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"My Father Knoweth."

Precious thought, my father knoweth,
Is to me I say
For whatever my Father doeth
Must be all my way.
Well I know the heart that planneth
Thought but good for me
Joy and sorrow interweaveth,
Love is all I see.

Precious thought, my father knoweth,
Careth for his child;
His care guides I come to him
When the storm beat wild.
Though my earthly home is scattered,
And the vine be bare,
Yet he is himself my comfort,
Yes, my "all in all."

Soon to fall him all to heaveth,
Not on him the cross,
But upon himself the burden
That I cannot bear.
Then a crown a care surrounding,
Simply to be still,
Giving thanks for his goodness for all things,
Here it is he will.

Oh, to trust him then more fully
Just to simply wait
In the repetition calm judgment
Of the father's care.
Knowing that his chastened pathway
Leadeth to his rest,
Satisfied the way he taketh
Must be always best.

—L. W. in Christian Herald.

NOB HILL'S USELESS PALACES.

Five Enormous Buildings Intended for Private Residences, but Unfit.

A morning contemporary announces as a matter of news that Mrs. Hopkins-Searles offers her residence on California street for sale. It might have added, as a compassionate item, that the Pilgrim Fathers had landed on Plymouth Rock. There has been no time for many years that the Hopkins mansion on California street has not been for sale, though, if public rumor be believed, the owner has not been distressed by many offers to purchase. It is, in fact, difficult to conceive who could want to become its possessor at any price.

The spectacle of Nob Hill, with palatial piles crowning its ridge, fills the stranger who visits California with mild amazement. There are five big buildings there which were built as private residences, and are as unfit for that use as could be conceived. They were apparently modeled on the plan of the palaces of the Old World, which were erected to be the homes of feudal barons and all their retainers. In the middle ages every nobleman supported a swarm of dependents. He had to find quarters for them, and of course his lodgings had to be large. In our day rich men do not maintain much larger households than their neighbors.

Individually they cannot occupy more than a dozen rooms, and as many will lodge all the servants they can employ. More rooms than this are of no possible use. Conceived in ostentation, their destiny is to become lumber closets. In the old feudal castles of Europe the modern possessor is lost; it gives him a nightmare to wander through a maze of rooms which are never occupied save by mice and spiders, and he flees to take refuge in a bedroom and parlor at club or hotel. It must be much the same in the mansions of Nob Hill.

If they have any destiny it must be to become some day public buildings—museums or hospitals. Even for that use they would have to be donated by their owners, for the city could build suitable edifices for less money than they would cost if they were bought.

It seems odd that men with the sagacity required to build a transcontinental railroad and to acquire vast fortunes should not have understood that a house that is too big may be as inconvenient as a house that is too small. A very small quantity of shelter is all that the richest and greatest of us can want. A bedroom, a dressing room, a reception room, a parlor, a dining room, a library, and perhaps a billiard room—what more than this can Croesus occupy, though he counts his riches by the hundreds of millions.

Yet rich men go on piling stone upon stone and brick upon mortar until they have exchanged what might have been a snug home for a barrack; and in the doing of it they generate a mass of envy and grudging which follows them to their graves.—San Francisco Call.

The Ocean.

The great storehouse of the world's water is the ocean, which covers four-fifths of the globe's surface. In some places the ocean has never been sounded, even by a line more than five miles in length. It is supposed these great depths are without plants, because all plants require some light, and though light is said to penetrate sea water farther than fresh, yet we can scarcely imagine there is a ray of light at the depth of five miles. Some of the sea plants have stems at least 500 feet in length. In some parts of the sea we are told that the eye can discern the bottom at a depth of five hundred feet.

It is a very pretty sight to look down and view the scenery beneath the waves. It is as much as a blaze of gold, scarlet and green. In one part of the Atlantic is a space which the Spaniards call the Sargasso sea, because its surface is covered there for miles and miles with a great mass of seaweed, which Columbus spoke of as "floating meadows."—Scientific Bits.

Ornithological.

"They say a sparrow has been known to hatch out a King bird's eggs."

"Yes; but what of that? I've known many an eagle to father a lark."—Puck.

