

YOUNG FOLKS.

THE BEACON LIGHT.

"When I was a boy," said old Walter Winwick, "there was no light on your head land, and many a good boat and ship went to her doom among those rocks."

"I well remember the first time I went to sea. How proud I felt! My uncle owned a fishing boat, and he took me for his 'sea-boy' to my infinite delight. Grandfather (with whom I lived, for I was an orphan) was pleased and proud too. It's in the blood, Watty," he said to me, "it's in the blood! We are all born sailors, and I hope you'll find the sea as good a friend as I've done. If you keep off the rocks, and see, that you sail in a well-found vessel, and go by your chart and compass, you'll be all right."

"I did not pay much attention to grand father's words as I should have done, for I was young, and my head a bit turned with excitement."

"The old man stood on the shore, and watched us sail out from the cove. As we got fully under weigh I waved my cap to him, and he nodded to me."

"I had often been out sailing, of course, before that day; but never 'at sea,' as a 'hand'; and you may be sure I was eager to help and prove my skill at pulling ropes, reeling, and steering."

"That first night was all but my last, for a storm came on very suddenly, and it grew so dark we could not see ahead. We tried to make our own harbour, but the villages straggle for miles along shore, and we could not distinguish the lights of East Linga from those of West Linga. Some of the rocks rise in precipices of fearful height; some run out in straggling reefs across the bay. When it is light any man of us can bring a boat safe to land, but in the darkness it is a difficult matter, and in a storm it means daring death. The open sea is to be preferred."

"On the night I speak of it was impossible to remain out, and we made for home with anxious hearts, hoping to steer clear of rocks, yet doubtful of our course."

"Uncle said once, 'Perhaps the old man will think of lighting his beacon on Linga headland.' Ah, poor old father! many's the time I've helped him drag the broken timbers to the top of the headland to make a light for them at sea; and many a good boat's crew has blessed him for it. I hope he'll think on't to-night." I answered that the boys of the village were always ready to lend grandfather a hand in getting up his bonfire. And by and by, as we were peering through the darkness, hearing the roar of the surf upon the rocks, and being confused by the many lights along the bay, we saw high up on our right—the merry blaze leap towards the lowering clouds, and I shouted hurrah for grandfather's beacon."

"So we were guided safely to our harbour. Grandfather died at a good old age; and the last thing his eyes looked upon was the new lighthouse on Linga headland, and he said, 'Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace.' He was a devout man, and had been a light among his fellows all his days. He had set an example to those around him; and as I watched him die I thought, if every boy and man would show their light as he had done, many."

"Sailing on life's solemn main,
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother
Seeing may take heart again."

I've tried, in my small way, to follow his footsteps; and I never look at the light-house yonder than I don't think of the good old man and his beacon fire, and his exemplary life."

"As I stand by the shore and watch the boats go out and in, with merry boys and stalwart men aboard, as I think on the long voyage of life I've made, and how I've been kept off the rocks by God's spirit, it has seemed to me that you beacon on the height is the symbol of that which has been my guiding light." His word, the tower; His spirit, the lamp. And I pray that every boy who launches upon the ocean of life amid the rocks and storms, and darkness, and wild waves of a troubousome world, may be led safely to their desired haven by that heavenly beacon."

JESSIE M. E. SAXBY.

Mormons in Canada.

Because more Mormon settlers are reported to be taking up some land in Alberta where a small colony of them already exists, some timorous critics are alarmed at future possibilities. Mormons who come to Canadian territory will find that with our Government there is one law for all. A deputation of Mormons who visited Ottawa last year were given distinctly to understand that they must conform to the law in every way as other citizens do. There is no misunderstanding in the matter, and polygamy they know well, is illegal in Canadian soil. There is this difference between the Mormons in Utah and in Alberta. The Utah settlement was formed when that part of the American continent was a wilderness, and the place was thought to be so remote from Christian communities that no interference need be apprehended. But the United States settled faster than these people supposed, and they had to reckon with the strong arm of authority. A few of them in coming to Canada understand perfectly well that no polygamy will ever be tolerated here. Otherwise, as law-abiding and industrious citizens, the Mormon settlers have nothing to fear.

Foreigners in London.

According to the London correspondent of the New York Sun, the metropolis has never before been so filled with foreign visitors as it is at present, the hotels being more crowded even than they were during the Jubilee celebration. There is plenty of accommodation to be had, of course, but it is of the sort that cannot be found without a search. The correspondent says:

"The wisest thing any American who is bringing ladies with him to London can do is to leave them at Southampton or at Liverpool or Chester, or at some nearer northern point, and come alone to London first, to secure apartments to which he can later bring his family. If he does not do this and comes on without having secured lodgings, the chances are that they will all be put into an extremely miserable day or two of chasing after shelter, and then will get the worst that is to be had instead of the best."

Struck with Lightning

Neatly describes the position of a hard or soft corn when Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor is applied. It does its work so quickly and without pain that it seems magical in action. Try it. Recollect the name—Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor. Sold by all druggists and dealers everywhere.

GENERAL

A Canadian was granted a private audience by Queen Victoria a few days ago. The Canadian thus accorded an especial honor was Miss Hermine de Salaberry, a grand daughter of the Hero of Chateauguay, who fought for the British cause so successfully in 1813. Miss de Salaberry was presented to the Queen by the Princess Louise. The Chateauguay conqueror was a friend of the Duke of Kent, the Queen's father.

Pof. Wiggins thinks that coldness, in the meteorolog is a conditional sense, due to compression caused by planetary attraction, and that as our planet is constantly receding from the sun, its temperature will become milder as the attraction decreases.

"It is true," he says, "these snowy regions of Canada will bloom in perpetual summer and forever bud and blossom as the rose."

The Professor, however, has chosen an unfortunate time for the promulgation of his theory. Just at present we have good reason to believe that in something less than a million years Canada will be a solid chunk of ice.—Ex.

New York State not only has a law prohibiting the use of the car-stove by railway companies, but evidently intends to enforce it strictly. One of its courts has just given judgment ordering the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Company to pay \$7,000 by way of penalties for violation of the law. The statute applies to railroads not less than fifty miles in length, and the company sought to escape from its provisions by pleading that it had only twenty-four miles of road in the State. The court held, however, that it was liable, even though the greater portion of its line was in a neighbouring State. It is to be hoped that the days of the deadly car-stove are numbered. Its contributions to the horrors of railroad accidents have been appalling ones.

Is the distorting of cattle cruel? Well, Chief Justice Coleridge, in a judicial decision just rendered by him, says it is "detestably brutal," and Mr. Justice Hawkins, who tried a test case with him, pronounces the practice "a revolting operation." Mr. Wiley, a Norfolk farmer, was brought before a bench of magistrates by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for "having unlawfully tortured 32 bullocks by dishorning them." Mr. Wiley freely admitted the charge. He placed every convenience in the way of the magistrates acquiring evidence as to how the operation was performed. The defence was that dishorning greatly increased the value of his cattle and was necessary.

The Queen's birthday was celebrated in Newfoundland, "with a unanimity and spontaneity never before witnessed here," say our Newfoundland exchanges. Even the unsettled state of the "French shore question," which is represented to be a popular grievance, could not restrain the loyalty of the people. The Governor's levee was attended by the officer commanding the French warship Bisson, then in port. He expressed his pleasure at being permitted to attend during the observance of her Majesty's birthday "to be able to show the cordial feeling wh ch animates my country towards her Majesty and the English Government, as well as to the people of the colony, relations which, I assure you, I shall do my best to cultivate."

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