

**YOUNG FOLKS.**

Heigho! Says Rowley.  
 A frog he would a wooing go—  
 Heigho! says Rowley—  
 Whether his mother would let him or no,  
 With a roly-polly, gammon and spinach.  
 Heigho! says Anthony Rowley.  
 So off he set with his opera hat—  
 Heigho! says Rowley—  
 And on his way he met a rat,  
 With a roly-polly, gammon and spinach.  
 Heigho! says Anthony Rowley.  
 "Pray, Mr. Rat, will you go with me?"—  
 Heigho! says Rowley—  
 "Pretty Miss Moussey for to see!"  
 With a roly-polly, gammon and spinach.  
 Heigho! says Anthony Rowley.  
 Now they soon arrived at Moussey's Hall—  
 Heigho! says Rowley—  
 And gave a loud knock, and gave a loud  
 call,  
 With a roly-polly, gammon and spinach.  
 Heigho! says Anthony Rowley.  
 "Pray, Miss Moussey, are you within?"  
 Heigho! says Rowley—  
 "Oh, yes, kind sirs: I'm sitting to spin."  
 With a roly-polly, gammon and spinach.  
 Heigho! says Anthony Rowley.  
 "Pray, Miss Moussey, will you give us  
 some cheese?"  
 Heigho! says Rowley—  
 "We'd like a nice piece, if you please,"  
 With a roly-polly, gammon and spinach.  
 Heigho! says Anthony Rowley.  
 "Pray, now, Mr. Frog, will you give us  
 a song?"  
 Heigho! says Rowley—  
 "But let it be something that's not very  
 long."  
 With a roly-polly, gammon and spinach.  
 Heigho! says Anthony Rowley.  
 "Indeed! Miss Moussey," replied Mr. Frog—  
 Heigho! says Rowley—  
 A cold has made me as hoarse as a hog,  
 With a roly-polly, gammon and spinach.  
 Heigho! says Anthony Rowley.  
 "Since you have caught a cold," Miss  
 Moussey said—  
 Heigho! says Rowley—  
 "I'll sing you a song that I have just  
 made."  
 With a roly-polly, gammon and spinach.  
 Heigho! says Anthony Rowley.  
 But while they were all thus a merry  
 making—  
 Heigho! says Rowley—  
 A cat and her kittens came tumbling in,  
 With a roly-polly, gammon and spinach.  
 Heigho! says Anthony Rowley.  
 The cat she seized the rat by the crown—  
 Heigho! says Rowley—  
 The kittens they pulled the little mouse  
 down,  
 With a roly-polly, gammon and spinach.  
 Heigho! says Anthony Rowley.  
 This put Mr. Frog in a terrible fright—  
 Heigho! says Rowley—  
 He took up his hat and he wished them  
 good-night,  
 With a roly-polly, gammon and spinach.  
 Heigho! says Anthony Rowley.  
 But as Froggy was crossing a silvery  
 brook—  
 A lily-white duck came and gobbled him  
 up,  
 With a roly-polly, gammon and spinach.  
 Heigho! says Anthony Rowley.  
 So there was an end of one, two, three—  
 Heigho! says Rowley—  
 The rat, the mouse, and the little frog-gee,  
 With a roly-polly, gammon and spinach.  
 Heigho! says Anthony Rowley.

**Funny Little Folks.**

A little four-year-old brother was led into  
 the room to see a new sister. He stood for  
 a moment in deep thought, and then asked:  
 "Mamma, did baby tum from heaven?"  
 "Yes."  
 "Did I tum from heaven?"  
 "Yes, dear."  
 "Did 'oo tum from heaven?"  
 "Why, yes."  
 "Is we all doing back to heaven?"  
 "I hope so."  
 "Den I'd dess as leave have stayed dare  
 and saved tar fare."

