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ENTERTAINMENT AND INSTRUCTION FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

A Brief Description of the Great Cathedral of Notre. Dame at Antwerp-What Charles V and Napoleon the Great Said About It.

The Cathedral of Notre Dame, at Antwerp, the chief commercial city of Belgium, is one of the largest as well as most beautiful structures in Europe. It was erected between 1852 and 1411, and is of surpassing interest to the architect and art lover.



It is 500 feet in length by 240 in breadth. with a roof supported by 125 pillars and a very lofty spire. In the cut here presented is given a good view of this spire, which dates from the Fifteenth century, and is of world wide celebrity for its marvelous beauty. Of the tower's and steeple's elaborate Gothic workmanship, Charles V said it deserved to be kept in a case: and Napoleon compared it to a structure of Mechlin lace. The interior of this remarkable cathedral is enriched by two of the greatest of all Rubens' pictures, "The Elevation of and the Descent from the

An Interesting Chapter on Ants.

Sir John Lubbock has added much to our knowledge of ants by many curious experiments. He found that although they may not be deaf to the sounds made by themselves, the loudest noise made by him did not affect them in the least. But they were more sensitive to smell. A camel's hair brush dipped in any odorous liquid and held above them caused the insects to hurry on their way, or even to turn back again.

It appears that ants, although of a very bloodythirsty disposition toward their enemies, do not show any care for companions who may be in trouble. If two or three were buried out of sight of their companions the rest walked over their grave without any ecort to release them.

When some ants were put into a small bottle, with the mouth closed with thin muslin, the others from the nest close by did not try to set them free. But no sooner were some from another nest placed mear them in a similar bottle than they began biting off the muslin to get at their enemies. One of the strangers happened to put out a leg, and it was soon seized. After some time a hole was made in the muslin and all the strangers were

A New Kind of Mouse Trap.

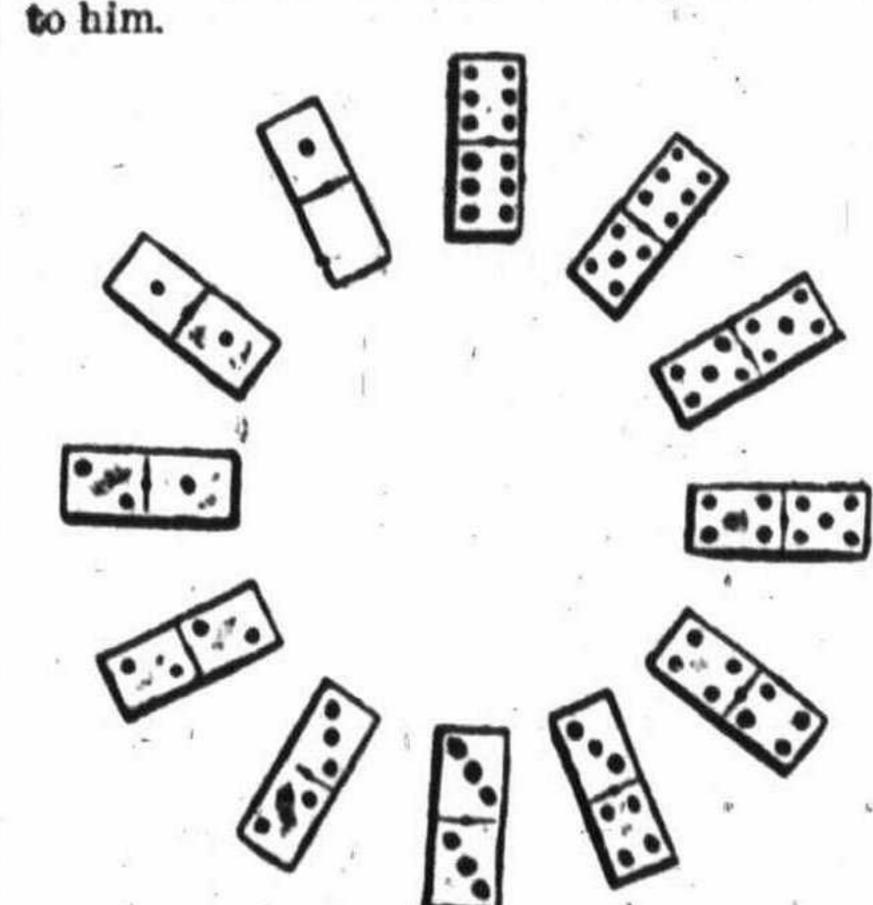
One of St. Nicholas' young people, in a letter to Jack, tells all about a new kind of mouse trap. He writes:

