THE FREE PRESS.

THURSDAY MORNING, March 17, 1881.

YOUNG FOLKS CORNER.

For A Little Bird Tells

It's strange how little boys' mothers
Can find it all out as they do;
If a fellow does anything naughty,
Or says anything that's not true!
They'll look at you just a moment,
Till your heart in your bosom swells,
And then they know all about it—
For a little bird tells!

Now where the little bird comes from,
Or where the little bird goes,
If he's covered with beautiful plumage,
Or as black as the king of crows,
If his voice is as hoarse as a raven
Or clear as the ringing bells,
I know not—but this I am sure of—
A little bird tells!

The moment you think a thing wicked,
The moment you do a thing bad,
Are angry or sullen or hateful,
Get ugly or stupid or mad,
Or tease a dear brother or sister—
That instant your sentence he knells,
And the whole to mamma in a minute
That little bird tells!

You may be in the depths of a closet
Where nobody sees but a mouse!
You may be all alone in the cellar,
You may be on the top of the house,
You may be in the dark and the silence,
Or out in the woods and the dells—
No matter! Wherever it happens,
The little bird tells!

And the only contrivance to stop him
Is just to be sure what you say—
Sure of your facts and your fancies,
Sure of your work and your play!
Be honest, be brave, and be kindly!
Be gentle and loving as well,
And then—you can laugh at the stories
The little birds tells!

A Faithful Boy's Career.

We clip the following extract, showing the way in which some of our merchants have risen from an humble, non-remunerative position to that of wealth and prominence:

A few years ago a large drug firm advertised for a boy. The next day the store was thronged with applicants, among them a queer-looking little fellow, accompanied by a woman, who proved to be his aunt, in lieu of fatherless parents, by whom he had been abandoned. Looking at this little waif, the merchant in the store said, "Can't take him; places all full; besides, he is too small." "I know he is small," said the woman, "but he is willing and faithful." There was a twinkle in the boy's eye which made the merchant think again. A partner in the firm volunteered to remark that, "he did not see that they wanted such a boy—he wasn't bigger than a pint of cider." But after consultation the boy was set to work. A few days later a call was made on the boys in the store for some one to stay all night. The prompt response of the little fellow contrasted well with the reluctance of others. In the middle of the night the merchant looked in to see if all was right in the store, and presently discovered his youthful protege busy scissoring labels. "What are you doing?" said he. "I did not tell you to work nights." "I know you did not tell me so, but I thought I might as well be doing something." In the morning the cashier got orders to "double that boy's wages, for he is willing." Only a few weeks elapsed before a show of wild beasts passed through the streets, and, very naturally, all hands in the store rushed to witness the spectacle. A thief saw his opportunity, and entered the rear door to seize something, but in a twinkling found himself firmly clutched by the diminutive clerk aforesaid, and, after a struggle, was captured. Not only a robbery was prevented, but valuable articles taken from other stores were recovered. When asked by the merchant why he stayed behind to watch when all others quit their work, he replied; "You told me never to leave the store when others were absent, and I thought I'd stay." Orders were immediately given once more—"Double that boy's wages; he is willing and faithful." To-day that boy is getting $2,500, and next January he will become a member of the firm.

A Curiosity.

For some years the following sentence has stood as the shortest into which all the letters of the alphabet could be compressed:—

"J. Gray:—Pack with my box five dozen quails."

The above sentence contains thirty-three letters. A Utica gentleman recently improved on it as follows, using only thirty-two letters:—

"Quack, glad zephyr, waft my javelin box."

George W. Pierce, a Boston lawyer, has now forced twenty-six letters of the alphabet into a sentence of only thirty-one letters, as below:—

"Z. Badger —Thy vixen jumps quick at fowl."

Words of Wisdom.

Strengthen the weak and all will be strong.

Strive to attain the noble ends of your highest aims,

Stupidity in some persons is one of the worst diseases.

Speak well of your friends—of your enemies say nothing.

Selfishness is an enemy to conscience, and a friend only to itself.

It is better to be merry and wise than merry and otherwise.

Systematize your business and keep an eye on your little expenses.

Some people are so lazy that they tire the tools with which they work.

Best satisfied with doing well, and leave others to say of you what they please.

Suppress the first inclinations to do wrong, and then it will be easy to do right.

A New Parable.

Then shall the kingdom of satan be likened to a grain of tobacco seed which though small, being cast into the earth grew, and became a great plant, so that huge and vile worms found a habitation thereon. And it came to pass in the course of time that the sons of men looked upon it and thought it beautiful, and much to be desired, to make lads look big and manly. So they put forth the hand and did chew thereof, and some it made sick so that they did vomit most filthily. And it further came to pass that those who chewed became weak and unmanly, and said we be slaves and cannot cease from chewing. And the mouths of all that were enslaved became foul, and they were seized with a violent spitting, and they did spit even in ladies parlors, and in the house of the Lord of Hosts. At first this disgusting thing did greatly plague the saints, but they soon learned to chew like ordinary sinners.

And in the process of time it came to pass that others snuffed it, and they were taken suddenly fits, so that they did sneeze with a great and mighty sneeze. Then the saints also snuffed in the most approved fashion.

Others still cunningly wrought the leaves thereof into rolls, and did set fire to one end thereof, then inserting the other end thereof in their mouths they began to suck the smoke into their mouths and puff it out again, all the while looking as wise and dignified as a crow on a barnyard fence.

