

Humorous Department.

HAD HIS REVENGE.

There is no rule of the Union Railroad company compelling conductors to carry any specified amount of bills and change with them when they take a car, but the men usually have about \$15 or \$20, so that they may be prepared for stray \$10 bills when they are presented for a 5 cent fare. The average passenger seldom hands out any bills larger than \$2, and a man usually gives the conductor a nickel or the smallest silver change he has. A woman gives him pennies if she has five in her pocket-book, and some conductors maintain that the women save their pennies for weeks at a time, in order to load the pockets of the conductor with them. But there is one woman who will probably never again give a conductor a large bill to change.

It happened on a Cranston street car, one day in the latter part of last week says the Providence Journal. The conductor made his rounds, and captured pennies, nickels, dimes and half-dollars, until he came to one woman, who, after searching through her pocketbook, produced a \$20 bill, which she handed to him, with a glance which should have frozen his soul and prevented a remonstrance. It failed; the conductor was patient and long-suffering, but he rebelled against taking a 5-cent fare from a \$20 bill.

"Is this the smallest you have, lady?" he asked.

He was answered that the bill had been handed to him to have the fare taken out. He thought a moment, and a bright idea penetrated his brain like an X ray.

"I'll give you your change in a moment," he assured his passenger, and then stopped the car just as it reached Hoyle square, where the High Street bank is located. Hurrying into the bank, he laid down the bill and asked for change.

"Give me 19 silver dollar and 90 nickels, please," he said, and after the teller had been told the occasion for haste, he gladly furnished the necessary change. The conductor carried the change in both hands out to where the woman who wanted the bill changed sat in the car and poured it in her lap, after taking out the nickel for the fare. The other passengers snickered, the conductor of all the silver grew red in the face and indignant and the motorman started the car with a jerk. The passenger remonstrated, but she had her change, the conductor had his revenge and the crowd had satisfaction, and the majority against her was 16 to 1.

HAD TO KEEP BOTH EYES OPEN.

The directors of an Australian bank had engaged the services of a watchman, who came well recommended, but did not seem over experienced. The chairman, therefore, sent for him to "post him up" a bit, and began:

"James, this is your first job of this kind, isn't it?"

"Yes, sir."

"Your duty must be to exercise vigilance."

"Yes, sir."

"Be careful how strangers approach you."

"No strangers must be allowed to enter the bank at night under any pretext whatever."

"No, sir."

"And our manager—he is a good man, honorable, reliable; but it will be your duty to keep an eye on him."

"But it will be hard to watch two men and the bank at the same time."

"Two men, how?"

"Why, sir, it was only yesterday that the manager called me in for a talk, and he said that you were one of the best men in the city; but it would be just as well to keep both eyes on you and let the directors know if you hung about after hours.—London Answers.

INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT.

A ministerial looking man was having his say on the street corner to a group of eager listeners, and he was making an argument in support of the free standard. "We must wait for free coinage of gold and silver until we can have an international agreement," he said. Then the fat man asked permission to offer a few questions.

"I understand you are a member of the church?" he inquired.

"Yes, sir; you are right; I am a preacher of the Gospel, and I did come out on the Lord's side at the age of 16 years. Well, what then?"

"You thought you did right in so coming out, didn't you, and do you yet think so?" persisted the fat man.

"Why, certainly; what are you driving at?" replied ministerial looking gold man with asperity.

"Oh, nothing, except I wonder why you did not put off this thing of coming out on the Lord's side till by international agreement all the heathen in the world would do the same thing?"

The crowd laughed and the gold bug fled.—Crawfordville (Ind.), Star.

"I was sorry, Willie," said his Sunday school teacher, "to see you keep your seat when the superintendent asked those who wanted to go to heaven to rise. Don't you want to go to heaven?" "Yes'm," "Then why didn't you rise?" "Cos he didn't have no right to tell me to rise, ma'am," answered Willie. "He ain't no angel Gabriel."

Husband—Now, I think this is going too far. You promised me you would countermand your order for that dress. Wife—I wrote to the firm that way. "But here are the dress and the bill for it enough to bankrupt me almost. How do you explain that?" "I gave you the letter, and suppose you forgot to mail it, as usual."

