

OF CHILDREN'S SUNDAY.

HERE IS A LETTER FOR ORTHODOX PEOPLE TO READ.

A Return to Puritan Practices is Not Desirable, but if Faith is to be Preserved, is There Not Danger of Too Much Fastid?

[Special Correspondence.] NEW YORK, Aug. 18.—The boys and girls of this generation have little knowledge of the dismalness of the Sundays of thirty, forty and fifty years ago as recollected by their parents and grandparents.

No one desires to return to the practice of the blue laws epoch, when it was esteemed a sin to be gay on the first day of the week and when any relaxation of an almost funereal solemnity was regarded as a proof of worldliness and carelessness.

To begin with, have not many parents drifted into laxness concerning their children's presence at church? Doubtless the little ones are seldom able to digest the strong meat served in sermons.

Once a day for church is enough for young children, especially when this is supplemented by attendance at Sunday school. A little rest should, if possible, be interspersed between the two services.

In these days the tendency to abjure creeds and arbitrary forms of belief has grown so fast that it seems as though the time were rapidly coming when it would be almost impossible to formulate one's faith.

These things are seldom taught in the Sabbath schools. There the study is usually confined to the international lesson. Upon the parents devolves the teaching of these other essentials.

The old practice of committing to memory texts of Scripture and stanzas of hymns has also fallen sadly into neglect. The "crumming" of whole chapters and the parrotlike acquisition of hymns is to be deprecated, but there are many beautiful portions of the Bible and much sacred verse that is readily comprehended and learned by little minds.

Sunday should belong eminently to the children. They should be taught to feel that it is indeed "a day of rest and gladness." To this end the parents must exert themselves a little.

But after the Sunday school should be the pleasant home time. This is the opportunity for the telling of Bible stories, for the pleasant talk over the doings of the day and the questions suggested by the sermon, the lesson or the readings.

For the lesser ones among the children one cannot make strict rules. They are too young to understand the difference between the Sabbath and other days.

stories, and when they grow a little older they will enjoy listening to readings from a child's Bible or from one of those dear little classics, "Peep of Day," "Precept Upon Precept," "Line Upon Line" and "Here a Little and There a Little."

The question of what reading should be permitted on Sunday and what taboos is a matter upon which good people differ widely. One holds that story books and other so-called secular reading do no harm.

The mother who bestows time and thought upon rendering Sunday a festa to her brood will have many small, helpful items suggest themselves to her. It may seem trivial to affirm that an especially dainty, though simple supper, the use of the prettiest china, the wearing of the best clothes, the half hour's later bedtime, bear an influence in sanctifying the Sabbath to childish minds.

CHRISTINE TERRUNE HERRICK.

A Bear Hunt in the Rockies.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 8.—"I've done some b'ar hunting in my time, I reckon," said Grizzly Bill, pulling his shaggy red beard meditatively, "and I've laid out but as many of em as most; but the b'ar hunt that we had right here, less'n five years ago, 'ud lay over any show as I ever seen in the theater at Frisco, and this was how it was."

"We'd got a young Britisher just cum to the valley that time who war death on shootin, and carried nuff guns and pistols with him to kill every critter as cum out o' the ark. He had good stuff in him somewheres, I reckon, for he giv a heap o' dollars to them sick folks down Fever Hollow way, and he could rounk it without gruntin and growlin at suthin every minute, like some on em."

"One night Breakneck Ben cum in and said he'd sighted a b'ar trail on the hill above our gulch, so we sent off Scalpin Sam full split to tell the Britisher."

"Wal, I reckon that tenderfoot had grit in him, though he war sich an et'nal fool. Sam 'lowed the b'ar war bigger'n a bufler, but the Britisher warn't skeered a bit. He jist whipped up his rifle and came runnin up the gulch for all he war worth, and him and me and Ben and Sam we all sot off together to find the b'ar."

"As we went along I says to Ben thoughtfultlike: 'Ben, warn't it right here as we found that half eaten feller whose name nobody ever knowed?'

"'You bet,' says Ben. 'He'd slipped down atwixt two rocks and stuck fast so as he couldn't git out agin, and the wolves they cum around and gobblid up all the top half of him, chunk by chunk, and when we found him there warn't nuthin left but his legs, cause they couldn't git at them.'

"'And up yander, by that white stone, chips in Sam, 'was whar the Dutchman fit the grizzly. He'd let drop his gun down the canyon and had only his bowie to fight with; so the b'ar got a hold of him and giv him a hug that bruck his back jist as he run the bowie plumb into the b'ar's heart. It war an even game atwixt 'em, I reckon, and the honors war sasy."

"'And so we went, one worse'n t'other, but, say what we liked, we didn't skeer the tenderfoot worth a cent—he'd got grit in him, make no mistake."

"'Wal, pretty soon we got into jist as mean a place as you could think of to meet a b'ar in—a long, straight canyon, as deep as a mine, with rocks on each side that a catamount couldn't climb—and whatever you met, no room to dodge or run, you'd got to stand squarely up and fight it out."

"'I was jist sayin to Ben, 'Par'd, if the b'ar catches us here it'll be mighty rough on some of us,' when there cum a snort and a growl overhead, and a big b'ar cum tearin down the gully full gal-low right at us."

