

COOL ROOMS.

Professor Attfield sends the following to the London Times:

In these hot days a cool apartment is a real luxury, a luxury to be had far oftener than most people suppose possible. The secret consists, not in letting in cool air, for naturally all do that when ever they have the chance, but in keeping out hot air. If the air outside a room or house be cooler than the air inside, let it in by all means; but if it be hotter, carefully keep it out. A staircase window left open during the night will often cool the passages of a house, and the rooms too, if the doors be not shut; but it must be closed at eight or nine o'clock in the morning, or if on the sunny side, at four or five o'clock, and the blind drawn down. The mistake people generally make is to throw open their windows at all hours of the day, no matter whether the atmosphere outside be cool or scorching.

"Let us have some air," they say, and incomes the treacherous breeze, for even hot air is pleasant while it is gently blowing, taking away perspiration, and thereby cooling the skin; but the apartment is made warmer instead of cooler, and as soon as they move out of the draft they find their room to be more uncomfortable than it was before. Let in cool air, keep out hot; that is the only formula to insure the minimum of discomfort. Sitting-rooms can generally be kept cool during the whole day if the doors be only opened for ingress and egress, and the windows be kept close and shielded from direct sunshine by a blind. If the atmosphere of a room be impure from any cause, let it be renewed; hot air is less injurious than bad air. If the room be small in comparison with the number of persons engaged in it, free ventilation becomes indispensable.

In a cooking apartment the temperature will probably be higher than outside, hence the free admission of even hot air will be desirable. If persons do not object to sit in a direct draft of air, windows and doors may be opened, a breeze being more refreshing, even though several degrees warmer, than cold air; but under nearly all other circumstances rooms should be kept closed as much as possible till after sundown, or till the air outside is cooler than that inside. Let in cool air, keep out hot.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON.—"Class in geography stand up. How many divisions of the earth are there?"

"Seven."

"What are they?"

"Europe, Asia, Africa, America, Long Division, Short Division, the division in the Democratic party."

"Right. How many races are there?"

"Eleven hundred."

"Nonsense. Let's hear you name them."

"White race, black race, Indian race, hosa race, race after the gals, mule race, wheelbarrow race, human race, race after a debt, foot race, mill race."

"Hold on! Guess you are right, but we can't stay here all day. Now, then, what are the principal elements?"

"Air, water, and the national debt."

"Is the national debt one of the elements?"

"Yes, one of the elements of discord."

"What is the globe divided into?"

"Land, water, and bezine."

"How much of it is dry land?"

"Saloon keepers can tell better than I can."

"What is a mountain?"

"You ain't."

"Ain't what?"

"Amountin'—to much."

"You rascal, you will catch it for this."

"I caught it last term of Bill Jenkins, and haint got over it yet."

Boys get an intermission to scratch.

BURMESE THEATRICALS.—The *Evening Times* gives a description of Burmese theatricals. The theatre consists of a long, elevated stage, with footlights in front, and a curtain of red or white cloth spread out at the back. The real performers stand behind the curtain, and are invisible to the audience. They introduce on the stage, through an aperture, a series of wooden or bamboo figures, painted and dressed up to resemble kings, queens, princes, nobles, courtiers; all manner of birds, from the royal peacock down to the little humming bird; all sorts of beasts, as lions, tigers, monkeys, dogs, cats, apes, asses and elephants; fishes of various kinds, and then different fanciful figures to look like gnats, or spirits, dragons, centaurs, flying horses, elephants, and every imaginable thing which is supposed to figure or perform a part in the great theatre of the invisible world.

BEATIFUL EXTRACT.—I have seen a lark rising from his bed of grass, and soaring upward, singing as he rises, and in hopes to get to heaven and climb above the clouds; but the poor bird was beaten back with the singing of an eastern wind, and his motion made irregular and inconstant; he descended more at every breath of the tempest than all the vibrations of his wings served to exalt him, till the little creature was forced to sit down and pant, and stay till the storm was overpast; and then it made a prosperous flight; forthen it did rise and sing, as if it had learned music and motion from some angel as he passed sometime through the air. So is the prayer of any good man when agitated by any passion. He vain would speak to God, and his words are of this earth, earthly; he would look to his Maker, but he could not help seeing also that which distracted him, and a tempest was raised and the man overruled; his prayer was broken, and his thoughts were troubled, and his woes ascended to the clouds, and the wandering of his imagination recalled them, and in all the fluctuating varieties of passion they are never like to reach God at all. But he sits him down and sighs over his infirmity, and fixes his thoughts upon things above, and forgets all little vain passages of this life, and his spirit is becalmed, and his soul is even and still, and then it softly and sweetly ascends to heaven on wings of the Holy Dove; and dwells with God, till it returns like the useful bee, loaded with a blessing and the dew of heaven.

Smiles and tears eum from the same fountain, and the showers of heaven are followed by the sunshine, to gladden the earth, so our joy follow sadness, to make the soul cheerful.

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