The artist knit his brow. "I wish to picture the heroine with a No. 12 waist," he remarked. "But where in that event is her liver to be?" "Oh, I can make room for that," rejoined the author. "I will just say that she has no heart." "Thus it is to be seen how the muses advance, hand in hand, generously disposed to mutual concession.

Wayside Gatherings.

Promises make debts, and debts make promises.

It is a great point of wisdom to find out one's own folly.

It is easier to repress a thought than to atone for its ripened damage.

Religion in business is just as desirable as religion in the church.

He who takes takes the child by the hand, takes the mother by the heart.

The moment you are instinctively prompted to rub your eyes, stop using them.

Wealth consists not in having great possessions, but in having few wants.

We are all the time making character, whether we are doing anything else or not.

Mr. Gladstone is still the champion postal card writer, consuming over 4,000 a year.

No one ever learned how to do right by experimenting in things that are wrong.

No young man ever climbed the ladder of success with a whisky flask in his pocket.

Salt and vinegar brighten brasses as well as any more modern and expensive potions.

The entire population of the United States could live comfortably in the single state of Texas.

The division of time into months and weeks is so odd that its origin cannot possibly be ascertained.

A cannon ball fired from one of the great Krupp or Armstrong guns travels at the speed of 2,887 feet per second.

Whenever you buy or sell, let or hire, make a clear bargain, and never trust to "we shan't disagree about trifles."

The most curious paper weight in the world is said to belong to the Prince of Wales. It is the mummified hand of one of the daughters of Pharaoh.

The latest case of absence of mind is that of a young lady who, upon returning from a walk with her lover, rapped him on the face and bade good night to the door.

The Eastman, Ga., Journal says that "the idea of teaching every girl to thump a piano, and every boy to be a bookkeeper, will make potatoes four dollars a bushel in 20 years."

A German firm has just brought out a glove for gentlemen, the speciality of which is that a small mirror, about the size of the half dollar, is inserted in the palm of the hand.

"Doctor," said the grateful patient, seizing the physician's hand, "I shall never forget that to you I owe my life." "You exaggerate," returned the doctor, mildly; "you only owe me for 15 visits."

Every soldier knows that a horse will not step on a man intentionally. It is a standing order in the British cavalry if a trooper becomes dismounted he must lie still. If he does this the whole squadron will pass over him without doing him injury.

A silver watch which was dropped in a well in Belfast, Maine, 25 years ago was recovered a day or two ago. Unlike most watches recovered under such circumstances, this one wasn't running just as if nothing had happened to it.

Nancy Bennett died in the Portland (Me.), almshouse recently at the age of 71, after living there continuously for 67 years. She was mentally and physically sound, but she was taken to the almshouse when but 5 years old, and never wanted to leave it.

Habits of inattention, of mental indolence, of surface or of random thinking, of inexact statements though they may involve no conscious wickedness, are the source of widespread and insidious corruption of character.

They were getting ready to go to a social gathering in Dallas, when Colonel Yerger said aside to his wife: "What makes you scowl so everlastingly? Can't you smile and look pleasant, like Mrs. Gally?" "You forget that she is a widow," replied Mrs. Yerger. The colonel wilted.

Some idea of the vast extent of surface of the earth may be obtained when it is noted that if a lofty church steeple is ascended, and the landscape visible from it looked at, 900,000 such landscapes must be viewed in order that the whole earth may be seen.

A Danbury, Conn., man has decided upon an original plan of committing suicide. He intends to enter a cage containing a live lion and allow himself to be eaten by the beast. He proposes to charge an entrance fee of \$5 to those who wish to see the tragedy, the proceeds to go to his family.

An Irishman called upon a friend of his one evening, a cobbler by trade, and found him busy at work, and exclaimed, "Bad luck to him that invented work by the light of a dirty, greasy lamp, when the blissful light of the sun is enough for any man to work by." Said the other, "Bad luck to him that invented work at all, at all."

A noted sharper, wishing to ingratiate himself with a clergyman, said: "Parson, I should like to hear you preach more than I can tell you." "Well," responded the clergyman, "if you had been here where you ought to have been last Sunday, you would have heard me." "Where was that?" asked the sharper. "In the county jail," was the reply.

