

General Miscellany.

It isn't all in bringing up. Let folks say what they will; To silver count a pewter cup— It will be poorer still. Even he of old, wise Solomon, Who said "Train up a child," If I mistake not had a son Proved rattle brained and wild.

A HUSBAND'S PRAISE.

Her husband, he praiseth her.—Solomon. Thousands often do not know with careless solicitude the duties of a wife and mother are accompanied. They leave home early, many of them; the routine of business—the same as it was yesterday, and will be for months to come—is so thoroughly digested that the performance is comparatively without annoyance.

Gaily as the bird upon the tree by her door she has gone caressing about her domestic duties. Like a skillful painter she has touched and retouched all the peculiar though simple luxuries of her home, till they seem to her like the adornings of a paradise.

What! No sign of surprise? No new delight on his features? Does he receive all her attention, as a matter of course something looked for, expected, easily done, and without price? Can he not pay her the tribute of a glad smile? Alas he does not believe in praise; his wife must be disinterested; must look upon these performances as stern duties; if he praise now, and forget to praise again, they may be discontinued.

She is disappointed, chagrined; and unless taste and perfect neatness are indispensable to her own comfort, she gradually wears in well-doing when a little encouragement, a little praise, might have stimulated her to constant exertion.

Many a wife becomes careless of her appearance because of her husband's indifference. In the simple matter of dress—not so simple, either—how often men think it beneath them to notice or approve the choice their wives may make! We once remarked to a gentleman that his wife displayed admirable taste in her attire; and what, think you, was his answer? With a sigh we record it: "Has she? Well, no, I should hardly know what she had on."

Now we do like to see a husband notice such things, even to particularity. We like to hear him give his opinion as to whether such and such a thing is becoming to his wife. We are pleased to see a father interested in the little purchases of his children, instead saying with a frown, "Oh! go away; I don't care for such things; suit yourselves."

choicest piece of furniture there—for so her husband regards her. Formal and staid, he has thrown around her the drape of his child heart. She is "my little girl," and he has no outburst of affection in the form of sweet praise-falls upon her ears; pendants of diamonds drop therefrom, but their shining like his love, costly and cold. We have heard such a one say, in times gone by, "All this show and pride of station, would I resign, for one word of praise from my husband."

The Railway Switch Tender and his Child.

Oh! the value, the inestimable value to youth, of a prompt obedience to parental commands! An anecdote strikingly illustrative of this, as well as setting forth Christian heroism of an exalted character, has recently occurred in Prussia. On one of the railroads in that country, a switch tender was just taking his place, in order to turn a coming train then in sight, on a different track, to prevent a collision with a train approaching in a contrary direction. Just at this moment, on turning his head, he discerned his little son playing on the track of the advancing train. What could he do? The thought was quick at such a moment of peril! He might spring to his child and rescue him, but he could not do this and turn the switch at the same time, and for want of that, hundreds of lives might be lost. Although in some trouble, he could not neglect his greater duty, but, exclaiming with a loud voice to his son, "Lie down," he laid hold of the switch, and saw the train safely turned on its proper track. His boy, accustomed to obedience, as his father commanded him, and the fearfully heavy train thundered over him. Little did the passengers dream, as they found themselves quietly resting on that turnout, what terrible anguish their noble parent had that day caused to their noble heart. The father rushed forward to where his boy lay, fearful lest he should find only a mangled corpse, but to his great joy and thankful gratitude, he found him alive and unharmed. Prompt obedience had saved him. Had he paused to argue, to reason whether it were best—death and fearful mutilation of body would have resulted. The circumstances connected with this event were made known to the King of Prussia, who the next day sent for the man and presented him with a medal of honor for his heroic deed.

Dear reader, couldst thou have done as this switch tender did? Consider. Thy darling—the delight of thine eyes, the joy of thy heart, about to be crushed and mangled by that coming train, and thou couldst save him by neglecting the switch! The momentary contest in the bosom of this noble man must have been intensely agonizing. We can all rejoice with him when he found his obedient child unharmed by the mighty hurricane of power that had whirled over his head. Let us pause and consider, could we have done as he did? And then another question may claim the serious thoughtfulness of parents. Have we brought up our children in such habits of prompt, unhesitating obedience, as characterized this little boy?

Taking a Dislike.

An ill-natured fellow quarreled with his sweetheart on the day they were to be married. After the ceremony had begun, he was asked: "Do you take this woman to be your wedded wife, etc." He replied, "No!" "What is the reason?" asked the minister. "I've taken a dislike to her, and that's enough," was the surly reply. The parties retired—the bride in tears and, after much persuasion, the groom was induced to have the marriage proceed. It was now the lady's turn, and when the minister asked the all-important question: "No!" said she, resolutely, "I've taken a dislike to him."

A HOGGISH DUTCHMAN.—A German tavern keeper in Cincinnati, who entertains porkmen, and caters to the taste both of his countrymen and patrons, had a roast pig for dinner on Sunday. The animal (a small one) was served up whole, and as it was placed on the table sent forth an appetizing and savory smell that pervaded the dining room, and made every occupant wish for a slice, but to the astonishment of every guest, a burly hirsuted Teutonic pig dealer from the country sat down opposite the dish, and incontinently appropriated the entire roast. The landlord happened to be absent, and good breeding prevented any of the guests from entering a protest, so Haps made a havoc of the dish, and wiped his mouth, with such evident relish, that one of the waiters, with a keener sense of the fun approached him, and inquired if he would have anything else. His beaming face brightened in a moment, and he asked in reply, "Got any more ov dem lectle hogs?"

