

Humorous Department.

HAD HIS WAY.—A Boston journal says: "Among the passengers on the St. Louis Express yesterday, was a woman very much overdressed, accompanied by a bright-looking and a self-willed, tyrannical boy of about 3 years."

COURTING A SCHOOLMARM.—"Yes," said the young man as he threw himself at the feet of a pretty school teacher, "I love you and would go to the world's end for you."

"I know, but what I meant was that I would do anything to please you, Ah! Minerva, if you knew the aching void—"

"Well, James, since you put it in that light, I—" Let the curtain fall.—Free Press.

A young man whom everybody would know if his name was printed, is now receiving with the greatest good nature the jokes of his friends.

IT IS ALWAYS THAT WAY.—"John, you have been drinking." The words fell cruelly upon the blushing man's senses.

She had yawned, looked at the clock, pretended she was sleepy, and in other ways had given him to understand that it was time to go.

"You don't call upon Miss Smart so much as you did." "No, Fact is, I have reasons for suspecting that my company is not so agreeable as it might be."

Wayside Gatherings.

He who borrows money borrows trouble, too. "Jack Frost's pudding" is what Edith Thomas calls ice cream.

There are 470 officers of the army and navy stationed in Washington. The man who believes in nothing is as big a fool as he who believes in everything.

It is said by anatomists to be a fact that people hear better with their mouths open.

The 11 cables now in operation across the Atlantic have cost upward of \$70,000,000.

Set a small box of lime in the pantry and it will help keep it dry and the air pure.

That which is of God, gathers to God, and that which is of the world is owned by the world.

Let your wit be your friend, your mind your companion, and your tongue your servant.

As to that diary—write nothing in it that you would be unwilling to have all the world read.

They have fined two young women \$2 for holding a man up in the street in New York and kissing him.

It is better to lock the stable door after the horse is stolen than not to lock it at all. It may save the cow.

One joint of beef out of every three consumed in London and immediate districts is American refrigerator beef.

A New York electrician has succeeded in sending messages over a telegraph wire at the rate of 1,714 words a minute.

The enormous crop of sugar beets in Nebraska has led some farmers to go into the business of making whisky out of them.

New York's State Capitol has cost over \$20,000,000, but how much over it is what the legislature proposes to find out if it can.

The largest room in the world is said to be the hall of the imperial palace in St. Petersburg. It is 160 feet long by 150 feet wide.

The State board of health of Pennsylvania has passed a resolution requiring graves to be at least six feet deep in populous and four in rural districts.

The United States now controls the world's iron trade, producing about 11,000,000 tons annually.

"We have no use for bear stories," said the editor. "Our readers demand something spicy."

"This story is about a cinnamon bear." "A number of citizens lost their votes in New York at the last election because their religious prejudices prevented them from making crosses before the names of candidates, as required by law.

In Nebraska farms average 190 acres, in Massachusetts 86. But in proverbially thrifty Holland the average is 30 acres.

Seventeen-twentieths of all the farms in Holland are less than 50 acres in extent.

One of the buildings at the Tennessee Centennial exposition will be erected entirely with money provided by children of the State.

Everything in it and around it will be arranged for the pleasure and profit of children. In the tower will swing a fine set of silver chimes.

"Mamma," said a wicked youngster, "am I canoe?" "No, child; why do you ask?" "Oh, because you say you like to see people paddle their own canoe, and I didn't know but what maybe I was yours."

The boy went out of the door with reference to more speed than grace.

Among the botanical curiosities which have been found in the Isthmus of Tehautepec, lately much explored by naturalists, is a botanical clock.

In the morning it is white, at noon it is red and at night blue, and the alterations of color are so regular that the time of day can be told from the tint of the flower.

For the Home Circle.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON V, FIRST QUARTER, INTERNATIONAL SERIES, FEB. 2.

Text of the Lesson, Luke v, 17-26—Memory Verses, 22 to 24—Golden Text, Luke v, 24—Commentary by the Rev. D. M. Stearns.

"And it came to pass on a certain day as He was teaching that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee and Judea and Jerusalem, and the power of the Lord was present to heal them."

"And behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy, and they sought means to bring him in and to lay him before Him."

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"Who can forgive sins but God alone?" Thus reasoned the scribes and Pharisees as they heard the words of Jesus to the sick man.

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"THE LEGEND OF THE TWO SACKS."

An ancient legend describes an old man traveling from place to place with a sack hanging behind his back and another in front of him.

"What have you here?" he asked. "Why, my good deeds," replied number two. "I keep them all before me, and take them out and air them often."

"What is in the other big sack? It seems weighty."

"Merely my little mistakes. I always keep them in the sack hanging over my back."

"With all my heart," quoth the stranger, "for I have a goodly assortment, and I like to show them. This sack," said he, pointing to the one hanging in front of him, "is full of the good deeds of others."

"Your sack looks heavy; it must be very full," observed the old man.

"There you are mistaken," replied the stranger; "they are big, but not heavy. The weight is only such as sails are to a ship. Far from being a burden, it helps me onward."

"Well, your sack behind can be of little use to you," said number two, "for it appears to be empty. And I see it has a great hole in the bottom of it."

"I did that on purpose," said the stranger, "for all the evil I hear of people I put in there, and it falls through and is lost. So, you see, I have no weight to drag me backwards."

"What is the use of all this nonsense of having seconds and all that, when two men want to fight a duel? Why don't they get together and fight it out?"

"Oh the seconds are useful to notify the police."

"Not what we have, but what we enjoy constitutes our abundance."

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