"'We boys let strip, but we must ha been kind o' nervous, for we all missed, and 'fore the Britisher could fire I gripped his arm and said, 'Hold in till I giv the word, for if you miss he'll lay out the hull lot of us!'

"'The tenderfoot clinched his teeth and stood ready, and down cum the b'ar! But jist as he got within ten yards I held out my hand and hollered, 'Up!' and up got the b'ar on his hind legs, and begun to dance a hornpipe. You see, it war a tame b'ar, as we'd got from French Pete, of Dogtown, to git the laugh of that Britisher, and Pete himself cum along with it and let it loose down the gully jist at the right minute."

"'Wal, if ever I seen a fellow look sick it was that Britisher jist then. Fact, he felt so bad that we were kind o' sorr, for him a'ter all, but 'fore he quit he killed three genuine b'ar himself, and could laugh at that trick same as we did."



How to Captain a Ball Team.

A captain should be well posted in all the rules of the game and understand perfectly every point of play. He should be one of the best players in the team, since respect for his authority will increase if he is able to do what he expects of his players.

How to Test Diamonds.

Put the doubtful stone into a leaden or platinum cup with some powdered fluor-spar and a little oil of vitriol. Warm the vessel over some lighted charcoal in a fireplace, or wherever there is a strong draft to carry away the noxious vapors that will arise.

How to Clean Engravings.

Soak in a very weak, clear solution of chloride of lime until white, then soak in running water, afterward steeping for half an hour in water containing a little of hyposulphite of soda to neutralize any trace of adhering bleach.

How to Tell Whether a Fabric is "All Wool."

Put a piece of the cloth into a solution of caustic soda in a glass vessel and boil it. The wool will dissolve. If cotton is a part of the structure it will remain undissolved. If a woolen and cotton fabric be dipped in bleaching liquor the former will turn yellow after awhile and the cotton will remain white.

How to Cure Stings of Insects.

When stung by a bee, wasp or mosquito immediately plunge the affected part into or bathe with salt and water. If this is not available make a paste of some clay and water and apply it to the sting. Bathing with lanolin, hartshorn or camphorated spirits is also useful.

How to Blow Out a Candle.

When a candle is blown out a very disagreeable odor fills the room. This is very easily prevented. If you blow upward the wick will not smolder, the bad smell is avoided and when you want to ignite it again the wick will be found sufficiently long.

How to Prepare Bird Skeletons.

Perfect skeletons of birds and small animals may be obtained by placing them singly in a wooden box, just large enough to receive the animal fixed in the position desired. Perforate the box with numerous small holes and place it on an antihill. In an incredibly short time the ants will have performed the required operation.

How to Prevent Worms in Books.

There is a little insect called aglossa pinguinalis which deposits its larvae in books in the autumn. These produce a mite which does a great deal of mischief. Small wood boring beetles also cause a good deal of destruction among the covers and binding.

How to Make Vegetables Tender.

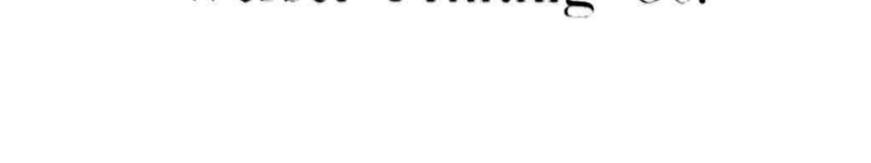
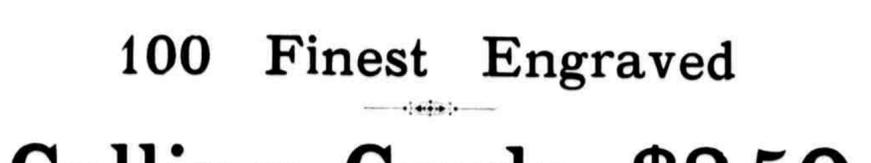
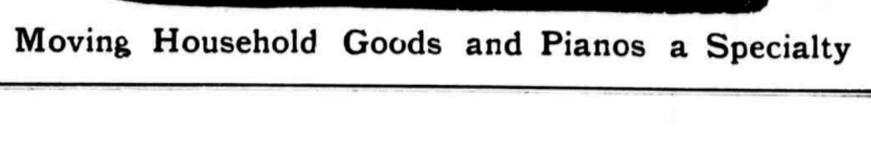
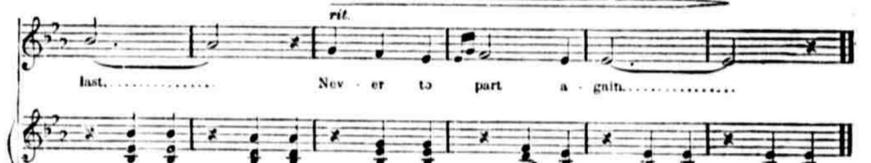
When peas, beans and similar products do not boil easily it is usually attributed to "the coldness of the season," "the rain" or some such impossible circumstance. The difficulty of making them soft arises from their having imbibed too much gypsum during their growth.

How to Measure a Cistern.

A good rule is to square the diameter, and multiply that product by the decimal .7854, then this product by 1.728—number of cubic inches in a foot—and divide the product by the number of inches to a gallon (231), and this will give the capacity of the cistern in gallons to each foot in depth.

LOVE'S GOLDEN DREAM.

Words and Music by LINDSAY LENNOX.



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