

FOR OUR YOUNG READERS

TWILIGHT-LAND.

Here we are in twilight-land,
Creaky-creak,
Rocking-chairs at every hand
Sway and swing and squeak.

A TOBOGGAN CAP.

A Little Hat That Worked Just Like a Charm.

Both Raymond and Beth went to school with her head bent thoughtfully. The matter to which she was giving so much thought was this: All the girls in her class for the past two weeks had been wearing toboggan caps.

All that morning in school her mind wandered from her books to the long-for cap, and she tried hard to think of some plan by which she might obtain it.

When dinner was announced a company gathered around the table. Grandpa Raymond and Aunt Lois were there for a visit, and there was so much talking that Beth almost despaired of getting in her little hint.

"Oh, grandpa, have you noticed those bright-colored caps the girls are all wearing this winter? They are so pretty. I want one so much."

Grandpa said he thought he had seen them, and then the conversation changed and Beth could only wonder whether the hint had taken effect.

She smiled as she handed Beth the money, saying: "If you have money enough left, I think you may get one of those caps, if you want it so much."

Beth exclaimed: "Oh, thank you, mamma! I do want it very much!" and away she went gaily.

After she had bought what her mother wanted, she found she had money enough left to buy the cap, so she selected a pretty white one.

When she reached home, her mother was out to see a sick neighbor, so she took the cap to her room to try it on. As she entered the room, she found a small package on the bed, marked:

"For Beth, from Aunt Lois." She opened it quickly, and found a pink toboggan cap.

"My! what shall I do with two?" she said, in surprise. Just at this moment her little sister Mamie came into the room with a small package in her hand.

"Grandpa has just come back," said she. "He bought a wax doll for me, and this is for you."

RELIGIOUS READING.

"WHILE WE HAVE TIME."

"While we have time let us do good to all men: especially unto those who are of the household of faith." - Gal. vi. 10.
While we have time let us do good to all men. Life is too short for folding idle hands. Too short for selfish loitering on the way, when the Master says: "Obey My just commands; Go forth, do good." Dear Lord, we only pray

SINCERITY AND FRANKNESS.

Excellent Virtues in Their Proper Time and Place - The Duty of Feeling Right, and the Duty of Seemingly to Feel Right. Sincerity and frankness are very well in their way, and in their time and place; but their propriety depends very much on the spirit which is back of them.

A school-boy ten years old, one lovely June day, with the roses in full bloom over the porch, and the labors in the wheat fields, had been sent by his Uncle John to pay a bill at the country store, and there was seventy-five cents left, and Uncle John did not ask him for it.

At noon this boy had stood under a beautiful blue sky, and a great temptation came. He said to himself: "Shall I give it back, or shall I wait till he asks me for it? If he never asks, that is his lookout. If he does, why I can get it again." He never gave back the money.

Ten years went by; he was a clerk in a bank. A package of bills lay in a drawer, and had not been put in the safe. He saw them, wrapped their up in his coat, and carried them home.

That night he sat disgraced, and an open criminal. Uncle John was long ago dead. The old home was desolate, the mother broken-hearted. The prisoner knew what brought him there. - School Journal.

"What a marked difference there is in young men," remarked a suburban matron the other day. "I have two nephews who alternately 'run out' from the city to see me, generally staying all night. It almost gives me the shivers to allot that spare room to one of them, he is so exceedingly careless. It looks the next morning as if Bullam had been loose. Everything is out of place; the towel-rack is overturned, the pillow-shams are crushed, the wash-bowl is left full of water, the windows are thrown open to the incursive flies, and every thing generally is at sixes and sevens! But there's the other nephew - Bless my soul, it's a pleasure to have him come! Why, you'd think the dearest lady had slept in the room. He removes the shams and spread, washes the soap before he returns it to the soap dish, puts the towel squarely on the rack and the comb in the bureau, and bows the shutters before he comes down and all that. Why I've got nothing to do scarcely but remake the bed, and one would hardly know he slept in it. I can not see why there should be such a marked difference between the young men, when they are so much alike in almost every other respect. It's more likely born in them than bred in them." - Baptist Weekly.

