

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

SOME GOOD STORIES FOR OUR JUNIOR READERS.

The Little Men and Women of Japan—That Country Is a Paradise for Youth—How They Pass the Time—The Chestnut Tree.

The Chestnut Tree.

A BRIGHT, bright day and a wind-swept hill, And white clouds floating far and free. Ah! this is the time to run with a will, And frolic under the chestnut tree!

There's the graceful birch, with its swaying head, And leaves that quiver in every breeze; There's the brilliant maple, with branches red, And the ash, dressed out all eyes to please.

The oak is sturdy, the elm all grace, And the dogwood strings its scarlet beads, But of all the trees in the woodland place There is only one that the schoolboy needs.

So, give us a day on the wind-swept hill, With white clouds floating far and free, And then you'll see us run with a will For a frolic under the chestnut tree!

—Annie L. Willis.

Japanese Children.

A French magazine lately published an article on Japan that would almost make the reader think that country a children's paradise. American boys and girls will like to read a few paragraphs translated into their own language. The writer says:

"Truly Japan is a children's paradise! Nowhere are there more of them; nowhere are they better loved. The sweetest religious sentiment of Japan is filial love, and parents who love their children passionately are amply recompensed for this affection by the care and respect with which they are surrounded later in life, when they have reached old age.

"It is a charming spectacle to see the children in Yokohama, when they go, at the beginning of springtime, to

"Japanese children love also the sport of kite-flying. They make kites with strips of bamboo on which is fastened the paper of very tough texture, common in Japan. Some kites are of huge size and can be raised many hundred yards. Veritable swarms of them may often be seen flying about villages. The children attach to them little devices that under the influence of the wind give out a most curious musical humming sound.

"The Japanese child is neither rough nor brutal. He is full of life and spirits, nothing more. He spends his money for fruit and candy like other children, and takes his pleasure in a more rational way than the American child, being both less strong and less combative. Wickedness seems unknown to him.

"The coolie child, with his brown face and bare legs, is always interesting. How many things he can carry on his back! Under his big straw hat you often see a finely formed face, but it is almost always sad, with the resigned expression common to children who suffer.

"But the child that attracts the most attention is the child of the sampan (boats). Each sampan is generally navigated with the aid of two heavy sweeps, managed by two children, of whom the youngest is often not more than eight or ten years old. Under the eyes of parent or patron, the young boatmen give proof of incomparable address and agility. They live on board the boat, eating and sleeping there, and so are trained to be excellent sailors for the Japanese navy.

"Foreign firms also employ in their offices a certain number of Japanese children as clerks or errand-boys. It is said that all little Japanese, especially these messenger boys, have a special talent for whistling. They even whistle European tunes!

"In Japan people love children so much that when they have none of their own, they adopt one, and if a Japanese thinks he is too poor to support his child, he hastens to get it adopted by some rich family, which he always succeeds in doing."—Selected.

Rhoda, a Temperance Girl.

Rhoda's mother died and left seven children, she being the youngest. Her mother's sister took her and brought

NEEDS OF THE NAVY. CUBA AND CURRENCY.

DOCKS ARE NEEDED MORE THAN SHIPS.

What Secretary Long Has to Offer in His Annual Report—A Suggestion That Steps Be Taken to Increase the Number of Enlisted Men—Other Needs.

Uncle Sam's Navy.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—The first report of Secretary of the Navy Long has been made public. It recommends the further enlargement of the regular navy proper, so far as ships are concerned, Secretary Long takes the ground that there are enough ships in use and in building, and that what are needed more than anything else are the following:

Docks. Ammunition and munition. Better equipment of yards. Increase in enlisted men.

The secretary recommends that congress authorize the construction of a but one warship and a few torpedo boats and torpedo boat de-overlooked. In that event it is desirable to make plans for the maintenance of the navy in good form, a cost which isen that in the failure of an end to the bound to constantly increase and present conditions in Cuba at an early date, to \$17,514,231.13. Five the United States making known its torpedo boats, one gunboat and seventeen position of ultimate intervention. Hu- torpedoes are now building, all to man- and commerce may both be the done the coming year, except the ground for this action. The belief ships, which will be done the latter is that the Cuban problem will be solv- part of 1898. During the past year without danger of war between two ships, nine gunboats, a torpedoSpain and the United States, and will boat and one or two other vessels were solved through the good offices of this country, but the expectation is

The principal care of the depart- ment is in the maintenance of the service. Secretary Long has adopted grees meets and after the prospects of the policy of placing ships in reserve the insurgents accepting or-rejecting in order to lessen the expense, and autonomy are known beyond question, also on account of the lack of men. If Cuba is actually pacified and indus- tries that some means be provided try and trade are resumed that con- to permit the stowage of the torpedoed is expected to speak for itself. boats at the navy yards ready forThe refusal of a few insurgent leaders immediate service, but in dry dock. Asto lay down their arms and the con- the navy grows, it will be proper totinuation of a sort of bandit warfare keep more and more of the vessels in would not be interpreted by the a reserve, but it is necessary to have ministration as the failure of auton- ready for instant use.

