

Family Reading.

Don't.

- Don't always be wishing for what you can't get.
- For wishes are vain that cannot be met.
- Don't always be moping because you feel blue.
- 'Twill make you unhappy, and other folks, too.
- Don't always be fretting if something goes wrong.
- And not to your liking; it won't be for long.
- For though the sky cloudy to day may appear,
- To-morrow it may be all sunny and clear.
- Don't always be grumbling, because you have not.
- All that you wish for; be content with your lot.
- Don't envy a man because he has wealth;
- Though you have not riches, be thankful for health.
- Don't despise any man because he is poor,
- His heart may be truer than one who has more;
- And he may be more willing to help his friends.
- Than he whom wealth and good fortune attends.
- Don't miss any chances to do a good deed,
- The naked to clothe, the hungry to feed;
- For you never will be the loser thereby,
- And may be rewarded—who knows?—by-and-by.

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New Select Serial.

ARCHIE.

A TALE OF INDIA.

CHAPTER IX.

Lola had no one to turn to now for advice, Mrs. Hamlyn with her daughters having followed her son a few weeks after he had been settled at his new home in a distant county. All she could do was to go to school and tell the principal that Archie did not wish to return to the college, and she had come to pay for the coming term.

This was a sad inroad upon means at all times limited, and made her speak for her—harshly to her foster-child for the first time.

Poor woman she had never told her children, as she called them, to what straits she had been reduced to pay their way, but Gracie's quick eye had seen it all, and she at last told Archie.

That night the lad, now more than fourteen years old, walked out into the lanes and fields round their pretty suburban home, to fight out the oppression on brain and heart, and think what he could do for the future. He now knew for the first time that Lola and Gracie had been both working to keep him at college, and the hot blood of shame mantled his cheek to think of the return he had made for all they had done for him.

"There are many boys," thought he, "who support a mother and sister at my age; and they have been getting my living for me!"

And so it was, for Lola, skilled as many Indian women are, in that wonderful art of embroidery on silk and muslin, which is almost priceless in England, had taught it to Gracie, and the money gained had kept them respectably, and paid Archie's school bills.

All this had come as a thunder-clap on Archie, and when he thought how badly he had returned their loving care, he threw himself on his face on the grass, and wept aloud. He thought of his dear gentle mother, whom he perfectly remembered—of his brave soldier-father, and that father's words to him the night he followed him to the flower-covered grave in the little hill-side cemetery, far—far away in sunny India.

As these thoughts passed through Archie's mind, he seemed to hear a childish voice—his own—and to feel the hot tears which rolled down his cheeks, as he cried in the extreme of his childish grief, 'Papa, eh, papa, what will Archie do without you?'

'Be a brave little man, my own Ar-

chie, and take care of your little sister until I return, for me.' And he had answered 'That I will, dear papa.'

But had he kept that promise? And the answer in his heart dyed his young face with shame, honest shame because he knew that Gracie, his young and gentle sister, had been the care-taker of him, and with the knowledge thus brought to him, he cried, 'Oh papa, dear papa!' and Archie fell into a paroxysm of grief, which shook him to the very heart!

As he lay thus prone on the grass, his face hidden in his clasped hands, the chimes of a near-by church clock fell on his ear. He listened, and the sweetly solemn sounds of the bells seemed to him like gentle voices chiding him in loving cadence for his fault.

Sadly and honestly the boy recalled the few events of his short life, which seemed to pass shadow-like before him, and then and there was awakened that sublime gift which God in his mercy has bestowed on His creatures, called conscience, which if the young particularly would listen to, they would be delivered from temptation, and evil would flee from them.

This newly-awakened feeling—or sense—was awakening in Archie's heart the wish to retrieve the ground he had lost, for he felt that he had been a coward. Now, there are cowards, and cowards. A boy may prove very brave in many gymnastic feats, riding a bare-backed horse, climbing a high tree when none other than he will dare to go. This is often mere foolhardiness; but when a lad has committed a fault, maybe a grave one, and has the moral courage to acknowledge it honestly, and take his punishment with quiet dignity, feeling that he has deserved it, that boy is as far removed from a coward, as east is from west.

