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Railroad News.

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THE MAGIC OF THE VIOLIN.

Its Wonderful Charm in the Hands of a Master Described.

Arthur Symons thus describes the great violinist Ysaye as he appeared while playing his instrument: "Then' the 'Kreutzer Sonata' began and I looked at Ysaye as he stood, an almost shapeless mass of flesh, holding the violin between his fat fingers and looking vaguely into the air. He put the violin to his shoulder. The face had been like a mass of clay waiting the sculptor's thumb. As the music came an invisible touch seemed to pass over it; the heavy mouth and chin remained firm, pressed down on the violin, but the eyelids and the eyebrows began to move, as if the eyes saw the sound and were drawing it in luxuriously with a kind of sleeping ecstasy, as one draws in perfume out of a flower. Then, in that instant, a beauty which had never been in the world came into the world; a new thing was created, lived, died, having revealed itself to all those who were capable of receiving it."

Simple and Effective.

In Hungary, when the question of the baby's future comes up for discussion among the gypsies, there is no time wasted in an argument. A blanket is held by the four corners and the baby is thrown into the air. If it comes down on its little stomach, it is a sign that it is going to be a musician; if it falls on its back it is to be a thief; and the education of the child is begun as soon as possible in one of these two time honored professions.

Goethe's Terror.

It was orly after years and years of effort that Goethe could overcome an ill-defined, superstitious dread. Like many children with a poetical temperament, he was sensitive and suffered from childish terrors. To overcome this his somewhat stern and opinionated father used to compel him to sleep alone and when the lad stole away from his own bed to that of his brothers would chase him back disguised as a fantastic hobgoblin.

The Secret of Success. A countrywoman remarked to her neighbor during a conversation on their return from market, "How is it, Mary, that you have been married four times, and I've never been married at all, and I'm much handsomer than you?" "Aye, to be sure," returned Mary, "but it ain't handsomeness that does it. Sarah; it's the 'come hither' in

The Minister's Threat.

There was a minister deprived of his pulpit who said to some of his friends that the action should cost a hundred men's lives. They understood it as if being a turbulent fellow, he would have moved sedition; so they complained of him. Then he explained that his meaning was that if he lost his benthen he thought he should kill a hundred men in time.

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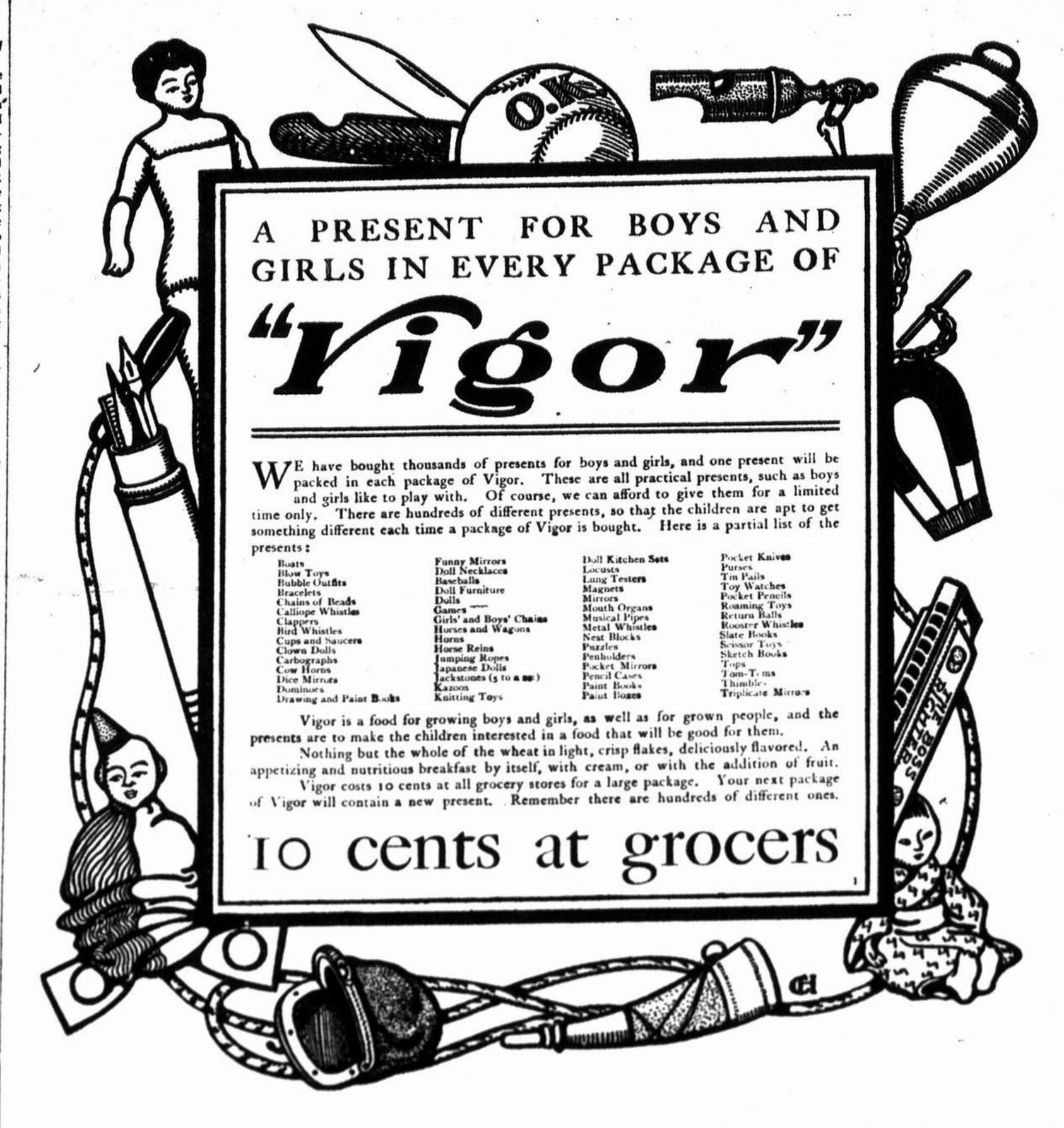
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