

CAMPFIRE TALES.

"There, Never Mind."

Years have passed, but still I hear them,
Mother's words, "There, never mind,
Time serves only to endure them
To me as it flies. I find,
Mother's gone, but still I often
Find myself, when trouble's nigh,
Half expecting her to soften
It as in the days gone by.

Years, but still I see her rocking,
Holding me upon her breast,
Both arms about me locking,
Setting all my fears at rest.
Years, but still I hear her telling
Me in voice so low and kind,
While my tears are swiftly welling,
Soothing like, "There, never mind."

All my boyish troubles vanished
When she spoke those words to me.
All my tears were quickly banished,
Soon I slumbered peacefully,
Oft I wish when woes beset me,
And grim worries now I find,
That old Father Time would let me
Hear her say, "There, never mind."
—Blde Dudley in Kansas City Star.

Sheridan's Great Feat.

For personal gallantry, military skill and just confidence in the courage and patriotism of his troops displayed by Philip H. Sheridan on the 19th of October, 1864, at Cedar Run, where, under the blessing of Providence, his routed army was reorganized, a great national disaster averted and a brilliant victory achieved over the rebels, Philip H. Sheridan is appointed major-general in the United States army."

So runs the order for the promotion which the president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, issued to honor the hero of Cedar Run and Winchester. That he had averted a great national disaster was everywhere conceded throughout the entire



Philip H. Sheridan.

north. The valley of the Shenandoah had been overrun by the armies of the confederacy. Washington was in a state of chronic terror in fear of the attacks of the enemy. The way was open, and if the confederate were not soon repulsed, the attack upon the capital seemed inevitable. Early's army had been re-enforced by a part of the command of Longstreet. Phillip Sheridan had been given orders by the war department to clear the enemy from the Shenandoah and to thereby relieve the country of the strain of the fear of an attack upon Washington.

On the 18th of October, 1864, Early, fording the Shenandoah river, approached rapidly and unobserved upon the army of Sheridan. Sheridan had been called to Washington and was even then returning, having reached the town of Winchester, twenty miles from Cedar Run. Under cover of the fog, which had risen from the river, and the darkness, Early's army approached to within 600 yards of the left flank of the union army, which was formed by the troops of Gen. Crook.

The Eighth corps was rolled up, the exposed center gave way and almost instantly the entire army was in retreat. Madly they rushed from

the scene of the surprise, panic-stricken and demoralized.

Sheridan in Winchester had heard the sound of the battle. Mounting the horse which had already carried him through so many battles, he spurred him toward the place where he knew that his troops should be. On the Cedar Run road he met the first of the retreating army. Standing in his saddle, he shouted to them: "Face the other way, boys; we are going back."

The presence of Little Phil restored the confidence they had lost. His belief in them gave them a belief in themselves. His courage inspired their courage. His enthusiasm roused theirs. Back they turned to the field from which they had been so ingloriously routed.

The tide of battle turned; the victorious enemy had waited to plunder the camps. Surprised as had been their foes a short time before, they were completely routed. The retreat of Cedar Run had been turned to a glorious victory simply because a leader did not know when he was beaten, and, refusing to acknowledge defeat, had wrested from adversity a victory that won for him honors and commendation and fame. "Sheridan's Ride" is of imperishable fame in the annals of American military achievements. But even greater than his fame for personal bravery is the characterization that Lincoln phrased, "just confidence in the courage and patriotism of his troops."

Battles Followed by Rain.

The records show that the following battles or actions were either accompanied or closely followed by rain: Battle of Logan's Crossroads; battle of Fort Donelson; battle of Pea Ridge, Ark; attack and capture of Roanoke Island; capture of Newbern, N. C.; capture of Fort Macon; the naval action in Hampton Roads; the capture of New Madrid, Mo.; attack on Island No. Ten; bombardments of forts Jackson and St. Phillip; bombardment and passage of the Vicksburg batteries; battle of Pittsburg Landing, or Shiloh, April 6 and 7, 1862; battle of Bull Pasture Mountain, May 8, 1862; battle of Winchester, Va., May 24 and 25, 1862; battle of Cross Keys, June 8, 1862; capture of Yorktown; battle of Williamsburg; fighting on the Chickahominy; battle of Hanover Courthouse; battle of Fair Oaks, or Seven Pines; gunboat firing on James river; artillery firing in front of Hooker's Seven Days' Fight; battle of Gaine's Mill; battle of Savage's Station; battle of Malvern Hill; battle of Cedar Mountain, Aug. 9, 1862; heavy artillery firing at Kelley's Fort and Rappahannock Station; fight at Bristow Station; second battle of Bull Run; battle of Chantilly; battle of Antietam; battle of Perryville, or Chaplin's Creek, Ky.; battle of Prairie Grove, Ark.; capture of Van Buren, Ark.; battle of Murfreesboro, or Stone River; battle of Fredericksburg, Va.; battle of Chancellorsville; battle of Beverley Ford, Va.; battle of Gettysburg, Pa; affair at Mine Run; destruction of Confederate steamer Nashville; battle of Carney's Bridge, La.; assault on Port Hudson; Porter's passage of the Vicksburg batteries; battle of Raymond, Miss.; naval action off Charleston Harbor; attack on defenses of Secessionville; attack on Morris Island; attack on Gen. Terry on James Island; bombardment of Fort Wagner; attack on Fort Sumter; battle of Mission Ridge; Red River campaign; battle of Marks Mill; battle of Dallas, Ga.; battle of the Wilderness; battle of Spottsylvania Courthouse; battle of North Anne River; battle of Cold Harbor, or Bethesda Church; battle of Hatcher's Run; fight at Dublin Ridge; battle of Newmarket; battle of the Cedars; the great battle of Nashville, and many others.

