

FOR WOMAN AND HOME

ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR MAIDS AND MATRONS.

Some Notes of the Modes—Gowns for Smiling Spring—The Challie House Gown—Hot Cakes for Breakfast—Children's Savings.

**Question.**  
When you are old, and I am old,  
And Passion's fires are burned to embers,  
And Life is as a tale that's told,  
And only worth what Love remembers,

If we should meet—two quiet folk—  
And change opinions of the weather,  
Could word or look again provoke  
The heart and eyes to speak together—

The heart benumbed with so much ache,  
The eyes bedimmed with so much crying?  
Do buds long blighted ever break,  
And green the vine already dying?

What hand of skill shall draw the line  
'Twixt sordid love and holier passion?  
What art shall fix the unfastening sign,  
And bring its reading into fashion?

What is the meaning of it all,  
The chastening woe, the vanished sweetness,  
If dark Oblivion's night shall fall  
Forever on its incompleteness?

When you are dead, and I am dead,  
Our faces lost, our names unspoken,  
Shall then the mystery be read?  
Can Heaven bind what Earth has broken?

In clearer light and fairer day,  
With finer sense the impulse proving,  
Unfettered of this hindering clay,  
Oh, what must be the joy of loving!

—Elliot C. True.

The Children's Savings

The children should be encouraged to keep their small savings in the little individual banks that come for that purpose. It teaches a child to take care of his money and not to spend it foolishly. But is it not a mistake to teach a child that the money he saves is for himself alone, and to add at the end of each year the sum already in trust for him in the "grown people's savings bank?" In one family each child has two banks. For the first six months of the year the pennies collected by every child go into one of his safes, the contents of which are to be put aside for the small owner until he shall be a man—to help start him in business or his profession, or to aid in putting him through college should

most graceful way by reason of its soft China silk lining. Soft linings are preferred now to the stiff taffetas so long popular. The bodice and girde are caught at the left with large fancy buckles.—The Latest.

**Gowns for Mild Spring.**  
Yokes are a feature of spring gowns. Some are made entirely of lace, some



of velvet and ribbon, or silk and ribbon, and not a few, especially those for evening wear, are studded with beads and mock gems. An attractive walking toilet is shown here developed in striped French flannel. The stripes are black, upon a background of electric blue. The skirt is close-fitting around the hips, with the fullness gathered at the back. These garters are arranged with special care as to evenness, so that the beauty of outline is preserved in the flare. The bodice is a snug-fitting affair, trimmed with black velvet bands around the waist, with a yoke of the same material. The belt is decorated with cut steel buckles. Bands of light-blue ribbon run crosswise the yoke and sleeves, which show a tendency to have more fullness at the



SPRING STYLES.

the parents' fund fail. All the coins collected during the second half of the year are put into bank number two, which is sacred to Christmas and birthday money. Just before the holidays and the family birthdays every one of the second class of banks is opened and the money it contains given to the small child to whom it belongs, so that he may, with his own savings, purchase gifts for those he loves. Along life's pathway there are many temptations to selfishness, and we cannot too early therefore begin to train our little ones in practical truism, in self-denial, that others may be happy.—Harper's Bazar.

Challie House Gown.

This charming costume is one of the pretty imported French challies.



trimmed with velvet. It was a double skirt, so becoming to tall and slender figures, and clings to the figure in a

IN THE ODD CORNER.

QUEER AND CURIOUS THINGS AND EVENTS.

A Few Lessons in Natural History—An Interesting Fish from the Coast of Alabama—The Great Strength of Bears.

A Lazy Day.

In the middle o' the winter, when a spring day comes along,  
An' the meadow dreams of flowers, an' the birds break out in song,  
Then I has the lazy, daisy, lazy feeling,  
An' I pine  
For the green banks of a river—Jug o' hait, an' fishin' line!

In the middle o' the winter when the clouds from roun' you roll  
An' the sunshine sets the summer tinklin',  
Twinklin' through yer soul,  
Then it's in the ole time orchards an' the net's I longs to be,  
Whar the breeze kin blow the blossoms in a shower over me!

But then, I feels so lazy, ef a fish pulled strong an' stout,  
An' swished the rod jest nod an' nod, and swished the line erbout,  
I reckon that I'd blame him for disturbin' of my rest,  
An' lay there dreamin', dreamin' with the blossoms on my breast!

—Atlanta Constitution.

Interesting Fish from Alabama Coast.

