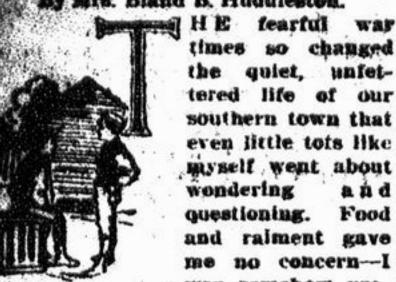
## EX TEMPTATION.

By Mrs. Bland B. Huddleston,



imes so changed the quiet, unfettered life of our southern town that even little tots like myself went about wondering and questioning. Food and raiment gave me no concern--I was somehow pro-

rised for, and I had forgotten the sight and taste of luxuries before I grew old mongh to discriminate between the old lays of plenty and our later poverty. m was my unreplenished store of playthings that most troubled me; it diminshed gradually, day by day, and there was no visible source of a new supply. At my seventh birthday I would have given a fortune, had I beasted one, for a knife, and I had never owned one. an ashing, in shooting, in countless mergencies, my one crying need was For a knife. Zeke, one of the negroes, **doated** over the possession of a broken ase-knife, ground sharp and pointed, and this I sometimes succeeded in borsowing; but Zeke bandled it lovingly and guarded it with a vigilant eye, so Shat I dared take no libertles with it. To insure a continuance of his favors I always adhered strictly to the terms of the loan and never cut a ramrod beyond | changed since then. the stipulated number.

Peace came at last and brought home my father, and two of the three brothwho had gone to the war, and for time I was fully satisfied. Soon the a crack in the wall and took good alm. steres were filled with bright and pretby things, but they were costly and we its mark. were now poor.

The same hunger still keen in my heart, I impact of a well-thrown berry on a to later happiness has ever surpassed meart's desire came to me, and my father laid in my palm the prettiest | the country was passing through a lawmife I had ever seen. When next I less stage of reconstruction, and unprowent to school I had advanced much n my own esteem; I had my brand new table in one pocket, nine true and tried | thoughts of a cowardly attack from he marbles in the other and in my bookmek a long elder pop-gun for shouting | pain of my stinging little missile, be thing-beeries or hog-haws.

he southern boy, and no commercial immunition could be invented to supbly that weapon so fittingly and so effisactously as the herry of the chinares, everywhere so plentiful here. I was expert at making and using the weapon. Given a human target, I could meure a blister for every berry.

Alas, I moon discovered that the heart oven a boy in rarely antisfied. Joe Choper, a boy four years older than imposif, had come by five large marbles; they were ringmen, two "buck-eyes" and three "stripes," and they appealed powerfully to my covetous little soul. The luster of my nine tried old friends saled beside them-their glory had demrted forever.

"Joe." I said persuastrely as we muntered along together, "what will you take for 'em?"

"What'll you give?" Joe answered. I named all my most cherished pos-



SURE I HAD THE TED HIM. owever, was Jul of the gnowlon, to we could not trade.

Mr. Wyndham, our teacher, was mannered man, but severe to cruity if persistantly erunsed. He was in stature had a round beardless nee and was about 40 years old. We news both loved and feared him, so his talen had been an uneventful one. As ar meralf, he had never spoken a harsh ward to me. I say this to show that I not even a secret grudge to avenge. in intrigue against his dignitus.

The languerous air and the fervid make dull work of the southern room during the summer menths, but happily the teacher is malent. Thus it is that Mr. Wyndham ermitted boys of Joe Cooper's age to outside under the water-oaks to ndy and the younger ones were alred to go at ridiculously short inrais to the apring for coof water disease, as they wear gloves. to bathe their soiled and sleepy Doubtless he sympathized more rally than we know.

I was sauntering down the spring been right in not calling our oriental

can get them for nothing," he rae mot a handrome fellow a

and just now his face was mall-He had run afoul of some

My jaw dropped and I gazed at Joe in utter stupefaction. To my mind the proposed assault would almost be equivalent to murder, for I was not wantonly mischlevous, and Mr. Wyndham was the man I loved next to my father. Besides, I was not able to assoclate him in my mind with the idea of indignity, and so I had the grace to reject Joe's offer, but not so firmly or so scornfully as I ought, perhaps.

Joe evidently had in him the elements of the politician, as he afterward showed: he bided his time, yet failed not to keep his project before me, by taking out, as often as he met me, the coveted treasures from his pocket and tantalizing me with brief glimpses of what might be mine.

He who hesitates is lost, and I fell. As time passed my refusals became less vehement, and at last I found myself thinking that I would be willing to bear any punishment that Mr. Wyndham might inflict, if he left me with my life and the marbles. Since that hour I have been able to comprehend the love of savages for trinkets, and their sacrifices to obtain them.