**Defersive Theology.**

Bennie is a bright five-year-old son of an  
 editor. The other day he came home from a  
 protracted tricycle ride.  
 "Bennie," said his father, "didn't your  
 mother tell you not to go so far away from  
 the house?"  
 "Yes, papa, but the devil took my  
 breath away and wouldn't let me remember."  
 "That's the old story about the devil,"  
 said Mr. Hughes, trying to look stern. "I'm  
 afraid I shall have to spank that devil out of  
 you."  
 "Oh, the devil flew out of me just as I  
 entered the house," protested Bennie. "He  
 said, 'Bennie, you're in for a spanking, and  
 a spanking hurst, and I guess you'd better  
 take it yourself.'"

**Flossie Improves the Occasion.**

Flossie had been eating intemperately of  
 watermelon.  
 "Mamma," she said, pressing her hands  
 wearily on her stomach, "My saah is just  
 like a window saah, isn't it?"  
 "In what way, dear?" asked the mother,  
 smilingly.  
 "Because it's around the pains," she re-  
 plied, demurely.

**Pessimism.**

A small boy belonging to a Boston family  
 was the proud owner of a bright red balloon,  
 with which he never seemed to tire. One  
 day he lost his hold of the string and away  
 it went. He watched it for a long time and  
 then went into the house and remarked:  
 "My ballon has gone up to the angels, and  
 it will be just like them to keep it."

**The Whole Scheme Given Away.**

A Kingston woman feels very sore over the  
 latest escapade of her seven-year-old incorrigi-  
 ble. There were some visitors invited to tea  
 one evening recently, and during the  
 course of the meal John Henry Augustus  
 remarked, with a chuckle, "Mother's got  
 all her best things on the table to-night;  
 ain't you, ma?" The mortified mother gave  
 the youngster a kick under the table, when

beaded, innocently: "You needn't kick  
 me under the table now, 'cause I didn't tell  
 a word about borrowing the napkins."

**Enoch, Cyrus, Jerry, and Ben.**

Enoch and Cyrus and Jerry and Ben  
 Were babies together, four fat little men,  
 Four bald headed babies, who bumped them-  
 selves blue  
 And sprawled, grabbed, and tumbled, as all  
 babies do;  
 Fall of laughter and tears, full of sorrow and  
 glee,  
 And big, bouncing bunglers, as all babies be.  
 All in the same valley lived these little men,  
 Enoch and Cyrus and Jerry and Ben.  
 Enoch and Cyrus and Jerry and Ben  
 Were fast little chums—till they grew to be  
 men.  
 Eight bare little feet on the same errands  
 flew  
 Through meadows besprinkled with daisies  
 and dew;  
 They were aimless as butterflies, thoughtless  
 and free  
 As the summer-mad bobolink, drunken with  
 glee.  
 A wonderful time were those careless days  
 then  
 For Enoch and Cyrus and Jerry and Ben.  
 Enoch and Cyrus and Jerry and Ben  
 Grew from babies to boys, and from boys  
 into men.  
 Too restless to stay in the circumscribed  
 bound  
 Of the green hills that circled their valley  
 around,  
 To the north and the south and the east and  
 the west,  
 Each departed along on a separate quest;  
 Ah! they'll ne'er be the same to each other  
 again.  
 Enoch and Cyrus and Jerry and Ben.  
 Enoch and Cyrus and Jerry and Ben  
 Though companions in youth, were strangers  
 as men;  
 Enoch grew rich and haughty and proud,  
 While Cyrus worked on with the toll-driven  
 crowd;  
 In the councils of State Jerry held a proud  
 place,  
 But poor Ben, he sounded the depths of dis-  
 grace.  
 Ah! diverse were the lives of these boys  
 from the glen,  
 Enoch and Cyrus and Jerry and Ben.  
 Enoch and Cyrus and Jerry and Ben  
 Who can read the strong faces that encom-  
 passed these men?  
 The fate that raised one to the summit of  
 fame,  
 The fate that dragged one to the darkness of  
 shame!  
 Ah! silence is best: neither glory nor blame  
 Will I grant to the honored or dishonored  
 name.  
 We are all like these boys who grew to be  
 men,  
 Like Enoch, or Cyrus, or Jerry, or Ben,  
 S. W. Foss, in Yankee Blade

