

Very Poor Children.
In the free kindergarten on the fourth street received a lesson in charity on Thanksgiving. Most of these children are of poor parents, some of them even destitute. They were taken to the kindergarten on Thanksgiving day for the purpose of giving them a holiday and a feast. They had nurtured the idea of a feast day, and that they were to have a nice dinner in the school.

The teachers told them that could best manifest their thankfulness for the blessings they enjoyed by contributing some little gift to make others, poorer than themselves, happy. There was no urging that the children should give, but merely the suggestion. On Thanksgiving day an autumn festival was held at the free kindergarten, and one of its most interesting and beautiful features was the offering of gifts for the poor by these poor children. They marched in procession around a large table and deposited their little tokens.

One very small boy brought a big red apple, another a small paper of candy, still another a much worn picture book, and a fourth laid a set of packstones on the table. But it was the offering of a poorly clad and pale faced little girl that touched the hearts of the observers most keenly. She modestly placed upon the table a single sprig of geranium, which had doubtless been plucked from a carefully nurtured house plant. There were other more pretensions and valuable gifts, and all were gathered up and distributed among the poor patients in the various city hospitals.—New York Times.

The Alligator Played Possum.

An alligator that played possum came near doing damage to some young men near Millen Monday. Van Tyler, of this place, together with Messrs. Applewhite and DeLoach, of Millen, had been out to the river hunting. They had killed a 'gator about seven feet long, and putting him in the wagon were bringing him to the town. Van, who was sitting near the middle of the wagon, began to triumph over his fallen enemy by contemptuously kicking him in the side. Then a thing happened that was done so quick the boys can't explain it. There was a rush, a snap, a yell, and Van went out the wagon head foremost, and leaving as a souvenir a part of his pants hanging on the 'gator's teeth.

The other boys woke up to the importance of hasty action, but DeLoach took a little too much time in getting ready for an old fashioned head foremost dive into a sand bed, hence he struck the ground minus a shoe heel, which his 'gatorship gratefully swallowed and slyly 'wunk' his eye as if he enjoyed a lively time himself. The boys rallied from their stampede, and advancing with guns put an end to their foe.—Waynesboro (Ga.) True Citizen.

Bread for the Russians.

Mr. Squills (looking over the paper)—The Russian army is almost in a state of mutiny because the soldiers have to eat wheat bread.

Mrs. Squills (a famous housekeeper)—That's too bad. I suppose it's because they don't know how to fix it. You must write to the czar this very day and tell him.

Mr. Squills (starting)—Eh?

Mrs. Squills—Yes, tell him that he must be sure to furnish the army with good butter; get print butter if possible; it's often as low as fifty cents and never over a dollar a pound. Then, on baking days, when the bread is fresh, tell the soldiers to spread the butter on thick and it will be delicious. The following day, when it is a little dry, give each soldier a bowl of rich cream and tell him to crumb it in. I'm sure they'll like it.—New York Weekly.

Executors Responsible.

Judge Holmes, of the supreme court, has decided in the case of Gertrude P. Sheffield against Horatio G. Parker and Francis J. Parker, that the defendants, executors of the estate of the late Judge Joel Parker, will not be allowed in their accounts as executors the sum of \$10,000, expended in the purchase of stock in a mortgage company, which, since the purchase, has gone into liquidation. The executors invested in the stock at par, and at the time it was paying 7 per cent dividends. After the purchase it stopped paying dividends, and has gone out of business.—Boston Traveller.

The Man and the Brute.

Before Judge Utley William Crowley, of Leicester, was charged with assaulting his wife, Johanna Crowley. He knocked her down, she says, and kicked her. She freed herself from him and ran into the street. He followed. She managed to break away for the third time and tried to make her escape. Crowley started in the chase, but was held back by the firm grip of a dog's teeth upon his trousers. The household pet had grown tired of the household disturbance.—Worcester (Mass.) Gazette.

Seal and Carp.

A 700 pound seal was captured alive off Fort Point the other day, and was purchased by the Spring Valley Water company and placed in their Lake Merced reservoir. The company already have thirteen seals that are useful in destroying the carp that abound there in such numbers as frequently to fill the outlet pipe. The big seal will be a great help in reducing the number of fish in the reservoir.—San Francisco Call.

A tobacco dealer in New Haven, whose trade in the main is with the Yale boys, says that the sale of cigarettes is falling off. Three years ago he sold 360,000 packages of one brand; last year he sold 200,000 packages of all brands. He now sells fifty pipes where he formerly sold one.

A chain shot was dug up the other day in a street in Seattle, Wash. It is supposed to be one of the missiles thrown from the guns of the United States sloop Decatur at the time of the Indian engagement that occurred there in December, 1853.