The secretary's special plea, how- ever, in his report, is for adequate dockage. There are nine government dock- ings on the Pacific. But one is accessi- ble to modern battleships, and that is in the position of the administration Puget Sound, twenty miles inland, and when the decree of autonomy is ga- one side of which belongs to England, zed. The administration would not Moreover, it is 900 miles from San Francisco. This would be making it- autonomy. The secretary is therefore, endorsing self responsible for the colonial gov- ernment of a special board of investi- gation to investigate the needs of the navy in a docking line. The board ofices are exerted to giving the policy recommended the construction of steel, of autonomy a fair trial. The message stone or concrete dock suitable for is expected to make this point clear beyond the possibility of misunder- standing. It is the confident belief that the president's discussion of the Cuban situation will tend to strengthen the feeling that the administration will be able to meet every phase of it in a manner to satisfy the conservative business interests of the country and discourage radical or participate action.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—It is un- derstood that the president in his mes- sage will suggest to congress that it Henry to Sandy Hook; from Sandy Hook to Cape Cod, and from Cape Cod take action which would complicate the situation in Cuba. It is said that he made a serviceable dock at Newport, he will suggest that the passage of News, which the Newport News com- pany will build, and the International company of New York will build the dock there while the dock at Norfolk needs but to be enlarged and only a wharf needed at Port Royal.

For the work of construction and re- pairs of this nature the department estimates an expenditure necessary of \$8,000,000.

The secretary recommends that the government establish its own powder factory. The cost of ammunition for the entire list of naval vessels com- pleted and yet in hand would amount to \$6,621,985. The cost of ammunition for one battle ship is \$323,197. The de- partment also recommends that ar- rangements be made for suitable ma- gazines.

In concluding his report the secre- tary, discussing an enlargement of the navy, says: "Our remoteness from foreign powers, the genius of our institu- tions and the devotion of our people to education, commerce and industry, rather than to any policy that in- volves military entanglements, make war to be thought only as a last re- sort in defense of our rights, and our military and naval establishments as a police force for the preservation of order and never for aggression. While all this is, therefore, an earnest of peace as the normal condition of our national life, there is no question of the necessity, the wisdom and the economy to the same end, of an effec- tive navy, in view of the vast ex- tent of our coast and the possibility of attack from the sea upon our great cities, where the concentration of pop- ulation and property is enormous.

"The country is committed to the increase of the navy by a declaration of Yorktown, five miles distant, the dam- age was almost as great. Many people representatives. The very fact that we were injured and it is a miracle that none were killed outright.

Feed the Starving. HAVANA, Nov. 27.—Per- mitted by the authorities today to the author- ities at Mantanzas and Sagua to cor- rect abuses and feed reconcentrados. Some delay is anticipated. From San- ta Clara Governor Garcia and the mayor of the city have sent word that the army food there is in a very bad condition. They request fresh rations. These, the government says, will be sent at once. The government expects to distribute the \$100,000 ordered by Blanco.

Approve the Treaty. RIO JANEIRO, Nov. 27.—The Chamber of Deputies today approved the Franco-Brazilian arbitration treaty within the terms of which will fall the boundary disputes between France and Brazil, and particularly the set- tlement of the Amapa question.

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These Will Be the Leading Topics in the President's Message.

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Washington says: Cuba and the currency will be the leading topics in the president's message. It is understood that the discussion of the Cuban situation will be comprehensive. It has already been explained what the state de- partment has prepared in reply to the Spanish note regarding filibustering. Whether the president will incorpo- rate the substance of this in his mes- sage or leave it to go in as part of the regular diplomatic correspondence may be determined later, but the mes- sage will define the Cuban policy of the administration affirmatively. Mem- bers of congress with whom the pre- sident has talked freely on the subject have almost without exception urged that this be done, and Mr. McKin- ley apparently has agreed with them.

The reason given for this course is apparent. While a sincere hope is en- tertained that the Sagasta ministry may end the war at an early date, the possibility of its failure cannot be overlooked. In that event it is desir- able to make plans for the policy of this country to be known. A strong intimation is giv- ing in the failure of an end to the bound to constantly increase and present conditions in Cuba at an early date, to \$17,514,231.13. Five the United States making known its torpedo boats, one gunboat and seventeen position of ultimate intervention. Hu- torpedoes are now building, all to man- and commerce may both be the done the coming year, except the ground for this action. The belief ships, which will be done the latter is that the Cuban problem will be solv- part of 1898. During the past year without danger of war between two ships, nine gunboats, a torpedoSpain and the United States, and will boat and one or two other vessels were solved through the good offices of this country, but the expectation is

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THE SULTAN SPEAKS.

