THE FREE PRESS.

THURSDAY MORNING, Jan. 20, 1881.

YOUNG FOLKS' CORNER.

Grandma and Bessie.

O, grandma sits in her oaken chair,
And in flies Bessie with tangled hair,
"I'm going to be married, O, grandmamma!
I'm going to be married! Ha! ha! ha! ha!"

O, grandma smooths out her apron string:
"Do you know, my dear, 'tis a solemn thing!"
"'Tis solemner not to, grandmamma,
I'm going to be married! Ha! ha! ha! ha!"

Then grandma looks through her sixty years,
And sums up a woman's hopes and fears;
Six of 'em living and two of 'em dead;
Grandpa helpless and tied to his bed.

Nowhere to live when the house burned down;
Years of fighting with old Mother Brown;
Stockings to darn and bread to bake,
Dishes to wash and dresses to make.

But then the music of pattering feet,
Grandpa's kisses so soft and sweet,
Song and prattle the livelong day,
Joy and kisses and love alway.

O, grandma smooths out her apron string,
And gazes down at her wedding ring,
And still she smiles as she drops a tear;
"'Tis solemner not to. Yes, my dear."

A Child's Word in Season.

An English Clergyman says: "Very recently a little boy in my parish, only six years of age, was sent to fetch his father from a public house. He found his parent drinking with some other men, one of whom invited the little fellow to have some beer. Firmly, and at once the little fellow replied,

"No, I can't take that; I belong to the Band of Hope."

The men looked at one another, but no one was found to repeat the temptation. The man then said:

"Well, if you won't take the beer here is a penny for you to buy some bull's-eyes."

The boy took the penny and said:

"I thank you, but I had rather not buy bull's eyes; I shall put it in the savings bank."

The men looked at each other, and for a few moments were entirely silent. At length one of them rose and gave utterance to his feelings in these words:

"Well, I think the sooner we sign the pledge and put our savings in the penny-bank the better."

The men immediately left the house. Such was the effect of the speech of a boy only six years old.

Hold On Boys.

Hold on to your tongue when you are just ready to swear, lie or speak harshly, or use an improper word.

Hold on to your hand when you are about to punch, strike, steal, or do any improper act.

Hold on to your foot when you are on the point of kicking, running off from study, or pursuing the path of error, shame or crime.

Hold on to your temper when you are angry, excited or imposed upon, or when others are angry with you.

Hold on to your heart when evil associates seek your company and invite you to join in their mirth, games or revelry.

Hold on to your good name at all times, for it is of more value than gold, high placet or fashionable attire.

Hold on to truth, for it will serve you well, and do you throughout eternity.

Hold on to virtue—it is above all price to you in all times and places.

Hold on to your good character, for it is and will be your best wealth.

A Little Advice.

I want to give you three or four rules: One is, always look at the person you speak to. When you are addressed, look straight at the person who speaks to you. Do not forget this.

Another is, speak your words plainly. Do not mutter or mumble. If words are worth saying, they are worth pronouncing distinctly and clearly.

Another is, do not say disagreeable things. If you have nothing pleasant to say, keep silent.

A fourth is—and oh! children, remember it all your lives—think three times before you speak once!

Have you something to do that you find hard and would prefer not to do? Then listen. Do the hard thing first, and get it over with. If you have done wrong, go and confess it. If your lesson is tough, master it. If the garden is to be weeded, weed it first and play afterward. Do the thing you don't like to do first; and then with a clear conscience do the rest.

Words of Wisdom.

A fault confessed is half redressed.

A full stomach is apt to be deaf to instruction.

The future of society is in the hands of the mothers.

Love, faith, patience—these are the three essentials of a happy life.

Flattery is a false coin which has circulation only through our vanity.

Ceremonies differ in every country; but true politeness is ever the same.

Vice stings us even in our pleasures, but virtue consoles us even in our pains.

Who would venture upon the journey of life if compelled to begin the end?

Perfection in the Christian life is only reached by slow toiling upward steps.

Heaven's gates are wide enough to admit every sinner in the universe who is penitent.

Our own valuation of our own righteousness is the poorest test we can have of its value.

God hears the heart without the words, but he never hears the words without the heart.

Solomon and the Blacksmith.

The story goes that, during the building of Solomon's Temple, that wise ruler decided to treat the artisans employed on his famous edifice to a banquet. While the men were enjoying the good things his bounty had provided, King Solomon moved about from table to table, endeavoring to become better acquainted with his workmen. To one he said:—

"My friend, what is your trade?"

"A carpenter."

"And who makes your tools?"

"The blacksmith," replied the carpenter.

To another Solomon said:—

"What is your trade?" and the reply was:—

"A mason."

"And who makes your tools?"

"The blacksmith," replied the mason.

A third stated that he was a stone cutter, and that the blacksmith also made his tools. The fourth man that King Solomon addressed was the blacksmith himself. He was a powerful man, with bared arms, on which the muscles stood out in bold relief, seemingly almost as hard as the metal he worked.

