

## OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

### THE DEAD CHIPPIE.

Who had the Chippie?  
So where it lies,  
The light goes out  
of the bright quick eyes;  
To-day everything so soft and brown,  
Here on the dead leaves fallen down;

But no hour ago—

It lit the sun,

Yet now it is happy

Lying calm—

Born in a nest and made to be,  
Not sooner, nor sadder, yet blithe and free.

No human eye,

Purchased, may miss?

From numberless rocks

A mate like this;

With it something has gone which had

in its way made bright and sunshine glad.

Who killed the Chippie?

I think I know;

This was from school

The cardinals go,

And leave a broken pebble-sling,

And now I find the poor dead thing.

He died perhaps

To prove his skill,

Sor thought how dreadful

It is to kill;

And though he aimed at it afterward,

Was struck at heart when he saw it fall.

Unnatural sure,

If he meant me say,

Who was it killed?

Aided to die?

The world wish the cruel dead undone—

And human to own himself the one.

—Wade Brooks.

TOM.

A story in Words of One Syllable, for Very Young Readers.

"Oh, do not here, Maud," said Aunt Kate. "There is such a nice big cat come to our house, and cool tools me he comes now each day, and she thinks he has not got a home."

Maud was just nine years of age, and was fond of cats, and dogs, and birds, and dolls.

When she heard her aunt call her, she ran out at once, and there she found her cat, who stood at the hall door, and on the top of the steps was the cat which she spoke.

He was a fine large one, with a smooth coat in stripes of black and grey, but his paws were white, and he had a brown nose.

"Oh, you dear cat!" said Maud, and she bent down to stroke him. Puss gave a mew, and then a purr; for, of course, he was glad that Maud had run to him.

"Aunt Kate, do let me keep this cat, and have him all for my own," she said.

"We must see first," said Aunt Kate, "if we can find out where his own home is, for those who have lost him and want him back. But you may go and fetch him some milk."

Maud ran off, and soon came back with the milk, and gave it to the cat to drink, and then up, and then said "Milk," which meant "Please give me some more."

"Well, he may have some more, as no one wants it so much," said Aunt Kate. "He is a fine cat, and we mustn't let him starve."

When he had done his milk, Maud took him up in her arms and brought him to a small room where she kept her dolls and the toys she had to play with.

"Now," said Aunt Kate, "I want to ride and read, and have lots of things to do. You must play with this nice old cat, show him your dolls, be good to him, and think of some nice name we can call him by whilst he is with us," and Aunt Kate went off and left Maud with puss.

"Puss, puss, what shall we do?" said Maud. "You go and look round the room and see if you think this will be a nice home for you, and I will get one of my books and see what kind of name I can chance for you."

"I must be a good cat," thought Maud, "for he did sit once when she told me to go for a walk round the room, snuff all the chairs, had a look at a doll, which poor thing had had a fall on to the floor and hurt its head, and then he came and sat down in front of the fire to wash."

"Now, puss, would you like us to call you Moll?" said Maud. "Moll, Moll?" but puss paid no heed. "Well, then, do you like Fluff?" But still puss did not turn his head. Such lots of names Maud thought of, but puss did not seem to like them.

Soon Aunt Kate came back. "Oh, aunt," said Maud, "do help me to find a name that puss will like. He will not have Fluff, or Fritz, or Moll, or Kit, and lots more that I have thought of and told him."

"Come, then, I'll try what I can do," said Aunt Kate. "Tom, Tom," and as soon as she spoke this name, back went his ears, and "Mew!" said he. "There, now, that is his true name, Maud, he knew it at once."

And so from that time puss was known by the name of Tom.

Aunt Kate did all she could to find out where he came from, but all in vain. So Maud was told she might have him now for her own, and how glad she was; and how kind she made other mind she would be to him.

Now Tom grew up to be such a wise cat. I will just tell you one thing to learn tools.

One night, quite late, Maud had gone to bed, and Aunt Kate took a book and sat down by the fire to read. The moon she was in was close to the hall door. Soon she heard a knock at the door, but she did not pay much heed to it at first; but when she heard it twice, she did think she must go and see who it could be, for both her moods were gone to bed, and who do you think it was? Why, Tom, who came in with a purr and a mew, and his tail straight up in the air.

Now, I must tell you Aunt Kate's hall door was half glass, and low down, where it was wood, there was a round brass ring, with which one had to knock. And Tom had stood on his hind legs, and with one of his paws took hold of the brass ring and then let it fall, so as to make it knock.

And the strange thing is, that when he found he was let in this time, he did it now and then when it was cold or

wet out of doors, and Maud soon knew Tom's knock, and would run to let him in.

Tom, then, is a great pet, and Maud, who is now grown up, and has a home of her own, hopes Tom will live for lots more years to come.—*Little Folks.*

### STARTING RIGHT.

"Anne Marjorie Precept" Gives a Bit of Good Advice to Boys and Girls.