An Irishman, traveling on one of the railroads the other day, got out of the cars for refreshments at a way station, and unfortunately the bell rang and the train was off before he had finished his pie and coffee. "Hold on!" cried Pat, as he ran like mad after the cars; "hold on, ye sputtering old stame engine—ye've got a passenger aboard that is left."

A Kingston dentist, according to The Freeman, had an odd experience the other day. A man came into his office and told him he wanted a tooth pulled. After he had been seated in the dentist's chair, he said, "Now don't pull it all at once; pull it a little, and then ease up on it, and punish the pesky thing! I punish it. It has been punishing me for a month."

The late Dr. Bethune asked a morose and miserly man how he was getting along. The man replied: "What is that of your business?" Said the doctor: "O, sir, I am one of those who take an interest even in the meanness of God's creatures."

Duties are ours; events are the Lord's.

For the Home Circle.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON VII, THIRD QUARTER, INTERNATIONAL SERIES, AUG. 16:

Text of the Lesson, Ps. xxxiii, 1-11—Memory Verses, 1-5—Golden Text, Ps. 11, 10—Commentary by the Rev. D. M. Stearns.

1. "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered." Oh, the happiness of the one who has heard the Lord say, "I, even I, am He that blot out thy transgressions for mine own sake and will not remember thy sins" (Isa. xliii, 25).

A part of His name is "the Lord our merciful and gracious, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin" (Ex. xxxiv, 5-7). Instead of studying the story of David's great sin as recorded in the chapters in Samuel, following our last lesson, our attention is in this lesson called to David's penitence and forgiveness.

While God hates sin and cannot look upon it, He is ever ready to forgive the true penitent and urges him to come in such words as Isa. i, 18; Jer. iii, 12; Rom. xiv, 1, 2. This Man still receiveth sinners.

2. "Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity and in whose spirit there is no guile." God was, in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them (II Cor. v, 7). Abraham believed God and it was imputed unto him for righteousness, and he was called the Friend of God (Jas. ii, 23). This righteousness came not through any good works of Abraham, but wholly of grace (Rom. iv, 8-9). Transgression is a going beyond or doing what we should not do; sin is a coming short of what we should do, while iniquity is the root of the matter, but God for Christ's sake puts away the guilt of the whole business, for every true penitent who is without guile—that is, who sincerely turns to Him.

3. "When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring; the day long." Unconfessed sin, like a gathering wind, swirls and torments. He that covereth his sins shall not prosper, but who confesseth and forsaketh them shall obtain mercy (Prov. xxviii, 13). When our iniquities separate between us and our God, our sin hides His face from us (Isa. lix, 9). It is indeed a comfort there is in this world, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I John i, 9).

4. "For day and night Thy hand was heavy upon me. My moisture was turned into the drought of summer. Selah." It was the loving hand of a loving God long for the fellowship of His child who had turned away from Him. Whatever God does, it is to lead us to Himself, for He willeth not the death of a sinner (II Pet. iii, 9). He does everything possible to deliver from the pit and to give life and blessing (Job xxxiii, 28, 34, 30). The word selah suggests that here we pause and meditate.

5. "I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord, and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah." Spurgeon has said that "feeling wronged, Confession is deeper than merely asking forgiveness; the latter may be through fear of consequences, but the former shows true penitence. If we have wronged any one, confession and restitution must be made to them if possible, but first and always to God and as in His sight, for all sin is against Him." "Thou forgavest"—what a word to consider! As surely as this moment, rejoicing that God for Christ's sake has forgiven you? (Eph. iv, 8; I John i, 12).

6. "For this shall every one that is godly pray unto Thee in a time when Thou mayest be found." Every rejoicing forgiven one encourages others to come (Ps. li, 12, 13). There is a time and way to find Him and a time when He may not be found. See Isa. lv, xix, 18; Prov. i, 28, 29. In the city of refuge the man who otherwise might have been put to death was perfectly safe. In Christ there is no condemnation, for He has been delivered for our offenses and raised again for our justification, and the sins cannot be found which by His blood have been blotted out (Rom. iv, 8; vii, 11).

