

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

SOME GOOD STORIES FOR OUR JUNIOR READERS.

Bob Casey's Terrible Ride—Caught in a Blizzard While Carrying Uncle Sam's Mail—But for Money Letters He Would Have Perished.

Lucy's Birthday.
SEVENTEEN rosebuds in a ring,
Thick with sister flowers beset,
In a fragrant coronet,
Lucy's servants this day bring,
Be it the birthday wreath she wears
Fresh and fair, and symboling,
The young number of her years,
The sweet blushes of her spring.

Types of youth and love and hope!
Friendly hearts your mistress greet,
Be you ever fair and sweet,
And grow lovelier as you open!
Gentle nursing, fenced about
With fond care, and guarded so,
Scarcely you've heard of storms with-
out
Frosts that bite, or winds that blow!
Kindly has your life begun,
And we pray that heaven may send
To our floweret a warm sun.
A calm summer, a sweet end,
And where'er shall be her home,
May she decorate the place;
Still expanding into bloom,
And developing in grace.

Bob Casey's Terrible Ride.

Some years ago Fort Benton had a daily mail from Helena. The stage-coach brought it three days of the week and on the alternating days the mail-sack was brought on horseback or in a light wagon. The wagon was driven by a young boy, Bob Casey by name. This boy knew the road perfectly, and was warmly dressed, and perhaps his people were not old enough to the country to know that he could be in danger from blizzards.

One Friday morning, an hour after Bob had left Sun River Landing for Benton, a blizzard of the wildest description set in. In a few moments the road was obliterated and rendered exactly like all the rest of the boundless plain. Bob had no idea which way he was going, and decided that his only chance was to give the horse his head and let him go where he would. The mail was small and the wagon light—and so was Bob—and he had no doubt the animal would pull through somewhere.

But before long the horse was as hopelessly lost as the boy. He wandered and wandered, and found no way out of the desert. The blizzard increased in intensity, and as Bob was well wrapped on his seat, he could do no better than continue to sit there and keep the horse going.

This he did throughout the whole of a dreadful day, that seemed to Bob, and doubtless to horse, too, longer than an ordinary week. At last night came; and just at this time Bob and his horse struck a considerable patch of tall grass, the tops of which came up through the snow. Here Bob decided to camp for the night. He could at least feed the horse with the grass, though there was no food for him.

Though the storm still raged with unabating fury, Bob succeeded in making a fire by pulling and matting the tall grass, and got through the night alive. In the morning the sun shone brightly, though the fine, powdery snow still filled the air. Bob could not make out where he was; nothing was plain to him except that he was far from the road to Benton, and that not a single familiar object met his gaze; but he still trusted to the horse to find the way. Mounting his seat, cold and very hungry, he gave the reins to the horse and bade him "go on."

On he did go, but not in the right direction. The endless march of the day before was repeated. The weather was frightfully cold. Here and there, where a bunch of tall grass came through the snow, the horse stopped to browse, and Bob let him do so as often as he wished.

Another night came, and another day, and days and nights after these, and still Bob and the horse and wagon wandered, getting farther and farther away from civilization all the time; the horse supporting life by browsing the grass, but Bob slowly growing weaker and freezing, for the weather continued intensely cold.

Meantime the people of Benton had started out to search for the missing boy. The whole region between Sun River and Benton was thoroughly searched, but no trace of either horse or boy. A week after the disappearance the search was abandoned. The people had no doubt that boy and horse had perished in the storm, and been covered up by the drifting snow.

But valuable letters belonging to a mining corporation were in the mail bag, and ten days after Bob had disappeared some of the parties interested in these letter employed Billy Lowe to go out in search of the bag—not of Bob.

Billy went on horseback and rode far and wide. Passing over some rising ground, he thought he perceived a moving object in a distant coulee, and went toward it. As he approached he saw that it was a horse, slowly drawing a light wagon, and that in the wagon was seated a small human figure. At length Billy saw that it was Bob Casey and the mail wagon.

