



#### FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS.

##### A SAD MISTAKE.

Sweet Mary started out for church All on a Sunday morning,  
With flowered gown And bonnet white,  
Sweet eyes cast down But face so bright,  
For over and above it all She held her first new parasol.

Sweet Mary bled her home from church All on a Sunday morning;  
But pride was gone, Our little maid  
Was so forlorn, For o'er her head Far down the long and crowded aisle, She'd held her parasol the while.

##### DANCING LIZARD.

One of the interesting little animals that live in far-away Australia is the dancing lizard, known scientifically as the chlamydosaurus kingi. This queer reptile is about three feet in length and wears a collar of bright red, yellow and blue mixture. He gets his name from the collar and is called the frilled lizard. He is not a bit pretty, and has a way of jumping around that gives one a peculiar fright if one comes upon him suddenly. Although this frilled chap has four legs, he seems to like walking and dancing upon his hind legs better than traveling upon all fours. He is as quick as lightning in his movements, and lives upon the insects that inhabit the trees of the thick woods.

##### A QUEEN FREAK DUCK.

The queerest duck that ever swam is owned by a San Francisco man, who keeps a big farm just outside of the city. The name of the duck's owner is Mr. E. J. Wilkinson, and he is very proud of his feathered pet.

The duck is just an ordinary appearing, white, quacking bird, such as everybody is familiar with, and yet it stands alone in duckdom as a unique specimen.

The queer thing about this particular duck is that it has a trick of laying two eggs at one time; in other words, an egg within an egg.

As a rule the shell of the outside egg measures about nine inches around, while the inside egg measures about four inches. The outside egg is just like the one inside with the exception that the yoke or yellow part is slightly flattened out from being pressed against the shell of the inside one.

Sometimes this freaky creature will lay two eggs, each one weighing from a quarter to half a pound, and measuring from eight to ten inches around the outside. Mr. Wilkinson is very proud of his peculiar pet, and says that he will never part with the downy creature as long as he has money enough left to buy feed for his talented bird.

No one has ever known any kind of a fowl to do the wonders that this duck performs regularly, and though several people have offered large sums for the freak, Mr. Wilkinson steadfastly refuses to sell her.

##### GOOD-BYE.

Benny had lived in the country long, and everything he saw was new and interesting to him.

"Lord Wyvern, I believe," said Mr. Marsh, coming hastily into the room. "I must apologize to your lordship for the stupid blunder of the maid who showed him to me. Mr. Langton, my niece's husband, is in his library, I believe, and quite unaware of your visit. If you will wait one moment, my lord. And you, Mr. Don, please step this way."

And the dry-salter hurried Don out of the room and so into the hall.

"I have spoken to Miss Mowbray," he said. "I have explained to her that we are on the point of leaving England for a distant country, and only wish to see her alone this once, to bid her farewell. And she will see you—poor girl!—at eleven to-morrow."

Don took his leave and went, while Mr. Marsh made haste to repair to the library, where he apprised the rector of the coming of the noble visitor, who remained alone in the drawing-room of the parsonage. And when Mr. Langton had hurried away to greet his tithed guest, the dry-salter seated himself beside the writing-table, and for some moments reflected on his recent interviews with Don and with his ward.

At the appointed hour on the day succeeding to that on which Lord Wyvern had paid his visit, Don rode into the pretty garden of the parsonage. After a brief delay he was conducted into the drawing-room, where he found Violet Mowbray, looking very pale and pretty. She was the first to speak.

"So you have made up your mind, Don dear, to go away and leave me?" "I am going Violet, darling," answered Don, drawing nearer, "that I may come again all the sooner to claim her I love as my wife, to win my sweet prize, and be very happy ever after, as the dear old story book says."

"But, Don—Don," answered Violet, with a smile, "there must be no engagement—no binding troth-plight—between you and me. That much I have promised Mr. Marsh. There must be no pledge, dearest—nothing to make you think that you are bound to Don, should Don come to be half forgotten."

"Cruel! cruel!" was Violet's reproachful answer, as she looked at him, all her soul in her eyes.