But did the saints send the fumes of tobacco through their lips! Yea verily! Their smoke went up like the smoke of a furnace.

And it came to pass that the cultivation thereof became a mighty business in the earth, and the merchant-men became rich by the commerce thereof. And the people became bewitched therewith, so that even the poor, who could not buy shoes nor bread for their little ones, spent their money for it. And the Lord was greatly displeased therewith, said, "wherefore this waste! and why do these little ones lack bread and shoes! Cultivate corn and wheat in your fields, and put away this evil thing. Defile not yourselves any more and I will bless you and cause my face to shine upon you."

But with one accord they all exclaimed, "we cannot cease chewing, snuffing and puffing! We are all slaves."

Thoughts for Sunday.

Ability and necessity will dwell near each other.

There is nothing so imprudent as excessive prudence.

Men may be ungrateful, but the human race is not so.

By over sugaring of all good qualities, you may turn them to acidities.

No man can end with being superior who will not begin with being inferior.

Success in most things depends on knowing how long it takes to succeed.

Cheerfulness or joyousness is the heaven under which everything not poisonous thrives.

Knowledge without justice becomes craft; courage without reason becomes rashness.

If mortals could discover the science of conquering themselves, we should have perfection.

We all have our secret sins, and if we knew ourselves, we should not judge each other harshly.

Rather Unfortunate

"Calamity" Lapham is the name of a man who lives in Ottumwa, Ia. He acquired his unhappy sobriquet from the numerous accidents of which he was victim. He was shot a dozen times during the war; was run over by a caisson, and went down to the bottom of the Mississippi River with a transport sunk at the siege of Vicksburg. Since the war he has had the cholera, small pox, yellow fever, been bitten by a snake, struck by lightning, and had three ribs broken by a falling wall during an earthquake in one of the South American States. A few days ago his left hand was cut off in an Ottumwa mill.

A Pod Full of P's

We do not know to whom to credit the following, but it contains truth as well as alliterated:

"Proverbial philosophy. Persons who patronize papers should pay promptly, for the pecuniary prospects of the press have peculiar power in pushing forward public prosperity. If the printer is paid promptly and his pocket book is kept plethoric, by prompt paying patrons, he puts his pen to his paper in peace, his paragraphs are more pungent and pointed, he paints his pictures of passing events in more pleasing colors, and the perusal of his paper is a pleasure to the people. Paste this in your pocket-book.

Use "Castorine" Machine Oil for all kinds of machinery. It is also excellent for Harness or Leather, making it water and weather proof.

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Twenty-three bales of new Carpets arrived direct from the makers this week. An enormous quantity of beautiful fast colored Prints from the Manchester printers this week. Good fast colored Prints at only 8½c. The 10 and 12½c. prints are superior value, but very fine, fashionable Cambric Prints the 15, 17 and 20c. Prints are just the things. New Sateens in the various shades suitable for evening dresses at only 20 to 25 for the same qualities as was sold for 30c. last season. Horrock-ses fine white shirting at only 9c. The rising sun white Shirting, fully a yard wide, close woven and good, at only 10c. Very superior white shirtings in heavy makes, from 8½ to 17c. in 33 and 36 inch widths. A full supply of bleached Sheetings, from 2 to 2½ yards wide, in plain and twilled, first-rate value. Plain and twilled grey Sheetings from 20 to 37½c, they are unusual good value. New Pillow Cottons very cheap, just see them. The Table Damasks from 20c. to $2 for very fine Irish Damask are excellent value, be sure to see the 50, and 62½c. kinds, they are extra cheap. Plenty of nice Mourning Prints from 8½ to 17c. You should see the 12½c. kinds, they are very handsome. Oxford Shirtings from 5 to 25c. An excellent lot of Oxford Shirtings at 12½c. Very nice Turkish Towelling at 20c and ranging on up to 50c. Beautiful Pique in various patterns at only 10c, for fine wide goods. Two cases of French all-wool Dress Goods just opened, which are very much cheaper than last season. Very handsome all-wool De Beiges at only 20c. well worth 25c. Watkins' French Dress Goods, both in fancy colors and black, have had an enormous sale for many years, they are such good value and the styles so neat. The fact that Watkins' prices are so very low, the qualities of his goods so good and durable, and the kind attention that his customers always receive at the Right House, explain the enormous increase in his sales, which are $132,821.36 more now than they were a few years since, and the increase in his sales for February this year was $2,093.71 more than February last year, showing plainly that customers know they cannot do better anywhere than at the Right House on King street east, close to Hughson street. A first-class window dresser wanted.

Remember, the name is

Hamilton, Mar. 17th, 1881.

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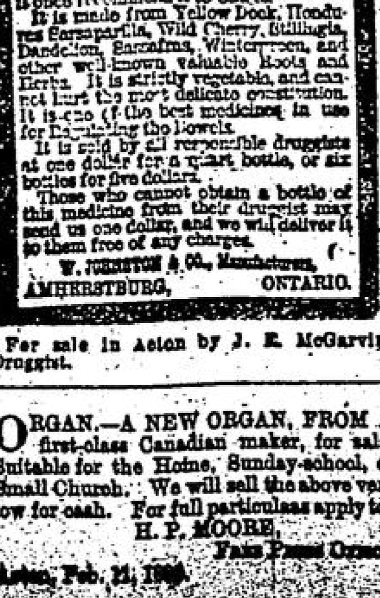

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