Bob seemed to have settled down to sleep; but now and then he would straighten up, grab the reins, and attempt to guide the horse, only to drop back into his seat a moment later apparently unconscious. Rowe overhauled them and shook

the boy. He could get no answer, but at any rate the boy was alive. Rowe wrapped him up anew, and started for Twenty-Eight Miles Springs, the nearest place. Here he gave the boy stimulants, and then went on to Benton. At the hotel the speechless and almost lifeless boy was placed in a sitting posture, with his feet in a tub of cold water. He could eat nothing, but light stimulants were forced down his throat, and in that position he slept for thirty-six hours, being occasionally aroused for the stimulants. He recovered, but it was found necessary to amputate both his feet. A big purse was made up for him, and he was sent east to school.

Our Tiny Defenders.

The study of germs has produced nothing more interesting than the discovery not only that all of the little organisms called bacteria, or microbes, are not injurious in their effects upon man, but that some of them must actually be reckoned as his friends, defending him, as they do, against other microbes which are unquestionably injurious. And even more interesting than this is the discovery of the Russian savant, Metchnikoff, that the minute cells in human blood which physicians call "white corpuscles," are most powerful and effective enemies to the germs of disease seeking to make their way into the system. When examined with a microscope these cells present a curious and startling appearance of independent life, and under proper conditions they may be seen to crawl slowly about. Their manner of acting when they are called upon to defend the blood against invasion from without is almost dramatic in interest. If a wound is made in the hand or arm, or other part of the body, immediate danger arises from the floating germs in the atmosphere which light upon the wounded surface and there find a ready-made breach through which they can enter the system. But the marvellous cells in the blood meet the enemy on the threshold. As soon as the danger is open they flock to the place of danger and literally devour the entering microbes. Unless the invading hosts are extraordinarily numerous and powerful, and are favored by untoward circumstances, the victory almost invariably remains with the defenders of the breach.

The Planet Venus.

Mr. R. A. Proctor says that so far as telescopes and physical research have yet led us, in size, in situation, and in destiny, in the length of her seasons and her rotation, in the figure of her orbit, and in the amount of light and heat she receives from the sun, Venus bears a more striking resemblance to the earth than any orb within the solar system. Had Venus but a moon, like the earth, we might doubt whether, in the whole universe, two orbs exist which are so strikingly similar to each other. Indeed, it is by no means certain that Venus has not a moon, Montaigne, Rodkier, Horrebon, Monthaven and others having seen a body near Venus which presented a phase similar to that of a planet, precisely as a satellite would have done. Venus has a day of about 23 hours 21 minutes, and a year of 224 days 17 hours nearly. The distance from the sun is something less than three-fourths of that which separates the sun from us. It is clear that merely in the greater proximity of Venus to the sun there is little to render at least a large portion of her surface uninhabitable by such beings as exist on our earth. In her temperate and sub-Arctic regions, a climate which we should find well suited to our requirements might very well exist; while the polar regions might correspond to our temperate zones, and be the abode of the most active and enterprising race existing upon her surface. On the whole, the evidence we have points very strongly to Venus as the abode of living creatures not unlike the inhabitants of the earth.

A Merry Evening Game.

One of the merriest of merry evening games goes by the name of "mummies." All the boys and girls, excepting four or five, leave the room. Two of those remaining act as dressers. They place the others in chairs and put over the head of each a tall newspaper cap, with holes cut in it through which the eyes may be seen. Cover the dresses of the mummies with sheets, so that they will not reveal the owner. Now call in the other boys and girls and set them to trying to find out who each of the mummies is by peeping through the eye-holes. After the party is all agreed as to who is who, remove the papers and see how many mistakes have been made. This game is almost as much fun for grown people as it is for children.

Jack-Knife Work.

Master William Abbott writes telling how to make a top that writes. First take a spool, cut the head off and sharpen it down to the hole as in making the ordinary spool spinning top. Then take a pencil, sharpen it, and put it through the hole, the sharpened end forming the spinning apex of the top. Cut off the other end, leaving a handle to spin with and the top is completed. When spun in the usual way it will write all sorts of queer designs; and it is said that no two persons can make the same kind of drawings.

