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Reference—Farmers & Merchants National Bank. marl5.

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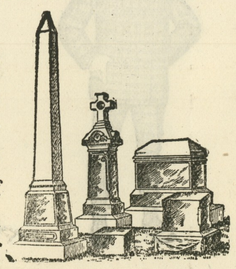
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FOR THE CHILDREN

Her Kindness Rewarded.

There is a little story told in the nurseries of the vaterland about a small Gretchen who went to see the great army reviewed by the emperor. Because she was such a little girl a seat was given to her, though thousands were standing all around. Presently, when the interest was at its height, she noticed a feeble old woman pressing forward, trying to get a glimpse of the grand spectacle. Then little Gretchen offered the old woman her seat, which was high enough for her to see over the tops of the standing people, and moved off among the waiting crowd herself. In a minute or two a man whose uniform was all covered with gold lace made his way toward her and touched her on the shoulder, saying:
"Little girl, her majesty would be pleased to see you in her royal box."
When at last, very much abashed, she stood before the beautiful empress the child could hardly believe her ears when she heard the great lady say:
"I saw you give up your seat to that poor old woman, and now your place shall be by me during the rest of the parade."
"You don't know but the empress is looking," is now said to little girls who are not always quick to jump up and give their elders a comfortable seat, and it nearly always has the desired effect, for there is hardly a boy or girl in the whole German country who does not know the story of Gretchen who sat by the empress.

A Pretty Experiment.

Here is a little feat that any boy can perform, and yet it looks like a trick of a magician. If you wish to entertain a company with it tell them that you have a bottle and a goblet, both full to the brim of water, and that you are going to empty the goblet by means of the bottle without taking a drop of water from the latter.
This is the way to prepare for it. With a redhot wire bore two holes through a cork and into them insert two straws, one of them extending above the cork as high as the goblet is deep, the other about twice as high.
Now, with a little kneaded bread or wax close the upper end of the shorter straw and then force the cork into the mouth of the bottle until the water spurts out through the longer straw.
Meanwhile you have the goblet of water on the table near you and also a basin or bowl and a pair of scissors. Hold the goblet over the basin with your left hand, and with your right turn the bottle upside down, putting the shorter straw inside the goblet. As you do this have some one take the scissors and cut off the closed end of the shorter straw. Water will at once begin to run out of the longer straw into the basin and will continue to run until the goblet is empty. You must, of course, hold the bottle so that the shorter straw will reach down to the bottom of the goblet.
This is simply the operation of a siphon.

Things You Never Hear.

A boy who swims may say he's swum, but milk is skimmed and seldom skum, and nails you trim—they are not trum.
When words you speak, those words are spoken, but a nose is tweaked and can't be twoken, and what you seek is never soken.
If we forget, then we've forgotten, but things we wet are never wotten, and houses let cannot be lotten.
The goods one sells are always sold, but fears dispelled are not dispold nor what you smell is ever smoled.
When young a top you oft saw spun, but did you see a grin e'er grun or a potato neatly skun?

The "Life Plant."

There is a creeping moss found in Jamaica, in Barbados and other islands of the West Indies which is called the "life tree," or, more properly, the "life plant." Its powers of vitality are said to be beyond those of any other plant. It is absolutely indestructible by any means except immersion in boiling water or application of a redhot iron. It may be cut up and divided in any manner, and the smallest shreds will throw out roots, grow and form buds. The leaves of this extraordinary plant have been placed in a closed air tight dark box without moisture of any sort, and still they grew.

He Knew the Reason Why.

Parent—Johnny, can you tell me why the little hand on my watch goes faster than the big one?
Johnny (after reflection)—Father, ain't it just like why I have to run when I go for a walk with you?—Chums.

Was Off Duty.

"I think the man in the moon must be sick," said small Johnny one dark night.
"Why do you think so?" asked sister.
"Because," answered the youthful observer, "he didn't light up tonight."

A Well Informed Boy.

A professor asked a small boy in the history class. "In what battle did Jackson die?"
After a few minutes' reflection he replied. "In his last one, I think."

Quiet Days.

In the garden in the twilight,
When the dusk begins to fall,
Dot and I are Indians, hunting,
Crawling close beside the wall,
And the fireflies are the prisoners!
Dot behind me holds the jar
Where the ones already captured
Shine like many a little star.

But when winter steals the flowers,
Changing them to ice and snow,
And the lamp is lighted early,
Jungle hunting then we go,
Peeking into darksome corners,
Listening often on the stairs,
For it takes precautions, really,
To succeed in catching bears.
—Elizabeth Fuller in St. Nicholas.

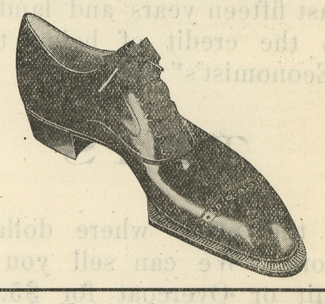
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