"And what is your trade, my good man?" said the king.

"Blacksmith," laconically replied the man of the anvil and sledge.

"And who makes your tools?"

"Make 'em myself," said the blacksmith.

Whereupon King Solomon immediately proclaimed him the king of mechanics; because he could not only make his own tools, but all other artisans were forced to go to him to have their tools made.

Striking Hard Pan.

COUNCIL TO YOUNG MEN.

On Thursday night diplomas were awarded to students of a New York business college at the Academy of Music. Rev. Robert Colyer made the address, his subject being "Hard Pan." During the course of his remarks he said that he had worked on a farm, carried hod, shod horses, broken stone on a turnpike, had reaped and cradled grain, dug wells, cut wood and had preached sermons that nobody wanted to hear. His wonderful success had been achieved by pure grit and honest industry. You must dig down to "hard pan," he said, to lay a foundation to fame and fortune. The reverend gentleman seemed to have drawn the most of his inspiration from Poor Richard's almanac. His opiculated aphorisms may be grouped as follows:

Any kind of an honest job is better than no job at all.

Take a dollar a day for your work if you can get no more.

A man's best friend are his ten fingers.

When evil days come, as evil days will, no man deserves the title of gentleman if he does not take honest work to do regardless of social influences.

When country boys come to the city, if they will hold on to the old sweet ways, they can defy the world.

Hot Sand a Good Bedfellow.

The comfort which a hot water bag or even a hot brick may afford a person on retiring, chilled, is very great, and beyond this, the use of some such warmth producing appliance is useful as a health preservative and restorative. But one of the most convenient articles to be used as a bed warmer in a sick room is a sand bag. Get some clean, fine sand, dry it thoroughly in a kettle on the stove, make a bag about eight inches square of flannel, fill it with the dry sand, sew the opening carefully together, and cover the bag with cotton, or linen cloth. This will prevent the sand from shifting out and will also enable you to heat the bag quickly by placing it in the oven, or on the top of the stove. After using this you will never again attempt to warm the feet of a sick person with a bottle of hot water or a brick. The sand holds the heat a long time, and the bag can be tucked up to the back without hurting the invalid. It is a good plan to make two or three of the bags and keep them ready for use.

We measure minds by their stature; it would be better to esteem them by their beauty.

An old bachelor, who edits a paper somewhere in the Western country, puts "Melancholy Accidents" as a head for marriages in his paper.

CARVING.—Carving isn't fun. A young man in a neighboring township was invited to carve a turkey at a dinner, recently, and before the knife was finally taken away from him he had upset a glass of water, wrenched his shoulder, shot the bird across the table into a lady's lap, and nearly jabbed a man's eye out, and it wasn't a tough bird, either.

Great Clearing Sale at the Right House

Immense reductions in prices to close out the winter stock. Mr. Wm. T. Watkins having sailed for Europe this week to purchase supplies for this enormous house, Watkins has decided to make a great clearing sale at such very low prices as will cause a sensation amongst the ladies. Read a few of the reduced prices, and call and see the goods, and you will be sure to buy them. Ladies will please remember they can get almost any kind of goods they may require at the very cheapest rates. Very handsome all-wool French dress goods at 25c, well worth 37½c. Lots of grey lustres only 7c, worth 12½c. Piles of dress goods reduced to cost prices. Very nice all-wool black cashmeres, wide and good, only 35c, well worth 50c. Better all-wool French black cashmeres in both blue and jet black at 50c, and up to $1. Nice black lustre from 10c up to the best. Colored lustres from 12½c. Good blankets at $2.37½, better at $2.75, and upwards to the best. All the blankets are greatly reduced in price. Good all-wool 28 inch grey flannels at 25c, worth 35c. Nice white flannels from 20c up. Good scarlet Saxony flannels 21 inches wide, only 17c; 22 inches only 20c, and 23½ inches wide only 25c. Wincoys marked down very cheap. Nice black velveteens 25c, worth 37½c. Good Canadian grey cotton only 5c. Better and wider only 5½c. All the grey cottons are sold at the maker's prices. Navy blue flannels only 25c. Large well wadded quilts only $1.25, well worth $2.75. Nice white cottons only 8½c, worth 10c. Bed tickings from 10c. Just see the yard wide ticking marked down to 22c. Cretonnes marked down to 12½c and 15c. A large lot of beautiful cretonnes at very cheap prices. About 70 gross of nice dress buttons worth 10c, are being sold off at 5c to 6c. Men's woolen scarfs marked down from 50c to 50c. Corsets marked down from 75 to 25c. Ladies' hats and bonnets marked down to about half their value. Ladies' mantles and ulsters marked down to about half price. Just see these goods. Carpets greatly reduced in price. A large lot of remnants of carpets at an immense reduction in prices. Excellent huck towels 39 x 21 inches, only 12½c. Lots of ribbons marked down from 25 to 5c. Coats' best 200 yard 6-cord spools only 3c. Kid gloves marked down from 40 to 25. King st., close to Hughson st. Remember the name is

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