Boys Forever.

The best thing to be (if you want to enjoy
A real good time), is a stout healthy boy,
Just ask one what life is? He'll tell you: "It's fun!
It's to wade in the brooks and to bask in the sun—
To race upon stilts, or to hop on one leg;
It's searching the barn for the speckled hen's egg;
Yoking the calves, or killing a snake;
Tossing up hay with a long-handled rake."

To him there's no question of pleasure or sorrow;
Like the birds of the air, he's no thought for to-morrow,
Unless it should be he has hare-traps to set,
Or fish to entrap in his new-fashioned net;
Skates that are waiting for "Jack Frost" to come,
And give them a chance to whiz and to hum.
Then he'll press his nose flat on the cold window pane,
And long for the snowflakes instead of the rain.

The creakiest boots are those he likes best,
And the "brass toes" and heels give a musical zest
To the pleasure of stamping about like a man.
(Oh, the first pair of boots! Forget them who can!)
As a feather descends on the crest of a wave,
On his ear falls the cry of—'*Why can't you behave?*"
Ah, sisters! In vain your wise heads you may shake
At one who knows nothing of "nerves" and "headache."

The thing he most dreads is a damp, rainy day,
Unless he has leave in the garret to play,
Pop corn in the kitchen, draw ships on the wall,
Roast apples, potatoes, eat peanuts, play ball,
Then, books are not bad, if the tales are well told.
Alas! that a boy should ever grow old!
Lambs frisk in the sunshine, and the Spring-time enjoy,
But what time is dull to a light-hearted boy?

Farm, Garden and Household.

CORN MUFFINS.—Mix together a quart of buttermilk, a few eggs, some flour, and enough meal to form a paste. Then add a tablespoonful of melted butter, and some salt. Then bake it in a well-buttered pan.

A CHEAP WAY TO MAKE BATTER CAKE.—Make a batter of equal parts of meal and boiling water, add a little salt, and allow it to become nearly cold. Then mix some yeast with it, and when it has risen sufficiently, cook it in the usual way.

PICKLE FOR TONGUES.—Water and porter, each one quart; saltpetre, four ounces; bay salt, two pounds; common salt, two pounds. Simmer together and skim, and pour it hot over the tongues, which have been rubbed four days with sugar, salt, and saltpetre. The tongues, having lain in the pickle for eight days, will be fit for use.

TO CLEAN PAINT.—Save the tea-leaves for a few days, then steep them in a tin pail or pan for a half an hour, strain through a sieve, and use the tea to wash all varnished paint. Whiting is unequalled for cleaning white paint. Take a small quantity on a damp flannel, rub lightly over the surface, and you will be surprised at its effect.

CLIPPING HORSES.—It has been found that the practice of clipping long, rough coats of horses in the winter season is a benefit in more ways than one. They do not sweat so easily when at work, are less apt to take cold, consume less feed, are more easily kept clean, and in better condition. It is almost impossible to keep a rough-coated horse in good condition—constant and profuse sweating prevents him from gaining flesh. Clipping is a remedy. The horse's appearance is also much improved.

VALUE OF POTATOES AS FEED.—A subscriber asks us whether potatoes are worth more than twenty-five cents a bushel for feed. We do not think they are worth so much if fed raw, but when cooked we have fed them to stock rather than sell them at forty cents. Potatoes contain a large percentage of starch (from eleven to twenty per cent), are estimated to be worth more than carrots, and half as much as hay, weight for weight, but if fed raw, much of the starch, which would be utilized if they were cooked, escapes undigested.

TO RENDER BOOTS AND SHOES WATERPROOF.—To make boots proof against snow and wet, take one part mutton suet and twice that quantity of beeswax, melted together; apply to the leather at night, and wipe the boots with a flannel next morning. When the composition is first applied, the leather will not polish as well as usual when blacked, yet they will be susceptible of a brilliant polish after the blacking has been applied a few times. The following composition not only renders the leather capable of resisting wet, but also makes it more pliable, softer, and more durable. Dissolve half an ounce of Burgundy pitch in half a pint of drying oil mixed with half an ounce of turpentine. To use this fluid the boots should be made slightly warm before the fire, and painted over with the composition by means of a soft brush. Then allow them to dry, and paint them over again with the liquid. The boots should then be placed in a warm and dry place until perfectly dry. Another composition of a similar kind is made by dissolving an ounce of powdered resin in a quarter of a pint of linseed oil made hot over the fire in a pipkin. Then add two ounces of mutton suet, from the kidney, chopped up small, and simmer until the materials are well mixed. This composition is applied like the last, but does not require a second application.