In November, 1898, the United States fish commission received from Col. D. E. Huger, a well-known business man of Mobile, Ala., a specimen of fish that was not only strange to the local fishermen, but had never before been observed on the United States coast, so far as available records show. The fish had been taken about twenty miles south of Mobile harbor. The form of the species is so characteristic that its identity is readily discernible, though few students of fishes have ever had an opportunity to examine fresh specimens. It has no vernacular name except Cuban one tinoso; it is, however, a species of crevalle or cavally, of which there are several common representatives along the Atlantic seaboard, and it bears the technical name of Caranx lugubris.

The accompanying drawing, based on the specimen referred to, gives a good idea of the general form of the species. The broad body is much compressed, as in other members of the genus. The large, deep head presents a swelling on the median line above and a projecting snout. The mouth is large and the fish is evidently voracious feeder. The teeth, while not prominent, are numerous and of varied shapes. In the upper jaw there are two distinct rows, the inner forming a villiform band, while the outer are large and conical; in the lower jaw there is a row of large conical teeth interspersed with smaller ones; furthermore, there are teeth on the tongue, the vomer and the palatine bones. The large eye is provided with a fatty eyelid. Both the second dorsal and the anal fins are falcate, and the pectorals are exceedingly long and sickle shaped. As to color, the entire body of this fish is a uniform sooty black, the ventral, anal and dorsal fins being intensely black. The usual length attained by the species is 1 1/2 feet; the Alabama specimen was a little more than two feet.

This fish inhabits chiefly the shores of rocky, tropical islands, and is found on both the east and west coasts of the western hemisphere. In the Pacific ocean it is recorded from one of the Revillagigedo islands, lying off Mexico. On the Atlantic coast it has heretofore been observed only about Cuba, but it will probably in time be found near other West Indian islands. Specimens supposed to be this species have occasionally been taken at Ascension island, in the South Pacific, and also in the mid-Pacific. The fish taken off Mobile, nearly 500 miles north of Cuba, was evidently a straggler from that island.

The fish was first recognized as distinct by the late Prof. Felipe Poey, of Havana, and described by him from Cuba, in 1860. It is reported to be common about Cuba. Prof. Poey chose an appropriate name when he designated this species lugubris, meaning mournful, which applies to its somber color, bad reputation, and supposed gastronomic effects. Like a number of other fishes of tropical waters, it is reported to be poisonous, and its sale in Cuba has long been prohibited. A related species (Caranx latus) has from time immemorial been excluded from the markets of Cuba, and many disastrous cases of illness have been attributed to its use. Singularly enough, other species of this genus are regarded as excellent food fishes, and are extensively eaten in Florida and other southern states.

The local name, tinoso, meaning scabby or scurvy, and hence anything that is repulsive or repugnant, expresses the prevailing idea regarding the fish; the dreaded disease, ciguatera, caused by eating poisonous fish, is also associated with this species in the popular mind. Poey himself, however, does not appear to have shared the current belief, for he writes that he has eaten the tinoso and found it good. The prejudice against the species may thus be unjust, or it is possible that the toxic properties ascribed to it depend not on any inherent qualities of the fish, but on ptomaines generated by a particular kind of food or by the rapid decomposition to which the tropical fishes are liable.

The Great Strength of Bears.

The strength of grizzly bears is almost beyond belief, says a hunter, in Public Opinion. I have read about the powerful muscles in the arms of African gorillas, but none compared with those in the arms and shoulders of grizzly bears. I have seen a grizzly bear with one forepaw shot into uselessness pull its own 1,100 pounds of

meat and bone up precipices, and perform feats of muscles that trained athletes could not do. I have seen grizzly bears carrying the carcasses of pigs that must have weighed seventy pounds several miles across a mountain side to their lairs, and I have heard hunters tell of having seen crows knocked down as if by a thunderbolt with one blow from the forepaw of a bear. Three summers ago I spent the season in the coast mountains near Hudson Bay, and one moonlight night I saw a big grizzly bear in the act of carrying a dead cow home to her cub. I had a position on the mountain side where I could see every movement of the bear in the sparsely timbered valley below me. The creature carried the dead cow in her forepaws for at least three miles, across jagged, sharp rocks ten feet high, over fallen logs, around the rocky mountain sides, where even a jackass could not get a foothold, to a narrow trail up the steep mountain. She never stopped to rest a moment, but went right along. I followed, and just about half a mile from the bear's lair I laid her low. The heifer weighed at least 200 pounds and the bear about 450.

Sea Animals in Fresh Waters.