As Archie lay undisturbed alone, with his heart laid bare to himself, he was self-convicted that if he had done as Gracie had said he should have done, he would have done right; and a softer, happier feeling came over him as he determined that on the morrow he would go to the head-master and acknowledge his fault.

No sound but distant footsteps broke the charmed silence of the sweet summer night, and as Archie, his face uncovered now, looked upwards at the innumerable number of stars—those flowers of the heavenly garden we look at with a wondering awe, but cannot reach—he prayed God to help him do as his mother would have had him; and then he said to himself he would go home, and comfort his dear sorrowing sister Gracie, whom he had left in tears.

How deep the stillness! Nothing but the sweet low voices of the night, the loving coo of some mother-dove to her little one, or the beseeching baa-a-a of a silly lamb, who, like Archie, was impatient of control, and, yes—again that footstep!

Alas that footstep!

Nearer and nearer came the patter on the soft turf; and then a clear boyish voice singing blithely as he came up the pathway.

As the boy came on he saw by the clear light of the stars, a quiet figure now half reclining on the green carpet of nature's drawing-room, where peer and peasant are alike welcome to take rest and find pleasure; and stopping suddenly, he was about again to pass on, when he recognized Archie Montgomery.

'Why Archie, what's the matter?' I thought it was some gruesome ghost, repenting of his sins when I saw you.'

'Well, Sid, you are right so far. I have repented that I ever joined you and the rest in not obeying Mr. Clifford. True, he was very stern that day, but he had a right to our obedience, and—'

'Whew—er,' sneered Sidney Paget, before Archie had finished his say; 'has mamma Lola boxed your ears, and pretty sister Gracie cried her eyes out—eh, Miss Montgomery?' I suppose you mean to tell that surly old bear the head-master that you are very sorry you did not stop to be caned, eh?'

'That's just what I intend to do; and I shall be much obliged if you will not speak of my sister. I do not like it.'

'Dear me! You have become quite

grand all of a sudden. What fun it will be to see you jelling old Clifford how sorry you are for being a bad boy. I'll be there with the other boys to see the play! Why, Archie, think better of it; there's not one of them that will ever speak to you again if you make such a girl of yourself. Well, we shall see.' And whistling carelessly Sidney Paget went on his way, but he had done his evil work, and the fear of ridicule seemed to put aside all his honest resolves.

To be laughed at by his schoolfellows—how could he bear it? 'Oh, how I wish I had gone home half an hour ago, before I saw that Sidney—'twas he who led us all wrong,' thought Archie. Then came the bitter thought of the disappointment his sister would suffer if he did not do as she had told him he ought to do, and in the conflict between right and wrong, Archie rose with a groan of discomfort and took his way home.

As the boy neared his home he saw that the door of the little house stood open, and was it—yes, his sister?—her face swollen with weeping, there at the gate giving some hasty orders to the woman who attended to their household affairs.

'Oh, Archie,' said the afflicted girl, 'where have you been? I have wanted you so badly—poor mamma Lola! Oh, poor Lola.'

'What is the matter with her, Gracie? Tell me, dear, what can I do?'

'Come,' was all the afflicted girl could say, as she led the way into the house.

The sight that met Archie as he entered their little sitting-room was a very sad one.

On the sofa lay the poor ayah, perfectly insensible. Gracie had left her sitting at work when she went into the town for some errand, and on returning she had found their true faithful friend fallen to the ground in some kind of fit.

Gracie's cries had brought their attendant to her assistance, and together they had managed to place her on the sofa, and now Martha had gone for a doctor.

Whilst Gracie was still telling her brother, that gentleman entered the room. After examining his patient and administering strong aromatic and pungent restoratives, Lola showed signs of returning animation; and before the doctor took his departure, he told the two young people that Lola must be kept quietly in bed for a few days at least, as she was suffering from a low fever, brought on by anxiety and over-exertion of some sort. Then promising to come again early in the morning, he said good-night.

