

IT IS SO VERY UNRULY.

THE TONGUE AND THE MISCHIEF IT SOMETIMES MAKES.

Astra Doubts Whether the Good It Has Done Can Atone for the Evil—Suggestion of a Sign Language to be Used at Five O'clock Teas.

I believe there was once a family whose existence is vouched for, not only by several reputable witnesses, but by medical authorities, and authentic records, not one of the members of which had ever been blessed with teeth!

Of course they missed a good deal of enjoyment of a vulgar and sordid nature; none of them could eat nuts with any sort of comfort unless they were first pounded in a mortar, and then partaken of with a spoon, and the month of August was bereft of half its charm for them since it conveyed no sweet suggestions of green corn, the delights of which when eaten off the cob, must ever remain purely visionary for them.

For instance the fathers and mothers of that family were never kept up at night with teething babies, and the said babies being spared the danger and suffering of the teething period had no excuse for either getting ill, or losing their tempers, so they grew up healthy, happy, and good-natured?

None of the children could chew gum, they grew up with perfect digestions and therefore were predisposed to lead blameless lives! And last though not least, dentist's bills were an unknown quantity to the parents, so they were enabled to give their children every advantage of education and not only start them out in the world under the most favorable conditions, but also save enough to leave them in affluent circumstances when they finally left these earthly scenes themselves.

Now I have been renewing this case in my own mind lately, and wondering if there is not another part of the interior furnishing of the human mouth which could be dispensed with much more easily than the teeth and that part is the tongue!

I suppose it does a great deal of good in the world, but that is when it is bridled and the reins are held by strong hands lest it fall upon us and rend us; it may admonish and warn us sometimes, if we would but heed the warning; and it has spoken words of love and trust and hope, it has cheered soldiers on to victory and nerved martyrs on their way to a glorious death; it has spoken words of silvery eloquence and of strong condemnation, it has upheld the right and denounced the wrong, delighted the mother with the first broken babblings of her first-born and wrung the heart of the mourner when it faintly articulated the last faint words of the dying.

Therefore I am often tempted to envy the lower animals their enforced silence, and to wonder whether the human race would not be better off in the long run if they could only express their thoughts by signs. It would be inconvenient I know,

and rob sewing circles and five o'clock teas of half their charm, but then it would be so much safer to feel that no one could ever call and ask us solemnly if we had ever said so and so about them, when we knew we had and did not know how to get out of it.

ASTRA.

KING'S COLLEGE IN A BAD WAY.

The Venerable University May yet Have to Close Its Doors.

HALIFAX, March 1.—King's college, Windsor, is evidently in a bad way, if what the Alumni society say is correct, and there is no reason to doubt it. King's is the oldest university by long odds in the Maritime provinces, and has a splendid history as an institution for the higher education of the youth of the church of England.

The college is going behind financially no less than in the attendance of students. The current debt is \$10,000, cash advanced by the bank, and the total floating debt reaches \$25,000. This is rather alarming. The bank would not consent to make the over-draft which represents much of the debt, were it not that the university has substantial trust funds and property which, if it comes to the worst, could be realized on.

Whatever the cause of the trouble is, the sad condition of King's is to be regretted, and the developments of the future will be watched with interest.

UNDYING FRIENDSHIPS.

All Too Apt to Wither in This World of Change.

Did you ever notice how you outgrow your old friendships? Have you ever met an old chum that you haven't seen for a few years? If you have you must have noticed how you looked at her and thought "what in the world did I ever find so very interesting in you?"

It is quite apparent that your ideals are constantly changing—oh, yes; girls have ideals among themselves as well as among their men acquaintances—and the companionship of our school days does not prove quite satisfactory as the friend of our maturer years.

Sometimes it is positively pathetic, this growing away from the old acquaintances of one's youth, especially when one looks forward impatiently to a visit from some chum that one hasn't seen for a long time. The disappointment is so great. Taking it all in all, to me it seems to prove that the real lasting friendship is of the colder, more practical kind, and that the proper thing to do is to fight shy of these "undying, I'll love-you-forever-and-ever" attachments that make you want to be with your chums seven days in the week and every evening.

In the end it doesn't pay, and what can be more pitiful than a friendship that is cold and dead.—Chicago Record.

IT HUNTS OUT THE STARS.

Hardly a day passes but new and important photographs are made. New stars have revealed worlds that have ever been obscured from man, worlds rolling and shining, but hitherto utterly obscure in the mist of incomprehensible space. It is difficult to realize how far these worlds are from us. One of the most popular lecturers on astronomy is Sir Robert Ball, who uses simple and graphic illustrations to give his hearers ideas of magnitude and distance. For instance, he says that going at the rate of the electric telegraph—i. e., 186,000 miles a second—it would take 78 years to telegraph a message to the most distant telescopic stars. But the camera has revealed stars far more distant than these, some of which, if a message had been sent in the year A. D. 1—that is to say, 1890 years ago—the message would only just have reached some of them, and be still on the way to others, going at the rate of 186,000 miles a second.

Mr. Childs was educating at his own expense sixty young girls and women, and these will be cared for by Mrs. Childs, to whom Mr. Childs left his entire estate by this clause in his will: "To be hers absolutely, having full confidence that she, knowing my plans and purposes, will by gift during her life or testamentary writing make such disposition thereof for charitable or other uses as will be in accordance with my wishes, it being my intention hereby not in any wise to let my said wife in the disposition of my estate, but only to make expression of my confidence in her action hereunder."

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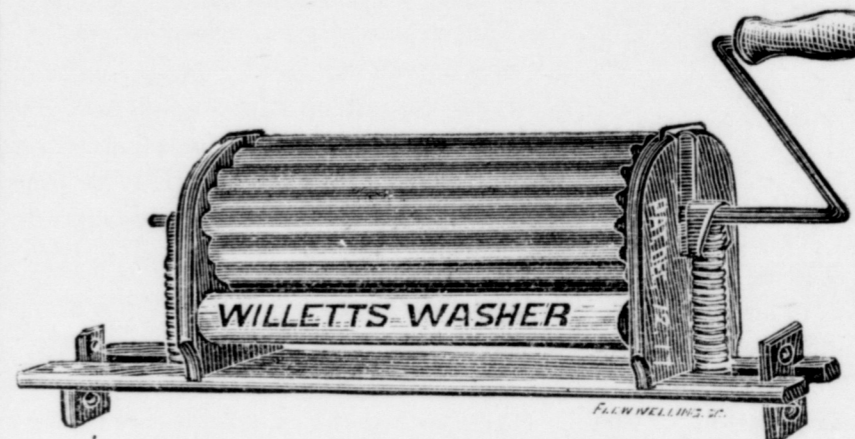


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Can supply them either nickel plated or polished steel. Also Hockey Sticks and Hockey Pucks.

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Cannot be Beat.

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T. YOUNGLAUS intends moving at 1st May to his commodious store in Union Block, Cor. Mill and Main Sts., North End.

Custom Tailoring will then be carried on extensively on the premises.

In the meantime his large stock, at 51 Charlotte, is marked down to hard time prices and must be cleared out before moving.

Rare bargains can be had.

City Market Clothing Hall, 51 Charlotte St. T. YOUNGLAUS.

Advertisement for G. J. Hamilton & Sons Biscuits & Confectionery, Halifax & Pictou, N.S.

THEY ARE VERY BAD WRITERS.

Men Who Put Good Ideas into a Shape that Few Can Decipher.

George Augustus Sala has the following to say with reference to the handwriting of great men: "I have said that I knew of one other sample of handwriting as shockingly illegible as that of Lord Brougham. It was the writing of the late Mr. Beresford Hope. Up and down, in and out, and around the corner, some of the letters standing on their heads, others 'standing prostrate,' as Lord Castlereagh put it—others apparently engaged in mortal combat with their next neighbors—the ultimate result chaos. That was the calligraphy, or the cography, of worthy, clever Mr. Beresford Hope.

