

WIT OF THE YOUNGSTERS.

Mamma—Dorothy, do you know who ate the raisins I left on the table? Dorothy (aged 5)—Well, mamma, I know one thing. The cat didn't eat 'em.

"I think papa and mamma likes the baby better than they do me," said 4-year-old Flossie to the visitor, "cause he lets 'em do just as they please."

"Mamma," said little Ethel, who was looking at the pictures in a Sunday school book, "how do the angels get their night gowns on over their wings?"

"Tommy," said the teacher, "don't you know better than to talk aloud in school?" "But what is a feller to do?" queried Tommy. "You said the other day I mustn't whisper."

Mamma (to small hopeful)—Tommy, you shouldn't ask the lady how old she is; it is not polite. Tommy—I wasn't trying to be polite, mamma. I just wanted to know.

"Grandpa," queried little Nellie, "do the good die young?" "So we are told, my dear," replied the old gentleman. "My!" exclaimed the small observer, "you must be awful wicked!"

Clara, aged 4, suddenly burst out crying at the dinner table. "Why, Clara, what is the matter?" asked her mother. "Oh," sobbed the little miss, "my t-teeth stepped on my t-tongue!"

Small Johnny—Auntie, what is that thing crawling on the floor? Auntie—That is a cricket, dear. Small Johnny—I'm going to kill it. Auntie—No, no, darling. God made it. Small Johnny—Oh, well, He can make another one.

It was the roll of distant thunder that caused little Maxie to observe, "They must be cleaning house in heaven to-day, mamma." "Why do you think so, dear?" asked her mother. "I hear the angels movin' the furniture around," explained Margie.

CHINESE AS SLOW AS EVER.

Agricultural Machinery is a Rarity in the Flowery Kingdom. In the agricultural sections of the entire Yangtze Valley there is practically no use whatever for foreign agricultural implements. The Chinese laborers in the rice and cotton fields, in the mulberry groves and in the gardens find the Chinese implements of greater utility than any of the foreign and adhere to them. The Chinese hoe, which contains a much greater weight of metal than the foreign one, being practically a mattock, is, according to their ideas, more serviceable in this heavy soil than the foreign implement.

All the ordinary hand implements of agriculture are shaped and constructed according to Chinese taste. Agricultural machinery is not used in this section, even the plow being a great rarity. The Chinese turn over the ground usually with their mattocks. It is harrowed in a primitive way and when the crop is gathered hand labor does all the work.

Under these conditions it is not strange that the importing firms of Shanghai do not consider it worth while to carry a line of agricultural implements. It is difficult even to obtain a foreign implement for use in the garden of a foreigner in Shanghai. This is the present condition and to all appearances it bids fair to continue for an indefinite period. In the north, and especially in Manchuria, some agricultural implements are being used, but these are rather the result of Russian introduction than of Chinese desire. The statement was made recently in one of the northern papers that the introduction of modern agricultural implements seemed practically as far off as ever.—New York Commercial.

The Fiercest Winds on Record. The world's record for high winds is held by Point Reyes, an important United States storm signal station about thirty-five miles north of San Francisco, on the coast. On May 18, 1902, the wind was rushing along at the furious rate of 120 miles an hour for several minutes. A fearful gale raged for three days, recording on the anemometer 4,701 miles in seventy-two consecutive hours, or nearly one-fifth the distance round the globe, in three days.

Extremes of Heat and Cold. The lowest temperature on record in the United States is 64 degrees below zero, at Tobacco Garden, N. D. Greely, the Arctic explorer, has probably experienced a wider range of temperature than any other living man. He recorded 66 degrees below zero at Fort Congor, in Lady Franklin Bay. Oh another occasion, in the Maricopa Desert of Arizona, his thermometer in the shade ran up to 114 degrees above.

Between the flexibility of the English language and the vertical style of handwriting it isn't hard for a woman to make a letter mean two or three things.

Once more the open season for summer flirtations is at hand and some dudes who are of no other earthly use will come in real handy during the next few months.

All the loveliness of the wedding ceremony is centered in the bride and the robes that she wears. The groom is only tolerated because it takes two to make a contract.

Men who are prejudiced against mothers-in-law should remember that if it wasn't for those same mothers-in-law they wouldn't have the fondest wives in the world.

GOOD Short Stories

Joseph Chamberlain was the guest of honor at a dinner in an important city. The mayor presided, and when the coffee was being served, the mayor leaned over and touched Mr. Chamberlain, saying: "Shall we let the people enjoy themselves a little longer, or had we better have your speech now?"

After looking over the upper branch of Congress from the reserved gallery, Mark Twain was asked what he thought of the United States Senate. "Oh, I always make it a point not to criticize my neighbors," said Mr. Clemens. "How does that apply to the Senate?" was asked. "Why, I live in Connecticut and Mr. Aldrich lives in Rhode Island."

Bourke Cochran tells an Irish story. "There was an Irish schoolmaster," he said, "who was examining a class in geography one day. 'Now, my lad,' he said to a clever little chap, 'tell us what latitude is.' The clever little chap smiled and winked. 'Latitude?' he said; 'oh, sir, there's none o' that in Ireland; sure the English don't allow us any, sir.'"

