CHILDREN'S COLUMN.

A Quiet Dentist.

A very quiet dentist, it seems to me. He never studied at a dental college. He has no diploma that I know of. He does not believe in any medical society, yet he is not a quack. Two canes might be applied to him, but not to a turtle. As a dentist, he is perhaps a little slow, but he does his work well. At least, he can pull a tooth out. Whether he could put one in or not is another matter.

The little boy who owns this turtle is named Phillip. That means "lover of horses." A turtle is not a horse and cannot travel nearly as fast, but he has some attraction for Phillip, and I think that that boy might be called a lover of turtles, for he now has lots of them.

One day this summer Phillip found that one of his teeth was getting loose. He has never had but one set, and a second crop of teeth is beginning to push the first one out. Phillip's mother was away. He could not wait for her to come home. He thought it was important that this loose tooth should come out at once. So he went to the storehouse and asked to have a thread tied around the loose tooth. He did not wish to do it at first, but at last consented. Then Phillip fastened the other end of the thread to a hook in the shell of one of his turtles. The turtle walked off into the grass. Phillip braced himself and stood stock still. In a minute the queer little dentist had pulled the tooth out.

I am sorry to say that this dentist turtle has since died, leaving a family of four. He was buried under the grapevine, with a fitting epitaph.

On one occasion this turtle went out for a little visit in a neighbor's yard. The servant had placed upon her back stock a slice of sweetpotato to cool. The dentist, left to himself, soundly walled into it, narrowly escaping an untimely death. He was rescued, not after a deal of kicking and wiping was entered to his former self.

Phillip's tortoise are often taken in a small red wheelbarrow to the common pond for their bathe. They are allowed to swim the length of their strings and then brought home, looking fresh and super.

The death of the dentist turtle set his master to thinking. The little worm had lived before his death and has been alive ever since. I suppose that Phillip's tongue is not often so silent as that of the turtle. It may have been the fear, or it may be, his mother thinks, that he heard the best short silence in heaven for half an hour, which prompted him to ask the question, "Mamma, if I should die talking, would I always keep on talking?"—Christian Register.

The Queen and Her Grandchildren.

A correspondent from the Isle of Wight writes: "Perhaps one of the most charming incidents of the life of the queen is her grandchildren. Princess Beatrice took her eldest boy, a fine, manly little fellow, with her to Balmoral, and the three younger children were left great really in the charge of their royal grandmother. Morning after morning her majesty has taken them out into the grounds, and sometimes even to quaint little Whippingham, they riding in their little carriage drawn by her majesty's latest pension, a cream colored pony, and the queen riding in her comfortable donkey chaise. The elder of the little ones is quite proud of the queen's care, and he assumes a quaint air of discretion and decorum. Her majesty insists on the old English title of grandmother, and ever and anon the little ones will babble out some request to her, which is of course invariably granted."

A Lesson Well Learned.

One day Ralph had some naughty words to mamma. He said "Shut up." Mamma punished him, and told him he must not use those words again. The next day it was crisp, and Ralph was home from school with his mittens up. The cabin housewife his little fingers, and he wanted to ask mamma to shut up his umbrella for him. "Mamma, won't you—I don't mean the naughty words, mamma, but won't you—pull the stick down."—Youth's Companion.

She Didn't Like That Kind of Crackers.

It was the Fourth of July. A little miss was told to take her afternoon nap, and then she should get up and watch the boys put off their firecrackers.

Pretty soon a heavy thunder shower came on, and Aunt Mary went up to see if Miss Rachel was frightened. Evidently she was, for she called out at once:

"Aunt Mary, I don't want to hear any more water crackers."—Babyland.

Why Fish Are Brains.

Ethel—I know why they say fish are good brain food.

Father—Why, my dear?

Ethel—Because they are themselves well educated.

Father—What!

Ethel—They have a taste for going to school, you know.—Pharmaceutical Era.

Margaret and the Locust.

When Margaret, just three years old, heard a locust sing for the first time she where for, she called excitedly, "Hurry up, mamma, and hear this beastie."—New York Tribune.

Greek Pirates.

Recent declarations of the Greek newspapers that a regular piratical organization still survives in some of the more out of the way parts of the Mediterranean receive a certain amount of confirmation from the confession of two men arrested in the Piræus on charges of piracy not long ago. The headquarters of the band is said to be Aivali, and two dozen ships are said to be engaged in the business. The scene of their operations, it is further stated, is the coast of Asia Minor and the islands of the Archipelago, and by means of false papers the booty is landed in Greece free of duty.

Cattle stealing is the chief part of the enterprise, but it is said that vessels are also attacked. Indeed the pirates admit that a very short time ago they, in company with others, attacked a Greek vessel on the coast of Ephesus whose crew had gone ashore for water, killed the captain, who had remained on board, carried off the cargo, consisting of fifteen cows, and sold the boat on the high seas.

The plan of the pirates was to run outside of Greek waters, and within them to pass as honest merchants. That is why they have been able to practice their trade in security under the very eyes of the authorities. The piracy evidently has been on a small scale, and of a most amateurish character, but the existence of it was unsuspected, and a thorough investigation has been set on foot.—Detroit Free Press.

An Ostrich Among Africans.

News has just reached Liverpool of the arrival at Sierra Leone, west Africa, of a remarkable specimen of the ostrich tribe, which the people of that country have seen for the first time. The ostrich, which is ten feet high, has come from central Africa, and walked a distance of at least 600 miles to the British settlement. The bird was sent by the great Mohammedan chief, Almamy Samaelou, to Mr. Alfred L. Jones, of Liverpool, who has the coaling establishment at Sierra Leone. It was drawn with a caravan of the Almamy's boatmen and traders, who arrived in the British settlement with their produce, ivory, gold, etc.

It is a most unusual circumstance for an ostrich to be found in central Africa, and when it reached Sierra Leone the whole population turned out to see it. The traffic of the district was stopped, and the governor had to send a special company of native police to escort it to the Sierra Leone Coaling company's premises. As the Almamy Samaelou is a great Mohammedan, it is thought that the bird may be regarded in some sense in connection.

Knowing the great reverence the Almamy has for Queen Victoria and the English people, it is the intention of Mr. Jones to offer the bird to her majesty as a present from the great Mohammedan chief. The ostrich, it is said, will be sent over by the next African steamer to Liverpool.—London Standard.

A Scotch Tenant's Grievance.

Mr. Hugh Johnstone, of Annandale, who owns one of the largest estates in the south of Scotland, has raised an action in the Dumfries sheriff's court against one of his hill tenants which is exciting great interest in the north. Mr. