

CORNER FOR THE JUNIORS

AT THE FLAG STATION.

Margaret and Her Faithful Daisy Save the Express.

The Conleys lived so far out of town and used the trains so often that the little flag station at the foot of the hill was a necessity. Margaret was charmed when it was put up; she knew the various signals and the



"Steady, Steady, Steady, There!"

family grew to depend upon her, for the very faintest whistle could not escape her sharp ears; she seemed unconsciously to be always on the alert.

Margaret was a queer child, used from babyhood to roaming the country by herself. She knew every foot of the ground, and it was as natural for her to ride a horse as it was to walk and talk. Her own horse, Daisy, happened to be born on her birthday, a circumstance which delighted Margaret. The Conleys made great holidays of birthdays, and papa not only allowed her to have the naming of the pretty colt, but presented her as a birthday present to his little daughter.

How Margaret learned to ride she never knew. Once on Daisy's back everything seemed easy, and many a canter they had in the summer days down the long stretch of road that led to town.

Margaret was never allowed to go to town by herself, though she was 11 years old, and Daisy could have carried her quite safely; but she would often ride for a mile or more down the road "just to pretend." She usually galloped as far as the flag station and turned Daisy loose for a little browse in a certain green pasture nearby while she went inside. Here she looked at the clock hanging just above the door, though she had to get on a bench to see it at all. Then she consulted the schedule nailed upon the wall, and then she waited for the passing of two or three trains, nodding and waving to the conductors and engineers, to whom the child's figure was a familiar landmark. Then she would call Daisy, and would trot back home by the same road, all pretending that they had been to town.

On a certain afternoon there was company expected by the late train for tea, and Margaret and Daisy went ahead of the carriage to welcome the guests. It was just sunset when they reached the flag station and Margaret could see the engine of the train from town poking its nose over the brow of a distant hill. At the top it would commence the down grade with double speed, sidetracking about half a mile from the flag station to let the home-bound express pass by.

As the train from town came nearer Margaret cantered forward to meet it, but to her amazement it did not sidetrack as usual, coming instead straight toward the station. The child's heart stood still; in five minutes time the express would come thundering by, and it never stopped at the flag station unless signaled. It would dash past into the train bearing their friends from town, and Margaret shut her eyes as the dreadful vision came before her, but she was quick to think. She raced with Daisy back to the flag station and snatched the signal, a bit of scarlet flannel, from its nail on the wall. It was too late to warn the incoming train, which would not have time to track down to the switch and sidetrack before the express came upon them from the other direction. But she and Daisy would be able to signal the rushing express and check its speed in time.

They took the railroad track, the little girl reasonably thinking that the sight of such an unusual obstacle would bring the engine quickly to a halt. Margaret had no thought of her own danger, though Daisy shrank as she felt the ominous rumbling beneath her hoofs.

"Good girl! Good girl!" whispered Margaret. "Steady, steady, steady—don't be frightened—" and grasping the bridle firmly with one hand, she waved the signal vigorously with the other, just as the black snorting monster dashed into sight.

A surprised shriek and two short whistles answered the signal, and Margaret knew that all was well. Then things began to whirl before her; she had just strength to pull Daisy out of the track, when she slipped out of the saddle to the ground, her little white face upturned to the sunset glow. The scarlet signal was still in her tightly clenched hand, and Daisy stood quietly snuffing and neighing, until help arrived.

When Margaret came to herself she lay in her mother's lap, but she could not understand, until she saw the faces of the people all around her and heard the cheer as she opened her eyes.

"Where's Daisy?" she asked, and willing hands led Daisy to her side. Good girl! Good girl!" she whispered, just as she had but a short time before, when the train rumbled over the rails. She reached out and patted her favorite's glossy side.

"Daisy didn't throw me," she said, raising herself. "I fell—I couldn't see—everything got black."

Then mamma bent down and kissed her tenderly.

"My little girl, my little girl!" she cried, and held her close. Margaret sighed and smiled and nestled closer still, and shut her eyes once more, for she was tired, and with mamma's arms about her nothing else really mattered.—Washington Star.

THE TOY ARTIST.

A Mechanical Figure Which Displays Great Ingenuity.

The mechanical toy shown in the accompanying illustration is one of the most original and ingenious things of its kind that have recently appeared. Within the base upon which the "artist" and his easel are placed, and immediately below the figure, is a small pinion operated by a worm at the end of the crankshaft that is seen projecting through the side of the base. The pinion, which rotates in a horizontal plane, is provided with a couple of pins upon which is placed one of the sets of removable cams which accompany the toy. The cams are double, being provided with two separate peripheral edges, and each edge is engaged by the short arm of a pair of levers, as shown in the engraving.

The upper lever attaches at the end of its long arm to a vertical shaft, which passes up through the body of the figure and is pivotally attached to its right arm at the shoulder. By this means, says the Chicago News, the rotation of the cam causes a vertical up and down movement of the arm and the drawing pencil that it carries. The lower cam operates a system of levers, which give a series of right and left movements.

It is evident that, by giving the proper relative contours to the two edges of the cam, the arm, with the pencil that it carries, may be made to trace any desired line upon the paper, either vertical or horizontal, by the action of the first or the second cam, or diagonal or curved, by the joint operation of the two. Each of the double cams, which are provided with the toy, is cut so that its



Details of the Toy.

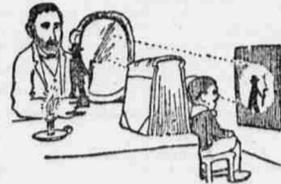
operation will cause the figure to draw some well-known object.

The easel is hinged to the base and is pressed against the pencil by means of a coil spring. It is provided with four projecting pins, upon which the sheet of paper is held while the sketch artist is at work.

NEW SHADOW SHOW.

Here's a Chance to Make Fun for Your Friends.

The following is a very simple method of producing on the wall a series of new Chinese shadows, the op-



How It is Worked.

erator, as well as the little folk delineated, remaining behind the lookers-on, which is sometimes an advantage.

Place a candle on a table, and on the wall opposite affix a sheet of foolscap for a screen. Between the candle and the screen interpose some opaque body, such as a cardboard calendar or a large volume. Now, how are you going to project your shadows on the screen when it is already dark? Very simply, by means of a mirror fixed at the edge of a table. The reflection of the mirror will be thrown on the wall either in a parallelogram or in an oval, and if your screen is in the suitable position, and you work your pasteboard dolls correctly between them, the mirror and the wall, your audience will see the figures dance without finding out the way it is done.—Magical Experiments.

SIN UPON SIN

Step by step David treads the maze of sin.

STORY BY THE "HIGHWAY AND BYWAY" PREACHER

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Scripture Authority: — 2 Samuel 11: 6-27.

SERMONETTE.

Sinful indulgence in an idle hour made David a murderer. Little did he think on that first night of pleasure to what awful depths his sin was to lead him. But the pathway of sin leads downward and ever farther and farther away from God. One wrong step is taken in the desire to gratify some unholy longing and then a dozen more steps are found necessary in the attempt to cover up the traces of the sinful conduct.

The progressiveness of sin is one of its most striking characteristics. No one starts out with the purpose, or even expectation, of becoming a murderer. The boy with his first glass, or his first night out in questionable companionship, does not stop to think what the full fruition of his first misstep may be. The man who takes his first fling at speculation does not see himself an embezzler behind the bars, disgraced and suffering brought upon his innocent wife and children. He begins with the expectation of winning and acquiring riches quickly. Perhaps he does win and is tempted to go in more heavily. He loses, and then borrows that he may speculate further to retrieve his losses. Again he loses. He must have money to pay the loan. He betrays his trust and takes the money he needs from his employer, or from funds entrusted to his care, expecting to pay it back as soon as his luck turns, as he says. And so it goes on, step at a time, until at last he is ruined beyond the hope of recovery. And so it is with any sinful course upon which one may enter.

If it takes 40 lies to cover up the first lie told, so is it with other forms of sin, it takes innumerable wrongs to cover up and hide the first wrong done. But what folly for the soul to think that it can cover and hide its sin. "Be sure your sin will find you out," is the solemn warning of Scripture. And again God's Word declares that "he that covereth his sins shall not prosper." What utter folly then for the human heart to go blindly on in sin, thinking that it can deceive God and man. Some day all the sinful conduct will be revealed in all its awfulness. The power to resist sin is weakened the farther one goes on in his sinful course. In Proverbs 6:22 the sins are likened unto cords that bind one.