Religion presents few difficulties to the humble, many to the proud and impossible ones to the vain.—Augustus W. Hare.

What Mothers Are Made For.

A home is what a woman makes it; a daughter is to wise men out of every ten, the reflection of her mother. The training of the girl of fifteen is one of the women of city. A son may, by contact with the foreign world, sometimes outlive his early home influence—a daughter rarely does. She may make a mistake. Indiscretion may be to her a necessary teacher; but her early domestic training will be her guide in self control or later. A mother's word, a domestic precept, told at eventide by the quiet firside, has been recalled by many a woman years after it was uttered.

"I think God that my mother told me what other women have been taught by the world," said a gentlewoman to me not long ago. "Her advice, I think, to the fathers whom your daughter and mine should be able to pay to our sweetest hour after we are one. The world has a sharp way of teaching its truths to a girl. Is it not for home, then, that her mother should fall her with that sweet and sympathetic grace and gentleness which only a mother's knows? The flowers most beautiful to the eye and sweetest to the smell grow in good soil. The world's noblest women have spring from good homes.—Edward W. Bok in Ladies' Home Journal.

Baby's Dress.

If there is one item more than another which tends to the fashion of the school reformer it is that of dress. The common mode of clothing infants today is a survival of ancient superstitious and ignorant devices. The fashion of rolling a bandage tightly round the body of the infant, what an ignorant custom it was and is! It might be a hobbling in for the tight lacing of little girls, to mean, but the boys are subjected to it as well, and we therefore look for the explanation further, and find it is a belief that it strengthens the infant's limbs. Some say that it keeps the bones in place, and others that without it the child would bend.

Strange that nature should be thought to have done so bad a job on humanity! Her brain creation appears to be sent into the world properly made, and to thrive without bandages. This band is always loosened with pins, behind, and in cold days, when baby cries, there was always the possibility that a pin was sticking in him. Also it caused her cause pain and ill effects on his health. This bandaged and weighted down with many garments if baby lives at all it is in spite of its clothes and with heavy odds against him.—Ada Cone in Jenness Miller Magazine.

Why Shop Girls Don't Marry Salesmen.

Some old philosopher has said that in nine cases out of ten when a man was thrown constantly in the society of one woman he would end by marrying her. But there are some exceptions to this general rule, and a notable one is to be found among the class of shop girls who are employed in the big retail stores up town. Said the manager of one of these establishments: "It is a popular idea with the public that our female employes find husbands among the men in the store with whom they work every day, but it is not true. Most of the girls who marry select their mates from a class of men who are in some other and more remunerative business.

"The principal reason for this is to be found in the fact that the girls come to some indeed with sensible ideas in regard to the life of all who have to work for a living. A girl soon finds out all about the man who works at the same counter with her, and knows that he earns but little more than she does herself. Matrimonial bliss on a salary just sufficient for one has no temptation for the average shop girl."—New York Recorder.

For Pure Government.

The machinery of government, the financial interests of the nation have received the chief thoughts of men. These are important, but there are other interests as much greater than these as the human body is more valuable than its clothes. These interests require the united attention of the whole men and women. Beginning our political work as we have with the sacred ballot for the children, we now ask the municipal ballot to keep the surroundings of home pure and sweet, to protect the youth in going the school house door. To unite the best efforts of all for the common good of all women's ballot with man's would prevent what they have founded. No man, no woman can alone make and keep a complete home together they can and do. The state should be but a larger home.—Mrs. Mary A. Dow.

Bearded Women.

Bearded women have existed at all periods of the world's history. Aristotle has given us an account of Polanira, "whose Hallucinations," among whom the cities of the principates of Minerva regularly bedded with a large beard whenever any great public calamity impended. A woman of Copenhagen, Barbe Harvey, had a beard reaching to her waist. Charles XII of Sweden had a female grenadier in his army who possessed the beard as well as the courage of a man. Margaret, duchess of Austria and governess of the Netherlands, had a large, wiry, stiff beard, on which she greatly prided herself. Of late years Albert, duke of Saxony, reported having a young lady governess in his household who was the proud possessor of a very large black beard.—St. Louis Republic.

Window Cleaning Brush.