ABOUT POTATOES.—Touching the storing of potatoes, A. D. Buckley, Williamstown, Mass., writes as follows: Before they are dug, I want the potatoes fully ripe, if possible, so that the skin will not rub off, and dig with potato-hooks or forks, and be very careful not to cut or bruise them, and dig only on a fair day. I have them picked up immediately, the pickers following the diggers, so that they shall not be in the light any longer than necessary. Never allow them to be thrown hard into the basket or wagon. They should be handled as carefully as winter apples to have them good. I never had any more light or air circulated in the cellar than necessary, while putting them in, and close up as soon as I am done and keep them so till they go out to plant or to market. Those who use but a small quantity should get them from some one that they know gathers them with care, and then put them in tight barrels, cover them over the top with dry dirt, or, what is cleaner, sawdust, and then dig them out as they want to use them. Never let them come to the light or air, for they will spoil as quick as lime. I usually put mine on the cellar bottom, as I have so many, from 3,000 to 6,000 bushels in one place and keep them covered, and that is the reason that my potatoes are always good the year round, retain their crispy brittleness, and every one can have them the same if they get good ripe potatoes that have been carefully handled, then take care of them as above.

CHRISTMAS IN ITALY.—Nearly every country has a peculiar mode of celebrating Christmas. In Italy, feasting and singing is the order of the day, and, as the shades of night fall upon that lovely town, numbers of musicians go forth to celebrate the one who has most merited their esteem and approbation during the past year.

Civil Service Reform.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19, 1871.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In accordance with the act of Congress approved March 3, 1871, I convened a Commission of eminent gentlemen to devise rules and regulations for the purpose of reforming the civil service. Their labors are now complete, and I transmit herewith their report, together with the rules which they recommend for my action. These rules have been adopted, and will go into effect on the 1st day of January, 1872. Under the law referred to, as I interpret it, the authority is already invested in the Executive to enforce these regulations, with full power to abridge, alter, or amend them at his option, when changes may be deemed advisable. These views, together with the report of the Commissioners, are submitted for your careful consideration as to whether further legislation may be necessary in order to carry out an effective and beneficial civil service reform. If left to me, without further action of Congress, the rules prescribed by the Commission, under the reservation already mentioned, will be faithfully executed; but they are not binding on my successors without further legislation.

I ask for all the strength which Congress can give me to enable me to carry out the reforms in the Civil Service recommended by the Commissioners and adopted, to take effect, as before stated, on Jan. 1, 1872. The law which provides for the convening of a Commission to devise rules and regulations for reforming the Civil Service, authorizes, I think, the permanent organization of a primary board under whose general directions all examinations of applicants for public office shall be conducted. There is no appropriation to continue such a board beyond the termination of its present labors. I therefore recommend that a proper appropriation be made to continue the services of the present Board for another year, and, in view of the fact that three members of the Board hold positions in the public service, which precludes them from receiving extra compensation under existing laws, that they be authorized to receive a fair compensation for extra service rendered by them in the performance of this duty. U. S. GRANT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Dec. 19, 1871.

The Grand Duke in Boston.

The musical exercises in Boston, on the occasion of the visit of the Grand Duke, lasted one hour—from four till five. After the voluntary on the organ, came the Grand March of Welcome, which was the special feature of the occasion. Gilmore's Band was in attendance, and, with the organ, contributed to the instrumental part of the entertainment, the vocal music being rendered by the school-children. The Grand March of Welcome introduced the Russian National Hymn, played by the band and the organ, and at that point the 1,200 children waved miniature flags, the Russian and American alternating. Then the great choir of 1,200 children, accompanied by the full orchestra and the organ, sang in unison the Ode of Welcome, composed by Oliver Wendell Holmes for the occasion. The air was the Russian Hymn, and the Grand Duke and suit arose at the beginning and remained standing while the stanzas were being sung. His Imperial Highness appeared to be impressed by the words and music of this song.