For use in bathrooms where there is no stationary wash-bowl a new device consists of a framework to hold an earthen bowl hinged to the bath-tub so that it can be swung under the faucets to draw the water for washing and when not in use can be folded back against the wall to be out of the way.

THE CUBAN POLICY.

"LEADER" BAILEY OBJECTS TO THE PRESIDENTS PLANS.

Business Conditions Improve Notwithstanding Continued Heavy Imports—Free Silver Theories Exploded—Peru's Adoption of the Gold.

Washington, May, 1897.—(Special correspondence)—The knowledge that citizens of this country were suffering and in want of food and shelter brought instantly from President McKinley a message recommending an appropriation of \$50,000 for their benefit. It is understood that the President is only awaiting for more detailed information, from special representatives whom he has sent to Cuba, before taking equally vigorous action in regard to other matters there. When it is remembered that the first three weeks of McKinley's administration witnessed the release of practically all the Americans who were in Cuban prisons on the 4th day of March, and that his action for the relief of those who were suffering for want of food was equally prompt, the contrast between his actions and those of President Cleveland is strongly marked. When it is remembered, also, that the objection of a Democratic "leader" prevented the prompt passage of the relief bill in the house, the contrast between Republican and Democratic methods is still more sharply outlined.

Republican vs. Democratic Methods.

The President, who learned only a few days ago from his representatives in Cuba that American citizens there are suffering for food, shelter and clothing, sent to congress on Monday a message pointing out this fact, and asking an immediate appropriation. A resolution making this appropriation was offered in the senate by a Republican as soon as the reading of the message, and passed by a unanimous vote. A similar resolution was offered in the house by Mr. Hitt, a Republican, as soon as the reading of the message was finished, but its immediate consideration was objected to by Congressman Bailey, an alleged leader of the Democratic party of the house. That any man representing only his own congressional district or himself individually could have thrown himself between 800 suffering American citizens and relief freely offered by the government of the United States seems incredible, but that a man professing to speak for a great party could have done so is even more astounding. But it is a fact, nevertheless, and Mr. Bailey was successful in preventing the passage of the measure for at least three days.

Why? Upon the alleged ground that he wanted to couple with it legislation recognizing the belligerency of the Cubans. In point of fact, it was a political trick to try to restore himself in the graces of the Democracy, which had been accusing him of subservience to Speaker Reed and his methods. Mr. Bailey was willing to stand between 800 suffering and starving American citizens and relief for an indefinite length of time for the sake of again making himself solid with the Democracy. He knew that the house of representatives would not pass a resolution recognizing the belligerency of the Cubans in the short space of time that it was necessary to pass the relief resolution. The senate has been debating that kind of a resolution for not only days, but weeks and months. So his demand that the resolution of the recognition of belligerency should be coupled with that of appropriating money for immediate relief was not only unnecessary but unreasonable, and sure to cause delay to the relief measure. Yet since it would attract attention to Mr. Bailey, and possibly reingratiate him in the regard of the Democracy, hundreds of American citizens can starve while Mr. Bailey thus masquerades.

Foreign Goods Still Coming In.

The importers who are rushing goods into the country have the double purpose of making an extra profit by raising the price on them when the Dingley bill goes into effect and putting the law into disrepute by making its receipts light during the first year. The importations in April were the largest recorded in the recent commercial history of the United States. They amounted to \$101,305,131, or nearly double those of April, 1896. The rate at which importations have increased since importers became aware that a protective tariff bill would be soon adopted is indicated by the following figures, which show the value of imports since the month in which McKinley was elected.

IMPORTATIONS.

November, 1896, \$50,042,288; December, 1896, \$58,960,660; January, 1897, \$51,854,016; February, 1897, \$50,237,377; March, 1897, \$76,344,946; April, 1897, \$101,305,131.

Yet in the face of this showing comes the recent announcement by a leading commercial agency that the sales of goods in April were within a small fraction of the amount in the most prosperous business year which the country has seen for a long time. That there is a genuine revival in business activity is apparent, not alone from this announcement, but from the statements of the press, irrespective of party, in every section of the country.