A brush with which the upper as well as the lower sashes of windows may be reached, and with which the outer panes of the panes may be as easily cleaned as the inner face, has been patented. If this much needed article of domestic economy should be found to fulfill its promise its inventor, who is a lady, will receive the grateful thanks of a large section of the community, for dingy windows are a plague alike to those who have to clean them and those who have to submit to the curtailment of light which they entail.

The handle of the new brush is made in two or more sections, one section weighted the entire to lengthen the handle. The end of the handle also formed is screwed into a threaded aperture in one end of a movement plate, and at the other end of the plate is screwed a pole, also constructed of a series of sections screwed together. The sections of the pole and brush handle are universally made tubular, so that the parts may be as light as possible.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

Reason for Distrust.

A man member was sauntering along Tenth street, and as it passed to look at some of the gay goods in a shop window I heard the following dialogue:

"When will I get my ready, mamma?"

"Mamma knows time, you'll get it some other day, when!"

"But you said today, mamma," replied the little one in a curious tone of reproach.

I looked at Ma. The little lady face was full of astonishment and surprise, and the stern, hostile, mamma-one answered by the monitor of a promise broken.

It is a pity that promises should be so lightly made and so seldom fulfilled as they too usually are. Poor little Frederick was naturally a bonus of distrust, and the little heart was over young to grasp at it.—Toronto Mail.

There Is a Special Store.

It imparts an abundant sweetness to any energy to see it growing out of the root of a bitterness. The good things of the saints are not dispensed out of the basket of common providence, but out of the ark of the covenant.—M. Henry.

THE GENIUS NEWSBOY.

Unwritten Laws Which He Observes with Commendable Strictness.

Etiquette is not confined to the Four Hundred by any means. Even the newsboys of this great town have a code of manners which is carefully kept up even without the surveillance of a McAllister.

Watch one heard a horse car, for instance. He enters himself on the platform with an air of ease which is little short of marvellous. If he sees another newsboy in the car that strikes it. The latter comes out of the car without more ado. Perhaps he is many times larger than the boy inside, but that makes no difference. There is an unwritten law among the newsboys of New York which says that, "The first feller on dat car gets dat seat."

Size and personal prowess do not count in the deal at all. It is simply an arrangement adopted by the craft long ago and founded on the basis of fair play.

Another thing that one notices in the horse cars is the tendency of the conductor to be a trifle rough toward the boys, even though the little fellows sometimes get in their way and tread on their corns. Seldom is it that a newsboy, when he is handed five cents for a penny paper, appeals in vain to the conductor for five nickels if he happens to find himself without change.

On the other hand, if the boy is very cold and the car door is kept shut by the conductor, the newsboy in opening it will always close it again carefully before saying out the different editions of his paper. This seems to be another tacit understanding among the boys. Occasionally a cross grained conductor will strike one of the little lads, who are so great a convenience to the pale life, or even push him off his car, but such cases are few and far between. It is not impossible that some of the conductors were newsboys themselves in their time.

Aside from his method of doing business on the city's horse cars, the New York newsboy has another trait which entitles him to respect, and that is his honesty. Give a boy a dime, and if he says, "Hain't got no change, boss; just wait er minute," and then disappears in the crowd, you needn't think for an instant that you are being robbed. Of course the boy could get away if he were so inclined, but he isn't. The little chap may have lost hard luck, and perhaps didn't get money enough to buy his usual papers, but it will never enter his head to run away with your dime. Just inquire among your friends and see if you can find one who will say that a New York newsboy ever robbed him of a cent.—New York Herald.

Lost's Young Dream.

Sweet Girl—Papa, Mr. Poorchap proposed to me last night, and I told him I would marry him if you were willing.

Father—Send him about his business.

Sweet Girl—He hasn't any.—New York Weekly.

We speak of the snow as of an image of death. It may be that, but it hides the everlasting life always under its robe—the life to be revealed in due time, when all cold shadows shall melt away before the morning sun, and we shall be, not unclothed, but clothed upon, and mortality shall be swallowed up of life.—Robert Collyer.

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THAT'S HOW SHE BECAME SUCH A BELLE!
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