THE ODE OF WELCOME.

Shadowed so long by the storm-cloud of danger,
Thou whom the prayers of Empire defend;
Welcome, thrice welcome! but not as a stranger;
Come to the nation that calls thee its friend.

Bleak are our shores with the blasts of December,
Fettered and chill is the rivulet's flow;
Throbbing and warm are the hearts that remember
Where was our friend when the world was our foe.

Look on the lips that are smiling to greet thee;
See the fresh flowers that a people has strewn;
Count them thy sisters and brothers that meet thee;
Guest of the nation, her heart is thine own.

Fires of the North, in eternal communion,
Blend your broad flashes with evening's bright star;
God bless the empire that loves the great Union;
Strength to her people! Long life to the Czar!

How They are Provided For.

Many of the families rendered destitute by the great fire in Chicago are now sheltered in huge barracks, where they are supplied with the necessaries of life by the Relief and Aid Society in cases where such assistance is required. On Halsted street there is a building containing 308 families, numbering altogether about 1,600 souls. On Centre avenue is another where there are 305 families, and others are distributed over the city. As left by the carpenters these buildings were not generally either wind or water tight; but where their occupants are ingenious and energetic they have been made comfortable with slats nailed over the crevices, and papers pasted on the rough boards. In some cases attempts at decorations have been made by placing little ornaments saved from the general wreck on shelves, and in many instances these domicils are made to present an appearance of comfort through the neatness and industry of their inhabitants. Where families settled in barracks are shiftless and dirty, however, their habitations are cheerless enough. Each set of barracks has a sort of overseer whose business it is to keep the run of all the families in his charge. He acquaints himself with their circumstances, knows what relief they receive, what use they make of it, observes their habits, and is enabled to give intelligent information as to who are deserving objects for assistance, and who are not. Some complaint has been made that those in charge of contributions for sufferers have been overbearing and partial in the execution of their duties, but the Rev. Robert Collyer, who has had good opportunities for observation, believes that such attacks upon the Relief and Aid Society are unjust and unkind.

POSTAL CARDS.—A bill has been introduced in Congress directing the Postmaster-General to furnish and issue to the public stamped postal cards for the transmission through the mails of messages or other short communications at a postage charge of one cent each, the cost of the card included. The experiment of using cards for the transmission of open correspondence at a very low rate has been tried in England, and has proved popular, the principal objection urged against it being that the cards offer cheap facilities for annoying people by addressing them insulting communications, and that such scandalous writings may be read by the persons through whose hands the matter passes. This, however, is a trivial complaint. If the measure should be adopted the cards would be used in vast quantities here for messages to be sent from one part of the city to another, provided the delivery service should be so reformed as not to require a longer time for transmitting a letter or card a few blocks within the city limits than it takes to send one to a destination a hundred miles away.—*N. Y. Paper.*

UNITED STATES CONGRESS.

IN THE SENATE.

A memorial was presented complaining that Venezuela had seized certain steamships belonging to citizens of the United States.

A petition was also presented against woman's suffrage.

A bill to equalize the pay of the eight-hour men was referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Akerman having resigned his office as Attorney-General, the President nominated ex-Senator Williams, of Oregon, to the vacant office. The Senate in executive session confirmed the nomination.

Bills were introduced appropriating $200,000 for the repayment of the duties collected on Russian hemp since Aug. 5, 1871, in excess of the rate levied and paid on Manilla hemp; amending the bankruptcy act; to encourage the laying of new telegraph cables; bill to facilitate specie payments. It provides that each National Bank shall, on the 1st of July, 1872, have on hand at least three per centum in gold coin of its aggregate amount of notes in circulation, and shall increase the amount of gold coin on hand three per centum every six months up to July 1st, 1874, making then 15 per centum; and thereafter shall keep its reserve in gold coin, instead of legal-tender notes, to the extent of its aggregate amount of notes in circulation. Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The Senate was occupied an entire day in discussing the caucus resolution for an Investigating Committee, which was finally passed in an amended form.

IN THE HOUSE.

In the House, a bill was introduced for the appointment of three commissioners to investigate the subject of the hours and wages of workingmen, and the relations of labor and capital.