Two very great swells, one a young duke and the other a young viscount, brushed against each other one night at the theater. The duke, anxious to snub the viscount, pretended to take him for an usher, and said, holding out his hand: "Have you a program?" But the viscount, too quick for the duke, smiled and replied: "Yes, thank you, my man; I got one from the other fellow."

Clerk McDowell of the House of Representatives has issued a vest pocket directory of the House, giving the names of the members, their residences, and their committee rooms. "What's this, Aleck?" asked a disgruntled member who came into the clerk's office after he had had a session with the Speaker about getting recognized to call up a bill. "That's a vest pocket directory of the House," Clerk McDowell replied. The member examined it carefully. "Seems to me like a rotten waste of money," he said finally; "you could have made it a heap smaller and more accurate if you had printed Speaker Cannon's name in it and let it go at that."

A strange being with wings to its school of acting happened to float into the colony of devotees rehearsing "Ivan the Terrible." When the being began to rehearse, Mr. Mansfield grew paler and sadder and more dazed than a well man might. He had a hurried interview with his treasurer, resulting in the forthcoming of a bundle of greenbacks. Then the caustic curve in Mansfield's mobile lips came into play, and he contemptuously called the being with Icarus gesticulation away from the stage center, and said gently: "Ah, my dear sir, if you stay and play that part it will inevitably result in a murder or a suicide. To prevent either, I beg you will return my manuscript of the part, accept this two weeks' salary, and go home by the earliest train possible."

A babu in charge of the documents of a certain town in India found that they were being seriously damaged by rats. He wrote to the government to provide him with weekly rations for two cats to destroy the rats. The request was granted, and the two cats were installed—one, the larger of the two, receiving slightly better rations than the other. All went well for a few weeks, when the supreme government of India received the following dispatch: "I have the honor to inform you that the senior cat is absent without leave. What shall I do?" The problem seemed to baffle the supreme government, for the babu received no answer. After waiting a few days, he sent off a proposal: "In re Absentee Cat, I propose to promote the junior cat, and in the meantime to take into government service a probationer cat on full rations."

CULTIVATION OF RHUBARB.

Rhubarb, or pie plant, as it is commonly known, is one of the most healthful, one of the most easily grown and one of the most valuable of garden vegetables, according to the Rural Farmer. It is of such importance and real value that it ought to be more generally grown. A good thing, so easily got, so easily grown, ought not to be so infrequently found and used in our farm and even our city homes. There are a great many valuable and wholesome vegetables, but rhubarb always stands without an equal in its class. It is one of the earliest vegetables of springtime. Its strong, vigorous leaf stalks, so crisp and brittle, push themselves from the cold ground into sunshine and air. The whole plant reflects of robust strength, vigor and freshness. Its uses are many and it can be prepared easily for table use. There is nothing like rhubarb pie or

sauce in the early spring months. There are but few things with the same tartness or acidity, wholesomeness and palatability, as has rhubarb. A small bit of ground is large enough to grow enough plants—ten to twenty—for an ordinary family. Most city homes and at least all farmers have some small plot or corner of ground, perchance unoccupied or in weeds, which might well be planted to rhubarb. A good, moist, deep loam, thoroughly enriched with well-rotted barnyard manure, is an ideal soil for rhubarb. The plants may be grown from seed, but "roots" or crowns are usually used. Seed should be sown in early spring, say in April. The second season's growth usually furnishes some stalks large enough for use. An ounce of seed will sow from 100 to 125 feet of rows. In about eight weeks after sowing the plants should be thinned to about eight inches. The following spring they should be transplanted to their permanent places, setting them three or four feet apart in rows, that are four feet apart.

Cultivate throughout the season and give the ground a covering of a good barnyard manure in the fall. The leaves can be pulled until the first of June or July, depending upon your wants and needs, and upon market demands to a degree. But pulling should cease early enough so that the plants will be able to make a good growth before fall. Unless seed is desired, which is rarely the case, cut the lower stalks as they appear. The original plants will last for a number of years, but it is best to divide the crown and make a new setting about every fifth year.

The full value and utility of rhubarb has not been fully realized until in recent years, when it has been forced. But few of our common vegetables are so well adapted for forcing. Because of the marked ease of forcing, we can secure this vegetable in a more attractive and equally valuable for midwinter or later than we can from outdoor planting. The forced product is of the highest quality. It can be forced in light or darkness. It is not exacting as regards a definite degree of temperature, which may vary from 45 to 70 degrees. The lower temperatures are best, producing stalks more crisp and with less acid. Rhubarb can be forced in a cellar, in a box, even in the kitchen or in well or poorly constructed forcing houses. It is perhaps most commonly forced in low, double spanned, roughly and cheaply constructed houses. An excavation two to three feet deep may be made and arched over with a roof of boards or logs, covered with hay, straw or fodder, and the dirt of the excavation thrown over the entire roof. No particular facilities are necessary for ventilation. Unless in a severely cold winter, the house can be heated by use of ordinary heating stove. In more expensive houses, and in case of extreme cold, a system of hot water or steam heating would undoubtedly be advisable.

