...dence was ... as grand... ily he had raised.

"My da... a fine young woman," ...er little boy, Peter Aug... .e lad. But the finest thing ...t pair is the affection tha ...exists between them. They never exchange a cross word. They're more like two young lovers than mother and son. It's beautiful to see them together. Hold on a minute, and I'll call Peter Augustus in. Then his mother will come down, and you can see their relations for yourself."

The old man rose and ambled heavily to the door. There was a beatific smile on his old face. Little Peter Augustus was playing with the cat in the garden.

"Peter Augustus!" he shouted. "Peter Augustus! Your mother wants you!"

The little boy dropped the cat and fixed a searching glance on his grandfather.

"Your mother wants you, Peter Augustus!"

"Does she want to warm me?" Peter Augustus cautiously demanded.

Really Worth While.

Eben Pratt of Marshby had sent two sons to Boston and knew he had reason to be proud of them. One day a summer visitor lingering in Mr. Pratt's grocery, provision and dry goods establishment mentioned some of the shining lights who had made themselves remembered in and near Boston and others still to be found there.

"We've had a good many smart men and women in and around our city," said the visitor, "and there are a number of them left. We've got scientific men and writers and artists and musicians and"—

Mr. Pratt's dry voice broke in on the list. "If ye call those folks smart," he said, "ye want to go down near the water to an address I'll give ye and see the way my boys, Ed and Sam, can open oysters! I guess that'll give ye something to go by when ye're talking of smartness."—Exchange.

Willing to Be Honest.

Phil May, the great English artist, earned his first fame in Australia. One day a broken down minister applied to him for charity, and May engaged him as a model. As a joke he also demanded that his eighty-year-old pensioner agree to leave him his skeleton when he died. When May left Australia he called his model in. "You've played me a dirty trick," said May, "by swindling me out of that skeleton. I could have bought one in sound order and condition for half the money you've cost me." The old fellow, conscious of his base ingratitude to his best and most patient friend, answered: "Don't be angry with me, Mr. May. It's not my fault. I meant to keep my word. Stay in Sydney a few months longer and give me another chance to show you that I am a man of honor."

Birds That Play.

Some birds, like all children, like to play, and Australia and New Guinea produce the "bower bird," which builds regular playhouses. These houses are not a part of their nests, but are constructed usually in the shape of covered archways of little boughs two or three feet long, eighteen inches high and about as wide. They use these houses simply for their games, as if they were clubhouses. Generally these playhouses are decorated with bright colored shells and feathers, just as children decorate their playhouses.

Lucky Future Generations.

There is a saying of Carlyle that the greatest hope of our world lies in the certainty of heroes being born into it. That is indeed a glorious certainty, but the reference might be enlarged. Birth itself, we venture to say, not of heroes only, but of the generations in their succession, is the infinitely hopeful thing. It is the guarantee that the world will never grow old; that it will never stand still; that no halt is to be called in its eternal progress.—Christian World.

A Battle of Languages.

Three or four languages strove for mastery in ancient Gaul, which is now France. German was spoken by the 12,000 Frank invaders. Popular Latin was spoken by 6,000,000 Gallo-Romans. Literary Latin was the language of the church and of literature. Low Latin was afterward the language of the administration. German was the first to succumb. In four centuries it ceased to be understood by the soldiers, and in seventy years more it had become an object of ridicule. But it survives in more than 900 words, expressing the things of government, law and war, and thus forms no insignificant part of the French language.

Corpse Rings.

The sailor of the old fashioned, shellback class always wears a corpse ring. This is a plain band of silver or gold, inscribed within with the sailor's name and port. Corpse rings are worn for the purpose of identification in case of death by drowning through shipwreck, etc. The shellback sailor can never swim, and he looks forward calmly to dying suddenly beneath the sea. Indeed, he usually prefers such a death to a lingering one in hospital.—Buffalo Express.

How He Got Out.

"No," said Woodby, "I don't see Wiseman at all any more. He has dropped out of our social set."

"He tells a different story," remarked Simpkinson.

"Indeed!"

"Yes; he claims he has climbed out."—Catholic Standard.

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The natives of China use large bells of their own make in many of their temples and monasteries. I have noticed all through Japan and China that the tone of the monastery and temple bells is very soft and smooth, due to the superior quality of the material used in their manufacture and to the absence of iron clappers, the result being a marvelous softness and mellowness of tone. The bells are never swung, being always suspended in a fixed frame, and the sound is produced by striking them on the outer edge with a wooden mallet. This makes the soft tones which are so delightfully melodious.—Consular Reports.

MINED THE ROAD.

The Volunteers Wiped Out the Foe, but It Was a Sad Story.

"I can tell you the saddest thing that happened during the whole war," said an old negro to a group of listeners. The story was this. One night it was reported that the town was in peril of attack from the enemy, and the fighting forces were quickly mustered. One of the volunteers conceived the idea of mining the road and touching the fuse in time to annihilate the foe. There was plenty of powder, and the scheme was adopted. The rest of the defenders stood some on one side of the road some on the other, ready to discharge their rifles into what might be left of the assailants.

The day passed without incident, but as the night wore on the strain of the situation began to tell on the nerves of the defenders. Presently, however, there was the sound of hoofs on the highway, approaching rapidly. Suddenly was the state of mind of the defenders that the sounds appeared to indicate the coming of a mighty cavalry force. It was a terrifying moment. A vivid flash lighting up the scene as the first horseman reached the spot told that the mine had been exploded and it had done its work. There was not a vestige of an army to be seen when the smoke cleared away excepting the scattered fragments of a big black mule.

The party laughed as the old man ... his tale. "That's a good story," said one of them, "but was there so sad about it?"

"Is my mule, sah!" was the old pathetic reply.

Appearances.

...cannot lay an egg;
...ening to his loud alarm
...how he rules his set,
...night feel safe to bet
...ould almost lay a farm.

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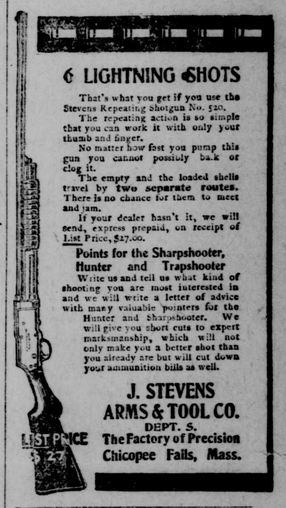
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