Dear Jack-I want to tell you about a new kind of mouse trap. It is the turtle. I never saw one catch a mouse, but my cousin told me about it. She said they oiled its back and put it in the cellar where there were a great many mice. After a few days there did not seem to be many mice around; but as she did not think the slow turtle could have caught

them, she asked her boys to watch. So one day they put a mouse in the room, and they sat upon a table. Pretty soon the mouse came up and ran upon the turtle's back, and, when it was near the head, the turtle's head came out in a hurry and caught the mouse. But I don't believe the turtle really ate the mouse; I think it only squeezed the body between its shells. They oiled its back so that the mouse would be attracted by the odor.

The Domino Oracle.

Arrange twelve of the dominoes as shown in the illustration, and inform any one present that if he will think of one of the dominoes and remember it, you will point it out



A SURPRISING TRICK.

Now, supposing the double deuce is the domino selected, you tell the person who has chosen it that you will count around the circle, and when you have counted twenty, including the number of spots on the selected domino, he must tell you to stop, and that your finger will then rest on the domino chosen. The secret is simply this: You count carelessly around, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or any of the dominoes; but at the eighth count you always manage to point to the double six, and after that you continue counting

Be sure and remember this, for it is the key of the trick. For example, as we have before said, we will suppose the double deuce to be the selected domino. We follow the above instructions, and count and point at the dominoes promiscuously the first seven counts; but at the eighth count we point at the double six, and continue to the right on the six-five, double five, and so on in succession until we arrive at the double deuce, when we will be told to stop, because by that time we will have counted sixteen, to which, if we add the spots on the domino chosen, we will have twenty. This rule holds good, no matter what domino happens to be selected. It is perhaps useless to inform our reader that he must not count out loud, or appear to count mentally, but let it seem as if he were only pointing at the dominoes by chance.

You must let the person who selects the dom-

troappear to do all the counting.

THE HERO OF NIAGARA.

Blondin, the Man Who Does Wonderful Things on the Tight Rope.

The return of Blondin, the tight rope walker, brings remembrances of his celebrated trips across Niagara river many years ago. Blondin is a Frenchman, having been born in Bordeaux. When he first came to this country he was a member of the Martinettis, an offshoot from the famous, Ravel troupe that delighted so many people of New York with their pantomime during fifteen years, say from 1845 to 1800. But Blondin finally made a world wide reputation by walking a tight rope over Niagara, and that, too, with a man on his back.

It would seem that more difficulty would be met in finding the man to be carried over

such a path than in finding the carrier-The latter's faculduring the perilous journey by his work, while those would have plenty of time to survey the scene and medgers. The man who agreed to trust his life to Blondin's

nerve and skill was Henry Colcord, and is now, or was a few years ago, an artist in for brushes and paint than for for in 1858 he joined the and Blondin concluded to do his Niagara feat. Colcord accompanied him to the falls, and together they were five months in getting the rope stretched and the guys established. There were 2,000 feet of manilla rope three inches in diameter. They first put a small cord across in a boat, and then by means of a windlass the big rope was got into position.

The tight rope was not so very tight after all, for there was a curvature of fifty feet at the center. It was 250 feet above water at its lowest point, and the curvature made a descent of fifty feet to the center and a rise of fifty feet from the center to the other shore. There were 75,000 feet of guy lines, each weighted with a sandbag to drop the line out of the way of the balance pole.

