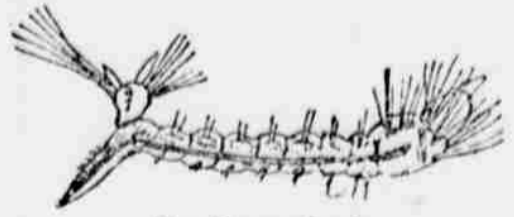




THE FIRST BOAT BUILDER.

Some Interesting Facts Concerning a Common Insect.

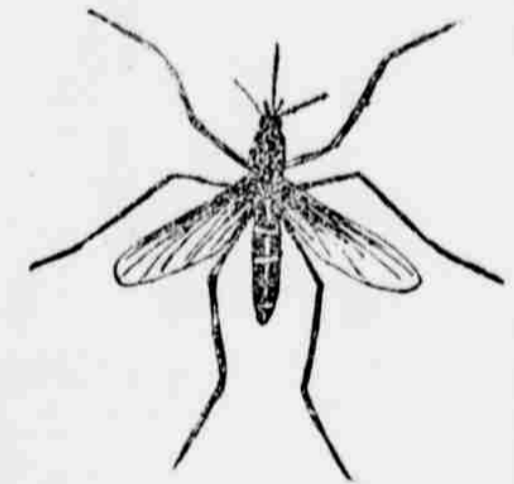
Would you believe that it was our constant and most affectionate friend, the mosquito, who built the first boat?



The Queer Boat.

the little boat, tossed and tumbled from side to side, will never sink.

In a few days out of it come quantities of wrigglers, hungry as wolves. They feast on the acum and minute vegetation that covers the pool, and in a week or two from each wriggler emerges a mosquito.



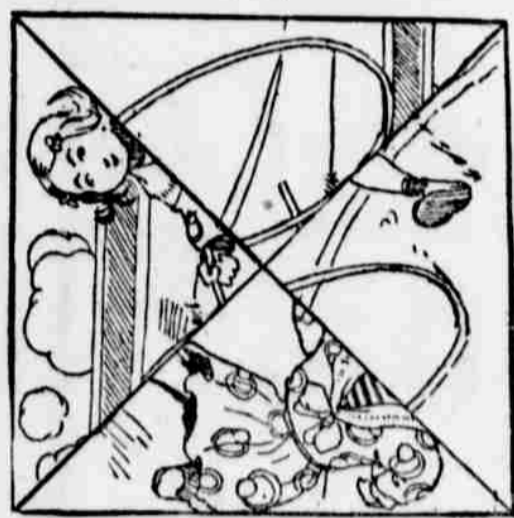
The Mosquito.

a fairy boat, to float about in while he airs and dries his wings, but as soon as he is able to fly, off he goes to lurch upon you or me, or the first person he can spy.

Three Brave Little Ones.

One summer evening two boys and a girl who were rowing off Sea View in the Isle of Wight were horrified to see a man slip on the slimy green weeds on the landing stage and fall into the water just as the South Sea steamer was leaving.

A PICTURE PUZZLE.



Cut diagonally and place so as to make a complete picture.—Philadelphia Leader.

On Street in Wife's Kimono.

Peoria, Ill.—Peter A. Weast, a millionaire distiller of Peoria, the other afternoon promenaded eight blocks through the business streets in this city, clad only in his wife's kimono and a pair of Japanese slippers.

Finance.

The agreeable visitor, says Judge, smiled upon the son of the house and said: "Willie, if you recite that poem your mother taught you, I'll give you a penny."

Busy Girls of Italy.

The Italian women are industrious. Even while walking along the street the Roman girls are busily engaged in knitting.

FREE-N-EQUAL.

Story of a Cow that Belonged to a Little Girl Long Ago.

Debbie lived long ago, when the colonists were taking a firm stand for freedom. Ever since the child was born the war of independence had been raging, and when only a wee maiden, her stout little heart beat furiously when she heard the story of the famous "Boston Tea Party."

The following year, when England shut up the harbor of Boston, her eyes flashed fire, and she then resolved to stand close to her country and her people.

When Debbie had been eight years old, two very important events happened. One was the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and the other was the birth of a calf in her father's barn.

The calf she named "Free-n-Equal," and the animal grew up to deserve its name. Free-n-Equal was Debbie's only playmate, as there were no other children within six miles of her home.

The Britishers soon surrounded the Smith home, and Debbie and her mother lived a poor, lonely and desperate life in their midst. One day, when the child returned home with a bundle of sticks on her back for the day's cooking, her mother met her at the door and said: "Debbie, they have driven off Free-n-Equal."