A firm of undertakers of Rochester, Pa., while taking charge of a funeral at Woodlawn, a rival undertaker had a boy pass around a business card during the services, stating that coffins could be had at the cheapest rates, carriages to hire, traveling men accommodated, etc. The firm, when informed of what the boy was doing, expostulated. It has created quite a sensation, and the relatives of the dead man are very indignant.

"-He- 'What will you have, dear, candy or ice-cream?' She- 'No, E. I want you to get me some pop-corn, please.' He- 'Do you like that stuff?' She- 'Yes, I like every thing that pops.' - Chicago Tribune.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

-It is discovered that a school teacher near Montreal can neither read nor write.

-Bent whalebones can be restored and used again by simply soaking in water a few hours, then drying them.

-The force of habit is always strong. A Baltimore young man who was calling on a street car conductor's daughter says that the father wandered in at a rather late hour, and opening the door, mechanically exclaimed: "Sit close, please." - Baltimore American.

-A little hunchback was seized by a detective in Berlin and relieved of a package which he was carrying under his cloak in front of the czar's carriage during the czar's visit to Berlin. The package was opened by a superior, and was found to contain samples of soap. The hunchback was let go.

-Washington Sunday-school.-Teacher (to little girl).-"Now, Angelina, can you tell me what it means to return good for evil?" Angelina Brooks.-"Well, miss, I don't 'exactly know de words, but I tink it mean of any one sasses yer, don't yer jaw back." - Harper's Bazar.

-A company of eaters were cracking jokes the other day when one of them startled the rest by asking: "Did you ever see a bun dance on the table?" After struggling awhile they said they hoped they always would be able to see such a thing-especially when hungry. - St. Albans (Vt.) Messenger.

-At the reception.-Miss Vawze (from Bawstine).-"Which do you like the better, Mr. Miller, winter or spring?" Mr. Miller (from Minneapolis).-"Well, a good hard No. 1 spring grinds pretty well, and there's the most money in it; but after all, give me the regular old-fashioned winter wheat that ain't growned any, and I'll guarantee you the best flour every time." - Pack.

-An exchange says that a fabled newspaper placed under the coat in the small of the back is an excellent substitute for an overcoat. There is considerable warmth in a newspaper, that's a fact. Many a man has become heated by simply reading an article in a newspaper; and at such times he wants to make it hot for the editor, too. - Norristown Herald.

-Among the "fowls of the air" are three, the eagle, swan and raven, which live to the age of 100 years or more. The parrot and heron attain the goodly age of sixty years. The sparrow-hawk, duck and pelican may live to be forty, while the peacock and linnet reach the quarter century, and the canary twenty-four years. - Boston Budget.

-Any device that will make the cars comfortable and do away with the chances of fire in case of accident will satisfy the public; the railways have only to consider the question of efficiency and economy. It is even credible that a temperature below the stifling height usually reached by the stoves would be grateful to a great many travelers. - Boston Post.

-In 1887 2,067,281 acres of land in Dakota were newly filed on; 1,596,672 acres were acquired by final proof and cash entry, and 2,337 acres were purchased by land scrip. There was a large immigration into the Devil's Lake district. The area of unsurveyed land taken up, but not filed on, during the year, is estimated to be about 200,000 acres.

-The ship Macaulay, launched thirty-two years ago in Baltimore, has been sold to Boston parties as a coal hulk. She cost in 1855 \$82,000, and although a sound vessel still, was sold for a mere song. The Macaulay once made the run from Liverpool to Melbourne, Australia, in seventy-eight days, and once from Southwest Pass, at the mouth of the Mississippi, to Liverpool in twenty-four days. She was among the last of the famous Baltimore clippers.

-A restaurant proprietor of Montmartre, in France, recently opened a curious cafe. The interior is in the form of an immense tub, the illusion of which is carried out by the circular shape of the doors and windows. The signboard is inscribed with the word "Diogenes," upon the untutored folk of Montmartre imagine to be some fellow countryman of theirs who had distinguished himself as a cooper.