A resolution was introduced calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish that body with a statement showing the expenses of the collection of customs in the United States, including the salaries and fees of the officials engaged therein, with the separate expenses of the ports of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, New Orleans, Baltimore, and San Francisco for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871.

The Apportionment bill was passed. It provides for Representatives from each State as follows: Maine, 5; New Hampshire, 2; Vermont, 2; Massachusetts, 11; Rhode Island, 2; Connecticut, 4; New York, 32; New Jersey, 7; Pennsylvania, 26; Delaware, 1; Maryland, 6; Virginia, 9; North Carolina, 8; South Carolina, 6; Georgia, 9; Alabama, 7; Mississippi, 6; Louisiana, 5; Ohio, 20; Kentucky, 10; Tennessee, 9; Indiana, 12; Illinois, 19; Missouri, 13; Arkansas, 4; Michigan, 9; Florida, 1; Texas, 6; Iowa, 9; Wisconsin, 8; California, 4; Minnesota, 3; Oregon, 1; Kansas, 3; West Virginia, 3; Nevada, 1; Nebraska, 1. Total, 283.

The House in Committee of the Whole passed the two bills reported from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, making appropriations to pay the expenses to carry out the Treaty of Washington.

Also the bill appropriating $22,000 to meet the deficiency caused by the defalcations of F. A. Macartney, the late Disbursing Clerk of the Post-office Department.

A bill appropriating $4,000,000 for public buildings in Chicago passed without a division.

In one day in the House near one hundred bills were introduced. Among them were the following: To reduce internal taxes and abolish the office of Collector of Internal Revenue; to authorize the payment of 50 per cent. of custom duties in legal-tender notes; to punish bank, insurance, State and Government officials for bribery and corruption; changing the standard weight of silver coins, and limiting the amount of their issue; further to facilitate the immediate transportation of certain importations to the port of destination; granting bounty lands to soldiers; regulating the mode of the payment of duties on imports; also to refund to judicial officers taxes on salaries collected from them under the income tax; to prevent cruelty to animals in transit by railroads; to prevent the appointment of dishonest and incompetent Government officials, and making the officers appointing, and the members of Congress recommending them, responsible for their misconduct; To abolish the export bonded warehouses for tobacco and snuff; also for the repeal of the special tax on manufacturers and dealers in tobacco and segars; to refund the cotton tax collected in 1865, 1866 and 1867; also, for a Government building in Nashville, Tenn.; to secure the public lands to actual settlers under the Homestead and Pre-emption laws; for a preliminary survey for a ship canal from the southern point of Lake Michigan to the Mississippi River, near the mouth of the Ohio; to legalize polygamist marriages in Utah, and to dismiss all criminal proceedings in Utah against polygamists; to amend the National Banking act; also, to repeal the bankruptcy act; to prohibit contracts for servile labor; for the admission of Utah as a State.

Mr. Haldeman (Dem., Penn.) asked leave to offer a resolution expressing the profound regret of the House at learning of the angry severity with which the present Government, of which M. Thiers is President, has pursued the prisoners captured from the Government of the Commune at Paris.

Objection was made, when Mr. Haldeman moved to suspend the rules so that the resolution might be offered and adopted.

Mr. Cox (Dem., N. Y.) wished to offer an amendment condemning the atrocities of the Spanish Government, but the Speaker stated that no amendment was in order.

The House refused to suspend the rules—Yeas, 95; Nays, 86.

ADVERTISING.—Advertising is an art, and is the mother of the art of money-making. Successful advertisers unhesitatingly and gratefully declare that they owe the beginning of their prosperity and the foundation of their wealth to the liberal and judicial use of printers ink. It isparadoxical, but not singular, that printers ink, by blackening a man's reputation, actually benefits him. The ingenuity displayed by some accomplished advertisers makes advertising almost a fine art. These shrewd men manage to make the most unwilling read their announcements.

MORMONISM.—Orson Pratt, one of the foremost Elders of the Church, insists that Mormonism and polygamy are identical, and that the former cannot exist without the latter. He therefore declared that they would never give up polygamy for any civil government or power on earth, and with this sentiment he had the hearty approval of his entire audience.

SOME idea of the injury caused by insects to agricultural products may be formed from the statement that from seventy four lots of Spanish wheat stored in a granary, 1,000 weight of beetles were screened out in one instance, and in another 3,500 weight were removed from 145 lots of American corn.

