

Women's \$1.50
Shoes...

Countermand
Sale
Price...
90c..

The Big Store.

BABY'S PORTRAIT.

[Sketched by his mother.]
A little head of shapely mold,
Two baby eyes so bright and bold,
A dainty little nose;
Two little cheeks so round and fair,
With tiny dimples hiding there
Like dewdrops in a rose.
A little mouth so fragrant sweet,
A tiny dimpling chin so neat,
And both just made to kiss;
Two cunning ears each in its place,
A baby forehead set with grace,
Whose photograph this?
Two sturdy shoulders, broad and square,
Two chubby hands so fat and fair,
And cunning feet so coy;
A roguish smile for you and me,
Sweet baby ways; now, don't you see
The portrait of our boy?
—Pearson's Weekly.

TAKING IN MR. MOODY.

How His Confidence Was Abused by
the Natives of Bethany.

When D. L. Moody went to Bethany during his travels in the east, he was very soft hearted over all the multitude of beggars there, not only because the place is so unusual, but because he was moved by its beautiful traditions. He gave quantities of "backsheesh" and then asked if any of the children had the names of Mary and Martha. Yes, indeed, they had. And that opened his pockets again.

The news of his generosity spread through the village, and new claimants came until his visit seemed likely to result in a fight for existence. The case was getting desperate, and he told the dragoman to call for silence while he made an address. Then he said:

"I have come 6,000 miles to see this little village of Bethany. It was a place my Master loved to visit, and I have come to see it because he loved it. I am very glad to meet you all, but now I want to be alone. I have no more backsheesh, and I bid you good by."

A fine looking boy of 16 replied to the address. He spoke fluently and with the grace of an orator. Mr. Moody was delighted with the beginning of his oration, but not with its conclusion.

"We are glad to see the gentleman and his friends who have come so far, but the gentleman must not think that his actions are equal to the importance of his visit. Six thousand miles is a long way to come, and the gentleman must have sacrificed much to make the visit. In consequence it is natural for us to expect that he would be munificent in backsheesh. This he has not been, and we now expect that he will give us a great deal more."

Mr. Moody was so disgusted that he abandoned the situation entirely and hurried away with his friends.

"I did think," said he, "that boy had a soul above backsheesh."

"And did you think, too, that some of the children were named Martha and Mary?" he was asked.

"Certainly. Why not?"

Nothing; only they were all boys."

Youth's Companion.

A Settler.

A 5-year-old boy went with his mother to make a call. The lady of the house, who was fond of children, told him she meant to ask his mother to let her have him. "Don't you think your mother would let me buy you?" she asked.

"No, ma'am," answered the little fellow; "you haven't got money enough."

"How much would it take?" she continued.

"Three hundred dollars," said the boy promptly, as if that would settle the matter at once for all.

"Oh, well, then," said the woman, "I think I can manage it. If I can, will you come and stay with me?"

"No, ma'am," he said, with decision. "Mamma wouldn't sell me anyhow. There are five of us, and mamma wouldn't like to break the set!"—Buffalo Enquirer.

Demand For Excelsior.

The present annual production in this country of excelsior is about 60,000 tons. Put to a great variety of uses, excelsior is most commonly used for packing purposes, and in such uses it is employed for many very different kinds of things. It is used, for example, in the packing of things so fragile as eggs and things so solid as iron toys. In the various uses to which it is put excelsior is most in demand where manufacturing is carried on, so that the larger part of the great quantity of this material now produced in this country is used east of the Mississippi river.—New York Sun.

Like nearly all Natal rivers, the Tugela is not navigable, and a bar of sand stretches across its mouth.

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ADVICES FROM MANILA

Principles of New Political Party
Have Been Outlined.

Manila, Dec. 18.—Advices just received from Iloilo, Island of Panay, says that the insurgents Saturday night burned a large part of the village of Cabatuan. Assistant Surgeon Frederick A. Washburn, Jr., of the Twenty-sixth volunteer infantry, with 18 men, held the principal buildings.

A strong wind was blowing at the time. The Americans sustained no casualties.

The first political party under the American regime is in process of formation. Its principles have been embodied in a platform which will shortly be made public. The declarations of the platform give the fullest recognition to American sovereignty, and also favor a considerable degree of native autonomy concerning internal and local affairs.