His Overall Nipped by an Anacunda.

Dr. Wendlinger came in toven from up the Richmond and Alleghany railroad with a dead snake that was a regular monster. It was fifteen feet long and as large in proportion, and was evidently an anacunda which had probably escaped from some of the many travelling tent shows which have lately frequented this part of the world. His makeshift was left at the safe of Mr. Gus E. Delaware, where a number of people gazed in silent awe upon the deceased gigantic reptile.

It was killed at Lorraine, on the Richmond and Alleghany railroad, about six miles from Richmond, by Mr. Lane, section foreman on the road. It is stated that it crawled out of the woods and silently approached from behind a negro who was working near the track. It seized the overalls which the negro had on in its mouth and began chewing on them. Some one called to the negro to look behind him, and as he did so he saw the snake and fell over paralyzed with fear. Mr. Lane then seized an ax and killed the creature.

Whether the reptile intended to get a firmer hold on the negro's clothing and then throwing him, and after crushing him to jelly eating him, or whether it was a tame snake that approached the boy only with friendly intent will never be known. An engineer of the road says that he saw the monster about two years ago and reported the fact.—Richmond Times.

Saved by a Madstone.

William Southard is a workman at Kingan's. Sunday, while walking in Indianapolis, he was bitten by a dog, which was evidently mad. He killed the dog after a long chase. Then he examined his wounded hand and found that the bite was discoloring it and that the member was swelling badly. Doctors advised him to seek a madstone, and Monday he went to Whitestown, Boone county, near which Moses Nease, a farmer, lives. Nease is a generous man, who has a madstone of great local fame. Southard applied to him, and is back in this city satisfied that he is safe from danger.

The stone, a square, white, porous substance, was applied. It stuck firm for nearly nine hours, falling off covered full of green poison. The stone was cleaned in boiling milk, which turned green from the effect of the poison extracted from the wound by the stone. The stone stuck deep in the swollen flesh, drew the muscles and leaders into strong knotty cords and "did its work" victoriously. The owner of the stone is a philanthropist, and has owned the stone for generations. It is part, he says, of a Virginia stone owned by an uncle and broken into several parts, so as to be of service in many parts of the country.—Indianapolis News.

Rattlesnake Pete and His Pet Coon.

Rattlesnake Pete has had a pet coon for the past three years that was as full of tricks as an egg is of meat. One of these tricks was to throw back the three bolts on his cage, let the other animals out and go visiting. His favorite resort was the Exchange hotel, where he would hide in the cellar and chase the women when they entered. On one occasion he entered the dining room and frightened the girls so they climbed on the table. He kept guard for nearly a half hour, when the girls cried for help. He performed his last trick at supper time Friday, when he chased one of the girls up the cellar stairs and caught her dress in his teeth. She drew his head through the door, slammed the door shut, and held him there until one of the other girls brought a cleaver and split his head open. The body weighed twenty-seven pounds, and the hide will be stuffed.—Oil City Derrick.

Stole a Hot Stove.

"It was the cold, your honor, and I did not mean to steal," said Thomas O'Neil at the Tombs. He was charged by William A. Tompkins with stealing a stove from the propeller Peekskill. The prisoner, who is a longshoreman, wandered out Sunday night and went aboard the Peekskill. The only thing of value which he saw was a small stove valued at eight dollars, with a nice, warm fire in it. He took it and was arrested, but failed to explain when Officer McCarthy of the Leonard street station found him carrying it up Canal street.—New York Advertiser.

Earthquakes in 1891.

The record of earthquake shocks kept at the Smithsonian institution in Washington shows that there have been more of them this year than far than there were in any previous year of recent times. There have been numerous slight shocks in many parts of the country, and there have been heavier shocks in South America, Asia, Africa and the islands of the Pacific. When the earthquake record of the world for the year 1891 is made up at the end of December it will be long and elaborate.—Yankee Blade.

A very young married couple, perhaps the youngest in the country, have their abode in Sterling, Conn. They are Mr. and Mrs. C. Fennel, who have been married five months. His age is fourteen years and seven months, and she is nine months older than he.

A new explosive called terronite has been invented. It is a gelatinous compound, the ingredients being a secret. It is said to be safe to handle, very powerful and can be fired in shells.

The fruit and potato crops of California are so great that a large percentage of them will not be brought to market owing to the price being so low that it will be unprofitable.

A French engineer has asked permission to blow up the famous rocks known as the "Iron Gates" of the Danube with a new explosive he has invented called fortis.

While the West Indian sponges bring in the wholesale market as low a price as twenty cents, the finest Turkey varieties are often sold as high as eight dollars.

Seeing the Fair on the Installment Plan.