A New Englander, riding in a railroad car, seemed particularly disposed to astonish the other passengers with tough stories about Yankeeism. At last he mentioned that one of his neighbors owned an immense dairy, and made a million pounds of butter and a million pounds of cheese yearly. The story produced some sensation, and the Yankee perceiving that his veracity was in danger of being questioned, appended to the following: "True, isn't it, Mr. P.—I speak of Deacon Brown—you know Deacon Brown?" "Yes," replied the friend, "that is, yes, I know Deacon Brown, though I don't know as I ever heard precisely how many pounds of butter and cheese he made a year, but I know he has twelve saw-mills that all go by buttermilk."

Good for Mrs. P.—"Will you have a Daily Star?" said a news-boy to Mrs. Partington.

How many a home have we seen glittering with splendor; where glowing marble, from Italia's clime, gives a silent welcome to the entering guest; where on the walls hang votive offerings of art that fill the whole soul with their beauty; where the carpets yield to the lighter, pressure, and the rich hangings crimson the palest cheek—yet an idist all this show and adorning has the proud wife sat, the

Caution to the Young. Beware of the card-playing circle! Beware of the gambling-table! Beware of the billiard-saloon! Beware of the theatre! Yes, young friends, beware of such resorts. You can find sufficient recreation elsewhere. There are amusements enough, without recourse to any of these. Be on your guard against the seductive influence of all of them. Direct your footsteps into wiser and safer paths. "Avoid them, pass not by them; turn from them and pass away." None of these are necessary to your respectability or happiness, to your health of body or purity of mind, to the education of the intellect or the salvation of the soul, to your prosperity through time or welfare in eternity. They are positively injurious to your peace of conscience, future, if not present; dangerous to habits of industry; and dangerous to your morals. They all peril the dearest interests of your immortal nature. In the hour of sober conviction, on the bed of death, and at the judgment of the great day, you will be ready to acknowledge the wisdom of the best part in the estimation of your good name in the estimation of the best part of the community; and what is worse than all, risking the possession of an unsullied character and virtuous principles in your own and God's estimation. Remember, that while "the way of transgressors is hard," and while sin at the last "biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder," it is also true, for our encouragement, that "religion never was designed to make our pleasures less," and that "wisdom's ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace."—Am. Messenger.

A Benevolent Minister. Not long since, a small boy, in very dilapidated clothing, called at the residence of Rev. Mr. R., and asked for something to eat. The minister who should give him, when he pointed to a pile of bread that was very stale, saying, "Give him some of that." The servant did so, and, as the boy was going away, chewing on the crust of bread, the minister called out, "Bridget, send that little boy here." The little fellow went into the dining-room, where the minister and his family were about sitting down to dinner, and was staring at the eatables on the table, when the domestic said, "My little man, did you ever go to Sunday school?" "No sir." "Did you ever learn to pray?" again asked the minister. "No sir," replied the boy. "Come here, and I will teach you." The boy went up to the minister, when he commenced— "You must say just as I do. 'Our Father,'"

"Your father," said the boy. "No, no; you must say, 'Our Father.'—'Our father,' again said the boy. 'Will you say, again learn?' said the minister. 'You must say, 'Our Father.'—'Is it our father? Your father—my father?'" "Why certainly." "The boy looked at him awhile, and then commenced crying, at the same time holding up his crust of bread, and exclaiming, between his sobs: "You say that your father is my father, yet you aren't ashamed to give your little brother such stuff as this to eat, when you have got so many good things for yourself?"

HAIR-BRUSHES AND COMBS—Children should be taught, from their earliest remembrance, the importance of keeping the hair clean, not so much by the use of the comb as the brush. Two sorts of combs are used, fine and coarse, and made either of ivory or bone; when the brush has been well used, there is seldom any necessity for the fine tooth comb, and the intention of using the coarse comb is merely to disentangle the hair and prepare it for the brush. Nothing is more injurious to the skin of the head than the frequent application of the small tooth comb, and otherwise irritate the scalp, tending more than any other cause to the formation of scurf. It cannot be too strictly impressed upon the minds of parents, if they would see their offspring blessed with a good head of hair, to refrain as much as possible from the use of the small comb; a moderately hard brush is quite sufficient to keep the head and hair clean, and should be used the first thing in the morning, on account of the hair being more supple at that time than any other.

TOBACCO-SMOKING.—The Inverness Courier says, that in one of the ancient chimney pieces in Cawdor Castle there is a rude carving in stone of a fox smoking a tobacco pipe, with the date 1510. As it is generally believed that tobacco was first introduced into this country by Sir Walter Raleigh, about 1585, it is singular to find the common short tobacco-pipe thus represented on a stone bearing date so much earlier. The Courier says, "there can be no mistake as to the date, or the nature of the representation. The fox holds the 'fragrant tube' in his mouth, exactly as it is held by his human admirers; and the instrument is such as may be seen every day with those who patronize the 'cutty pipe.'"

The Inquirer, at Gonzales, Texas, says an old freedman told his old master that his highness was getting too feeble to work, and wanted to be elected county judge. "But," said his employer, "you must know the law of the land before you can act as a judge; and you can neither read nor write." "Oh, well, dat makes no difference, Mas J. I want de office, and den I want you for my clerk. You can do de writin' for me."

A Scotchman asked an Irishman "Why were half farthings coined in England?" Pat's answer was: "To give Scotchmen an opportunity of subscribing to charitable institutions."

"Now children," said a school inspector, "who loves all ten?" A little girl not four years old, and evidently not posted in the catechism, answered quickly, "all women!"

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