Several of the most intelligent Filipino leaders, who have been instrumental in bringing the matter to a head, have been in conference with those interested; and last evening the platform was outlined to the Philippine commission by Señor Buencamino, former premier in the so-called government of Aguinaldo.

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Jessie Morrison's Ordeal Was All For
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Two Vitaly Important Cases.

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SHORTHAND WRITING.

Accuracy is of Much More Importance Than Speed.

"Speed is by no means the most necessary thing in shorthand writing," explained an experienced stenographer, "but with some teachers it is made the great consideration, often at the expense of everything else. The big thing in shorthand is legibility, for there are many who can write fast enough, but who are unable to tell what it means after it has grown cold. I have been a stenographer, depending entirely on it for my living, for 25 years. During that time I have, of course, picked up some knowledge on the subject. I have been the stenographer for two cabinet officers, four assistant secretaries and three or four senators. Incidentally I have worked for a year as the private secretary of one of the big bank presidents in New York city.

"All of this experience has proven one thing very conclusively, and that is that there is no necessity for any stenographer who does amanuensis work to write over 120 words a minute and in 99 cases out of 100 no necessity to write over 100 words a minute. Indeed, I know of at least 25 stenographers who are drawing the largest kind of salaries as private secretaries who have assured me that they have never been required to average as much as 90 words. Under these circumstances it seems strange that some teachers of stenography will execute pupils to write 150 to 200 words per minute and endeavor to make them believe that such a railroad speed is a necessity. Such a practice does actual injury, for it discourages many from even learning a moderate speed.

"There have been instances where it may have been necessary for stenographers to be able to write over 200 and more words a minute, and there is a legend hanging about the senate chamber that General Hawley, for 10 or 12 minutes in a speech, once spoke 225 words a minute. The average speed of senators in speeches does not reach 110 words and in dictating letters rarely reaches 100 words."—Washington Star.

SOME SURE THINGS.

Bets to Be Avoided by Those Who
Never Tried the Feats.

Bets to be avoided by those who are cocksure they can do all things are those relating to athletic feats. It would seem that a good runner could easily give a start of 50 yards in 100 to a man who was doing the 50 yards by hopping on one leg. But few runners, if any, can afford to give that amount of start to any man who is at all strong on his legs. For the first five yards or so they go at practically the same pace, so that to run 95 yards while his opponent is hopping 45 he has to go more than twice as fast, and it is a weak man indeed who cannot hop 50 yards in ten seconds.

An ordinary wooden match is easily broken in the fingers, but, although there are many who will bet they can do it, none succeed in accomplishing the task if the match is laid across the nail of the middle finger of either hand and pressed upon by the first and third fingers of that hand, despite its seeming so easy at first sight.

No one can crush an egg placed lengthwise between his clasped hands—that is, if the egg be sound and has the ordinary shell of a hen's egg.

It is safe to bet a man that he cannot get out of a chair without bending his body forward or putting his feet under it, if he is sitting on it, not at the edge of it.

Another equally certain wager is that a man cannot stand at the side of a room with both of his feet touching the wainscoting lengthwise.

It is safe to bet any man, save one who is blind, that he cannot stand for five minutes without moving if he is blindfolded.

How Niagara Wears the Rock.

All who have been to Niagara know that the cataract is divided by Goat Island, the larger portion of the fall being on the Canadian side of the river. This part is known as the Horseshoe fall and was so named because years ago it was identical with a horseshoe in shape. A few years ago a V shaped break occurred toward the New York side, and since then other changes have taken place, until today the Horseshoe fall is more like its original form, but clearly shows the effects of the wear of the waters.

Many people fail to see how the falls wear the rock away, and this is a little mystery until the exact conditions are realized. The ledge of rock over which the water of both the American and Horseshoe falls flow is of hard limestone. It is all of 90 feet thick and naturally very heavy. Underneath this ledge of limestone there are the shales of the Niagara locality. This soft rock is many feet thick. The rock of the Horseshoe fall is unprotected, and as the water falls over the precipice and boils in the river below it washes away the soft shale beneath the limestone, so that the limestone is left in shelf-like form, projecting far out into the gorge. Observant visitors to the falls have no doubt noticed this condition.

In the course of time the shale foundation of the limestone ledge is excavated to such a point that the unsupported ledge breaks away by its own weight, and the crest line of the Horseshoe fall recedes so much farther.

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