**English Capital.**

The explanation of the buying up of great  
 properties and business enterprises in the  
 United States for English syndicates, with  
 the object of creating monopolies in beer,  
 salt and other commodities, is not English  
 enterprise so much as Yankee shrewdness.  
 Certain American speculators, knowing the  
 vast amount of capital in England seeking  
 investment and the low rate of interest  
 received for it there, learn from the owners  
 of breweries the sum for which they will  
 sell out. Then they bunch these figures  
 together and make an offer to the British  
 capitalists showing them the profit that can  
 be made from the investment. In nearly  
 every case in which a brewery has been  
 taken over the former owner has been re-  
 tained as manager. The field is a new one  
 for British capital, but there is so much  
 capital in England that there is hardly a  
 part of the universe where some of it has  
 not found employment. London is the chief  
 money market of the world and provides  
 the sinews of peace as well as the sinews of  
 war for other nations. The opening up of  
 new channels of trade, the great public  
 works, the municipal improvements, the  
 steamship lines, the railway, mining and  
 other enterprises that have been carried out  
 with capital provided by British capitalists,  
 represent a very big chapter in the book of  
 civilization.

**The State.**

Many unpleasant things have been written  
 and said about the Shah of Persia by those  
 who really know nothing about him, but it  
 is well to note that others who have seen him  
 in his own country speak of him in terms of  
 the highest praise. For instance, Mr. S. G.  
 W. Benjamin, who was for two years United  
 States Minister to Persia, says: "No sov-  
 ereign of more amiable disposition or intent  
 to act justly has ever sat upon an oriental  
 throne. Possessing in his own dominions  
 authority over life and death, no man ever  
 showed so little inclination to abuse such  
 power. Enlightened and humane, he allowed  
 the greatest liberality of speech, and has  
 likewise exhibited great tact in preserving  
 harmony among the turbulent elements com-  
 posing his people." Mr. Benjamin further  
 states that the journeys of the Persian mon-  
 arch to Europe have been the result of a pa-  
 triotic desire to study the conditions of for-  
 eign countries, and to borrow hints for the  
 improvement of his own. If all this be true,  
 and there is no reason to doubt it, it is not  
 surprising that Ghooly Kasan took offense at  
 American newspaper stories about his master.

**Foreign Crops.**

According to recent official advice the  
 condition of the Indian wheat crop is not  
 nearly so bad as has been reported. A  
 general bulletin sent out by the Revenue and  
 Agricultural Department states that in some  
 provinces excellent harvests are expected,  
 while in others the crop will be not more  
 than one-half or two-thirds of the average.  
 "On the whole," we are told by an English  
 commercial journal, "the report is more  
 favourable than earlier estimates led us to  
 expect, as it indicates a fair harvest for over  
 sixteen out of twenty-six million acres, and  
 something like two-thirds of an average on  
 the rest, as far as reports are available." In  
 Australia, however, the drouth has so re-  
 duced the crop that there will not be more  
 than enough for home consumption. In New  
 South Wales, for instance, the yield is only  
 500,000 bushels, as against nearly 5,000,000  
 last year. The harvest of 1887 was the  
 largest on record, amounting to about 47-  
 500,000 bushels; this year is not over 28-  
 000,000.

**FOR THE COMING EUROPEAN WAR.**

**France Invaded Through Switzerland.**

France is too well guarded upon her Alpine  
 frontier to allow the co-operation of the  
 Italian armies to be of any real service to  
 the German empire. But no serious ob-  
 struction up to the present could hinder the  
 Italians from penetrating the territory of  
 the Swiss Confederation, and opening up a  
 direct road to the valley of the Rhone be-  
 tween Lyons and Paris. The Simplon neck  
 would offer a wide and easy access to an in-  
 vading army. This route between Domo  
 d'Ossola and Brieg is an easy one. The  
 declivity is very gradual, and the ground  
 can be travelled over not only by wagons,  
 but by the heaviest artillery, without the  
 least difficulty. From Domo d'Ossola to  
 Brieg the distance can be covered by an  
 ordinary stage coach in nine hours and a  
 half, and one can travel it on foot in fourteen  
 or fifteen hours.  
 In this short lapse of time an Italian army  
 could capture the head of the railroad line  
 and of the entire route leading to the French  
 frontier. The greater portion of the Simp-  
 lon, and particularly the neck, is situated  
 on Swiss territory. At this strategic point,  
 the importance of which is manifest, the  
 line of the frontier runs along at about  
 half the height of the Italian side of the  
 Alps.