7. "Thou art my hiding place; Thou shalt preserve me from trouble; Thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah." So are the three "Thous" in this verse. He is our Refuge, Preserver, Deliverer. It is Himself, not anything nor any one else. God is our refuge and strength; the Lord of Hosts is with us (Ps. xlv, 1, 7). Rejoice in the Lord; bless the Lord; who are compelled by the circumstances of bit and bridle is very suggestive of many people who will not come near to God except as compelled by circumstances.

8. "Many sorrows shall be to the wicked, but he that trusteth in the Lord mercy shall compass him about." This reference to the wicked must be taken in the light of all Scripture, which tells us elsewhere that sometimes the wicked prosper in his way and bringeth wicked devices to pass. They are not in trouble as other men; their eyes stand out with fatness, they have more than heart could wish (Ps. xxxvii, 7; lxxiii, 5, 7). But they shall perish, they shall be cut off. Then their prosperity ends and their sorrows begin and shall never end.

9. "Be glad in the Lord and rejoice ye righteousness, and shout for joy all ye that are upright in heart." So good thing is withheld from them that walk uprightly (Ps. lxxxv, 11). He who spared not His own Son will give Him freely to us all things (Rom. viii, 32). It becomes us, therefore, to say that though all also fall, "Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation" (Hab. iii, 13). The Lord Himself is our unchanging and unfailing portion. There is nothing that He cannot and will not do for those who trust in Him. Rejoice in the Lord always.

The late Dr. Bethune asked a morose and miserly man how he was getting along. The man replied: "What is that of your business?" Said the doctor: "O, sir, I am one of those who take an interest even in the meanness of God's creatures."

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Farm and Fireside.

HOUSEHOLD PERILS.

There are three volatile liquids used in families which are particularly dangerous, and must be employed, if at all, with special care.

As regards ammonia, or water of ammonia, it is a very powerful agent, especially the strongest kinds sold by druggists. An accident in its use has recently come under our notice, in which a young lady lost her life from taking a few drops through mistake.

Benzine, ether and strong ammonia constitute this class of agents. The two first named liquids are employed in cleaning gloves and other wearing apparel, and in removing oil stains from carpets, curtains, etc. The liquids are highly volatile and flash into vapor as soon as the cork of the phial containing them is removed. Their vapors are very combustible, and will inflame at long distances from ignited candles or gas flames, and consequently they should never be used in the evening, when the house is lighted.

Explosions of a very dangerous nature will occur if the vapor of these liquids is permitted to escape into the room in considerable quantities. In view of the great hazard in handling these liquids, cautious housekeepers will not allow them to be brought into their dwellings and their action is commendable.

Breathing the gas, under certain circumstances, causes serious harm to the lungs and membranes of the mouth and nose. It is unquestionable if proper care is used in its employment. The phials holding it should be kept apart from others containing the medicines, etc., and rubber stoppers to the phials should be used.

Oxalic acid is considerably employed for cleaning brass and copper utensils. This substance is highly poisonous and must be kept and used with great caution. In crystalline structure it closely resembles sulphate of magnesia or Epsom salts, and therefore frequent mistakes are made and lives are lost.

Every drug or chemical compound that goes into families among inexperienced persons, should be kept in a safe place, labeled properly and used with great care.

WHEAT.

While it is too early to sow wheat, the preparation should begin in time, because wheat loves a clean, deeply plowed bed, which has been allowed to settle again and then brought to a fine tilth, for which reason it can scarcely be rolled and harrowed too often previous to putting in the seed. High lands and red soils are best suited to this crop. At the south, the crop is uncertain, but each farmer should at least put in enough to supply home wants, and on account of the saving in seed and the improved condition of the land for other crops, should the wheat fail, it is better to concentrate the preparation and manure on a limited area, rather than depend on a larger area lightly manured and poorly prepared. The wheat crop should be sown according to locality, about 10 days before the usual killing frost.

The sowing of these grain crops in the fall, and also the seeding of the grasses and clovers, accomplishes a twofold object: we add other crops to our farm supplies, and, by thus covering the bare fields, we prevent the leaching and washing so painful to see on the farm where only the summer crops are cultivated. We must learn that our farming is an all-the-year business, and that it is just as important to protect our lands the latter part of the year as to cultivate and gather crops from them in the regular seasons during the preceding months. It is a fact now generally understood that cotton per se has received much of the criticism which should have been bestowed on our careless system of culture—the habit we have formed of clearing our lands of everything, even the protection which nature would spread over them, and then leaving the bare fields to the mercy of scorching suns and deluging rains.—Southern Cultivator.

