

"CITY SPARROWS."

A Little Newspaper Edited by the Daughter of a Marquis.

"City Sparrows" is the odd name of a little paper exclusively for children.

Lady Clementine Hay is the editor and she publishes it in the interests of the Scottish Children's League of City recently founded and of which she is the president.

To do all they can to help suffering children and make them happy is the object of the league. The members are of various ages, each circle deciding for itself what plans it shall adopt to carry out the objects of the league and what subscriptions its members shall contribute.

The home which it has established for children is in the suburbs of Edinburgh. Upon the door is a large brass plate bearing the legend:

CHILDREN'S SHELTER—OPEN DAY AND NIGHT.

Last year over six hundred little children were received at the shelter, all of whom had to be clothed and fed.

The little girls are all trained in domestic service and the boys learn some trade; but it is not all work and no play, for very frequently a treat is prepared for their entertainment.

During the summer a flower and country market is held on the lawn of the shelter, when chickens, flowers, vegetables and eggs, donated by friends, are sold for the benefit of the shelter.

This is always a red-letter day at the home and some of the children try to make an extra long one of it, by being as cheeky as a cock; but they are, however, promptly sent back to bed until a more reasonable rising hour.

Lady Clementine Hay is still a very young girl, not yet 20 years old, and a good share of her time, money and thought are devoted to the welfare of the children.

A BATTLE ON THE PLAINS.

The Mighty Bull Defeated by the Goat's Generalship.

In Harper's Round table there is a capital account of a battle between a bull, Spartacus, "the king of the plains," and a goat, called "The General." The conflict is thus described:

The General was in a thoughtful mood, as usual, and chewed obliviously the tough end of a weed, while his head was cocked against the breeze. On the brow of the knoll, however, he seemed to become conscious that something of interest was taking place.

We looked at the King. As said before, he had hesitated, and was gazing with curiosity at this small thing which had come so unceremoniously upon his vision. It was not until he had never seen a bull, Spartacus, "the king of the plains," and a goat, called "The General." The conflict is thus described:

Then he advanced slowly, bellowing. His head swung lower in the dust, and his great hoof at intervals pawed the trail, lifting the earth in thick clouds, which showered on his back, covering the red and white spots. Whatever this thing was—this beast with a beard—he would annihilate it.

It begins and ends in the New York Stock Exchange.

Probably the shortest independent telegraph line in the world is the one contained within the walls of the New York stock exchange. It is little more than fifty feet in length, extending only from the first to the fourth floor of the famous money mart, yet it is perfect in mechanical detail and over it during operating hours passes a volume of business exceeding that of transcontinental wires.

This unique telegraph system is employed solely in reporting the transactions of the exchange. One terminal of the line is in the exchange floor, the other is in the top of the building, a flight above the point to which the elevators run and where none but trusted employees of the telegraph company are admitted.

Here, in two little rooms, side by side, are the offices of the New York Stock Quotation company, where record of all the exchange operations is received and is transmitted to "tickers" in every part of the city almost as soon as the transactions are completed down stairs. Inside the offices are six operators selected from many hundred for their skill, rapidity and trustworthiness to carry on this confidential work.

The business transacted in the office at the top of the exchange building is of a peculiar kind, being made up entirely of the record of quotations and sales. The method followed in doing this work is interesting as illustrating the perfection of quick communication. There may be 10,000 quotations sent out in the course of a day, but so complete is the system that every sale or offer is reported in 2,000 offices in from ten to thirty seconds of the time when it takes place.

All the business on the floor of the exchange is transacted by verbal agreement, and when the market is brisk there is a perfect fusillade of bids and sales. Fourteen official "reporters" jot down the record of all transactions on little slips, which are then rushed over to the telegraph desk, a distance of perhaps twenty feet, and promptly placed on the wire which runs upstairs.

At the other end of the line the operators are ready to receive the message and put

it on the out-reaching lines. When business is running in ordinary course there is no copying in the upper office and each transmitting operator takes the message by ear as it is clicked off and puts it on his own wire without waiting for the receiving operators to pass it on to him, so that the printing of the quotations on the tape of every ticker in the system is practically instantaneous with the touch of the transmitting operator on the exchange floor.

But when there is a rush this method cannot be followed. In that case two receiving operators are stationed with each sender, one seated on either side of him. They take down the messages as they come and pass them on to the transmitter. He sends them out alternately, being able to work twice as fast as the receivers.

"The men employed in the stock quotation office are all experts," said the superintendent of the exchange telegraph in answer to a question. They are the pick of hundreds in the employ of the telegraph companies. Most of them have been for years engaged in this work. An operator who has been employed in sending word messages, no matter how rapid he might be, would be of no use to us for the first few months, until he got into the swing of the work. It requires a special training to master our system and to become familiar with all the characters employed in the work.

"Each quotation consists of from four to eight characters, running like this: 'W. U. 107 1/2', 'C. B. & Q. 99', all letters and figures. The speed which the men acquire in handling these quotations is remarkable. The average record of each operator runs about

twenty-five of these per minute. This means from 150 to 200 impressions per minute or something like 50,000 during the hours when the exchange is open—from 10 to 3. It is not the ordinary operator even to think of maintaining such a speed."

