse of the donor. Where there are no limitations of this sort the latest, if it be perfect, will lead him to choose a diamond solitaire, plain or fluted, set in the band, a small and pure blue-white stone being always considered good in a large stone. Some prefer a ring set with three stones, generally a sapphire set between two diamonds. Others select a ruby or an emerald, which signifies prosperity and happiness.

Few persons choose pearls for an engagement ring, as pearls are supposed to typify tears. They are also not particularly fashionable at present, love, which, in its first glow, at least, is always understood to be instructor of the heart, being now commonly being dimmed or "aged," as the lapidary expresses it, by contact with impure air, while acid annihilates them completely.

WHY LITTLE STARS TWINKLE

British Scientist Says Phenomena is Chiefly Effect Produced by Atmosphere on Waves of Light.

Perhaps you remember that in youth some kind elder soul took you into the darkness of night to some glorious manor night and pointed out the stars and planets, telling you of some glorious star that the unwinking star overhead was a planet, while "that blue one down there which twinkles" was a star. The fact that planets shone steadily and with reflected light, while the stars "turned," was supposed to explain the twinkling, as against the steadfast radiance. Even this young illustion is dispelled by a British scientist, who says:

"The twinkling of the stars is chiefly an effect produced in our atmosphere upon the waves of light. It is due to currents and strata of air of different densities and refracting and floating past each other, through which the light passes to the eye. It is even much more in cold than in warm weather, and near the horizon more than "overhead." Planets seem to twinkle