"They!" gasped the girl. "Who?" "The British soldiers. They tied a rope around her horns and drove her into camp."

Debbie uttered a cry and darted from the house, and ran—the yellow sunbonnet back on her shoulders and her brown curls covered with dust—ran miles, until she reached Lord Cornwallis' headquarters.

"I'm Debbie Smith, and I came to get Free-n-Equal!"

"Who may that person be?" inquired the general.

"My cow. They carried her off."

"Who are you, and where do you live?"

"I'm Debbie Smith. I live three miles from here, and—"

"Your father?"

"He's in Gen. Gates' army, Mr. Cornwallis."

"Oh, he is a rebel, is he?"

"Yes, sir," answered Debbie, proudly. "And so are my brothers."

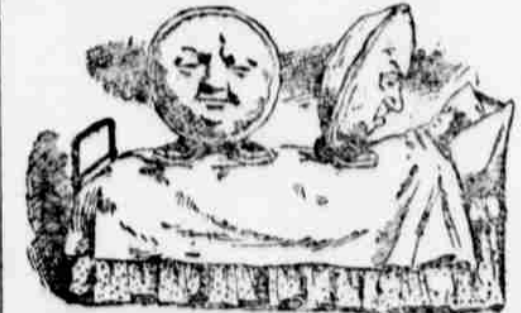
"Rank rebels, and yet you come here for your cow. Is she a rebel, too?"

"If she had less horn and two less legs, I have no doubt she'd be a red-hot one."

Lord Cornwallis laughed loud and long. Then he said: "Come here, my little maid. I myself will see that you get your cow back safe. And, perhaps," he added, unfastening a pair of silver knee buckles which he wore, "perhaps you will accept these from one who wishes no harm to these rebels." Then he arose, and holding high his glass, he said: "Here's to the health of as fair a little rebel as we shall meet, and God bless her!"

She dropped a courtesy, clasped her gift to her heart and ran home, glad to have her Free-n-Equal all her own again.

THE GREEDY BOY.



The Night After the Feast.

She Was Indignant.

A little girl came home flushed with indignation because she had been "kept in" to correct her examples. "Mamma, I'll never speak to Jeanie Smith again as long as I live," she exclaimed. "Why, what has Jeanie done to deserve that?" "Because—well, because I copied all her arithmetic, and every sum of hers was wrong."

Shakespeare at the Seashore.

Stella—What was the summer resort like? Bella—A hamlet with Romeo left out.—N. Y. Sun.

FIXING OF THE COST

THE FACTORS IN PRICES OF COMMODITIES.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

Equity in Division of Profits to All Engaged in Producing, Manufacturing and Selling.

Were the masses of people better informed as to principles underlying business transactions and commerce in general there would be less cause for complaint as to matters pertaining to buying and selling of commodities.

One of the faults, if it may be so termed, is the inclination of the people to complain about prices they must pay for goods required for domestic and other uses. There can be no doubt but that in many districts retail merchants exact exorbitant prices, this to an extent is the fault of the people who are little acquainted with real values.

The producer of cotton in the southern states, must receive for his product compensation that is based upon the cost of labor, manufacture and what finished articles in the cotton line may bring in the markets of the world.

The manufacturer who buys the raw products must take into consideration the expense of labor, the maintenance of his manufacturing plant, the interest upon the amount invested, and also various other items, and the sum of these with what he can secure for his finished product, regulates the price that he pays for the raw material.

The consumer is the end of the chain, the final buyer of commodities who utilizes them for his own use and the uses of his family. There should be a margin of profit in each of the different transactions that will allow equitable compensation to each and every one interested in the production of a finished article.

TOWN HELPS.

It is easy to estimate the business importance of a place by the appearance of its stores. Dingy, dirty appearing business places always give a bad impression and are generally indicative of the character of the business men of the town.

Good newspapers are important factors in building of towns. Well filled advertising pages, as well as local news pages speak for the prosperity of a place and makes an impression upon the readers that assist the town to greater prosperity.

Large trees grow from little seeds. A small industry in a town may not appear to be much but by proper nursing it may develop into an enterprise of national importance. In every manufacturing undertaking there is a turning point that means failure or success.

The people should understand that they never receive something for nothing, or receive anything of value for less than its value unless under some abnormal circumstance. Of late years there has a system grown up of offering great bargains in various kinds of goods by catalogue sent through the mails, and presenting attractive and illusive advertising that goods are being sold at less than cost.