There comes to mind the story of Gulliver in the land of the Lilliputians. The tiny creatures bound the great giant with their frail, filmy threads, which he might have blown away with a breath, but which in the aggregate formed a strong cord which covered him like a web and rendered him powerless to resist the attacks of his little enemies. So is it with sin. Let us remember, also, that however much we may deceive the world, we cannot deceive God. "My sins are not hid from thee," exclaims the psalmist. Neither more are yours and mine.

THE STORY.

WITH fierce determination David sealed the letter he had been inscribing on the roll of parchment before him, and turning sharply upon the man standing near, he said: "Deliver this into the hand of Joab, captain of the hosts of Israel. Delay not."

There was harshness almost of enmity in the voice of the king as he spoke, so much in contrast to the familiar, patronizing manner in which he had greeted him on the day before that Uriah started visibly. He hesitated as he placed the parchment within the folds of his robe, and the king, in evident irritation, said, sharply: "That is all!"

With soldierly dignity and precision Uriah bowed low and strode from the apartment without a word. He had wondered at the strange interest and solicitude which the king had manifested in him since his coming in answer to the summons several days before, and now he wondered even more at the savageness and surliness so plainly manifest toward him. But he was glad to be off and away, and he soon forgot the matter in his eagerness to be back in the thick of the fight against the stronghold of Rabbah.

The king, on the other hand, sat silent and alone, his face distorted and beclouded by the evil passions that flamed within.

"There was no other way," he exclaimed under his breath. "Had he not been so infernally obstinate all would have been well, and now—all will be well, anyway, I hazard."

That had been an awful night for him. No sleep had come to still the rage or quiet the fears which filled his heart. But amidst all the conflicting emotions which surged like the restless sea, back and forth within his heart there was the one settled purpose to cover up and hide the sin which had come to blacken and scar his life.

To hide that sin had seemed like a simple and easy thing at first, but as his every plan had been baffled it made him almost mad with impatience and a bitter hatred sprang up against the man whom he had so grievously wronged. At first he had only felt good-natured contempt for him, and it was with rather a feeling of condescension on his part that he had dealt with him at all. But David was too high-minded a man, and had too clear a conception of right and wrong not to be conscious way down deep in his heart that he had committed a grievous sin, and yet there was present the stubborn purpose to justify and palliate his offense. He took refuge behind his kingly prerogatives and power, and found comfort in the thought that the kings of other nations did even worse things than he had done.

And yet, notwithstanding this feeling which he tried to encourage, namely, that the king could do no wrong, he did not want his sin to become known, and determined from the first that it should not. Thus he was led to send for Uriah, and when his plans miscarried, as we have said, it threw him into a rage of fear and anger. The very loyalty and faithfulness which Uriah displayed toward him and the nation served to intensify and aggravate his vexation of spirit, and on that last night, as we have said, no sleep came to relieve the stress of mind and body.

And then had come a new fear to vex him. Could it be that Uriah's refusal to return home was due to the fact that he had some suspicion as to the true state of affairs? All night long the question had rankled in his bosom, and a dark resolve began to form itself within.

Uriah must be put out of the way. When the thought first flashed across his mind like an evil message from the king of darkness, he trembled as an aspen and turned from it with sickening dread, but each time as he came face to face with the alternative of exposure and disgrace, he entertained more willingly the evil thought, and at last found himself planning how it might be carried out.

At first David thought to pay big money to some base fellow who would secretly fall upon Uriah and take his life, but even in the fear and confusion of his mind he quickly saw the dangers attending such a course. What then was he to do? How could he accomplish his purpose? The seeming impossibilities in the way served to intensify the evil purpose of his heart.

Ah, how often the better impulses came! How repeatedly the inner conscience spoke against doing such evil thing, and each time there came back the challenge from his fear-stricken heart, "but your sin and the exposure which is certain to follow."