The Measures of Time.

The measures of time have been known, more or less, ever since the commencement of the world's history. The Roman *lustra* were periods of five years, and the Greek olympiads periods of four years. The first commenced in the year 776 before Christ. The Metonic cycle was 19 years, intended to be equivalent to the Chaldean period. It was afterward adopted as the golden number for Easter. The Hegira, or Flight, took place July 16, 622, and is the Mohammedan era. Their year is twelve lunar months, or 354 days, 8 hours, 48 minutes, and eleven days being lost; a year must be allowed every thirty-three, to reconcile their dates with ours.

In India, the land of the sun, a day is divided into 60 Ghurries, a Ghurry into 60 Puls, a Pul into 60 Prans, and a pran into 10 Fas—into 2.5ths of a second. The periodical month of the Turks and Arabs, or sideral period of the moon, is, 27d., 7h., 43 m. and 48 seconds. The synodical month, or return to the conjunction of the sun, is 29, 12h., 44m., 8 seconds and eleven thirds. The Arabs call Saturday, the 7th day, *Sabb*, and Monday is called *Joma* in all the Eastern languages. The Persians give names to every day in the month, just as we give them for every day in the week.

The Jews have queer customs as regards their measure of time. They began the year in March, and in olden times the months were called Nisan, Zif, Sivan, Tammuz, Ab, Elul, Tisri, Bul, Cislem, Tibeth, Shebat and Adar. The Sabbath, or seventh day, with

the Jews is Saturday. The days and nights, from sunrise to sunset, were divided into twelve equal parts or hours, 1, 2, 3, etc. The night-watches were three hours each, from sunset to sunrise. The months were Iunar, or 29 and 30 days each, and every two or three years it was customary to introduce a new month. The Jewish day commences and ends at sunset. The civil Jewish year commences with the new moon, near the vernal equinox, in the month called Tisri, of 30 days corresponding with part of September and October.

The laws of our country and those of European countries preserve the Roman names of the days, as Dies, Solus Lunæ, Martis, Mercurii, Jovis, Veneris, and Saturni, derived from the Roman deities. But in ordinary use the names are derived from Saxon or Teutonic deities—the Sun, Moon, Tuesca, Woden, Thor, Frigo, and Saturn.

The months, or lunar periods, are Roman, and September, October, November and December were so called when the Roman year began in March. April is so called from *Aperit*, the Spring, St. David's Day is March 1st; St. Patrick's Day, March 17th; St. George's Day, April 23rd; St. Andrew's Day, November 30th, and St. Dennis' day, October 19th. Christmas, as all know, is December 25th.

There are many curious facts regarding time and its measurement. It is a well-known fact that ten beats of a healthy pulse is equal to nine seconds. The sun is 7 days, 16 hours and 51 minutes longer in the Northern signs than in the Southern. Fewer than 30 vibrations in a second give no sound, and when the vibrations exceed 7,520 in a second, the tones cease to be discriminated. The beats in an hour of a common seconds clock are 3,600, and 17,280 a common watch; but second-watches beat 18,000 times, or 5 per second.—*Golden Days*.

Big Things.

The largest suspension bridge will be the one now building between Brooklyn and New-York. The length of the main span is 1,595 feet 6 inches. The entire length of the bridge is 5,989 feet.

Fortress Monroe is the largest single fortification in the world. It has already cost the government over \$3,000,000. The water battery is considered one of the finest military works in the world.

The loftiest active volcano is Popocatepetl (smoking mountain), thirty-five miles south-west of Pueblo, Mexico. It is 17,784 feet above the sea level, has a crater three miles in circumference and 1,000 feet deep.

The largest university is Oxford, in Oxford, England. It consists of twenty-five colleges and five halls. Oxford was the seat of learning in the time of Edward the Confessor. It claims to have been founded by Alfred.

The largest ship in the Great Eastern. She is 680 feet long, 83 feet beam and 60 feet deep, being 22,927 tons burden, 18,915 gross and 13,344 net register. She was built at Millwall, on the Thames, and was launched Jan. 31, 1857.