Switzerland has, therefore, in her hands  
 the key passage that, without natural diffi-  
 culties, would lead an Italian army into the  
 valley of the Saone. Only three old forts  
 are in existence to bar a route so important  
 — the forts of Saine Maurice, a little town  
 of 15,000 inhabitants, situated at the en-  
 trance of the first defile which is encountered  
 in going up the Rhone from its source in  
 Lake Geneva. At this point the two routes  
 and the two lines of railroad coming from  
 the lake unite. The enormous rocks of the  
 Dent de Morcle on the north and of the Dent  
 du Midi on the south come so close to each  
 other that the Rhone at that spot passes  
 through a narrow gorge. The Romans knew  
 the importance of this post, which they nam-  
 ed Aganum. Three forts stand there to de-  
 fend this pass, but they are far from being  
 formidable, and probably would not hold  
 out long against modern artillery. They  
 constitute the only defences of the entire  
 valley. There are no other redoubts, not  
 even at the Simplon neck.

Will the Federal Government hesitate  
 about closing this dangerous opening, which  
 might bring into Swiss Territory the forces  
 directed against France? The best military  
 writers of Switzerland believe that it is  
 necessary to make haste in closing this passage  
 while there is yet time; and the Swiss col-  
 onels, Slegfried and Rothpiz, hold that the  
 forts of Saint Maurice can be turned. The  
 Federal Government has fortified Saint Got-  
 thard, but it has done nothing with the Simp-  
 lon; and this is the neck that leads straight  
 to Lyons by passing through Geneva, Laus-  
 anne, and Berne. King Humbert does not  
 dream of attacking the Gotthard; he would  
 prefer to turn it, and establish solidly a  
 line of operations of which the Simplon  
 would form the base. There the Italian  
 army would find an open door for its  
 cooperation with a German army coming  
 from Baden and Wurtemberg, as it would  
 avail itself of it rather than break itself to  
 pieces against the Alps.

**African Lions.**

Henry Wall and Zwart Jantje crossed the  
 Zambezi to hunt elephants. They heard of  
 a man-eating lion who had killed several  
 people, and ordered their "boys" to make  
 a strong fence behind the camp every night,  
 and to collect plenty of wood, so as to keep  
 up good fires. One night a "boy" was  
 sleeping by himself alongside a fire, and the  
 other Kaffirs were lying in a row a little way  
 off. Just before daybreak Wall heard some-  
 thing like the purr of a lion close to him. He  
 cried out, "Here's a lion! Wake up, Jan-  
 tjé!"

In a few seconds the camp was stirring,  
 but the man who had been sleeping by him-  
 self was gone. Immediately they heard the  
 lion growling, and crunching the dead man  
 close behind the camp. Two shots fired in  
 the direction of the sound caused the lion to  
 retire from his prey.  
 At broad daylight the hunters took up the  
 trail, and before long came up with the lion,  
 who, with head turned on one side and hold-  
 ing the dead man by the shoulder, so that  
 his legs dragged on the ground, was walking  
 slowly along. When he heard the hunters,  
 he dropped his prey, half turned, and stood  
 looking at them. A shot caused him to run  
 into the thick bush, where pursuit was hope-  
 less. The dead man had been seized by the  
 head and killed instantly.  
 One night a woman and her two children  
 were sleeping in a hut on the ground, while  
 the husband slept in a little open hut on a  
 platform. Suddenly the woman was awak-  
 ened by the cries of her husband. She rushed  
 out; the lion was on the platform crunching  
 the body of her husband. At a sight of the  
 woman, the lion sprang from the platform,  
 killed her, and ate her as she lay. Not until  
 this man-eater had killed thirty natives was  
 he killed.