Prattle of the Youngsters.

"You naughty, careless boy! Have I got to buy you another pair of new trousers?"

"I guess so. But when I'm a man I'm going to wear pants!"

Little Nettie accompanied her parents on a trip across the lake recently and after being out a short distance she began to get seasick.

"How do you feel, Nettie?" asked her mamma.

"Oh," was the reply, "I just feel like I wanted to unswallow my breakfast."

"Yes, dear children," said the teacher, "we must throw away our naughty faults. They are like wormy chestnuts. Now, what do you do with a wormy chestnut when you find one?"

"Please, mam, I give it to me little brother, Pete."

"No, thank you. I don't care for any," said little Marie, as her papa passed the cake.

"Why dear," said he, "I thought you were fond of cake?"

"So I am," she replied, "but I heard mamma say it wasn't quite perfect and when she says that it must be something awful."

"Oh, look what a pretty little moon!" exclaimed 4-year-old Edith to her little brother, as she looked from her grandma's window at the small crescent in the western sky.

"Behaw!" replied the unappreciative brother, "I don't think it's half as pretty as the big round moon we had at home two weeks ago."

Johnny, aged 5, had a habit of using in his conversation every big word he happened to hear, regardless of its meaning. One morning he and his elder brother were trying to wash from the same basin, to Johnny's detriment, and he ran into the kitchen, exclaiming, "Mamma, Charley's metropolitanizing the whole laundry!"

Buckley's Arnica Salve. THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Kuhn & Co.

He Went with His Neighbors. Henry Waterson illustrates a political editorial with the following story: During the dark days of 1864-65, when middle Tennessee was overrun by federal troops, the late Meredith P. Gentry was arrested and confined by his old friend, General Lovell H. Rousseau. Brought to question, the matchless whig orator drew himself to his full height and, in that sonorous and melodious voice which at least Tennessee will never forget, exclaimed: "General Rousseau, you know I loved the union. The dearest aspirations of my young life were poured out as rich libations upon its altars. I grew gray in its service. Still, the cause of the union went down and down. Finally the d-d old stern-wheel steamboat 'Secession' came along. I saw first one neighbor and then another neighbor get aboard and, when all were aboard except me, I was left alone upon the shore and they were about to haul in the gangplank. I cried out: 'Hold on, boys; I'll go with you, if you go to hell.' Overcome with grief, overcome your coughs and colds with One Minute Cough Cure. It is so good children cry for it. It cures croup, bronchitis, pneumonia, grippe and all throat and lung diseases.

HIGH LIVING IN HOTELS

Many Opportunities for Blowing a Fortune in a Year.

ENORMOUS PRICES PAID FOR BOARD

Striking Increase in the Cost of Hotel Living in Ten Years—What Guests Get for Their Money.

We were sitting in carved chairs, upholstered in tapestry. At our feet were stretched two tiger skin rugs, whose flocks of vapour were almost lost in a look of vague astonishment at the splendor of their surroundings. On the walls were hung paintings of renown. Through a portiered doorway was the dining room, massively elegant, and a smaller exit led from the drawing room to a bedroom furnished as a queen's chamber was furnished when there were thrones in France.

One of the managerial staff of the big Waldorf-Astoria hotel was showing to me the beauties of the "royal suite," which has recently sheltered the visiting princes of Belgium and Italy.

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Of course these figures represent the highest amount a man can possibly pay for such accommodations. There is no attempt made in these calculations to economize. The man deliberately seeks for the highest priced articles he can find, and it costs him \$33,000 a year. Nine years ago he did the very same thing, he spent all that he could, but \$9,800 was the limit.

We are supposing an extreme case. Men can live at these same expensive hotels modestly and at a moderate cost. Rooms with a bath may be had at the Waldorf-Astoria and at all the other hotels mentioned at from \$5 to \$7 a day, and the meals may be made to cost pretty nearly what a man chooses to pay.

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HENRI ROCHEFORT

The Famous French Journalist.



HENRI ROCHEFORT Writes: Your precious "Vin Mariani" has completely reformed my constitution; you should certainly offer some to the French government. HENRI ROCHEFORT. NEVER HAS ANYTHING BEEN SO HIGHLY AND SO JUSTLY PRAISED AS

VIN MARIANI

MARIANI WINE, the Famous French Tonic for Nerves and Brain FOR OVERWORKED MEN, DELICATE WOMEN, SICKLY CHILDREN

VIN MARIANI IS INDORSED BY THE MEDICAL FACULTY ALL OVER THE WORLD. IT IS SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED FOR NERVOUS TROUBLES, THROAT AND LUNG DISEASES, DYSPEPSIA, CONSUMPTION, GENERAL DEBILITY,

MALARIA, WASTING DISEASES AND LA GRIPPE. FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE. REFUSE SUBSTITUTIONS

VIN MARIANI GIVES STRENGTH

SPECIAL