

The Acton Free Press

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1897.

The Young Folks.

GRANDMOTHER'S SONG.
Grandmother's voice was always mild,
And at every day troubles she always smiled,
For she did say, "The more you say,
The more will you be told."
As she had lived long when the newest child
And whenever we cried for a favored blessing,
Grandmother used to sing this song:
"22nd Psalm."
"22nd Psalm?"
"To-morrow
My dear, don't fret,
For you have no trouble double
when you borrow."
—J. RICHARD V. COOK.

IF CANADA WAS NOT BRITISH.

When her borders were invaded by a horde of lawless men from the United States, a call for volunteers was easily responded to, and in less than two years—14,000 men—had volunteered from their forces—these were driven back in confusion. When the insurrection in the North West of half breeds and Indians took place in 1885, 4,000 volunteers from the Eastern Provinces left their homes in midwinter and crushed it, at an expense of several lives and \$6,000,000, without calling upon the troops at Halifax for a man. Major General Brudenell has put on record the fact that the success of the Nile expedition was due to the French Canadian voyageurs, who responded with alacrity to the call of their countrymen when there were threatenings in the East. I was directed to place a regiment of Royal Canadian Infantry at the service of the Imperial Government, to be maintained by Canada. The protection of the flag of England is of inestimable value to Canada, and is deeply prized, but I deny that Canada costs this country a single dollar for any purpose whatever, either civil, military or naval. Any intelligent man believes that if Canada were driven out of the Empire, and compelled to become part of the American Republics, the whole which would comprise the east ports and most valuable coal mines on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, would be strengthened by having neither the one nor the other on the Continent of North America, or that her power would be increased by having the arsenals and port of the Gibraltar of America in the hands of a foreign power, advanced 600 miles nearer this country than at present, or that her trade would be improved by driving 6,000,000 of loyal Canadians, at a distance of 10,000 miles, below the Mason-Dixie line? Not to speak of being compelled to return to the army by a man, or her navy by a ship, she would be compelled to increase both largely to maintain her present power and influence. —Sir CHARLES TUPPER, Bart., in February Canadian Magazine.

DISCOVERED THROUGH A CHILD.

When Sir Humphry Davy was a boy about sixteen, a little girl came to him in great excitement:

"Humphry, do tell me why those two pieces of cane make a tiny spark of light when I rub them together."

Humphry was a studious boy, who spent hours in thinking out scientific problems. He sat down and curiously head and said:

"I do not know, dear. Let us see if they really do make a light. Let me see if they really do make a light, and then we will try to find out why."

Humphry soon found that the little girl was right; the pieces of cane, if rubbed together quickly, did give a tiny light. Then he set to work to find out the reason, and after some time, thanks to the observing powers of his little friend, and his own kindness to her in impatiently telling her not to "worry," as so many might have done, Humphry Davy made the first of his interesting discoveries. Every red, cane, and grasshopper, caterpillar, and fly staff, which protects the weak from insects, also helps the frail-looking leaves to stand upright.

Talking about children helping to discover, reminds us of another pretty tale.

In 1867 some children were playing near the Orange River, in Africa. They picked up a stone which they thought was only a very pretty pebble, far prettier than any they had found before.

A neighbor, seeing this stone, offered to buy it for a mere trifle. He, in his turn, sold it to a merchant, and the little people gained hands, till at last it reached the governor of the colony, who paid two thousand dollars for it. This stone which the children had found was the first of the African diamonds.

HOW IT STRUCK THE HORN.

"Dishar Jameson's raid," said Uncle Jasper as he descended into the kitchen full of the conversation he had heard while waiting at the table. "Dishar Jameson's raid and de way Queen Victoria and all dem folks is a treasur' 'n' bout it makes me think de way de chappymen done ack tow de Mullins one time. De chappymen despoiled inter Zeb's house an' Zeb he done 'em de way de chappymen done 'em. Zeb was wid genter had chicken foot dinner."

"Zeb, said de chappymen you hasn't 'bold ter hab chicken' for dinner. What you eat dat level?"

"No min' what I got 'im" he answer' 'n' git genter hab chicken for dinner, an' de 'bold' fo de prezint 'ession."

"Den de minister bin in an' de git dat Zeb the was gun' ob' the other find 'bout zee-him chappymen, dead or livid. An' he tol' 'im he arter shamus' ob' himself, and he wab gun' clear outta water. De strumus he bring guthin' in an' Zeb he done 'em de way de chappymen done 'em."

"But when he done got it cooked, de chappymen droned hech'e up an' at his share, 'es de same like hebb' beenber said a word."

"Idleness is the bane of a living man.—Taylor.

"Features—the cross soul's apparent seal.— Bryant.

"A man's best friend are his ten fingers.—Colver.

"Of all vain things excesses are the vainest.—Boaton.

"Heaven, the treasury of everlasting joy.—Shakespeare.

"The more disciplined, the less inclined to action.—Henderson.

"Who steals goods is called a thief, who steals dominions a rater."

A GAME OF NONSENSE.

I am going to describe a game that captivated my youthful heart and which I have fondled with smiles many and many a time. I never met with it on the game counters of our toy shoppe hence I am led to think it has "Peeped out," and the only way to prevent it is to write a new set of cards essential to the playing of it. I have done this and hereupon, if not a new game, certainly a new version of this "josh game" or whatever one may call it.

Following you are five sets of words and numbers, alphabetical consecutive numbers. Get a package of cards, blank visiting cards to be had of the stationers will answer well—and write all the phrases and words such on a separate card. Then arrange them to correspond with the lists here shown: making five pack of 12 cards each. Inscribe No. 1 on the backs of the first set; No. 2 on the second, etc., for future identification. This done the game proceeds as follows: Hold the five sets of cards, and beginning with No. 1 the cards are laid upon the table in their order until the game is played. The last card should be held in the hand of the player. Turn up the last card and see if the combination agrees, providing an evening's amusement of which I have never tired. Different words and phrases may be introduced and even better or worse combinations arrived at. By way of illustration, I will try a few and record the reading of the lines as they appear:

"A chicken-breasted hens jumped over the long-haired rolling pin."

A red-bean bean-pot chased a gentle minded monkey-wrench.

LINT 1 A red-head.

A red-headed monkey-wrench.

A red-headed monkey-wrench.