One day two young Kaffirs were about to  
 go into the forest to chop poles. "Now," he  
 said one to the other, "if the lion that has  
 killed so many people attacks us, what shall  
 we do?"

"We must stand and face him with our  
 assegais," answered his companion. "If he  
 attacks one of us, the other can rush in and  
 stab him."

As they were walking one behind the other,  
 the lion rushed upon them. One Kaffir stab-  
 bed the beast as he sprang upon him, but  
 received a blow from the lion's paw which  
 tore his neck and throat open, and laid him  
 upon the ground.

His comrade threw his assegai into the  
 lion, striking him in the ribs behind the  
 shoulder. Mortally wounded, the lion turned  
 and walked away, with two assegais  
 sticking in him. The two men returned to  
 their village, where the injured one died that  
 night. A hunt the next day discovered the  
 lion dead within a hundred yards of the spot  
 where he had sprung upon the man.

The natives collected a large quantity of  
 dry wood, and lighted a huge fire upon  
 which they threw the lion's carcass, and it  
 was wholly consumed. In the interior of  
 Africa a man-eating lion, when killed, is  
 always consumed by fire.

**Making the Best of it.**

Such a pity it isn't a girl!" said the elder-  
 ly and rich maiden aunt as she looked re-  
 gretfully at the infant. "I have no name-  
 sake in your family, you know." Aunt  
 Minerva, exclaimed the poor relation eagerly,  
 "we will give the boy your name with  
 a masculine termination and call him Mil-  
 nervous."

**FROM THE UNITED STATES TO EUROPE.**

**A Railroad from Washington Territory Through British Columbia and Alaska.**

It is highly probable that a railway from  
 Spokane Falls to Alaska will be constructed  
 within the next few years, said Mr. H. A.  
 Johnston. I am on my way home from a  
 business trip to Washington Territory, and  
 while out there my attention was called to  
 this project, and I spent considerable time  
 looking into it. The movement is in its  
 infancy, but it has the backing of the wealthy  
 men of the Northwest and of the people of  
 British Columbia, and I believe the road will  
 be built. The idea looks strange and  
 impracticable at the first glance, but, as a  
 matter of fact, the obstacles to be encoun-  
 tered in the construction of such a line would  
 be as great as were met with by the Central  
 Pacific and the Northern Pacific. It is pro-  
 posed to begin the railroad at Spokane Falls,  
 making that city the southern and eastern  
 terminus. Competent engineers place the  
 total cost at \$130,000,000. Mr. Walter Moberly,  
 engineer for the Government of British  
 Columbia, has examined the proposed route,  
 and believes the route could be built for less  
 money per mile than the Canadian Pacific,  
 and would prove profitable.

As to the route projected, it is necessary  
 to explain the physical conditions of the  
 country so that the feasibility of the plan  
 may be seen. The Rocky Mountains enter  
 British Columbia in about the longitude of  
 Salt Lake City, and tend westward until  
 they join the Alaska coast range, breaking  
 in the northern part of British Columbia into  
 three parallel ranges. The eastern range is  
 the Rockies proper, the middle range is the  
 Selkirks, and the western the Columbian  
 range. The Columbia River rises in the  
 valley between the Rockies and the Selkirks  
 and flows north until it reaches the ex-  
 tremity of the latter range, around which  
 it turns and flows back south between the  
 Selkirks and Columbian ranges into Wash-  
 ington Territory. At the point where the  
 Columbia turns the north end of the Sel-  
 kirk range, it receives a strong tributary in  
 the Canoe River. The road as projected  
 would run along the valleys of the Columbia  
 and the Canoe, then over the hills from  
 Tate Cache, and down along the Fraser  
 River to Front George. Thence it would  
 have to cross a long, but not difficult pass  
 to the valley of the Yukon, down which it  
 would go to the mouth of that great river, a  
 distance altogether of about 3,000 miles.  
 The Yukon is bordered most of the way  
 by a wide flood plain and terrace, and  
 construction along its banks would be simple.  
 "Where would the road get its revenue?"  
 was asked.