In the longest, hottest days Mr. Wyndham often sat in the doorway, on the side of the schoolroom that chanced to be the cooler. As Joe and I came up from the spring he was resting his head wearily against the doorframe, while the children drooped over their books; it was a village school, and thirty years ago-things have

"Now for it," Joe whispered. "Plunk him quick," and his hand slipped into

"Zip!" went the little berry straight to

Then more things happened than I Thus I came to be 11 years old, with | had foreseen, but not the expected. The nerve-centre is calculated to smart that of the eventful day when my worse and to startle one more than the But in my heart, O flow'r, thou art foruninitiated might suppose. Besides, voked crimes were not uncommon, Mr. Wyndham jumped up, startled by knew not whom, and, infuriated by the lost his balance and fell heavily on a From time immemorial the pop-gun | jagged corner of the doorstep, where he me been the favorite summer toy of lay so long that the incipient titter from the school room wound up in a cry of terror.

> Blood streamed from a cut in his cheek; I was sure that I had killed him, With all an assassin's instincts for escape, I turned and fled. By and by, as I crouched in a thicket, consciencestricken and too miserable for tears, I heard my name called in the voice that I always instinctively obeyed. Mr. Wyndham was not dead!

When I crept out, visions of shame and punishment rose before me, but I cared not what might come, now that my friend had not perished at my hand. In the silence of the deserted school room I poured out the whole story. Perhaps Mr. Wyndham remembered some childmh treasure that he had craved and failed to get, or ft may be that he himself played pranks with the popular berry; shyway, I went home

Joe was closeted with Mr. Wyndham a long while the next day. I believe he played the "foke act," and pretended to have intended; no harm; nevertheless, he was severely reprimanded. He was utterly crushed when Mr. Wyndham made him turn the marbles over to e, from which it was evident that he had not intended to keep his contract. He might have kept them and welcome for they had lost their attractiveness

A New Disease.

There is a new disease not down in he catalogue of the latest medical experts, says the Syracuse Post. Streetrailway conductors are the persons affected. As far as can be learned, about a half-dozen employes of the Syracuse street railroad company have lately been afflicted more or less with a swelling of the eyes, accompanied by partial blindness. The conductors in question, without exception, stuck to their work. a but one of them was forced to undergo medical treatment. He had observed from time to time that his hands grow black from contact with the brass railing of the car when he jumped on and off. In windy weather he had to wipe hie eyes more or less to brush away the moisture. These two things he only observed after he was well along in the stage of the eye trouble. He then my cupidity led me to assist in consulted a physician and was treated for metallic poisoning, finally recovering without difficulty. Then he came to the conclusion that the contact with the railing was responsible for the trouble. Since that time he has worn gloves and has not experienced the discase. But those conductors who do not know his experience may yet suffer. This man was afflicted for four weeks. Motormen are not troubled with the

Learning from the Chinese. The instinct of the plain people has the digging my bara toes into the hot visitor "Lee," for, acting out his name and watching the countless black as popularly pronounced, this wily that swarm everywhere, when Joe diplomat has, in England as well as here, required English to be translated Do you still want the marbles?" he to him, whereas it now appears that for years past he has speken it fluent-Do It I answered eagerly; "I'd give by. This Chinese device of a needless thing for them anything but my interpreter is a "first-chop" one to gain time for giving answers without causing the delay to be noticed; the mandarin has the time taken in translation for reflection, and, if further reflection is desired, ambiguity in interpretation may be pretended and a new form of the question required. And you men tell us that nothing can be r pop-gun," he continued, learned from the Chinese. Time and

SHE BEGAN WRITING VERSES A THE AGE OF SIX.

The Work Done by Margaret F. Muure Now 14 Years Old-Her Education a Home--- Her Instinctive Turn to Rhypes -Love for Dotte.



the midsumme St. Nicholas, there ppeared seven poems by a girl of 12 years. The author is little Marsaret Frances Mauro, of Washington, D. C., now in her fourteenth year. Her "Sonnet to a Purple Pansy" follows:

D lovely flower, loveliest of thy kind, kind. Fair as the purple cloud that sunse decks.

A beauteous blossom of thy gentle A bit of fragrance, budding on the

A storehouse for the honey-gathering Now coyly smiling with coquettish Now with a lovely look upon thy

An upward glance of grave, sweet prose and verse since she was 6 years A drop of purple dew that gleams, then

ered stem.

Know it no more forget it did existever missed.

vals, as her mother preferred to educate her according to her own ideas of what a little girl should learn. At home, where she was surrounded by her flowers and her toys, Margaset's poetleal nature expanded. From the time when she was taught to hold a pen her natural inclination was toward the writing of verses, which, crude at first, gradually took on rhyme and rhyth. The flowers, the birds, the books which she read, and the triffing incidents of her every-day life suggested to her the ideas which she expressed in childish rhyme. Even her daily hour of plano practice, which, with the instinct of a healthy child, she thoroughly hated, furnished her the theme for a poem which she called "The Monster Practicing." The editor of St. Nicholas wrote of her in the August number of that magazine:

"Some of our young readers may have 'skipped' the poems on pages 856 and 857, as perhaps too 'old' for them, or too like poems for grown folk. But they will turn again to them with interest when they realize that these verses are the work of a girl of 12the thoughts that come to her from her favorite flowers and birds, and the every-day experiences of childhood. As such, the poems are truly remarkable in depth of feeling and power of expression, and they seem to us an evident promise of a genuine poetic gift.