Wealth of Labrador.

Labrador covers a larger area than France and Germany combined and is intersected by so many streams that it is possible to travel by canoe in any direction. On the southern watershed the forest growth of spruce and larch is luxuriant with trees of marketable size—virgin forests that await the woodman's ax. Here lies a great wealth of material for paper mills. The mineral wealth is considerable. Silver-bearing lead ore—galena—occurs in many areas, while auriferous veins and placer beds have been discovered at accessible points along navigable rivers not over 100 miles from the sea. The furs of Labrador are a source of wealth which exclusive commercial corporations have assiduously kept concealed that they might enjoy the rich monopoly. The ocean shores and inland waters contain supplies for large cod and salmon fisheries, and not a single night need be spent at sea along its coast, for a safe harbor can be made in ten miles anywhere from Belle Isle to Cape Childley.—Consular Report.

Habit of Years. Mr. Reddevle—Here, James! Why didn't you stop the auto when you saw me on the corner waving my hand to you? You looked directly at me and simply put on more speed. What do you mean by it, sir? Chauffeur—Beg your pardon, sir. It was force of habit. I used to be a motorman on a trolley car, sir.—Cleveland Leader.

That's the Answer. "How are you?" "Feel like an empty shotgun." "Hub?" "Boss fired me." "P'raps he didn't know you were loaded."

Some Good Things. "Yu say your husband went out to the race track looking for good things?" "Yes," answered young Mrs. Torkins. "Were there any there?" "Yes, Charley was one of them."—Washington Star.

ALL HAIL PE-RU-NA.



Miss Mary O'Brien, 306 Myrtle Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y., writes: "Peruna cured me in five weeks of catarrh of the stomach, after suffering for four years and doctoring without effect. In common with other grateful ones who have been benefited by your discovery, I say, All hail to Peruna."

Mr. H. J. Henneman, Oakland, Neb., writes: "I waited before writing to you about my sickness, catarrh of the stomach, which I had over a year ago. There were people who told me it would not stay cured, but I am sure that I am cured, for I do not feel any more ill effects, have a good appetite and am getting fat. So I am, and will say to all, I am cured for good. I thank you for your kindness. Peruna will be our house medicine hereafter."

Mr. Austin M. Small, Astoria, Ore., writes: "During the hot weather of the past summer I lost my appetite. I tried Peruna, and found it pleasant to take, a splendid appetizer and a great tonic."

The highest salary earned by a male vocalist was undoubtedly received by Jean de Reszke. His contract or sixteen appearances during his last American tour amounted to \$36,000 an average of \$2,250 for each night he appeared. Madame Patti, however, can claim a better record. For singing at Convent Garden in 1870, for sixteen nights she received \$43,000, an average of \$2,687 for each appearance. But the famous prima donna beat this record while on her American tour, for, while in New Orleans, about the year 1882, she received as much as \$6,000 per night.

Cabs called coaches were first let for hire in London in 1825. The Londoners still have the best cab service in the world. Ten years after their beginning King Charles issued an order restricting their number. He thought there were too many of them.

Mrs. Winslow's SOOTHING SYRUP for children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures colic. Price 25c bottle.

Safety lamps—lamps surrounded by gauze to prevent explosions of gases in mines, as well as to indicate the presence of poisonous gases—were invented by Sir Francis Davy in 1815.

MOTHER GRAY'S SWEET POWDERS FOR CHILDREN. A Certain Cure for Feverishness, Constipation, Headache, Stomach Troubles, Teething Disorders, and Destroy Worms. They Break up Colic in 24 hours. At all Druggists, 20c per tin. Sample mailed FREE. Address, New York City, A. S. OLMSTED, Le Roy, N. Y.

In an effort to discover "the ideal man" a St. Louis newspaper discovered that the ideal is as numerous as there are women to describe him. If the average husband would praise his wife as much to her face as he does when talking about her to another man the honeymoon would last forever.

WINTER WHEAT, 60 bushels per acre.

In August 1886 an earthquake visited Charleston, S. C., doing much damage to life and property.

ALLEN S. OLMSTED WINS IN COURT.

The Foot-Ease Trade-Mark Sustained. Buffalo, N. Y.—The Supreme Court has granted a permanent injunction with costs against Paul B. Hudson and others of New York City, restraining them from making or selling a foot powder which the court declares is an imitation and infringement on "Foot-Ease," now so largely advertised and sold over the country. The owner of the trade-mark "Foot-Ease," is Allen S. Olmsted, of Le Roy, N. Y., and the decision in this suit upholds his trade-mark and renders all parties liable who fraudulently attempt to profit by the extensive "Foot-Ease" advertising, in placing on the market the spurious and similar appearing preparation involved in the case. This the court declares was designed in imitation and infringement of the genuine "Foot-Ease." It is said that similar suits will be brought against others who are now infringing on the Foot-Ease trade-mark rights. Each package of the genuine Allen's Foot-Ease has the facsimile signature of Allen S. Olmsted on its yellow label.