An organization has formed a plan whereby any one in New York may visit the World's fair, paying their expenses on the installment plan.

A membership fee of five dollars is charged to pay the running expenses of the society. The remaining payments are in installments of, say, one dollar a week for fifty-five weeks.

To provide against loss of the people's savings by accident or fraud, all monies deposited are turned over to the New York Security and Trust company. Under the deed of trust the society gets no money from the Trust company until the members have been given their ticket and coupons providing for their transportation and board. Each member then signs a receipt, and on presentation of a number of these to the Trust company it releases a corresponding amount of money. The benefits, to be furnished at any time after the opening of the World's Columbian exposition, on fifteen days' notice, up to twenty days preceding its closing, are:

A first class railway ticket from a designated point to Chicago and return.

Transfer in Chicago for self and usual allowance of baggage from station to hotel or lodgings and return.

Seven days' hotel accommodations in Chicago.

Six admission tickets to the Columbian exposition.

Dinner at a restaurant on the grounds for six days.

An accident insurance ticket in a reliable company for fifteen days, commencing on date of departure from home, paying \$3,000 in case of death by accident, or \$15 per week in case of accidental injury.—New York World.

Queer Phenomena at Sea.

Captain J. Roben, commander of the Lloyd steamer Neckar, has written to the German marine observatory in Bremen that when he was off Sakota, on Sept. 1, at 9 p. m., the sea suddenly became an even milk white luminous color, which at times seemed to flame up from the depths of the water, like the increased glow of an electric lamp when the current grows too strong.

No bottom was found when the lead was sunk, and at 10 p. m. the sharp edge between the bright and the dark water was reached. After twenty-five minutes quite bright water again appeared, and after 11 p. m. it decreased.

The next night the phenomenon was observed to be still more intense, but after that it was not again met with. The appearance had nothing in common with the usual phosphorescence of the sea.

During its presence the horizon was everywhere distinctly visible, except where at various changing points on the horizon the light seemed to shine brightly, at which time a thin haze seemed to lie on the water.—London News.

Why Coffee is Adulterated.

The main reason for the adulteration of coffee is that there is not enough of it to go around. Mocha now sells at the highest price ever known, which is about 25 cents a pound in large quantities for the green bean. Pure Java sells for 23 cents a pound and pure Rio for 14 cents a pound. These are very high prices and the supply of the best grades is limited. The temptations to adulteration are now therefore at the highest. Some low grade Brazil coffee was recently sold at 11 cents a pound, and, when that comes to be doctored by the grinder, the coffee part of the product will be small. There is a wide difference between 35 cents a pound and 10 cents. It is a difference between the best and the poorest, and generally represents the difference between the pure article and the adulterated.—New York Sun.

A Maori Son.

The youngest son of the earl and countess of Onslow received as one of his names in baptism the Maori title of "Huiia," in compliment to the land of his birth. The child has just been received into Maori kinship. Lord and Lady Onslow, Sir Walter and Lady Butler, and other friends visited the Ngatiwhia tribe near Wellington, the New Zealand metropolis. The hereditary chief of this tribe rubbed noses with the child, the women accompanying the ceremony with a plaintive lullaby. All the chiefs then came forward and cast their offerings at the child's feet—worked flax, greenstones, carved boxes, etc.—Manchester (Eng.) Times.

The City Won't Pay for the Trousers.

There was quite an audible smile in the board of aldermen when a communication was received from Officer Milton C. Morse, asking for five dollars damages for a pair of pants while arresting a prisoner. Alderman Watson moved that the claim be allowed, but Alderman Arnold jumped up and remarked that he thought that the policemen earned salary enough to pay for their own pants, and moved that the request be refused. A minute later he withdrew his motion, but the request was not granted.—Haverhill (Mass.) Gazette.

A Hen That Lays Golden Eggs.

There is danger of a breaking out of the gold fever in West Stockbridge. A thoroughbred hen up there laid a few days ago an egg with a shell that fairly glittered with tiny specks of gold. If the place where the hen found the metal can be found there is a party already organized to seek paying dirt.—Newburyport (Mass.) News.

The Whipping Deserved.

Miss Susie Gardner, teacher in the Pales school, near Roschdale, Ind., whipped Albert Cookright, an unruly pupil, and his mother prosecuted the teacher for assault. The defendant was tried by jury and acquitted, the jury holding the punishment well deserved.—Exchange.

The Reward of Virtue.

Rev. Dr. Primrose—I'm afraid there has been little joy in the present festive season for you, my good woman. Mrs. McGinnis—True for yes, sorr. Me son in the pinterchery wuz the only one of the family to hev turkey for Thanksgiving.—Life.

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