THE HOME DOCTOR.

It is said that lemons will cure a felon. Cut the lemon in halves, using half at a time by inserting the finger in the half.

For bleeding from the nose, sit upright, bathe the neck and face with cold water, and snuff a weak solution of alum and water up the nostrils.

For stiff and aching knee joints, massage with a mixture composed of equal parts of oil of wintergreen and olive oil may prove beneficial. It should be used warm.

An old remedy worth trying when suffering from nervous headache, which is felt at the base of the brain, try rubbing the painful part of neck with camphor. Rub hard and for five minutes at a time. This treatment, in most cases, is apt to bring relief.

If celery were eaten freely, sufferers from rheumatism would be comparatively few. It is a mistaken idea that cold and damp produce the disease—they simply develop it. Acid blood is the primary and sustaining cause. If celery is eaten largely an alkaline blood is the result, and where this exists there can be neither rheumatism nor gout. It should be eaten cooked.

If belts are allowed to become covered with grease, dirt and rosin, or to grow dry and hard, they cannot work air-tight on the pulleys. Very often no more than 25 per cent. of the available power is obtained because of these neglects. Many persons think they obtain more driving power by placing a tightener against the belt; but this gain is only the equivalent of the extra surface with which the belt is brought in contact by the tightener, and in the case of a horizontal belt, this will be nearly lost by friction, though on an upright belt the tightener may be useful. There is economy in working with slack belts, keeping them clean and flexible. Hardened belts are best softened by a washing of lukewarm soda water and a thorough scraping and oiling.

Farmers who are accustomed to wearing thick leather boots often desire to soften, or rather keep them soft. Castor oil is sometimes recommended for this end, and serves a good

purpose, but there is nothing more natural than neatfoot oil, although this will not always render stiff leather pliable. If boots are very rigid and stiff there is nothing that will render them pliable easier than lukewarm water. After the leather is rendered soft the oil may be used to a good purpose, and requiring less than if no water was used.

LIME NEEDED.—A scientific breeder says 100 grains of lime are needed to make a strong egg shell, and as 1,000 pounds of wheat or corn contained less than a pound of lime, the hen cannot get the lime she needs out of her grain rations. It would require the lime from 200 pounds of wheat to supply a dozen eggs.

There is nothing better for a cut than powdered rosin. Pound it until fine, and put it into an empty clean pepperbox with perforated top, then you can easily sift it on the cut; put a soft cloth around the injured member, and wet it with cold water once in a while. It will prevent inflammation and soreness.

ROYAL Baking Powder Absolutely Pure

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SAMUEL HUNT, General Manager.

TIME TABLE OF THE Ohio River and Charleston Railway Company, to take effect Monday, June 1, 1896, 7.40 a. m.

STANDARD EASTERN TIME.

GOING SOUTH No. 12

Leave Marion..... 3:00 pm

Leave Rutherfordton..... 3:35 pm

Leave Forest City..... 4:05 pm

Leave Newport..... 4:35 pm

Leave Mooreboro..... 4:45 pm

Leave Shelby..... 6:00 pm

Leave Patterson Springs..... 6:15 pm

Leave Ears..... 6:25 pm

Arrive at Blacksburg..... 6:40 pm

GOING NORTH No. 38

Leave Shelby..... 7:40 am

Leave Patterson Springs..... 7:50 am

Leave Blacksburg..... 8:20 am

Leave Ears..... 8:40 am

Leave Patterson Springs..... 8:50 am

Leave New York..... 9:10 am

Leave Mooreboro..... 9:20 am

Leave New York..... 9:30 am

Leave Patterson Springs..... 9:40 am

Leave Ears..... 9:50 am

Leave Patterson Springs..... 10:00 am

Arrive at Marion..... 12:45 pm

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In Smoking Tobacco we can surely satisfy you. We have Fruits and Flowers, Pick Leaf, Gold and Silver and all popular brands. In Cheating Tobacco we handle only the best and our prices are at the bottom.

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IT SEEMS QUE