The most extensive park is Deer Park, in the environs of Copenhagen, Denmark. The enclosure contains about 4,200 acres, and is divided by a small river. The largest pleasure ground in this country is Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, which contains 2,740 acres.

The largest body of fresh water on the globe is Lake Superior. It is 4,000 miles long, 160 wide at its greatest breadth, and has an area of 32,000 square miles. Its mean depth is said to be 200 feet, and its greatest depth about 900 fathoms. Its surface is 635 feet above the sea.

The largest tunnel in the world is that of St. Gothard, on the line of railroad between Lucerne and Milan. The summit of the tunnel is 990 feet below the surface at Andermatt, and 6,800 feet beneath the peak of Kastelhorn, of the St. Gothard group. The tunnel is twenty-six and a half feet wide, and nineteen feet ten inches from the floor and to the crown of the arched roof.

It is nine and a half miles long, one and five-eighths miles longer than the Mt. Cenis tunnel.

The most extensive cavern is the

Mammoth Cave, in Edmondson County, Kentucky. It is near Green River six miles from Cave City, and twenty-eight miles from Bowling Green. The cave consists of a succession of irregular chambers, some of which are large, situated on different levels. Some of these are traversed by navigable branches of the subterranean Echo River. Blind fish are found in its waters.

The largest trees are the mammoth trees in California. One of a grove in Tulare County, according to measurement made by members of the State Geological Survey, was shown to be 276 feet high, 106 feet in circumference at the base, and seventy six feet at a point twelve feet above the ground. Some of the trees are 376 feet high and thirty-four feet in diameter. Some of the largest that have been felled indicate an age of from 2,000 to 2,500 years.

The largest inland sea is the Caspian, lying between Europe and Asia. Its greatest length is 760 miles, its greatest breadth 270 miles, and its area 180,000 square miles. Great Salt Lake in Utah, which may be properly termed an inland sea, is about ninety miles long, and has a varying breadth of from twenty to twenty-five miles. Its surface is 4,200 feet above the sea, whereas the surface of the Caspian is eighty-four feet below the ocean level.

The largest empire in the world is that of Great Britain, comprising 8,557,658 square miles, more than a sixth part of the land of the globe, and embracing under its rule nearly a sixth part of the population of the world. In territorial extent the United States ranks third, containing 3,580,242 square miles, including Alaska; in population it ranks fourth, with its 50,000,000 people. Russia ranks second: 8,352,940 square miles.

The highest monolith is the obelisk at Karnak, Egypt. Karnak is on the east bank of the Nile, near Luxor, and occupies a part of the site of an ancient Thebes. The obelisk is ascribed to Hatasu, sister of Pharaoh Thothmes III., who reigned about 1600 B. C. Its whole length is 122 feet, its weight 400 tons. Its height without pedestal, is 108 feet 10 inches. The height of the obelisk in Central Park, without pedestal, is 68 feet 11 inches; its weight about 168 tons.

The Chinese wall is the largest wall in the world. It was built by the first Emperor of the Tsin dynasty, about 220 B. C., as a protection against Tartars. It traverses the northern boundary of China, and is carried over the highest hills, through the deepest valleys, across rivers and every other natural obstacle. Its length is 12,500 miles. Including a parapet of 5 feet, the total height of the wall is 20 feet, thickness at the base 25 feet, and at the top 15 feet. Towers or bastions occur at intervals of about 100 yards.

The largest library is the Bibliotheque National in Paris, founded by Louis XIV. It contains 1,400,000 volumes, 300,000 pamphlets, 175,000 manuscripts, 300,000 maps and charts, and 150,000 coins and medals. The collection of engravings exceeds 1,300,000, contained in some 10,000 volumes. The building which contains these treasures is situated on the Rue Richelieu. Its length is 540 feet, its breadth 130 feet. The largest library in New York, in respect of separate works, is the Astor. About 190,000 volumes are on its shelves.