I heard a certain lad—I will not mention names just now—ask the maid one evening, not long ago, to be sure to call him when she should rise in the morning. "I have to work to do," he said, "and I must be up an hour earlier than usual." Let me whisper here that sometimes a good start for the day is gained by beginning the night before. For example it is a much better thing to finish all the school-work—lessons, themes, exercises—before going to bed, than to leave it to the chance of rising an hour earlier than the accustomed time. It makes you see the difference between a certainty and an accident.

In the case of my young friend the good start he had counted upon was lost by the fact that the maid forgot his request, and never thought of it until she rang the bell to awaken the rest of the family. Many another boy loses his good start by not getting up when he is called.

I think if young people knew how much needless trouble they give their elders by just this one vicious habit of going to sleep again after they have been called in the morning, they would turn over a new leaf.

When I have ordered breakfast at an hour much earlier than suits my own convenience, that Mollie and Marty may eat it in comfort, and have plenty of time to set out for school, I am not in the most cheerful of moods if I am obliged at least half a dozen times in the course of an hour to call "Mollie! Marty!" the call making no impression. It is hardly fair—is it—that if they do not care for making a good start in the day for themselves, they should spoil mine for me.

One thought leads to another. Children, believe me that no day is started well if it begins with cross looks and fretful words. There is a horrid pleasure about having the black dog on your shoulders, which means simply that you are hateful and horrid and disagreeable. Let us be careful never to be horrid on purpose. Perhaps we can not help being slow or stupid, but we all can help being peevish and perverse.

In starting out in a noisy Latin or algebra or botany, the rate of your progress will depend greatly upon the thoroughness of your beginning. You will call that man a foolish builder who forgot to look after his foundations, and I am sure it is quite as absurd to build badly in a new study. Get a good start, boys. You will then go on without tallow in the end.—*Souvenir Journal.*

### FULL OF FUN.

John Ruskin wants the sewing machine to go. Let him put his foot on the treadle and work it, then—*New Haven News.*

Mistress—"Let you go to evening school, Mary? Why, I thought you could read." "Well, ma'am, I does know my letters fair to go, but just as soon as they keep all in row, but just as soon as they gets mixed up into words, I'm beat."

Young mathematician—"If one man can build a well in ten days, ten men could do it in one day, 6,000 could do it in an hour, and 360,000 could do it in a second. Why not employ the last number and be done with it?"—*Pratt Farmer.*

Magistrate—"Have you ever been arrested before, Uncle Rastus?" Uncle Rastus—"Yes, yo' honah, jess wance." Magistrate—"What was the charge against you?" Uncle Rastus—"Ten dollars an' costs, sah."—*Harper's Bazaar.*

A disciple of Blackstone at Albany, Ga., was met carrying a "possum. He was asked: "Hello, J., what is that?" "Possum?" "What are you going to do with him?" "I'm going to have a big 'possum supper." "How many will be there?" "Two, me and the possum."

The "wife" was once called the "weaver" of the family. "She doesn't loom up in that way much nowadays," says the Lowell Courier. But in the batch of married life she frequently gets worsted, and has to spin around lively to make both ends meet.—*New England Herald.*

A warning against economy—Mistress (the waitress). "How is this Jane? We have but two choices." Jane—"If you please, ma'am, Bridget says as how you didn't order enough meat for both tables, and it gives her a sick headache to do with less than three chops for her lunch."—*Rambler.*

Minister—"Well, my little one, so you went to church yesterday?" Little one—"Yeth thin." Minister—"And do you remember what you heard?" Little one—"Yeth thin. You thaid on my little prayers, but you didn't say that the other one. You thaid, 'Our Father who art,' but didn't say 'Now I lay me'." Minister—"O, well, my dear, but people don't go to church to sleep, you know." Little one—"Yeth thin. They did I seen a doed many to sleep when you was talkin'?"—*Souvenir Journal.*

### ITEMS OF INTEREST.

—It is never too cold to snow in Minnesota. Furious snow-storms occur when the mercury is thirty degrees below zero.

Hair three-quarters the length of the women and of wonderful thickness is common in Mexico. It often wears loose, but more frequently in two long plait. Wig-makers find no employment there. The men wear long, heavy fangs.—*Chicago Inter Ocean.*

A bronze statue of a Victoria standing upon an orb, and a super gold locker set with rubies and garnets were encrusted a short time ago on the grounds formerly occupied by the old Roman camp near Boos. The statue is declared by authorities to be a very valuable find.

—No less than \$25,000 has been spent by the German Government in boring a hole. This costly hole was made at Schleidenbach, near Leipzig, and was made with diamond drills to the depth of 4,500 feet—the deepest drilling ever done. The object was to get a true estimate of coal deposits there.