In the summer of 1896, Mr. A. P. Low, of the Canadian geological survey, made a journey through the central regions of Labrador and revealed a large extent of new country. He traveled north for 500 miles, using the little rivers for his canoe when possible and crossing many portages. He finally came to a lake fifty miles long and from half a mile to five miles wide. The lake stands 800 feet above the sea and is about 100 miles from it. The explorer's surprise was very great when he discovered in this lake a large number of seals which appeared to be the common harbor seals or a closely allied species. In other words, he found sea animals in a fresh water lake far from the sea and high above it. He learned that these animals are breeding rapidly in their fresh water habitat and that some of them are killed every year by the Indians. Seal Lake is the name he gave it.

His conclusion as to how the seals came to be in the lake is doubtless correct. He found evidence all around that this was part of the region that was submerged by the sea in the Champlain or late glacial epoch. At that time the lake was undoubtedly connected with the sea and when the land began to rise again, Mr. Low says, the seals "having found the lake full of fish lost their inclination to return to the sea." So there they are living today fully adapted to their new conditions of life.

Similar instances that are still more remarkable have been found in recent years. In the great Siberian lake, Baikal, which is 1,500 feet above the sea, and hundreds of miles from it, are numerous seals and a number of species of marine crustaceans. Of course, they never originated in fresh water and the only explanation is that they came into the lake at the time when nearly the whole of Siberia was below sea level. The depression filled by the lake is of enormous depth. The bottom in some parts is three-fourths of a mile below the surface, and in these depths the sea animals continue to live and thrive. They are undistinguishable from the phoca foetida of Spitzbergen waters, and the people in the neighborhood eagerly hunt the animals for their skins, which are sold at large profit to Chinese traders.

A while ago a British naturalist named Gunther declared that he had found a number of marine animals in the waters of the central African lake, Tanganyika, about 800 miles from the sea. It has since been found that his report was correct, for the lake contains jellyfish, numerous species of mollusks, prawns and protozoa of undoubted marine derivation. A party sent from Europe to specially study the lake's animal life brought home undoubted proofs of the fact that Tanganyika was once connected with the sea, that ocean animals then found their way to the lake, and when the rising land cut off the inland waters from the ocean the marine animals, adapting themselves to the new conditions, continued to live and produce their kind in Lake Tanganyika.

Great Snowfall South.

Apropos of the recent great storm in the United States, it is stated that near and north of Washington there was a snowfall unparalleled for more than a decade, though above Philadelphia the record was not broken in respect to temperature. But Washington was not only buried in snow, her temperature went lower than at any other time since the United States Weather Bureau was organized, in 1872. Vicksburg reported that the mercury went 4 degrees lower than the record for the last thirty years, and New Orleans beat hers by 9 degrees. Indeed, through that wide extent of territory known as the "South Atlantic and Gulf States," the temperature ranged from 2 to 10 degrees lower than anything known since the civil war.

How Did She Know?

Edith—"Who were these people here this afternoon mamma?" Mamma—"Prof. Bighed and his wife, dear. The professor is one of the best informed men in the city." "How do you know he is?" He never opened his mouth once.—Yonkers Statesman.

Sneezed Too Loudly.

A Massachusetts farmer is being sued for sneezing so loud on the public highway as to cause the plaintiff's horse to run away.

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

SOME GOOD STORIES FOR OUR JUNIOR READERS.

Jo's Conundrum Party—Kathleen O'Connor Tells an Instructive Romance for Our Little Readers—The Wonderful Menu That the Young Guest Beheld.

A Fairy Grave.

Let a little grave be made,  
Half in shadow, half in shade,  
In a quiet, kindly place,  
Friendly as her face,  
Let the passing fairy bird  
From his airy height be heard;  
Ever, ever for that ground  
Only gentle sound.

Let the singing winds, which be  
Winged dreams and melody,  
Singing softly, by her lie,  
Singing softly, die.

Let the bee that's sucked the bloom  
Homeward journey by her tomb,  
And his tulle of sweet be paid  
To her sweeter shade.

Let the low clouds, red and gold,  
Mourn her on the mountainside;  
Beauty aye her guardian be,  
You and melody.

Spirits of sound and souls of flowers,  
All you dearest griefless powers,  
You, with whom she went away,  
Tend her night and day.

—The Century.

Jo's Conundrum Lunch.

"I want a brand new sort of a party, mamsie," said Jo, as she sat down to talk matters over with her mother.

"I'm afraid, dear, that you'll have to do with one new in this neighborhood. I'm sure there are no more brand new parties to be discovered in the world."

Then Mother Lawton pondered deeply for a while, and at last said: "I have it. We will give a conundrum lunch. That is old, but it is great fun."

"I never heard of one," said Jo. "Oh, mamsie, dear, tell me about it. I know it must be splendid."

Then they put their heads together and whispered and laughed and jotted

THE SEAMSTRESS.



And through and through, till the snowy lawn  
Was bunched and crumpled and gathered and drawn.

