

YOUNG FOLKS.

The Prayer in the Snow.

The snow fell thick, and the snow fell fast. A moan from the trees where the winter wind lingers...

A BEAR STORY.

Hugh Arden was 16 years old when he met with the adventure that nearly cost him his life. Hugh was a tall, muscular boy for his age...

made him anxious to dispatch the bear before they should arrive. Seeing the animal fall and flounder in the bushes, Hugh advanced boldly...

With howls that were almost human in their agony and rage, the wounded bear rushed in pursuit of his foe. Bruin was almost at his heels when Hugh fell...

THE STORE LOAFER.

The store loafer is distinctively an institution of this continent. His shingle hangs out in every county. Times or seasons make no change in his habits...

It is needless to say that as his eyes are innocent of a bandage and his ears are not blacked, that what he imbibes through both mediums makes him expert as a social critic and a scandal artist...

In a personal and social sense the store loafer is nothing less delicate than a public nuisance. Everybody but himself is cognizant of this story fact, and we know of nothing that can make him excepting conversion or admittance shoe leather...

Be thy creed or thy prayers what they may, unless thou hast truth within thee thou wilt not find the path to true happiness. The source of final happiness is in the heart, and only the fool seeks it elsewhere...

A WALDEMAR MIRACLE.

ACR.P. Man Relates His Wonderful Escape.

Helpless With Rheumatism and Sciatica—Relief Comes After Doctors had Failed—The Story Corroborated by Reliable Witnesses. Grand Valley Star.

THE PATIENT'S STORY.

What you have heard is quite true, said Mr. Moss in reply to our query, "I have used Dr. Williams' Pink Pills with wonderful results. For years I had been a sufferer from rheumatism and bronchitis...

A White World.

I never knew the world in white so beautiful could be. As I have seen it here to-day Beside the wintry sea...

The Flying Years.

As a dream when night is done, As a shadow flees the sun; As a ship whose white sails skim Over the horizon dim...

The Roman Soldiers.

The Roman soldiers who built such wonderful roads and carried a weight of armour and luggage that would crush the average farm hand...

The Princess Victoria Melita.

The Princess Victoria Melita of Edinburgh is only just sixteen years old, yet her betrothal is to be shortly announced. Though so young, she has a more womanly countenance than her sister the (now) Princess of Roumania...

BRIEF AND INTERESTING.

Krupp's factory has 2,222 furnaces. Great Britain has eighty miles of tunnels. The flesh of the oyster is about 90 per cent. water.

About 2,000 daily and weekly journals are printed in Paris. The fashion of serving the fish before meats began in 1562.

There are twenty thousand trained nurses in England, Ireland, and Scotland. Salmon was formerly believed to promote drunkenness.

Old manuscripts and autographs are not bringing the prices they used to. The agitation against theatre hats is spreading; but so are the hats, unfortunately.

Pet dogs are now furnished with shoes for the purpose of protecting the polished floors. Cuban barbers lather their patrons with their hands from a bowl made to fit under the chin.

The profits from the sale of the works of Charles Dickens still amounts to about £8,000 a year. The coolie, fed on rice is more active and can endure more than the negro fed on fat meat.

Statistics show that the chances of fatal accident in railway travel is one in every ten million. Her Majesty is said to be sufficiently versed in Hindustani to keep a diary in that interesting language.

The Cossacks and Circassians of the Russian Guard are mainly Mohammedans, and consequently strict teetotalers. The largest telephone centre in the world is that in the exchange in Berlin, Germany, where 7,000 wires are connected with the main office.

The newest fad in autograph books is one of cooking recipes. Each formula written in the book has the signature of the contributing friend under it.

An inmate of an American convent has recently died, after being there 98 years, without once going outside the convent walls. Her recorded age was 115 years.

A swimming tank is said to be a cure for lameness in horses. In swimming the horse exercises the same muscles as in trotting, but with no injury to his feet or legs.

So extensive are the feeding grounds and so rapid the movements of the wild ostrich that as many as fifty or sixty miles are often travelled by it between daybreak and dark.

It is said that a Spanish firm of publishers once produced a work in which one letter only got misplaced through accident, and this is believed to have been the nearest approach to perfection that has ever been attained in a book.

The salaries earned by average leading ladies and gentlemen in American companies run from £20 to £60 a week, while the juveniles get from £15 to £20, which may also be taken as the salary of good comedians and second ladies.

A person who has totally lost the sense of hearing in one ear, although he may imagine that the defect is of little consequence, cannot locate the direction of a sound to save his life, even when the centre of disturbance is quite near him.

The longest single span of wire in the world is used for a telegraph wire and is stretched over the River Kistwah, between Bezorah and Sootanagram, India. It is over 6,000 feet long, and is stretched from the top of one mountain to another.

Although it may not generally be known, the woods of northern Canada are still infested by a queer species of bison known as the "wood buffalo." He is much larger than the buffalo of the plains, which formerly abounded in such numbers.

The Kalmucks of Astrakhan, a roving people numbering about 150,000 souls, have at last been freed from serfdom. When the other Russian serfs were freed in 1861 it was considered dangerous to extend this privilege to these people, lest their wildness would lead to its abuse.

In the British Patent Office, where of all places in the world one would expect to find things ordinarily well "up to date," the steel pen is unknown, and the antediluvian goose-quill absolute and supreme. Verily the ways of Government officials are not as other men's.

Another use has been found for electricity. In Ceylon experiments have shown that it is more economical to dry tea leaves by its agency than by the old method, and extensive plants have been erected for that purpose.

The term "tabby cat" is derived from Atab, a famous street in Bagdad, inhabited by the manufacturers of silken stuff called atabi or tafety. This stuff is woven with wavy markings of watered silk resembling a "tabby" cat's coat.

In the Roman Campagna, at the sepulchre of Metella, wife of Sulla, there is an echo which repeats five times, each being in a different key. It will also repeat a hexameter line, or another sentence which can be spoken in two and a half seconds.

The Shah of Persia, who has ten millions sterling stored in his palace, has been borrowing a sum from the State to defray the cost of his summer outing to the distant provinces of his empire. His suite comprises 10,000 people, including 300 wives.

Adelina Patti was the first prima donna who demanded in Paris a nightly salary of ten thousand francs. When it was conceded to her her rivals preferred the same claims; so that to keep her supremacy in the operatic market she persistently raised her prices to fifteen thousand francs, which sum she received for each of the three concerts she gave in one week at the Eden Theatre.

A coloured woman, named Lizzie Young, in Georgia, U.S.A., takes contracts for excavations, and sometimes has thirty carts employed under her direction. When not busy checking off loads she crochets or sews. For six months or so every year she runs an extensive woodyard. She keeps two or three men in the forest chopping, two or three more sawing and splitting in the yard, and four or five delivering and piling the wood. She keeps from forty to sixty head of hogs on her farm, and has a will route in the city which supplies them with nearly all the food necessary. Every year she sells many hundred dollars' worth of pork. She is also an extensive chicken farmer, and drives a good trade in poultry and eggs.