The city of New York embraces an area of 24,394 acres. Within the city limits are 500 miles of public roads, exclusive of parks, and to clean them cost \$1,100,000 was expended in the year 1880. Seventy-five thousand dollars is annually spent in removing snow and ice alone.—*New York Tribune.*

—A dry goods house purchased a certain grade of shoes at \$1.50 a pair, and sold them at \$1.40. It was an effective advertisement, but the proprietors took pains to limit the sale of them, as much as they could; they gave a gratuity of five cents to the clerk who succeeded in persuading a shopper to take something instead that paid a profit.

—At a paper mill in Lewiston, Me., the following letter, dated Brunswick, November 11, 1866, recently was found: "Hiram, your actions at the husking bee last evening left me no longer doubtful as to what course I should take. I thought I cared for you, but I was a fool, and now am punished for my folly. Inclosed are the lock of hair, the picture and the ring you gave me. Perhaps the ring will fit somebody else's finger just as well. Jane."

—An examination of the map of the United States will show a strip of land several millions of acres in extent, marked "public land," lying between the States of Kansas and Colorado and Texas. This strip of country was left out by mistake in the original surveys, and is not included in any State or Territorial jurisdiction. Whether it is it reached by United States law, it is wholly without a judicial authority, and is, consequently, the abode of the very worst classes in the country. Cattle thieves and criminals of all kinds resort to it as a refuge, and lately extensive tracts have partly taken possession of it.—*K. Y. Herald.*

—Clara (suspicious)—Indeed? What was the play about? You know I always like to hear.

Henry—Sorry I can't oblige you. Boojum talked to me so that I didn't hear word.

Clara—What did you see?

Henry—Nothing. Boojum's sister and her hat sat in front of me.—*Philadelphia Call.*

### WONDERS OF THE SEA.

Interesting Facts Concerning Waves, Depth, Evaporation and Temperature.

The sea occupies three-fifths of the surface of the earth. At a depth of about thirty-five hundred feet, waves are not felt. The temperature is the same, varying only a trifle from the ice of the pole to the burning sun of the equator. A mile down the water has a pressure of over a ton to the square inch. If a boxer's feet deep was filled with sea water and allowed to evaporate under the sky, there would be two inches of salt left on the bottom. The water is colder at the bottom than at the surface. In the many bays on the coast of Norway the water often freezes at the bottom before it is three miles.

Waves are very deceptive. To look at them in a storm one would think the water traveled. The water stays in the same place, but the motion goes on. Sometimes the storms these waves are forty feet high, and travel fifty miles an hour, more than twice as fast as the swiftest steamer. The distance from valley to valley is generally fifteen times the height, hence a wave five feet high will extend over seventy-five feet of water. The force of the sea dashing on Bell Rock is said to be equivalent to ten thousand tons of water per second.

Evaporation and condensation are the causes of the sea. Every year a layer of the entire sea, fourteen feet thick, is taken up into the clouds. The winds bear their burden into the land, and the water comes down in rain upon the fields, to flow back at last through rivers. The depth of the sea presents an interesting problem. If the Atlantic were lowered 6,000 feet, the distance from shore to shore would be half as great, or 3,000 miles. If lowered a little more than three miles, say 3,000 feet, there would be a road of dry land from Newfoundland to Ireland. This is the plain on which the great Atlantic cables were laid. The Mediterranean is comparatively shallow. A drying up of 600 feet would leave three different seas, and Africa would be joined with Italy. The British Channel is more like a pond, which accounts for its choppy waves.

It has been found difficult to get correct soundings of the Atlantic. A red-hot iron bar overcame the difficulty, and shot weighing thirty pounds carries down the line. A hole bored through the sinker, through which a rod of iron is passed, moving easily back and forth. In the end of the bar a cut is dug out, and the inside seated with lead. The bar is made fast to the line, and a sling holds the shot on. When the bar, which extends below the ball, touches the earth, the sling unhooks and the shot slides off. The last in the end of the bar holds some of the sand, or whatever may be on the bottom, and a drop shots over the cup to keep the water from washing the sand out. When the ground is reached, a shock is felt as if an electric current had passed through the line.—*Electrical Review.*

### NO CHANGE.

Why a Visitor Recognized No Change in a Foreign Town.

"This is the first time I have seen in this town since the war," said a man who had just arrived in Little Rock.

"Is that so?" said one asked.

"Yes, first time since the war."

"See a great change, I suppose?"

"No, don't recognize a single change."

"Why, man, the town is three times as large now as it was then."

"Can't help that. I don't recognize my change in the town since the war."

"You haven't got any eyes."

"Yes, my eyes are very good."

"Then you haven't got any memory."

"Yes, my memory is excellent."

"And still you tell me that there has been no change in this town since the war."

"Oh, I don't say there hasn't been any change since the war. I say that I don't recognize any for I wasn't here before the war. This is my first visit."

*Arkansas Traveler.*

### UNFORTUNATELY.