The late Walter Thornbury, traveler and historiographer, in conjunction with Mr. E. Wallford of 'Old and New London,' also wrote a disastrously bad hand. The prevailing impression in your mind was that not ink, but a succession of small bombshells flowed from poor Walter's pen and these petards had exploded on the paper. On the whole, were I called upon to come into any court and make affidavit as to the handwriting of my literary friends, I should say that the finest calligrapher of all was Thackeray. He had two distinct handwritings; a cursive and slanting one, and a vertical or upright hand, in which every letter was distinctly formed. Both hands were, to my mind, inimitably beautiful. Douglas Jerrold, as a letter writer, wrote a bold, decisive hand, but his 'copy' was in almost microscopically small characters. I have seen the bound manuscript of his strange novel, 'A Man Made of Money,' and I doubt whether even a reader with powerful eyes could decipher that MS without the aid of a magnifying glass.

"I find in the book of scraps to which I have alluded several very kind letters from Sir Arthur Helps, the author of 'Friends in Council.' He wrote a typically official hand, large, clear, decisive, and not devoid of symmetry. One communication written in 1874 had reference to those very cruel devices, not yet, I am sorry to say, abandoned, for the torture of horses—the bearing rein and the gag bit. He wanted me to write something denouncing that which most people think to be a barbarous and useless practice; but I told him, in reply, that an anti-bearing rein movement must, to have any chance of success, be initiated by the very highest classes in society, and in his letter in answer he writes: 'I am afraid you are right; we must begin with the duchesses. I have already had the audacity to try what I can do with them, and I must persevere.' Next to Arthur I find an invitation to dinner from dear old Charles Reade. A big, fighting, 'hitting-between-the-eyes' hand—a sprawl, but a giant's sprawl. He disclaimed to fold the pages of his letters, and went right across the sheet."

SAVED BY BEING TOO THIN.

An African Explorer Who is Alive Now Because He Was Not Fat.

Theodore Westmark, the well-known African traveler, who under Stanley took part in the Congo expedition, gave a lecture in New York the other night. He told about his thrilling adventures among the cannibals of the Upper Congo. He attributed his own escape from being eaten alive on one occasion to his success in persuading the cannibals that he was too slim to prove a tempting morsel. Contrary to Stanley's warning, he had visited a neighboring village with some natives as escort. The escort betrayed him, and he was told to prepare for being eaten. He said the humor of the situation failed to strike him in the face of the awful reality.

The cannibals sharpened their flesh forks, counted the teeth of former victims strung about their necks and smacked their lips. One independent fellow actually spoke for his liver, but the chief said that he had an eye on that tidbit himself. Another prodded the explorer in the ribs and looked disappointed when he discovered they were not covered with fat.

Then there arose a discussion as to how he should be served up. Some were for cooking him brown, while others thought that he should be brought on rare. Mr. Westmark settled the dispute by assuring the cannibals, through their interpreter, that he feared he would cause internal agony among the eaters. Just at this critical juncture a fat captive was brought in, who appeased the tribe's appetite, and he made his escape after making liberal presents. In conclusion the lecturer said while he entertained the greatest respect for Stanley he thought he was unnecessarily cruel at times to the natives.

Insuring Watches.

The wisecrack who declared that "there is nothing new under the sun" gets another set-back. Here is the idea: For \$2 paid annually, a watch—gentleman's or lady's—is guaranteed against trouble. That is to say, \$2 will keep it in repair for one year, no matter how often it may get out of order or what may be the cause. It may be dropped on a brick sidewalk, or you may fall overboard with it in your pocket; no questions are asked and no limit put upon repairs to the movement up to a total of \$25, at the rates usually charged. All styles of watches are included in the new offer, except a few special movements. It is a fact that not one man in a hundred remembers the number of his watch. The register secured by this guarantee is therefore a complete reference in case of loss or

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Try These. Evaporated Peaches, Plums, Pears and Prunes are delicious substitutes and more economic than preserves. Reception Flakes and Golden Wafers, just the thing for luncheons. Choice Roll Butter and fresh Eggs to be had from J. S. ARMSTRONG & BRO., 32 Charlotte St., next Y. M. C. A.

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