-Two Krombank, (Me.), farmers have come to grief recently from too close following of hock and too little exercise of common sense. One had read it was best to dehorn a calf and the other that the best and most successful way to fat a hog was to cut off its tail. Both followed directions, but neglected to care for the animals afterward and the result was that both calf and hog became sick and died at the next cold spell of weather. - Chicago Herald.

-Indications now point to the existence of a submarine volcanic crater between the Canary Islands and the coast of Portugal. From a cable-laying steamer in 39 deg. 25 min. north, 9 deg. 54 min. west, the water was found to measure 1,300 fathoms under the low and 800 under the stern, showing the ship to be over the edge of a deep depression in the ocean bottom. The well-known inequalities in the bed of the Sea of Lisbon are thought to be due to a submarine chain of mountains.

-The time has come, we are glad to say, when those who can really appreciate the position and later can get the full worth of their money. The present is in all his glory and the later is happy. The combination is superb. It has a superior in this or any other land, and it is distinctive, for not every man loves possum, otherwise there would not be left enough to go around. But the cold spell is here and the possum is here. Let us, fellow-citizens, for getting the past and looking forward to the future, make the most of them. - Atlanta Constitution.

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

-A silk-throwing mill is to be established at Wadesboro, N. C., the first of its kind in the South.

-On the 17th inst. the citizens of Athens, Ga., organized a company to build a five thousand-spindle cotton mill at Barnett Shoals, ten miles from Athens.

-There are now in use on American railroads 26,415 locomotives, 19,252 passenger coaches, 6,325 baggage cars, 845,914 freight cars. Their value is estimated at \$700,000,000.

-Wood-fiber capable of being spun is now prepared in Germany. The preparation of the fiber of pine leaves as a material for carpets is another promising new industry. - Arkansas Traveler.

-The shoe factories of Portland, Me., have done \$3,580,000 worth of business the last year, the local factories contributing \$1,355,000. The factories have turned out 841,000 pairs of ladies' shoes. The factories employ 417 males and 353 females.

-We have read a good deal about the civilization of the mound builders, and we have seen the mounds. Piling up a million tons of dirt over a dead Indian and a few stone hatchets don't indicate an advanced state of enlightenment. The mound builder was only an industrious savage. - Marble's Vineyard Herald.

-By means of improved appliances the Germans are now able to extract 11.31 per cent. of beet sugar and 0.95 per cent. of molasses, or a total of 11.95 pounds per 100 pounds of beets. The cost of this sugar is only two cents per pound. The sugar is produced in enormous quantities, sufficient for the home supply and for export trade. - Boston Budget.

-Quill pens are imported from France. The largest factory in the world is near Paris, where the annual product of twenty million quills. The factory was started to make quill pens, but when these went out of use it was turned into a toothpick mill. Wooden toothpicks are made principally in Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana and Ohio.

-During the past two seasons Mr. E. B. Poniton has made observations which prove that the silk of at least three species of English moths is greatly affected in color by environment at the time of spinning. The cocoons were dark brown when the larvae had been placed in a black bag or among green leaves, and white when they had been freely exposed to light in the immediate neighborhood of white surfaces. - Arkansas Traveler.

-The question as to the best width for wagon tires on vehicles used for the transportation of heavy loads over dirt roads and farm fields, has become a subject of scientific investigation. As the density and hardness of the earth over which the tires are to roll enter largely into the problem, it will take a wide range of experiments to enable investigators to fix upon that precise width of tire which will be most uniformly advantageous on all the varieties of dirt roads and farm soils. But that the tires should be much wider than those in general use seems to be conceded on all sides. - N. Y. Ledger.