TELLS AMERICANS OF ARME- NIAN MASSACRES.

An Interview with the Ruler of Turkey by Ex-United States Minister Terrell—Turks Are Tolerant of Other Peoples, He Says.

AN Interview with the Sultan" is con- tributed to a cur- rent magazine by Hon. A. W. Terrell, late United States minister at Constantinople. Mr. Terrell says:

He said that the facts about recent disturbances in Turkey have never been faithfully reported by the press of the United States, and that he hoped that I would make known to the American people what he was then about to say. Con- tinuing, he said:

"Early during the Ottoman conquests in Asia Minor, the Armenians, who were being crushed by repeated inva- sions of the Tartars and the Persians, emigrated in large numbers, and obtained protection from the Ottoman rulers. They were kindly received, hospitably treated, and received benef- its in the protection of their lives and property. No nation continually en- gaged in war can excel in industrial and commercial pursuits. Thus it oc- curred that while the early sultans were busy with conquests, all manu- facturing and commercial interests were monopolized by Christian races, and chiefly by the Armenians. Their religion was also tolerated, for Mus- sulmans tolerate the religion of all men who worship God. Thus the Ar- menians prospered, and remained con- tented under Mussulman rule for over four hundred years. They became the manufacturers, contractors and bank- ers of the Ottoman empire. They en- joyed their religion, openly worshipped for centuries in their ancient churches and monasteries, and built new ones

Mussulmans are prohibited from eat- ing meat cooked by such people."

The Sultan then cited many evi- dences of the favor and partiality ex- tended to, and of the confidence re- posed in, the Armenians by himself and by former sultans, to show that their religion was not the cause of their recent misfortunes. The Sultan more than once repeated his decla- ration that no Christians had ever been persecuted by his government or peo- ple for their religious faith, and that their churches and monasteries, which have stood from the early ages of Christianity, had been respected, pre- served and worshiped in; that they had always selected their own patri- archs and bishops and were always protected in the full enjoyment of their religious freedom. Referring to the massacres, he said: "The truth, unfortunately, is never published in Christian newspapers about conflicts between my Moslem and Christian subjects. Though no true Mussulman will ever punish any man on account of his religion, if he worships God, yet when people bind themselves together by their religion, and then use it to destroy the Ottoman empire, a differ- ent question is presented. While Christian Europe was excited against the Ottoman empire about excesses committed by its soldiers during the Greek revolution of 1827, it had no sympathy to bestow upon the butchery of twenty-seven thousand defenseless Turkish men, women and children, who were massacred in one city after its surrender."

Popular Songs Shortlived.

From the Philadelphia Ledger: Per- haps not one of the songs of the mo- ment will live, though the rising gen- eration will more or less dimly remem- ber them always. Each one of them is a kind of reminder of some time that went before it, and it will be the fittest, the really most original and salient of the resembling tunes which will be the one to live. The succession of tunes remaining in anyone's recol- lection is like the succession of hu- man acquaintances. Some stand out boldly and ineffaceably in the mem- ory, having something, either in their

THE WIFE OF MISSOURI'S GOVERNOR.



Mrs. Lon V. Stephens is the wife of the governor of Missouri. At the "Mansion," in Jefferson City, Mrs. Stephens presides with a gracious hospi- tality that wins scores of warm friends for her at all times. One of the reforms instituted by her since her establish- ment as mistress of the "Mansion" is the prohibition of wine at the table. Mrs. Stephens is a member of the Wo- man's Christian Temperance Union, as well as the acknowledged society lead- er of the state capital. She is very fond of entertaining, and of late has been giving a series of house parties, to which prominent people from all over the state are invited. Mrs. Stephens is as fond of books as of society. It is not impossible that Mrs. Stephens may yet become the first lady of the land, as she now is of Missouri. Governor Stephens is one of the most brilliant leaders of his state and in the nation.—From the Chicago Dispatch.

when needed. Their patriarch could always present their complaints at the Sublime Porte, and they were always protected in the enjoyment of their own methods of worshipping God. Four books are regarded as sacred by all Mussulmans, namely, the Koran, the book of Confucius, the Talmud of the Jews, and the Bible of the Christians. How could a Mussulman murder Ar- menians merely on account of their re- ligion, when the Koran prohibits cru- elty, and requires that all men who be- lieve in God shall be protected, except during war? One of my ancestors— Selim I., the grandson of the conquer- or of Constantinople—once thought that his empire would be stronger if all his subjects professed the same re- ligion. Some disturbances raised by Christian races caused him to ask the Sheikh-ul-Islam if it would be lawful for him to kill all Christians who refused to be converted to Islam. The Sheikh issued a fetva, in which he answered that it would not be lawful, and that Christians who were peaceful must be protected. So Selim respected the fet- va. Fire-worshippers and idolaters alone have no right to protection, and

Cause for Separation.