There was more of fond talk, the little, sacred reminiscences, the lovers' pratfalls that all can remember, that seem so sweet and precious, and which, if transferred to prosaic print and paper, would lose all their charm, and then came the bitter, bitter moment of the actual parting.

"My love! my own!" she murmured. "Make haste and come back to me!"

Then Don caught her in his arms, and kissed her pale, soft cheek once and again.

"Good-bye," he said, "my love, good-bye, Violet, dear."

(To be continued.)

One ton on the Mississippi can take in six days from St. Louis to New Orleans barges carrying ten thousand tons of grain, which would require seventy railway trains of fifteen cars each. Tugs in the Suez Canal tow a vessel from sea to sea in forty-four hours.

An omnibus for smokers and non-smokers has been plying for some days in Berlin. There are no outside seats, but the inside is divided into two compartments by a glass partition.

Statistics prove that a single house fly may become the progenitor of a family of 2,080,320 descendants in one season.

For headache, bathing behind the ears with hot water often proves of immense benefit.

rise to his feet to do so, when in at the long window walked Old Good-bye, and came stalking over the carpet to where he sat, and looked at him with his queer eyes, and said, "How are you?"

"Pretty well," Benny answered.

Then Old Good-bye perched upon Benny's knee and brought one of his eyes to bear upon his pocket, and, in an instant, in went the bird's beak, and out came a chocolate drop, which it carried to the heart and laid down with great solemnity. Benny was so frightened that he could say nothing, and all the family sat staring, while the raven made twelve journeys to the heart and ranged the dozen chocolate drops in a row. When the last was placed there he began to swallow each in turn, said "Good-bye," and walked solemnly away.

"Is it possible you have done this again?" said the boy's father.

"Oh, Benny," cried his mother.

At this Benny's tears began to flow fast, and he arose slowly and went to his father.

"Papa," he said, "I never felt so mean. Won't you please whip me right away, and get it over?"

"Benny," said his father, "you shall have a punishment. That does not always mean a whipping. Of course, you will not have any candy, and you had better go and sit by yourself while we are taking a walk together this afternoon, and think how mean you have been. That will be punishment enough, I think."

Poor Benny thought it was, and his sisters cried softly during the whole walk, and no one could eat the candy. When one of a loving family does wrong, the rest always suffer.

Benny gave up "snooping" from that time; but Old Good-bye did not allow him to forget his fault, for whenever he paid a call he always went straight to Benny's pockets to look for candy there.

##### FACTS ABOUT SUGAR.

Sugar exists in the sap or leaves of nearly two hundred different kinds of trees.

Gibson says that sugar was first brought from Asia to Europe A. D. 625.

Some writers say that there is a variety of sugar cane indigenous to America.

The word "caramel" is of Greek origin, and signifies simply black honey.

Leavulose is that sugar most liberally found in honey and various fruits.

The longest run in candy has been made by chocolate creams and carmelles.

Entomologists declare that the sugar cane has 227 varieties of insect enemies.

Sugar is boiled, more or less, for candy, according to the kind to be made.

Maltose is that variety of sugar produced by the action of diastase on starch.

It is said that the dark varieties of sugar cane resist disease better than the light.

It is said that beet sugar is worth more to holders of the bonds than in 1866 and the burden on the people is greater than in 1866.

Live and Let Live Not the Policy.

Quicke has been the monopolistic press to see the injustice to the creditor classes from a depreciated dollar, but to the equal injustice of an appreciating dollar to the debtor classes, and to the grievous wrongs done to all producers by such a dollar, they have been and are perversely blind.

In other words, the debt to-day is worth more to holders of the bonds than in 1866 and the burden on the people is greater than in 1866.

In the chronic cases the greatest number of deaths at any one hour was at 4 p. m., with 2 and 5 p. m. and 6 a. m. closely following. The greatest in the acute list was at 3 a. m., with 11 a. m. and 11 p. m. closely following.