Well, to begin with, it would touch  
 the famous Kootenai valley, a splendid agri-  
 cultural and cattle-raising region. The people  
 of Spokane Falls have for some time been  
 figuring on a road eighty miles to the bound-  
 ary to connect with a road for which a  
 company of Canadians and Englishmen have  
 secured a charter, from the boundary to the  
 Canadian Pacific at Revelstoke, 200 miles  
 farther north. The English company will  
 commence work this summer, and their road  
 would form the first link in the Alaska road.  
 This, however, is merely to show that the  
 Kootenai region is valuable and that the  
 Spokane Falls people know it. There are a  
 great many mines and rich deposits of ore  
 along the Columbia, and an English company  
 is building a smelter at Revelstoke to handle  
 them. Nearly every stream running into the  
 Columbia carries float gold. The Canoe  
 River runs through a great fur and embryo  
 mining region, and from the Yukon come  
 gold, furs, and timber, and from its mouth  
 the seals. All along the route of the road is  
 valuable country either for mining, salmon  
 fisheries, agriculture, stock raising, or tim-  
 ber.

"Would not the snow and ice prevent the  
 operation of such a road?"

That is apparently the greatest difficulty.  
 Any one at first would think that the climate  
 would be an insurmountable difficulty, but  
 it is positively asserted by those who ought  
 to know that the climate would cause no  
 more trouble than it does on the Northern  
 and Canadian Pacific. You know that the  
 ocean breezes temper the climate all along  
 the coast, and it is very little colder in  
 Sitka than it is in New York. Now, this  
 road would run west of the mountains all  
 the way, and the further north it gets the  
 nearer does it go to the coast, so that the  
 climate would be comparatively temperate  
 all the way.

The road would be operated for the joint  
 use and benefit of British Columbia and the  
 United States, and it is proposed to have the  
 province contribute its proportion of the cost  
 in lands, and the United States to give its  
 guarantees for the payment of interest for  
 twenty years on \$50,000 per mile of the  
 cost.

There is another important point in con-  
 nection with this road. The Russian Govern-  
 ment is now engaged in building a railroad  
 across Siberia and down the Amoor to its  
 mouth. A road is also projected from the  
 main line on the Amoor into Kamchatka,  
 and to some port on Behring's Strait, only a  
 short distance from the mouth of the Yukon.  
 This line, in connection with the Alaska  
 road would form a practically all rail route  
 from Europe to the United States.

**Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone's Golden Wedding.**

The Queen and the Shah.  
 The meeting between the Queen and the  
 Shah was very funny, and the conversation  
 was carried on through the Persian Minister.  
 The Queen stood for a moment admiring the  
 large emerald and diamond buckles the Shah  
 wore on his waistcoat and coat, and having  
 sat down she motioned him to a seat beside  
 her, which he accepted, looking round for  
 the Princess of Wales, who was  
 immediately behind him, and whom he sig-  
 nalled to sit on a chair on the other side of  
 him. The pantomime which expressed his  
 wishes was irresistibly funny and taxed the  
 Princess greatly, for she bit her lips hard to  
 keep from laughing. However, she must  
 have got well accustomed to it now, for dur-  
 ing his stay here it has been evident on sev-  
 eral occasions that she could hardly keep or  
 look serious. —[London World.]

A soft answer turneth away wrath, but a  
 smart answer is likely to get its giver in-  
 trouble. The Erie order making the rail-  
 readers answer 296 questions had such an  
 effect on an old engineer, who has run over  
 the road 30 years, that in response to the  
 question, "What is a time card?" he wrote,  
 "A time card is a pamphlet calculated to  
 deceive the travelling public." The Buffalo  
 Division Superintendent suspended him for  
 30 days.

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