Poisoned to Death.

A healthy liver secretes each day about two and a half pounds of bile, which contains a great amount of waste material taken from the blood. When the liver becomes torpid or congested, it fails to eliminate this vast amount of noxious substance, which, therefore, remains to poison the blood and be conveyed to every part of the system. What must be the condition of the blood when it is receiving and retaining each day two and a half pound of poisons? Nature tries to work off this poison through other channels and organs—the kidneys, lungs, skin, etc.; but these organs become overtasked in performing this labor, in addition to their natural functions, and cannot long withstand the pressure, but become variously diseased.

The brain, which is the great electrical centre of all vitality, is unduly stimulated by the unhealthy blood which passes to it from the heart, and it fails to perform its office healthfully. Hence the symptoms of bile poisoning, which are dullness, headache, incapacity to keep the mind on any subject, impairment of memory, dizzy, sleepy or nervous feelings, gloomy forbodings and irritability of temper. The *blood itself* being diseased, as it forms the sweat upon the surface of the skin, it is so irritating and poisonous that it produces discolored brown spots, pimples, blotches and other eruptions, sores, boils, carbuncles and scrofulous tumors. The stomach, bowels, and other organs spoken of, cannot escape becoming affected, sooner or later, and costiveness, piles, dropsy, dyspepsia, diarrhœa, female weakness, and many other forms of chronic disease, are among the necessary results. As a remedy for all these various manifestations of disease, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is positively unequaled. By it the liver and stomach are changed to an active, healthy state, the appetite regulated and restored, the blood and secretions thoroughly purified and enriched, and the whole system renovated and built up anew. Sold by all first-class druggists. 576

TO AGGRAVATE DYSPEPSIA, introduce alcohol into the stomach, and thereby rob the digestive fluid of its solvent power. Saturate a piece of bread and meat with gastric juice, and it *will dissolve*. This is digestion. Add to such a mixture a little alcohol, and it will *not dissolve*. This illustrate *indigestion*. Beware, then, ye dyspeptics, of tinctures, infusions, or decoctions containing spirituous liquors. Shun all such rum "tonics" and rely soely on DR. WALKER'S VINEGAR BITTERS, the finest herbal invigorant known, and free from the fiery curse of Alcohol.

COLLINS & CO.'S CAST STEEL PLOWS, only $5.00 each. For information how to obtain them, address, Collins & Co., 212 Water street, New York.

"A SLIGHT COLD," COUGHS.—Few are aware of the importance of checking a cough or "SLIGHT COLD," which would yield to a mild remedy; if neglected, often attacks the lungs. "*Brown's Bronchial Troches*" give sure and almost immediate relief.

THE propriety of giving condition medicine to horses, cattle and sheep, was discussed and admitted by many at the Agricultural societies throughout the State last Fall, and we believe that in every case but one they decided in favor of *Sheridan's Cavalry Condition Powders*. Good judgment.

WESTWARD HO! Full particular of a new colony now forming sent free. Address W. E. Pabor, No. 3 Bowling Green, New York City.

THERE is probably, no way in which we can benefit our readers more than by recommending to them for general use *Johnson's Anodyne Liniment*. It is adapted to almost all the purposes of a Family Medicine; and as a specific for coughs, colds, whooping cough, soreness of the chest, lame stomach, rheumatism, spitting of blood, and all lung difficulties, it has no equal that ever we saw or heard of.

THE purest and sweetest Cod-liver Oil in the world is HAZARD & CASWELL'S, made on the sea-shore, from fresh, selected livers, by CASWELL, HAZARD & Co., New York. It is absolutely *pure* and *sweet*. Patients who have once taken it prefer it to all others. Physicians have decided it superior to any of the other oils in market.

Defend good principles as you would your life. J. Monroe Taylor's Cream Yeast Baking Powder will defend itself against all attacks.

For any information about *Railroad Bonds*, paying you good interest, write to CHARLES W. HASSLER, No. 7, Wall Street, New York.

FINANCIAL.

Investment Securities.