And then came the irrevocable decision to take this other step in the course of sin, in order that the first sin might be covered up. And was there no thought or fear that the eye of God saw and knew? Yes, there came the fleeting remembrance and then the cloud of sin in which the heart was enveloped settled down again, and David, stealing his heart against God and the better promptings, plunged on in his evil course.

No, Uriah must die. The decision had been made, the message written and even now Uriah was bearing his death warrant to Joab. Anxious days followed, but David knew that Joab would not fail him.

It was not many days after this that tidings came of a disastrous defeat to the army of Israel. The battle had been pressed to the very walls of the stronghold of Rabbah, and many of the Israelites had fallen. It was sad news to the nation, and there was mourning in many a household, but David, who received the tidings from the lips of Joab's messenger, cared not for this thing, when the messenger added: "And Uriah, the Hittite, is dead, also."

Heavy Penalty for Murder.

Wrong-doers in China bring misfortune on all their relatives. Not long ago a man murdered Gov. An Min of Anhui. The murderer himself was caught and beheaded and now the law demands that his female relatives 16 years old and above be decapitated and that his male relatives younger than that be compelled to serve in the imperial palace. The ancestral graves of the rebel are also to suffer. The tombs are to be razed and despoiled and the bones and dust within scattered to the four winds. It is hoped, however, that the authorities will not exact the full penalty of the law.

Cure for Snake Bites.

India's government has made arrangements to supply the snake-bite lancet to all police stations convenient to those localities where venomous snakes most abound. The little lancet has proved a great success and has been the means of saving many lives.

New Collegiate Chair.

A Spanish college has a chair of ex-tombing.

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM



Again let us repeat, train the colt to a fast walk.

Sharp tools and tools in good order, are labor savers.

The farmers in the northwest are complaining of the sparrow nuisance.

Before sowing the clover or alfalfa seed be sure that there is no dodder in it.

Look to the comfort of your animals and the feed you put in to them will return more profit than otherwise.

The orchard ground should not remain bare all winter. See that some cover crop is grown there. Get busy.

Before you yield to the ambition of more land be sure that you see that you are working your present holding for all it is worth.

Planning the work is a good beginning, but don't stop in the middle, for a good ending is made only when the task is completed.

The Missouri experiment station secured the best results in feeding pigs with a ration made up of one part oil meal and five parts corn meal.

Do you get your flour in sacks? If you do, have you discovered that the sacking makes good toweling for the dishes? Try it. A good sized sack will make two towels.

With some of the western sheep ranches going out of business and the price of mutton going up we should think it a good time for the general farmer to stock up with a small flock.

The United States is fast becoming the garden spot of the world owing to its unequalled facilities for fruit culture. There is climate and soil to be found for almost every variety of fruit known to the world.

It is high time you reached a decision on the question whether you will send the boy to the agricultural college this year. Do so by all means if it is possible. And don't forget the girls need education, too.

There is no doubt that there are many grasses better than timothy, but it makes good hay to sell in the cities, because there horses are the chief consumers and it is the only kind of hay the city buyer knows anything about.

Not a bad idea to keep the mowers busy in the stubble fields. It is a mistake to raise a crop of weeds on the land. Better keep them cut until the ground is in condition to plow. Every weed that goes to seed means so much annoyance next season in the field.

The most successful wheat growers to-day never use any artificial application of nitrogen to the wheat crop, depending entirely on the growth of legumes well manured and turned under for the preceding corn crop, the cultivation of which makes the best of fallow preparation for the wheat.

One who has tried it recommends corn-cob tea for calves and colts troubled with scours. It is made as follows: The corn cobs are chopped up into inch pieces and put in a kettle with enough water to cover them and are then steeped over a slow fire. The fluid is then drained off and cooled and used as a drench for the affected animals.

In the opinion of a successful sheep raiser breeding ewes need not be fed more than twice daily. It is a good practice, however, to feed them some fodder outside during the winter season, for in this way they are induced to take some exercise. With this in view the fodder may be taken some distance from the building in which the sheep are housed.