Colcord has described an incident of the passage: "When we had gone about Len feet on this middle span, somebody on the American side pulled the outer guy line. We afterward found out it was done intentionally. and the rope was stopped in it wing. Blondin stopped, and his pole went trong side to side in a vain effort to enable him to secure his balance. At one time it was up and down on the right side, at another up and sown on the left, and I recall now with would at I was only curious to know whether he would succeed in getting control of himse for not. I didn't feel any fear. Failing of ; it ing his balance, he started to run acress the herrible span, and we safely reached the part to here the guy rope came out from the A ....an shore. Then to steady himself Dimini. his foot on the guy rope and tried to the guy line broke, and with a dash of seed or ran swiftly twenty-live feet further to next point, where the guys met the man repa. Then he recovered his balance, and was ered rather than said: 'Decendez vou.' . perspiration stood out on his neck and same ders in great beads and we balanced ourselves on the swaying rope. Presently in Allons,' and I raised myself to his siders and we went on in safety and wathout incident toward the shore."



He (after a long pause)-So you will give me no hope. I fear, Emma, my size has something to do with it. Speak; tell

me if I am not right. She-You are right. Mother told me I should never marry a man I couldn't look up to .- Time.

Browning in the Lake City. "I understand Browning"-

"Do you?" "Great Scott!"

"He understands Browning!" "Come off!"

"I was about to say, gentleman," said the first speaker, calm and unruffled, "that I understand Browning is much admired in Chicago. Permit me also to suggest in the kindliest of spirit that you go and macerate your heads, intellectually and collectively."-Chicago Tribune.

A Great Favor.

Old Gentleman (to daughter)—And se you have promised to marry young Samp-

Daughter-Yes, papa, and the day is set, and the minister selected, and we are to go to Europe.

Old Gentleman (timidly)-My dear. have a great favor to ask of you. Daughter-What is it, papa?

Old Gentleman-If I'm not asking too

much, would you mind sending me cards

to the wedding?-New York Sun. Time Allowance.

Eight o'clock a. m. Mrs. Popinjay-Where are going. Angelina? Angelina-Only just around the corner to match this piece of silk, mamma. Mrs. Popinjay-All right. I'll tell Bridget not to have supper until 7 o'clock.

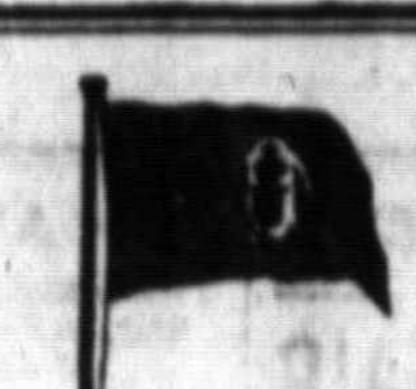
Safe Only Between the Sheets. Father (returned from business)-Well. has Tommy met with any serious accident.

-Burlington Free Press.

Mother-No, but (anxiously) it is a full hour yet before his bed time. - New York

Different Kind of Fire. Smith-What! moving again, Jones? Jones (gloomily)-Yes. Smith-Had a fire in the house? Jones-No: a fire out of the house. -Coston Courier.

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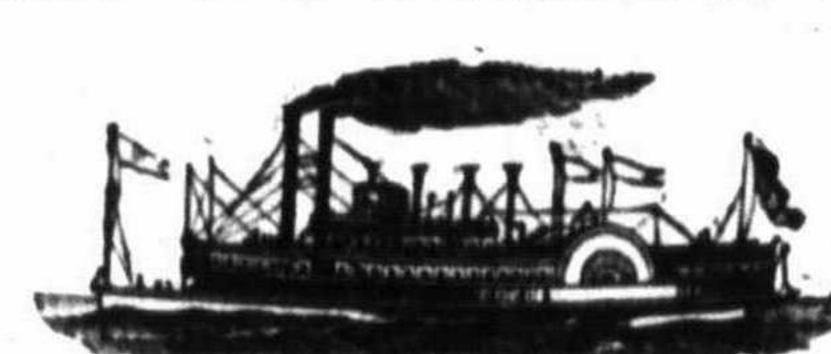
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