PUBLIC OPINION.

Power of the Country Press and Its Influences Upon the Community.

While the influences of the great city papers are recognized and the great magazines fill a necessary field, neither of these conveyers of general information can ever supplant the field that is occupied by the country press. The home paper is the medium that conveys local intelligence to its readers. It fills a place in the journalistic world that no other publication can ever supplant.

Starlings Egg-Stealers.

A correspondent, writing from Leith, England, expresses a strong opinion that starlings rob small birds' nests.

Some years ago there was a large tree opposite my dwelling-house. There was a hole in the trunk of the tree about ten feet from the ground, and sparrows built their nests in the cavity. I have time and again seen starlings driving away the parent birds, enter the nests, taking hold of the eggs with their bills and flying away with them.

A gravedigger in Banffshire once told me that a yellowhammer had built its nest in the churchyard, and it contained four eggs. One day a starling attacked the hen bird as she sat on her eggs. The yellowhammer defended her nest and made a great noise, which attracted his attention, but before he got up to the nest the yellowhammer had been killed by the starling, and the latter was on the nest and breaking and eating the eggs.

that it should have in order to make it successful.

Commercial clubs are important factors in the development of resources of small towns. To the farmer the commercial club of the home town is as important as it is to those residing within the limits of the town. It is the aim of the club to improve the town and in doing so it must benefit the surrounding country.

A Wireless Safety Appliance.

The wireless safety appliance of a German marine engineer is set to work during fogs and heavy weather, and acts automatically when two vessels approach within a certain distance. The action closes the steam pipe to the screw of each vessel. This checks the machinery, gives time for reversing the engines and prevents collision.—Baltimore Sun.

TIRED BACKS.



The kidneys have a great work to do in keeping the blood pure. When they get out of order it causes backache, headaches, dizziness, languor and distressing urinary troubles. Keep the kidneys well and all these sufferings will be saved you.

For sale by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

NO GAIN AND SOME LOSS.

Neighbor's Comment in Which There Seems a Strain of Sarcasm.

"Yes," the leader of the amateur brass band was saying, "it's curious to see what an effect learning to play a horn has on some persons. I used to be a pretty good bass singer, but I can't sing worth a cent now."

"Does learning to play a horn spoil the voice?" asked his next-door neighbor.

"It did mine." "How do you account for it?" "I don't know how to account for it. Strains the vocal chords, perhaps. All I know is that I blew my voice out through the mouthpiece of my cornet."

"Did you have a good voice?" "Everybody said so." "Then it's a great pity you ever learned to play a horn," rejoined his neighbor, shaking his head sadly. "I—er—think I should have enjoyed hearing you sing."—Youth's Companion.

Long Time to Sweep.

Everything, even a magnificent church, must be regarded from the point of view of the beholder. A London paper says that two country girls, who acted as if they might be enjoying a holiday from domestic service, were observed walking down the aisles of St. Paul's Cathedral. Under the great dome one of them stood and gazed around her with an air of such wonder that a spectator might well suppose that she was awestruck by her solemn surroundings. But when she spoke, the idea was dissipated. "Oh, Sarah," she exclaimed, "wouldn't this place take a long time to sweep?"

Too Much Exposure.

Elsie is a laundress of color. She is well past youth, wears a parenial smile and sports a single front tooth of much prominence. Recently she missed one of her visits to a patron, and when she next put in an appearance she was suffering from a bad cold. When asked how she took such a serious cold she said:

"During the recent festivities our club gave a ball. The gentleman what's paying attention to me is very particular, so I had to go in full evening dress, and I had to leave off a few pieces, and it got me."

Brains are Built

from certain kinds of

FOOD

Try

Grape-Nuts

"America has become a land of nervous emotionalists, largely owing to our sins against the dietetic health laws of nature."

"Only outdoor exercise in a cold climate would enable vigorous individuals of our species to digest the viands forced upon alimentary organs enfeebled by sedentary occupations," wrote Dr. Felix Oswald.

Brain workers must have different food than laborers, because brain work uses up parts of the brain and nerve centers, while physical labor uses up other parts of the body.

Grape-Nuts, a food for brain workers, prepared by scientific food makers, is a pure, natural food made from selected parts of field grains known to contain the natural phosphate of potash and other elements required by the system in rebuilding and repairing the brain and nerve centers. This food is skillfully cooked at the factory and is ready to be served instantly with cream. At all first-class grocers and made by the Postum Co., at Battle Creek, Mich. Read the little health classic, "The Road to Wellville," in pgs. "There's a Reason."