Would Tax Horse Racing.

Lord Newton, who is president of a British horse show society, suggests that the country's revenue might be increased properly by a tax on horse racing.

BOYS AND GIRLS

Do it Now.

This life's a garden full o' weeds—
We've got to pull 'em all
Before they fill the field with seeds
When they are dry an' tall.
While we complain the field gets full—
Don't sit with frownin' brow
An' fret because you've got to pull—
It's best to "Do it now."

The job a fellow soldiers on
Is one that's never through;
Each day's another chance that's gone
An' left us more to do.
Nobody else can do your work
Like you can, anyhow.
The task grows bigger while you shirk—
It's best to "Do it now."

There's always lots o' time to spare
To tell your woes, my son;
The hardest work of all to bear
Is that that's never done.
The "put off" man, he does things twice
In spite of all his row.
Don't wait to ask or give advice—
Get out and "Do it now."
—W. D. Nesbitt.

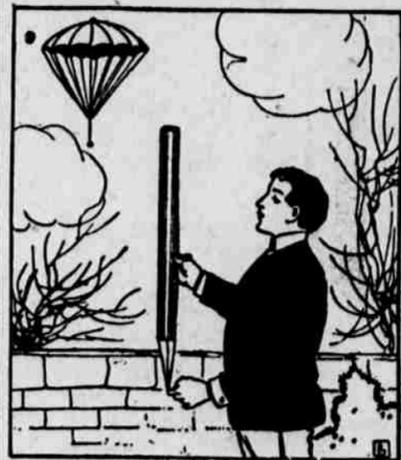
Paper Parachute.

This is not quite as exciting sport as shooting the chutes, but it is good fun. Of course you know what a parachute is—a thing like an umbrella, with or without the stick, which, when properly weighted and dropped from a balloon or a high tower, will fall to the ground very slowly and gently because its broad surface offers a great deal of resistance to the air.

Parachutes used by balloonists are generally very large and have no stick, but some daring persons have jumped from housetops with common umbrellas and escaped without serious injury.

It would be rather interesting to drop a small parachute from the roof or a window and watch it sail gracefully to earth, but the fun would hardly pay for the work, as you would have to carry it upstairs for each flight, unless it was destroyed or captured by some other boy on its first descent, which would probably be the case. What you want, clearly, is some means by which you can shoot the parachute up into the air from the ground.

Such a parachute gun is easy to



About to Be Discharged.

make. You need only a tube large enough to contain the parachute easily and a stout rubber band.

The parachute may be made of tissue paper or other thin, tough paper, or of thin muslin or silk. It needs neither the stiff ribs of an umbrella nor any mechanism for opening and shutting; its weight and the resistance of the air attend to that.

It does need a stick, however, and this should be very thin and light, and at least twice as long as the closed parachute—that is, as long as the diameter of the open parachute. The stick is simply poked through the parachute, and a thread tied around the top of the paper and the stick will make all secure.

The ribs, if they may be called such, are merely six or eight threads or fine cords pasted to the outside of the parachute from the top or center to the edge. The upper ends of the cords may be tied round the stick; the lower ends should project far be-

yond the edge of the parachute, and be fastened to a metal ring, through which the stick passes. The lower end of the stick has a knob too big to go through the ring, and on the bottom of the knob is a groove for the rubber band. The shooting tube, which may be of paper, should be as long as the stick and large enough to let the closed parachute slip through easily. The rubber band is attached across the bottom of the tube, one end being tacked to each side.

Put the folded parachute into the tube, see that the rubber band lies in the groove, hold the tube firmly with the left hand, and, with the right, pull down the knob and the ring together several inches and let go.

The stretched band contracts and shoots the parachute up into the air like a pea from a pea shooter. When the parachute has reached its highest point it begins to fall, but immediately opens out, fills with air, and descends very slowly. If there is much wind it will sail quite a distance before it reaches the ground, especially if you stand with your back to the wind and incline the gun forward.

Clay Pipe Water Mill.

This water mill belongs to the class of "reaction" mills which are turned



Water Mill in Action.

one way in the effort to throw a stream of water in the opposite direction, and it is made of a clay pipe.

Cut away one side of the mouth end of the stem with a knife (not your best one), or rub it away with a file or on a grindstone until it is like Fig. A—that is to say, until you have laid bare, so to speak, the bore of the stem for half an inch or so. Then stop the hole, both at the end and at the side, with sealing wax, leaving only a small round hole at the point farthest from the end, as shown in Fig. B.

Now all you have to do is to fasten a fine cord with sealing wax to the edge of the bowl, at the precise point that comes nearest to the smoker's mouth. Tie the other end of the cord to the chandelier or other convenient object, and pour water gently into the bowl.

A fine jet of water will shoot out sidewise from the little hole in the stem and the pipe will begin turning in the direction indicated by the arrow. I will keep on turning as long as there is any water in the bowl, and, indeed, a good deal longer, by the effect of the momentum.

What makes it turn is this: At any point of the pipe except near the little hole the water presses with equal force in every direction on the pipe. At the point of the stem opposite the little hole there is a certain pressure on the pipe from the inside, and this pressure is not balanced, because on the opposite side—that is, the hole—there is nothing for the water to press against except itself. Hence the water is driven out in one direction and the pipe is spun around in the other.

Whole Family in Holy Orders.

The family of the lord bishop of Carlisle, England, is a noted one as a clerical family. The bishop's father, now deceased, was the Rev. James Bardsley. His two brothers and seven sons were clergymen, and the ten were all living and in orders at the same time. He had also nine nephews who were clergymen.