Money Circulates.

An interest rate of three and a half per cent is very low; yet a railroad company which put a hundred million dollars of bonds upon the market recently at that rate of interest had no difficulty in finding capital to accept them. The people who are industriously insisting that the United States should have more money find it diffi-

cult to hold this position when such quantities of money are seeking investment at so low an interest rate.

Free Silver Theories Punctured.

Some of the assertions of the silver orators of the last campaign read curiously now. For instance, that one in which they insisted that farm products and silver kept pace in rise and fall is especially amusing, in view of the fact that farm products have steadily risen in value in the past eight months, while silver has gone in the other direction. Silver has, in the last few weeks, reached the lowest point in its history, while wheat in that same time has reached a selling price double that which existed at the very time that these arguments were being most vigorously presented. The Kansas Populists are reported in a state of distress over the condition of the country. Prosperity has set in in that state without the adoption of the free coinage of silver or any other of their numerous nostrums of this character. Prices of cattle, hogs, wheat, corn and farm products of all kinds have advanced and there are more signs of activity and prosperity following the rejection of the free coinage of silver than the state has seen for many years.

These disgusted gentry are now making bon-fires of their recent campaign speeches in which they insisted that the low farm prices in this country were due to the treatment which silver had received. The country rejected their proposition for the free and unlimited coinage of silver and simultaneously with that action prices of farm products began to rise and have steadily advanced, while silver has steadily gone in the other direction.

Peru's Action a Blow to Silverites.

Little Peru is just now the subject of a good deal of attention from all parts of the world by reason of the fact that on May 10 her new currency system went into effect. This system creates the gold standard and prohibits the importation of silver coin, the purpose of this prohibition being to maintain the standing and nominal value of the silver coin already in the country. Commenting upon this action by Peru, the Macon Telegraph, a Democratic paper, says: "The statesmen of little Peru are wiser than the new breed of our own country, who spring from the mining camps of the west."

G. H. WILLIAMS.

The World's Gold Output.

The Engineering and Mining Journal, an excellent unofficial authority, represents that the world's production of gold for the year 1896 exceeded that of the previous year by nearly \$17,500,000, while it was fully \$43,500,000 greater than that of 1894. In this estimate the production by countries was as follows:

	1896.	1895.
United States...	\$7,000,000	\$6,830,000
Africa	45,250,000	44,545,000
Australia	43,710,000	42,795,000
Russia	31,600,000	31,780,000
Mexico	6,990,000	5,600,000
India	6,000,000	4,500,000
China	5,170,000	4,650,000
Colombia	3,100,000	3,185,000
Brazil	2,480,000	2,230,000
Germany	2,390,000	2,355,000
Guiana (Br'sh)	2,185,000	2,170,000
Guiana (Fr'ch)	1,875,000	1,865,000
Austria-Hung'y	1,870,000	1,830,000
Other countries	8,920,000	6,770,000

Total

The estimate for the United States by the director of the mint falls short of the figures given in this table by the large margin \$5,500,000, but it is believed by experts that the grand total for '96, when made up from full and accurate information, will come very near to \$229,000,000. Attention is called to the alleged and generally admitted fact that the production of gold last year was largely in excess of the value of both gold and silver produced in all countries in any year prior to 1873—the year of "the crime." As late as 1888 the total production of gold was only half that of '96.

Peru Deserts Silver.

The state department at Washington has received official information of the suspension of silver coinage in Peru. The decree putting into effect the new system of coinage in that country tells the same old story. The fluctuation of exchange arising in the constant depression of silver has forced the government, as a measure of protection, to suspend the coinage of national silver money, and the white metal thus drops to an ordinary article of commerce. This is the history of silver the world over, and the action of the Peruvian government will occasion no surprise. But it will cause dismay in the ranks of the silverites, who thus lose another of their bright and shining examples. One after another all the nations of the world, great and small, which still cling to silver coinage, are responding to the natural tendency of the times, and relegating silver to its proper position in the exchanges of the world. The advocates of bimetalism will find little consolation in the action of Peru, and the free silverites none at all; yet neither can make any complaint, for it is based solely upon universal trade conditions, which are beyond the control of any man, body of men or nation, and here, after all, lies the key to the entire financial question.—Philadelphia North American.

