

**SOAP**

Who invented soap? That this is not a modern convenience is well known. But just when it came into general use is a mystery.

In Biblical times cleansing agents were used. The books of Job and Jeremiah contain the word "soap." But this is merely a convenient use of the word in translation. The Hebrew word "borrith," for which it was submitted, is a general term for cleaning substances. What these substances were is unknown, but were probably little like the modern soap.

Pliny speaks of the invention of soap by the Gauls, who, however, used it only as a sort of pomade or hair dressing. He also refers to the use of both hard soap and soft soap by the Germans. The use of fuller's earth which has saponaceous qualities, for cleansing purposes, was known to the Romans.—Philadelphia Evening Telegraph.

**THOUGHTFUL**

There is an elderly business man of Cleveland, of whom friends tell a story amusingly illustrating his excessively methodical manner of conducting both his business and his domestic affairs.

The Clevelander recently married a young woman living in a town not far away. On the evening of the ceremony the prospective bridegroom, being detained by an unexpected and important matter of business, missed the train he had intended to take in order that he might reach the abode of his bride at 7 o'clock, the hour set for the wedding.

True to his instincts, the careful Clevelander immediately repaired to the telegraph office, from which to dispatch a message to the lady. It read: "Don't marry till I come. Howard."—Harper's Weekly.

**CAUSE FOR GRATITUDE**

"Ah, my dear Mr. Briefless," said Mr. Hardcash, seizing the young barrister's hand and shaking it warmly, "I am so immensely obliged to you. That case the other day, you know—I won it."

"Thanks," replied Briefless, "but did I represent you?"

"No, my dear fellow," replied Hardcash; "you represented the other man."—Home Herald.

**THE SPEAKER'S POWER**

Practically, in many cases, the speaker is the whole congress. No bill can get through the house this session except allowed by the committee on rules, and the speaker is in effect the committee. Whatever he opposes is as dead as the late Julius Caesar of Portland. And we boast of our representative government!—Portland Journal.

**Failure**

to cure indigestion is largely due to the old theory that when the stomach becomes inactive it needs something to mechanically digest its contents, and cathartics, purgatives, etc., are used, which give only temporary relief, because they digest by irritating the lining of the stomach.

Modern science recognizes the fact that it is the nerves that furnish motive power to digest the contents of the stomach.

The nerves agitate and mix the food, and stimulate the secretions. When they become weakened they lack energy, and indigestion, dyspepsia, sour stomach result.

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**THE EARTHLY PARADISE**

When the last little dreamer is dreaming,

The last little child is in bed;  
When the last little eyelid reposes,  
The last little prayer has been said;

Ah, then, by the side of the sleepers  
The mother and I have our thought,

And we rise from our mutual kneeling

With the tenderest faith ever wrought!

When they come to our arms in the evening

For story and ballad and cheer,  
For the healing of each little sorrow,  
The drying of each little tear,  
The heart says a grace for the comfort

Of the roof that is over our head  
And the mercy that cares for and gives us

Each day of the day's meed of bread!

When they twine in love's tender enfolding

Our necks with the arms of their grace,  
And they sink to the slumber of childhood

With a shadow of smile on each face,  
We tell all our hopes for them over  
And build airy bubbles of gleam  
Where they walk, men and women of splendor,  
In the conquering cities of dream!

One moment we want them grown taller,

The next wish they'd stay as they are;

In fancy life leads them to triumphs  
On green hills of glory afar;  
In silence love holds them enfolded  
And dreads the drear day they may roam

From the beautiful valleys of childhood,  
The ties that have bound them to home!

When the shadows of dusk bring them creeping

For rockaby rides on our knees;  
When the last little sleeper is sleeping

And the birds are asleep in the trees;

We rise with our arms round each other,

In the faith that is sweeter than art,

And a feeling of happiness flooding  
The broad everglades of the heart!

And somehow we know we are grateful,

And somehow we find in our care  
A comfort too deep for defining  
In the little lives nestling there;  
And somehow the spirit grows stronger,

The heart beats in tune to the day  
And the shadows we wear as a garment

Fall off and are folded away!

When the last little dreamer is dreaming,

When the last little chattering tongue  
Has lost its lone way in the silence,  
The last lullaby has been sung,  
Oh, then, in that hour of contentment,

The feeling is born in the breast—  
That home is the gateway of heaven,  
And love is the portal of rest!

—Baltimore Sun.

**MAYBE**

A great-grandfather of Robert L. Gerry, the son-in-law of E. H. Harriman, refused to affix his signature to the constitution of the United States because it conceded "too much authority to the president." This may be one of the reasons Mr. Harriman took so kindly to the young man.—Kansas City Star.

**HOW DID HE DO IT?**

Count Offendorf of Austria has purchased from Countess Shuvalovo of Russia the entire town of Dubno, with its fortress, in Russian Poland. The strange part of it is that the count could pay \$2,000,000 for the town and fort in spite of the fact that he never, so far as we know, became the son-in-law of any American railway magnate or lumber king.—Chicago Record-Herald.

**EXPLAINS MANY THINGS**

This story from Tennessee about an eminent supreme court justice who wrote an important opinion in his sleep suggests an explanation of many things.—Ohio State Journal.

**ONLY TWICE**

There are two periods in a man's life when he is unable to under-

stand women. One is before marriage and the other after.—Harper's Weekly.

**WASTE OF TIME**

Nodd—"There was to be a meeting of my creditors today."

Todd—"Well, wasn't there?"

"No. They unanimously agreed that they couldn't afford to spend the time."—Life.

**MODERN DIAGNOSIS**

"Your child undoubtedly has chicken pox," says the attending physician.

"And why does she have continual chills with it? Is not that unusual?" asks the parent.

"Well—ah—no doubt it is a new manifestation of our changing conditions. I might diagnose the case as cold-storage chicken pox."—Success.

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