JAY COOKE & Co., are now selling, and recommend as a profitable and safe investment for all classes, the First Mortgage **7-30** Gold Bonds of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, bearing Seven and Three-Tenths per cent. gold interest (more than 8 per cent. currency), and secured by first and only mortgage on the entire Road and equipments, and on more than **23,000** Acres of Land to every mile of track, or 500 Acres of Land to each $1,000 Bond. The highest current price will be paid for U. S. Five-Twenties, and all other marketable Securities received in exchange. Pamphlets, maps and full information, as well as the bonds themselves, will be furnished on application by JAY COOKE & Co., Philadelphia, New York and Washington, and by most Banks and Bankers throughout the country.

To Consumptives.

The advertiser, having been permanently cured of that dread disease, Consumption, by a simple remedy, is anxious to make known to his fellow sufferers the means of cure. To all who desire it, he will send a copy of the prescription used, (free of charge), with the directions for preparing and using the same, which they will find a SURE CURE for CONSUMPTION, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, &c. Parties wishing the prescription will please address

Rev. EDWARD A. WILSON,
264 South Third street, Williamsburgh, N. Y.

The Great Pictorial Annual.

Hostetter's United States Almanac for **1872**, for distribution, *gratis*, throughout the United States, and all civilized countries of the Western Hemisphere, is now published and ready for delivery, in the English, German, French, Norwegian, Welsh, Swedish, Holland, Bohemian and Spanish languages, and all who wish to understand the true philosophy of health should read and ponder the valuable suggestions it contains. In addition to an admirable medical treatise on the causes, prevention and cure of a great variety of diseases, it embraces a large amount of information interesting to the merchant, the mechanic the miner, the farmer, the planter, and professional man; and the calculations have been made for such meridians and latitudes as are most suitable for a correct and comprehensive NATIONAL CALENDAR.

The nature, uses, and extraordinary sanitary effects of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, the staple tonic and alterative of more than half the Christian world, are fully set forth in pages, which are also interspersed with pictorial illustrations, valuable recipes for the household and farm, humorous anecdotes, and other instructive amusing reading matter, original and selected. Among the Annuals to appear, this will be one of the most useful, and *may be had for the asking*. The proprietors, Messrs. Hostetter & Smith, Pittsburgh, Pa., on receipt of a two cent stamp, will forward a copy by mail to any person who cannot procure one in his neighborhood. The Bitters are sold in every city, town and village, and are extensively used throughout the entire civilized world.

WONDERFUL MICROSCOPIC CHARMS Send 50 cents and stamp for sample. Agents supplied. J. H. MORROW, 661 Broadway, New York.

Agents Wanted for the "Great Fire in Chicago and the West." 608 pages. 75 illus. Price $2.50. Terms extra. Address Chas. P. Bradway, Danville, Pa.

FACES on the WALL.

BY HARRIET BEECHER STOWE.

Author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "My Wife and I," "Minister's Wooing," etc.

Once there was a very good little girl, who, by reason of her goodness, knew where to find strawberries in the winter. In the same way less perfect people, blessed by the generous fairies of memory and imagination, may sit, as I do now, in the midst of falling leaves and whistling winds, and call back the green grasses and the summer sun. I see yonder in the glean the darling of our house, the gold gleam in her brown hair, a chain of daisies in her hand, and in her eyes the roguish meditation of a kitten, weary for an instant only of its play, and thinking slyly of another spring. Thrown back upon the velvet grass, she is not resting, only pausing; from her bright glances to the tips of her tiny fingers she is wide awake.

But now the merry play is over, and our pet nestles yonder on the sofa-cushion, tired at last in earnest. Slowly the lids fall, and the lingering smile dies out; but the flush in cheek and lip remains, like the glow after sunset. The gathered buttercups and daisies are loosely held by the fair little hand; no shadows, even of dream-land, disturb the sweet brow's perfect peace. She is fast asleep.

In other words, two chromos hang upon the wall, bewitching child-heads, in which every mother sees something of her own dear ones, never grown old, and never lost to her, however time or death may have dealt with them.

Nothing pleases more at first sight or gives pleasure longer than poetical pictures of children. "The little child" whom Jesus sets in the midst of every family is a joy that grows not old and fades not.

"Age cannot wither, custom cannot stale
Its infinite variety."

For this reason a happy picture of a child brings an enjoyment more lasting than any other, because it is a subject of which no one ever tires.