The ordinary American fox skins to the amount of seventy or ninety thousand are annually sold in London at prices varying from fifty cents to \$4. These skins are great favorites in eastern countries, such as Turkey, Greece, Russia and Bulgaria.

SMITH IS DYNAMITED.

HIS HOME BLOWN UP AND HIS WIFE INJURED.

A Dastardly Attempt to Assassinate the Leavenworth Soldiers' Home Governor—A Dishonorably Discharged Veteran Under Arrest for the Outrage.

A Dastardly Outrage.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., June 12.—Between 4 and 5 o'clock this morning a cannon-like report was heard at the Soldiers' home, and the beautiful residence of Governor Andrew J. Smith, commander of the home, was all but demolished.

Dynamite was employed in the outrage and the explosion aroused many residents of this city and houses trembled as if in an earthquake shock. In the barracks the shock was terrific enough to throw veterans from their cots, and prompt work was required on the part of the commandant to prevent a serious panic. One veteran, who was occupying a seat on the lawn, was thrown to the ground.

Mrs. Smith's escape from instant death was miraculous, the explosion was directly beneath her bed chamber. She usually sleeps upon a couch, but last night occupied a bed in the same room, but on the side farthest from the outer wall. She heard the shutters rattle, but saw no one. A moment later the explosion followed, and she found herself in the midst of flying furniture and shattered window panes. One entire side of her room was torn away. The couch she usually occupied caught the full force of the explosion and was hurled across the room, passing directly over her bed and landing upon a bureau.

Governor Smith and daughter, Miss Daisy Smith, occupied rooms on the second floor, and were far enough removed from the seat of the explosion to escape the serious consequences suffered by Mrs. Smith.

Besides being cut and bruised by broken glass and pieces of flying furniture, Mrs. Smith was completely prostrated by the shock and is now in a precarious condition. Mrs. Smith has been in delicate health for years. The scene at the governor's residence is one of wreckage and confusion. The brick walls are shattered and torn, the east side being almost wholly blown out, the windows broken and debris is scattered over the ground.

The whole interior was wrecked, bric-a-brac scattered about the various apartments, and furniture tossed about and piled up in a confused mass.

A SUSPECT ARRESTED.

About one hour after the explosion the police authorities arrested Joseph W. Oliver, a dishonorably discharged veteran, for the crime. He was found in his room at a Cherokee street boarding house where he had just arrived after having been out all night. Many persons are ready to believe he is implicated, showing he had walked through tall grass, and his shoes were soaking wet and covered with blue grass seed. He was in a surly mood and when taken into custody expressed regret that Governor Smith had escaped death.

Afterward he refused to say anything. Another dishonorably discharged veteran is suspected of complicity, but has not been apprehended. Oliver is a tough character, and a few months ago was arrested and punished for deliberately shooting into an electric car. A few nights ago John Biring's powder magazine was robbed, and it is believed the robber is the one who caused the explosion.

It is the universal opinion in this city that the outrage is a direct result of the persecution waged against Governor Smith for the past five or six years by certain persons in Leavenworth and elsewhere in Kansas. Threats to blow up the governor have been freely made by discharged veterans since the national board of managers made the order transferring Colonel Smith to the Pacific branch home at Santa Monica, Cal.

STRUCK BY A CYCLONE.

Houses Topped Over and One Man Killed in Lyle, Minn.

MASON CITY, Iowa, June 12.—At 6:59 last night a cyclone struck north-west of Lyle, Minn., taking a southeasterly course. A cyclone passing over the town of Kandiah, Wilmar county, Minnesota, entirely demolished the buildings on the farm of John Bernquist.