The largest bell in the world is the great bell of Moscow, at the foot of the Kremlin. Its circumference at the bottom is nearly sixty-eight feet, and height more than twenty-one feet. In its stoutest part it is twenty-three inches thick, and its weight has been computed to be 448,772 pounds. It has never been rung, and was probably cast on the spot where it now stands. A piece of the bell is broken off. The fracture is supposed to have been occasioned by water having been thrown upon it when heated by the building erected over it being on fire.

The largest cathedral in the world is St. Peter's in Rome. From the laying of the foundation in 1450 until its dedication, 170 years were consumed in its erection; and if we include the work done under Pius VI., three and a half centuries passed before it was completed, during which time forty-three Popes reigned. The dimensions of the church are: Length of the interior, 613½ feet; of transept from wall to wall, 448½ feet; height of knave, 152½ feet; of side isles, 47 feet; width of nave, 77.89 feet; of side aisles, 33½ feet; circumference of pillars which support the dome from, 253 feet. The height of the dome from the pavement to the base of the lantern is 405 feet—to the top of the cross, 448 feet. The dome is encircled and strengthened by six bands of iron. A stairway leads to

the roof, broad and easy enough to allow a horse and team to ascend. The annual cost of keeping the church in repair is 30,000 scudi.—*N. Y. Sun*.

Seven Fools.

1. The envious man—who sends away his mutton because the man next him is eating venison.
2. The jealous man—who spreads his bed with stinging nettles, and then sleeps on it.
3. The proud man—who gets wet through sooner than ride in the carriage of an inferior.
4. The litigious man—who goes to law in hopes of ruining his opponent, and gets ruined himself.
5. The extravagant man—who buys a herring and takes a cab to carry it home.
6. The angry man—who learns the orphicleide because he is annoyed by the playing of his neighbor's piano.
7. The ostentatious man—who illuminates the outside of his house most brilliantly and sits inside in the dark.—*Punch*.

Youth in Old Age.

They say that I am growing old, because my hair is silvered, and there are crows' feet on my forehead, and my step is not so firm and elastic as before. But they are mistaken. That is not me. The knees are weak, but the knees are not me. The brow is wrinkled, but the brow is not me. This is the house I live in. But I am young—*younger than I ever was before.*—*Cuthrie*.

Booth's Department.

Original and Selected. Scripture Enigma.

No. 215.

Find out the following described names, place them in order, and they will show the foundation of all the Christian's joy:

1. The birthplace of the Apostle Paul.
2. The king whose death was a punishment for vanity.
3. John the Baptist's mother.
4. The first Christian convert in Europe.
5. The king of Bashan.
6. Isaac's wife.
7. Thomas's other name.
8. The evangelical prophet.
9. The first Christian martyr.
10. The young woman who opened the door for Peter.
11. The band of which Cornelius was centurion.
12. The woman who told a lie and died.
13. Where did the Israelites become so numerous?
14. Whose vineyard did Ahab covet?
15. Who was Isaac's brother?
16. The leprous captain.
17. The sweet singer of Israel.
18. The prophet who died because he did not govern his sons.
19. Of what people was Esau the father?
20. Who was the wife of Felix?

Curious Questions.

No. 31. Form a word square of

1. A profane word.
2. A profane word used for perfumed wood.
3. A man of Isachar.
4. What a wise man will do.

No. 32. Place the figures in this square so that each line and each column will amount to 65:

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25

No. 33. Behead a garden, and leave a cavern. Behead to desire, and leave to obtain. Behead a pointed weapon, and leave a fruit.

Find answers to the above—write them down—and see how they agree with the answers to be given next week.

Answer to Scripture Enigma.

No. 214.

Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God.

ANSWERS TO CURIOUS QUESTIONS.

No. 26. Double Acrostic:

J eh U
O cea N
H avo C
N ove L
B agatell E
U ranu S
L aur A
L oo M

JOHN BULL. UNCLE SAM.

No. 27. Hidden Grain.

Oats, Rye, Corn, Wheat, Rice.

No. 28. Hidden Fishes.

Salmou, bass, whale, eel.

No. 29. C A N T

A R E A
N E A R
T A R N

No. 30. Wisdom.