The lowest number in the acute list was at 12 midnight, that hour so dreaded in the sick room by attendants, and to which a good deal of superstition attaches. It is noticeable that the number for this hour is exceedingly low—about half of the average number. In the chronic cases the lowest number appears at 9 a. m.

"From these 15,000 cases, extending over a period of twelve years, it would appear that death occurs seemingly without any particular predilection for any certain hour, and that the number of deaths for each hour is very evenly proportioned, considering the large number of cases taken and the time covered."—New York Journal.

#### WHEN MOST DEATHS OCCUR.

An Old Superstition Has Been Upset by the Record of 15,000 Cases.

Has death a favorite hour during the twenty-four in which to visit hospitals and sick room and gather in his victims?

A general opinion is entertained by medical practitioners and others engaged in caring for the sick that the greatest number of deaths occurring in individuals afflicted with disease takes place during the hours immediately succeeding midnight and preceding the dawn. The rule is said to be particularly true in those suffering from chronic exhausting diseases.

Deductions have been made from these impressions which have served to regulate the administration of stimulants in such cases, it being said, "if six ounces of brandy be needed in twenty-four hours, four should be administered from 2 to 6 a. m., for then is vitality in the human being at its lowest," and "more deaths occur at these hours than at any other period."

"I accepted this teaching at college," says a medical man, "because I had neither the means nor the time to verify or disprove it to my own satisfaction. Yet I always doubted the correctness of the conclusions drawn. And, to settle the doubt in my mind, since entering on my duties at the hospital I have collected statistics, which I find do not agree with this generally accepted idea."

"The figures show twenty-seven fewer cases during the hours from 6 p. m. to 6 a. m. than for corresponding twelve hours of the day. Again, from 2 to 6 p. m. there were sixty-six more deaths than from 2 to 6 a. m. The total number of deaths in the list of acute diseases for the twelve hours from 6 p. m. to 6 a. m. is 169 less than for the corresponding period during the day.

"The hours from 2 to 6 a. m. in this list show fifty-three cases more than for the corresponding period in the afternoon. In this nearly 4,000 cases is very slight.

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#### Cost of Indian Wars.

Congress each year makes special appropriations for the maintenance of the ten chief wheat-growing nations of the world from 1880 to 1887 was 1,825,000,000 bushels; from 1888 to 1894 the average production was 1,904,000,000 bushels. The population, however, of the wheat-growing nations averaged for the former period 397,000,000, and for the latter period 434,000,000, so that the per capita supply for the earlier period was four and one-half bushels annually.

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It was urged that it would bring foreign capital here, but European stocks continued to be sold on the New York market and gold has continued to flow from us.

It was declared that it would restore confidence, but confidence has continued to diminish, for the simple reason that property, which is the basis of credit and confidence, has continued to decline.

There can never be confidence when property is declining, and property must decline with a contraction of the currency.—Bryan and Sewall, F. Tenney Neely, Publisher.



#### THE PUBLIC DEBT.

Here are some appalling facts: In 1896 our national debt was \$2,825,000,000. In 1895 our national debt was \$1,25,000,000. From 1896 to 1895 we paid in interest on this debt the vast sum of \$2,635,000,000. In the same period we paid on the principal \$2,700,000,000. Total paid on interest and principal from 1896 to 1895, \$5,325,000,000.

Would Cause Revival in Business.

The Rev. Dr. T. De Witt Talmage says: "If the silver people win, I believe there will be such a revival in business, such a booming in industries, which are now inactive, and such a general shaking up of commercial interests that the country will be sure to prosper."

Ex-Governor John P. St. John, in answering the goldite silver dumping theory, said: "I always say, let 'em dump—if they want to be so foolish. If they dump all the silver in the world here and take it all out the gold we would have \$60 per capita of standard money, every dollar worth 100 cents, while the rest of the world averaged about \$3 per capita in gold. The effect of such a transaction would be unexampled prosperity in this country and ruin and bankruptcy unparalleled in the others."

"No large amount of silver could come; it would benefit us if it did come."

"The United States, therefore, should stop the double robbery of her people required by a gold standard and vote free coinage alone."

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