

CHILDREN'S COLUMN.

A Lilliputian Naval Battle. The amusing experiment of a lilliputian naval battle can be made with white chalk and the ordinary table vinegar.



other farthest from the dividing line. The engagement often proves an exciting one. Of course the side has won which has the larger number of ships nearest the center after the affray.

A Word to Youthful Writers. The young readers of a publication that regularly absorbs and delights them with its stories or articles little know the talent, labor, ingenuity and experience required for the production of each one of these works.

It is a very frequent experience for the editor to receive from some youth an ill spelled, ungrammatical and awkwardly expressed letter, offering stories unlimited for the periodical, which he says, he de votes every week with the keenest interest.

This literary aspirant evidently has not the dimmest glimmering of an idea as to what are the ingredients, seasonings, the method of cooking and the form of serving the agreeable dishes that tickle his mental palate.

Besides there is the talent! If talent be latent it will develop itself; if not, it is not advisable to cherish any false hopes of seeing one's name in print.

The Light from the Firefly. A young reader wants to know what causes the light emitted by the firefly. We believe it has never been definitely settled to what the light is due, but the general opinion is that it has a phosphorescent origin.

The little fireflies that we have here are almost insignificant compared with those that are found in Central and South America and the West Indies.

The natives of those countries use the beetles, as we use candles and gas, to light their houses. Two or three of them together will emit enough light to read by very comfortably.



Little Johnny Carmichael received a tricycle the fourth of July from his uncles. To nurse's disgust, he had a great dust. And kept her at mending his pants.

"Well," said Mabel, looking up from her history lesson, "what I don't understand about discovering America is how Columbus knew it was America when he never saw it before!"

POETICAL THOUGHT ABOUT WOMEN.

Woman may err, woman may give her mind To evil thoughts and lose her pure estate; But for one woman who affronts her kind By wicked passions and remorseless hate.

Notwithstanding many barbarous customs the Katyle woman, not being like the Arab woman, shut up in her home, going about with uncovered face, enjoying besides a certain activity, comes to exercise a real influence.

Associated with public life as well as with private life, in case of war she emerges from her retirement to appear at the front and arouse by her songs the courage of the warriors.

Mothers, Get More Sunshine. "Basking in the sun" is in itself of real and considerable benefit, and it is no compliment to our human intelligence to find that cats and dogs understand that fact much better than we do.

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Rich Valley, Va., has a veritable dime museum curiosity in the person of the twenty-year-old daughter of Nathan Harris. Although little Miss Harris is now old enough to seriously contemplate the drawbacks of an old maid's existence, she is not as large as the average child of five years.

Fatti Has \$375,000 Worth of Diamonds. Adellina Patti's diamonds have been valued at \$375,000. The Empress Eugenie gave Patti as a wedding present when she married the Marquis de Caux a comb set with twenty-three diamonds.

Baroness Burdett-Couts once gave the songstress an enormous diamond set in a ring. The diva's wonderful set of sapphires was sold when she was obliged by French law to divide her fortune with her first husband.

A Story of Italy's Queen. The favorite governess of the queen of Italy when she was a child was Mile. Rosa Abeser, who was a girl of twenty-two when the ten-year-old princess of Savoy became her pupil.

One Way of Making Piecrust Flaky. To make piecrust flaky spread the crust when rolled out for the top of the pie with a thin layer of butter.

Onions are improved by soaking in warm salt water an hour or so before cooking as this removes some of the rank flavor.

Many persons buy material for their own traycloths, have them stamped at some art establishment, then embroider them themselves.

NO TIME TO WRITE.

A Brief Note from the "Household Drudge." Indeed the lot of woman is hard. Has it not been dinned into our ears since we were young?

At the very hottest curl of the hot wave I picked up a letter in the street which bore eloquent testimony to these pathetic facts. I hate to print it because it bears so heavily upon the laziness of paternalism and the ease and luxury with which he surrounds himself at the expense of his family.

MY OWN DEAREST, DARLING HUSBY—You do not know how lonely we all are without you. Why don't you just drop your hateful business and come up here for a week or two? I am sure the old store would keep right on running if you were not in it.

It seems dreadfully stupid here. There are only three or four nice young men in the place. Of course I have no trouble in keeping them out of the hands of the young girls, for they know I have no designs upon them and fear, accordingly, to ease in my society. Besides, I am a think they like me.

There is going to be a grand hop here next Saturday night and I have positively nothing fit to wear. I wish you would get the pearl colored slippers out of the second drawer in the back room bureau.

You poor, dear boy! I wish I had the time to write you a nice long letter, but I have been invited by Jack Ansdorf to take a ride to Blumington mountain, and so for today you must put up with this hurried little scrawl.

A strapping young fellow appeared before the committee of inspection. "You claim exemption from military service?" inquired the presiding officer.

"Step into the next room!" "But, sir—" "Step into the next room!" "Why, it isn't—" "Step into the next room!" Our man entered the adjoining apartment, where he was made to undress from head to foot, after which he presented himself again before the committee, this time sans coat, sans vest, sans everything.

Well Meant, but Awkwardly Put. "So glad you haven't forgotten me, dear Lord Variouse. I was afraid you would after so many years." "Oh, no, Miss Evergreen. I never forget old faces!"—Da Maurier in Punch.

Hard to Work. "You have been promising me steady employment, I have been coming here five or six times a day and you haven't found me that employment yet. I want the two dollars back I gave you," said an angry man to the superintendent of a New York intelligence office.

"Oh, misery!" cried the editor. "What's the matter now?" "I just threw a post out of the window, and his wife, who was waiting for him below, has presented one of our insurance coupons at the cashier's desk. He had it on him! Another hundred pounds gone, when five shillings would have bought not only his post, but his everlasting gratitude."—Tit-Bits.

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