-The scientific relation of colors to nerves and temper is attracting attention. Physicians sometimes find that a certain color will throw a patient into hysterics or spasms. In other cases, a person is made sick to the stomach, or afflicted with headache, at the sight of a color that, for some reason, is obnoxious to him. Others, again, are thrown into spasms of ill temper by colors, the offending color sometimes being blue, sometimes yellow, but oftener red or scarlet. Animals are affected in a similar way by colors. Everybody is familiar with the fact that the sight of a red garment or cap will drive a bull frantic with rage, and the red juice of berries is said to have a similar effect upon an elephant. - N. Y. Ledger.

-One of the simplest of barometers is a spider web. When there is prospect of rain or wind the spider shortens the filaments from which its web is suspended, and leaves things in this state as long as the weather is variable. If the insect elongates its thread it is a sign of fine, calm weather, the duration of which may be judged of by the length to which the threads are let out. If the spider remains inactive it is a sign of rain; but if, on the contrary, it keeps at work during the rain the latter will not last long, and will be followed by fine weather. Other observations have taught that the spider makes changes in its web every twenty-four hours, and that if such changes are made in the evening, just before sunset, the night will be clear and beautiful. - La Nature.

-A celebrated physician has remarked that every house ought to be pulled down at the end of the sixtieth year, as it has by that time absorbed all the diseases of those who have lived in it, believing that wood and plaster absorb gases, foul air and feverish exhalations as readily as milk or water does. But as it is not practicable to tear down houses every half-century or so, it is to be considered if all the wood used in the interior construction and all the plain surfaces of plaster should not be so thoroughly oiled or varnished that the power of absorption should be almost entirely destroyed, and the character thus so changed that destruction would be no longer desirable. - Boston Budget.

-In Harrisburg the other day a goose escaped from a farmer's wagon, flew down the street and alighted on an electric arc light wire. The current was on and the goose dropped to the ground dead. It weighed eighteen pounds.

CHOICE SELECTIONS

-Humility and meekness escape many a blow; always keeping pace within, and often without, too. - Rev. W. B. McKee.

-Every effort of His children to rise above the invasion of evil is a battle in mind is a pleasure to Him. - MacDonald.

-You turn the Gospel upside down when you tell a wicked person to get quit of his wickedness first; by his own effort, in order that thereby he may obtain the favor of God. - Henry G. Comings, D. D.

-We are wanting the strength we need for the discovery of truth as yet unknown, because we do not rest enough in truth that we know. "Rest in the Lord." The greatest things are known already. - R. W. Dale.

-What one can and should do today had better be done to-day. It postponed a till to-morrow, it will add to the burdens of that day, even if one lives to see it, which is a certainty to no man. The great secret of a useful life consists in faithfully doing the work of each day when it is present. - N. Y. Independent.

-Doing admirable things is quite different from doing things for the sake of being admired. While it is true that admirable deeds do not always bring admiration to the doer, it is also true that admiration for the doer does not always signify that he has done admirable deeds. The one thing certain is that nothing is admirable that is done merely from a love of admiration. - S. S. Times.

-The body needs refreshment and strengthening, and so does the soul. And as the fountain and daily means meet the man in his journey and help him on his way, so there are the streams of God's grace and the bread of life to invigorate his heart and make him able to rightly serve the Lord. Happy is he who, having the hunger and thirst, knows where to find the supplies which the Father provides for him. - United Presbyterian.

A FIRST CAUSE.

An Argument That It is Unanswerable and Irresistable - Darwin's Fluctuations in Belief.

In the lately published biography of Charles Darwin is an account of the religious views of the man who has influenced scientific thought more than any one since Newton. It is a curious fact that when he was sent to Cambridge, Darwin was destined for the church, and pursued his studies and took his degree with that end of view. This project was never formally given up, but slowly died with the growth of Darwin's interest in natural science.

No skepticism about religion seems to have influenced him, only his bent toward studies that he and his friends felt to be more congenial to his tastes and abilities.

For many years he seems to have continued to be a believer in orthodox Christianity. He never appears to have had any inward religious experience, even when he was studying to be a clergyman, but he had that unquestioning intellectual belief in the Bible and its teachings that is usual among