But these pictures, besides their constant charm for grown folks, are such as *children* can understand and love. Our little "Wide Awake" and "Fast Asleep" would give many a pleasant hour of companionable amusement and intercourse to the little people akin to them in age. The pictures that children's eyes rest on as they are dropping off to sleep, or as they awake in the morning, seem to them like living friends. All sorts of childish dreams and fancies make of the pictured face a real companion. Not only in the parlor or the sitting-room would they be an attractive and fitting embellishment, but they are a charming pair for the adornment of a nursery.

Undoubtedly these two pictures are portraits. There is a realistic faithfulness and truth about them that forbids the idea of their being fancy heads. They will remind many parents of little ones either here or in heaven. Dickens says somewhere of his portraiture of little Nell that he has had letters from the farthest regions of the earth speaking of children who resembled her—so dear, and so early taken! He who paints one child well, paints thousands, and speaks to the tenderest feeling of innumerable hearts.

Of course there is a pleasure in possessing an original painting; but when the question lies between an original at five hundred dollars and a chromo which can scarcely be distinguished from it at ten dollars—particularly when one has not the five hundred to spare—the choice is not very difficult. As to these two exquisite chromos, only a critical examination can distinguish between the copies and the originals, which sold for many hundreds—which is certainly more than can be said of the best copies of most pictures painted by hand.

Blessings upon chromo-lithography, by which the successful painting of a master can be reproduced indefinitely, and can enter thousands of homes with its educating, quickening, reforming influence!

It is not alone into the dwellings of the great and wealthy that we follow this pretty pair with anticipations of delight. We see them in the cottages of the poor, in the log cabin of the backwoodsman, brightening the toil of the hard wife and mother, and receiving the almost adoring wonder of children who have never seen pictures before.

God bless the darlings—send the little comforters fast and far!

The charming *pair* of oil chromos, "Wide Awake" and "Fast Asleep" of whose real beauty and attractiveness Mrs. Stowe's graceful sketch can give but an imperfect idea—so pleasing are they to all who love art or children—have always sold in the picture stores for $10, and the original publisher has never been able to supply the great demand for them even at that price. And yet, although thousands of them have been sold in America at that high rate, they are now within the reach of all, for they are

GIVEN AWAY

to every subscriber to *The Christian Union*, an unsectarian, literary, religious and domestic weekly newspaper, edited by HENERY WARD BEECHER.

The pair, by a fortunate arrangement which one of the partners of this house was able to make in Paris during the late siege, with the proprietors of the pictures, are furnished to Mr. Beecher's publishers at a rate *entirely exceptional*. *The subjects are Life Size.*

As to the *Christian Union*, the great success of that paper has been a marvel in the history of journalism, and the scholarly and critical New York *Nation* calls it "not only the ablest and best, but also the most popular of American religious periodicals."

This paper, after the first of January, will be printed on a still larger sheet, folded in *twenty-four* pages, *pasted at the back and trimmed at the edges*, a decided advantage possessed by no other religious weekly published. It contains contributions, from eminent writers of *all* denominations, and has matter of interest for every member of the household, *young and old*. For the year 1872, MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE will write *exclusively* for the CHRISTIAN UNION.

The terms of subscription to this paper are, *For one year*, ONLY $3.00. This will entitle the subscriber to the paper and to the above *pair* of beautiful Oil Chromos. THE CHRISTIAN UNION, including the *Illustrated Holiday Number* (28 pp.), will be sent FREE until Jan. 1st, to all who *now* subscribe for the year 1872.

Send money in *postal orders, drafts, or registered letters* direct to the Publishers.

SPECIMEN COPIES of the paper will be mailed FREE of postage to any address on receipt of six cents by J. B. FORD & Co., Publishers, 27 Park Place, New York. For full particulars, See advertisement in the next column, headed "Why?"

WHY?

What is the reason that the Literary, Religious and Domestic Weekly, started two years ago, namely,

THE CHRISTIAN UNION,

should have so suddenly achieved a success that makes all newspaper men wonder?

Reasons Why!

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[1] Independent, N. Y. [2] Evening Mail, N. Y. [3] Aldine, N. Y. [4] Springfield Republican. [5] Advance Chicago. [6] Harper's Weekly, N. Y. [7] Illustrated Christian Weekly, N. Y. [8] Christian at Work, N. Y.

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