All railway lines running in the vicinity of the track of the storm report telegraph poles blown down and other damage done. A railroad operator at Mason City reported at midnight that twenty houses were demolished in Lyle, one man killed outright and twenty others injured. It is believed much damage was done in the country around Lyle, there being all sorts of rumors of heavy loss of life. Owing to the damage to telegraph lines definite information was lacking. A special train with surgeons, linemen and workmen was sent to Lyle from Waterloo, Ia., within an hour of the time of the storm.

A Missouri Girl Honored by Cornell.

COLUMBUS, Mo., June 12.—Miss Lalla Reok Rogers, a graduate of the University of Missouri, has been awarded a scholarship in the school of philosophy at Cornell university. She is the first graduate of Missouri university to receive such honor.

Governor Barnes' First Pardon.

GUTHRIE, Okla., June 12.—Governor Barnes issued his first pardon last night to Ira Taylor, sentenced to three years in the penitentiary for horse stealing in Grant county. He had served fourteen months. His wife interceded for him.

Englishmen and Americans.
A careful inquiry into the average height of different nations has elicited the following facts: The English professional classes, who head the list as the tallest of adult males, attain the high average of 5 feet 9 1/2 inches. Next on the list come the males of all classes in the United States and a minute fraction behind them come the English of all classes. Hence we may conclude that, taken right through, the English and American races are approximately of the same height. Most European nations average for the adult male 5 feet 6 inches but the Austrians, Spaniards and Portuguese just fall short of this standard.—Exchange.

SUMMER CARE OF BLANKETS.

Blankets which have been used all winter, no matter how white, are never clean, and should be washed before putting away. Many housekeepers satisfy themselves by shaking and airing their blankets rather than risk soiling them in washing. But this is a mistake, for if the work is properly done no shrinking will take place, and the fleecy soft appearance may be retained, as well as the color, for years. The necessary thing in washing blankets is to have plenty of soft water and good pure soap. Inferior soap is really the cause of the damage done to woolen goods in washing. It hardens the fibre and yellows the fabric. When ready to begin the work shake the blankets free of dust, fill a tub-half full of hot water. Dissolve in it a cake of Ivory Soap in it. Put one blanket in at a time. Dip up and down and wash gently with the hands. Never rub soap on blankets, or wash them on the washboard. After the blankets are clean, rinse in warm water until free of suds. Add a little bluing to the last water. Shake and squeeze them hang on the line until dry. Take down, fold, lay under a weight for a day or two, and pack securely in a box and cover. Blankets thus washed will retain their original freshness as well as wear three times as long as if put away soiled year after year.

Made a Hit.

"You don't mean to say that stingy old maid has given you 10 marks for telling her fortune?"
"Indeed, I do. I told her she would meet with an accident before she was 24 years old."—Fliegende Blaetter.

"Whir."

The word "whir" is regarded by some philologists as a natural symbol of the idea of revolution. The German has "wirren," to twist; the French "virer," with the same meaning; the English "veer" and "wear," the latter used with reference to the turning of a ship.

Try Grain-O.

Ask your grocer today to show you a package of GRAIN-O, the new food drink that takes the place of coffee. The children may drink it without injury as well as the adult. All who try it like it. GRAIN-O has that rich seal brown of Mocha or Java, but it is made from pure grains, and the most delicate stomach receives it without distress. 1/4 the price of coffee. 15 cents and 25 cents per package. Sold by all grocers. Tastes like coffee. Looks like coffee.

Unhappy Children.

In the convict prison at Copenhagen mothers are allowed to have their babies with them until they are 1 year old; then they are taken to the workhouse until the mother's term of sentence has expired.

No-To-Bac For Fifty Cents.

Guaranteed tobacco habit cure, makes weak men strong, blood pure. 50c. All druggists.

The Profit Don't Please.

An eastern farmer recently shipped a lot of apples to England. He was not delighted when he received a profit on them of a cent a barrel.

A Good Appetite is essential for health and physical strength. When the blood is weak, thin and impure the appetite fails. Hood's Sarsaparilla is a wonderful medicine for creating an appetite. It purifies and enriches the blood, tones the stomach, gives strength to the nerves and health to the whole system. It is just the medicine needed now.

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