Feed some grain during the winter to the breeding ewes if you would have good, strong lambs in the spring. Oats fed the first part of the winter and bran as lambing time approaches is a good order. About 0.5 pound of oats during the first part of the winter and one pound of bran near lambing time per head daily is recommended by a government expert for ewes weighing from 150 to 200 pounds. Oats and bran are two of the most satisfactory grain foods that are generally available, both in respect to cost and results. Corn is not a satisfactory grain to feed ewes, as it produces too much fat, which apparently tends to accumulate internally and impair the breeding qualities and lessen the general vigor instead of imparting tone to the system.

Plow a fire guard around the stacks in the barn.

A half-broken animal is dangerous. Never can tell just what he will do.

Feed for growth, and then be careful that you do not get the animal too fat.

Underdrain the wet land, as it will pay you, especially if you want to sow fall wheat.

Early apples rot quickly when left on the ground. No profit in that. Keep them picked up.

To have the cows fresher in the fall or early winter means a larger profit for the farmer, that is if he sells his milk.

If more of the milk of human kindness was taken by the milkman his customers would get more of the unadulterated milk of the cow.

If you could just go back over the present season how many things you would do differently. Better make note of them now lest you forget ere another season rolls round.

As one drives along the highways at this season of the year it is easy to judge by the weeds as to the lack of public spirit and pride of the farmers living in the community.

Many young chickens catch cold these nights by crowding in brood coops, and getting overworked and then going out in the chill morning air. The chicks should be gotten on to the roost as soon as possible.

Raised any sunflowers for seed for the chicks this year? If so, look out that the birds do not harvest the crop for you. They love the seeds and will get the start of you unless you bag the large heads while they ripen.

It is true of trees and plants as well as of animals that the better nourished they are the better will they resist disease. Properly nourished orchard trees can endure fungus diseases better than those trees which are in an impoverished condition.

A safe general rule to follow in the breeding of helters is to delay such condition until the animal has reached the size of a normal 18 months old heifer, or until it shows vigor and health which will make it equal to the duties of maternity.

Not a bad idea to have a stack yard in which to place the straw when the grain is threshed. This will make a good place for the cattle on winter days. The stacks will shelter from the cold winds and the cattle will be tempted to many a bite.

Mowing the weeds along the roadside pays in more ways than one. It improves the appearance of the community through which the road runs and it prevents a harvest of weed seeds being caught by the winds and scattered broadcast over the fields on either side.

See that your poultry house is fitted with some kind of ventilating flue which will give the fowls fresh air without draft. If the poultry house is close and unventilated, in the winter the air and walls will become damp on account of the moisture thrown off from the lungs and bodies of the birds.

It was Edward Everett Hale who said: "Never bear more than one kind of trouble at a time. Some people bear three—all they have had, all they have now, and all they expect to have. Certain it is that the farmer is prone to bear two troubles at a time. Those of the present and the worry about the future of the crops."

If the young hogs do not appear to grow fast, perhaps they are troubled with worms. There are several kinds to be found infesting the alimentary canal, but perhaps the one most commonly found is a large white worm, varying in length from five to ten inches. This parasite is usually found in the small intestine. Other common parasites of the intestine include the thorn-headed worm of the small intestine, the pin worm of the rectum and the thread worm of the large intestine.

Pasture the cattle in the stubble fields. You may not realize it but the scattered grain which the reaper misses amounts to a good deal and will be picked up by the cattle or hogs and turned into money for you. The Montana experiment station, by recent experiment proved this to be true. Forty-one pigs from six to nine months old were allowed the run of barley, wheat and pea stubble fields of 18, 16.44 and 10.73 acres, respectively. For some time before the test they had been pastured on alfalfa and fed on one pound of cracked barley daily. For ten weeks immediately preceding the test they made a daily average gain of 0.42 pound each. While pastured on the stubble fields they were given no grain in addition to what they could find except on stormy days. The grain thus fed amounted to 24.1 pounds in the five weeks of the test. During this time the pigs made a gain of 22.3 pounds a head, or 17.6 pounds, deducting the amount which it was calculated they gained from the grain fed during the stormy weather. On the supposition that 4.5 pounds of grain are required to produce a pound of pork, the 41 pigs gained 3,238.75 pounds of grain which otherwise would have been lost.