Margaret Frances Mauro is not yet 14; and most of these verses were written before she had completed her twelfth year. Indeed, she has written

When the girl was in her thirteenth year her mother took her abroad for a Sets upon earth's green breast an- course in French. After the sorrow of parting with her father, her chief con-Then, lifeless, hangs upon its with- cern as she walked up the gang plank of the ocean steamer was for the large Drops-and the grassy woodland dells doll which she carried in her arms. When she returned recently she brought with her in a cage a green paroquet, of which she is very fond. The publication of her peems was

TO PACIFY CHRISTIANS.



MGR. TCHAMTCHIAN.

The suspension and exile of the sul- has been chosen for the office not by tan of Turkey of the most reverend the assembly of Armenians, but age, Mgr. Bartholomew Tehamtchian, factions.

patriarch, or metropolitan bishop, of through the intervention of a mixed the Armenian community at Constan- council, the members of which were tinople, rendered it needful that a "lo- nominated by the suitan. The new cum tenens" should be appointed for official enjoys much popularity with the administration of the affairs of the high-rank Turks and it is expectthat church in the capital of the Turk- ed that his great tact will do much ish empire. An ecclesiastical person- toward keeping peace between the two



MARGARET FRANCES MAURO. Besides the almost absolute perfection of the rhyme, and the simple music of the verses, the spelling, the syntactical form of the lines are true to the genfus of ancient English. And yet this little poet, whose years preclude the idea of any extensive excursions into the literature of earlier times, is unable to tell when or where she got the fdess for the poem. Although not precocious in any other way, Margaret has been writing verses since she was 6 years old. She is the daughter Philip Mauro, a patent lawyer, and all

Perhaps the most wonderful verses | never dreamed of until her father. ever written by a child not yet in her | struck by the apparent beauty and 'teens are in the poem entitled "Ye smoothness of the lines of "Ye Ro-Romance of Ye Oldenne Tyme," which | mance of Ye Oldenne Tyme," sent them Margaret wrote before she was 12 to the editor of St. Nicholas for an years old, and had published in the opinion as to their poetical merit. The September number of St. Nicholas. The | answer was warm praise for Margaret's genius and an offer to publish the child's best poems.

Butterfir Mimica.

In the South American forests the butterflies and the birds are equally brilliant in their colors, but the butterflies being weaker, fall a prey to the birds. One very bright-hued species of butterfly, however, is not disturbed by the birds, on account of the disagreeable odor which it emits. Singuarly enough, some other groups of butterflies, which resemble the species just described in color, also escape persecution by the birds, although they emit no odor. It is evident that the similarity of color deceives the birds, and thus serves as a shield for the butterflies. This sort of mimicry of color and form, which naturalists call "protective resemblance," is not very uncommon among insects.

Distinguishing Shades. By a scientific experiment Professor Cattell of Columbia college has determined that the average person's eves are able to distinguish about twentyfive different shades between black and white. He employed no less than two hundred shades in his experiment. but the great majority of these were the years of her young life, except one, too near alike to be distinguished by when she was abroad have been passed | the eye. These were not shades of difin Washington. The child never want firent colors, but simply gray surfaces to school, except at infragment inter passing gradually from white to black,

The Cardes South

The South is destined to be, and in rapidly becoming, the garden of the United States. Here life is easier to live, the rigorous winters do not est up the fruits of the toil of summer, nor are the summers so trying as many Northern people have supposed. used to live only half the year," said a northern farmer recently settled in the South, "and I used to work all the time then. Now I work half the time and live all the year through."

Home seekers' excursion tickets will be sold over the Monon Route to nearly all points in the South at the rate of one first class fare (one way); tickets good returning on any Tuesday or Friday within thirty-one days from date of sale. Liberal stop-overs are allowed. These excursions start (and tickets are sold) Oct. 19 and 20. Call on any agent of the Monon Route for further information, or address Frank J. Reed, G. P. A., Chicago.

Keeping Cheese.

To keep cheese fresh and moist is one of the problems of housekeeping. There are several ways of doing this, but the best, verified by experience, is to wrap it up in damp butter muslin, and not keep it in a warm place. In this way cheese may be kept for weeks.

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A hotel at Chico, Mich., burned so rapidly Saturday that only one trunk



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With a better understanding of the transient nature of the many physical ills, which vanish before proper efforts-gentle efforts-pleasant effortsrightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge, that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, which the pleasant family laxative, Syrup of Figs. promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and is everywhere estermed so highly by all who value good heath. Its beneficial effects are due to the fact, that it is the one remedy which promotes internal cleanliness without debilitating the organs on which it acts. It is therefore all important, in order to get its beneficial effects, to note when you purchase, that you have the genuine article, which is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only and sold by all reputable druggists.

If in the enjoyment of good health, and the system is regular, laxatives or other remedies are then not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative. one should have the best, and with the well-informed everywhere, Syrap of Figs stands highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction. Severe of Clatmants for Catarra the Contain Meroury.

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derauge the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarric Cure, manufactured by F. J. Chency & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and sources surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarric Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, O., by F. J. Chency & Co. Testimonials free.

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