She sewed and sewed to the end of her thread;  
Then, holding her work to view, she said:

"This isn't a baby-dress, after all;  
It's a bonnet for my littlest doll!"

—HARRIET BREWER STERLING,  
In "St. Nicholas."

toothache, and how he dreaded the ordeal of having it pulled. But the dentist gave him chloroform, and he escaped without pain. On his recovery he said: "Well, chloroform deserves a place beside Mendelssohn; it is one of the greatest of composers."

After the impromptu the guests repaired to the dining room. The table was daintily arranged and decorated, but there was nothing on it to eat. Beside each plate was a bill of fare, and the guests were told that they might each choose five things from that. Here is a copy of the menu:

- Unfalling Dessert.
- Support of Age. Pearl of the Orient.
- Crystallized Odors.
- Ambrosia. Nymph's Luncheon.
- Small Boy's Stand-by.
- Dissolved Diamonds.
- Infant's Delight. Sylvan Sweetness.
- Dyspepsia's Forerunner.
- Cannos Balls. Hard Tack.
- Cupid's Rations.
- Concentrated Nectar.
- Crutch of Existence.
- Trimmed Molasses.

How the guests laughed and puzzled over the names! Most of them failed to guess what could be coming. The maid waited till every one had marked off five articles, and then carried the cards away.

"Can we have a second try if our first course proves uneatable?" inquired Roy.

"No, indeed," said Jo; "this order is final."

The plates were brought back at last. Tom fell back in mock despair as he surveyed his.

He had asked for Dissolved Diamonds, Unfalling Dessert, Infants' Delight, Cupid's Rations and Concentrated Nectar. He received a glass of water, a toothpick, a glass of milk, a pickle and a lump of loaf sugar.

Molly had on her plate an onion, an orange and a piece of pie. She had marked off Crystallized Odors, Nymph's Luncheon and Dyspepsia's Forerunner. Merle had taken the Support of Age.

MISS DOROTHY DOT, in her little red chair,  
Put her thimble on with a matronly air,

And said: "From this piece of cloth, I guess,  
I'll make baby brother a lovely dress."

She pulled her needle in and out,  
And over and under and round about,



down notes on a slip of paper until Ralph, who was trying to read by the window, threw down his book and asked what it was all about.

"Just a party," said Jo, with a superior nod. "Mother and I are going to give it to entertain the girls in my class at Sunday school. There are nine of us, and you may invite eight of your particular friends."

"But what kind of a party?" asked Ralph.

"A conundrum party," said Jo, with a giggle, and no amount of questioning or teasing could induce her to say any more about it.

Ralph, and indeed, all of the invited guests, passed a great many useless minutes in wondering what the conundrum was, and on the appointed evening every one was there.

On cards put up in various places about the parlor were pasted conundrums, and the first hour was devoted to finding answers to them. The answers were written on a slip of paper, and the one handing the largest correct list to Mrs. Lawton received a dainty souvenir. The next feature was the composing of original conundrums, and for some time eighteen young people sat in blank silence.

Making conundrums seems very easy until one begins. Tom Matthews finally handed in one that was voted the best. Here is his riddle: "Two Spaniards were blown up in an explosion. What nationality were they when they came down? Answer—One came down a Russian (rushing), and the other struck a telegraph wire and came down a Pole."

Ambrosia and Small Boy's Stand-by, and received a cup of tea, a piece of cake and a cookie.

Most of the girls had taken Sylvan Sweetness and Pearl of the Orient, to find themselves served with maple syrup and rice.

At least half the guests took Crystallized Odors and Dissolved Diamonds. Those names sounded so delicious. A few were lucky enough to ask for Trimmed Molasses and received candy, or for Hard-tack, which meant a plate of nuts.

Most of them, however, found that they had no lunch at all, and after they had done laughing at each other's mistakes, fruit, candy, cake and cream were set on the table to supply those who had been so unfortunate. Each guest retained his menu card as a souvenir of the Conundrum Lunch. Every one went home voting every feature of the evening a perfect success.—Christian Standard.

Little Miss Selfish.

Little Miss Selfish and Lend-a-Hand Went journeying up and down the land;

On Lend-a-Hand the sunshine smiled,  
The wild flowers bloomed for the happy child;  
Birds greeted her from many a tree;  
But Selfish said, "No one loves me."

Little Miss Selfish and Lend-a-Hand Went journeying home across the land,  
Miss Selfish met with trouble and loss—

The weather was bad, the folk were cross.  
Lend-a-Hand said, when the journey was o'er,  
"I never had such a good time before."

The kingdom of heaven is not in heaven, but is heaven in us.