"If it were not for the children, I would get a divorce tomorrow." "What has he done, dear?" "I got that nice Dr. Smoother to declare that nothing but a trip across the water would restore my health, and the hor- rid brute, when I told him about it, offered me 50 cents to go to Covington!"—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Light and Neuralgia.

A Russian physician asserts that the pain of neuralgia, if superficial, can be relieved at once by throwing a beam of light from a bright arc light upon the affected part.

CHILDREN'S PAGE.

A Goat Alphabet.

A was an awful Appetite Possessed by William Goat. **B** was a Bone of whale, which found Its way down his throat. **C** was a rubber Comb he ate, Which proved a trifle tough. **D** was a much esteemed old Doll in petticoat and ruff. **E** was a well-stuffed Emery. **F** was somewhat gritty food. **G** was a tattered paper Fan, with sticks on sticks of wood. **H** was the Hate in William's eye, Which made that goat retreat. **I** was some Ink, about a pint, whose quality was poor. **J** was a Jug of pottery, in pieces, to be sure. **K** was a Kite with painted face, and many yards of tail. **L** bought at an auction sale. **M** was an old toy Monkey, found One evening after dark. **N** was a wood- ten Noah who Had graced a gaudy ark. **O** was six ancient Oranges. **P** was a paper bag Within a paper bag. **Q** was a Quart of Quince preserve, Whose taste was rather queer. **R** was some green Rag, and yellow Paint, Designed upon a rag. **S** was a Scissors, blunt and rusted from a rain. **T** was a Top, which many folk Had tried to spin, in vain. **U** was a large Umbrella, borne To William on a breeze. **V** was his Vanity, which swelled As on he ate with ease. **W** was some wadded Wool He next essayed to chew. **X** and **Y** and **Z** this first defeat Of William Goat, did view. **ELIZABETH L. GOULD** IN "YOUTH'S COMPANION."

look for shells at low tide. They come in groups from all parts of the city, carrying with them baskets and boxes hanging from their backs. Having disrobed, they run joyously over the beach, prattling and crying out with glee, devoting all their energies to the search, while the heads of sleep- ing babies are balanced funnily on the hips of older brothers or sisters.

"Two days in the year are exclusiv- ily devoted to children. At Tokyo, Ki- ota, Yokohama, and in all the cities of Japan there is a day when the shops are full of toys, little models of per- sons or things, or even figures of the entire Japanese court in miniature. This is on the great holiday for lit- tle girls. At this time, large and small are dressed in garments of all colors and affect the most extraordinary head- dresses. The mothers are very proud of these toilets.

"The corresponding boys' holiday falls on May 5. Then they are seen scattered everywhere about the coun- try. At each house is raised a bam- boo mast from which hang, blown about by the wind, strings of paper fishes. These represent carp, and are symbols of energy and constancy. For as the carp can ascend streams against the strongest currents, just so a stud- ious child can, in following the dif- ficult current of life, acquire fortune and renown. There are as many of these paper fishes at each house as there are children in it, so that at some houses as many as a dozen fish may be counted on the masts.

her up as her own. At the age of two years, Rhoda had the scarlet fever and when she recovered she was nearly blind. A bandage was worn over the eyes, or else she carried her right arm over them, until the shoulder blade grew out of shape. Doctors were called in but they said at thirteen years of age she would be stone-blind and there was no help. In spite of this, Rhoda learned to read and write. Building blocks and A B C books were gotten for her; in fact, she lacked nothing to make her happy. As she grew older glasses were fitted, but to no avail, for she had nearly lost the sight of her right eye. When she was eight years old she commenced to go to school, and, under difficulties, kept along with her class, and at thirteen her health and left eye grew stronger. Her education is now nearly com- pleted. The Lord has been good to her through these years and by His help she will fight King Alcohol while he gives her the power to do it.—De- borah S. Bass.

The Hen and the Swallow.

A motherly old Hen brooded the eggs of a viper and nourished them in- to life. A Swallow seeing what she had done, said, "You silly old granny; don't you know that these vipers you have hatched will, when grown, inflict injury not only upon you but on every one?"

Moral.—Wrong is not to be counte- nanced, though it may be dictated by good intentions.—Aesop's Fables.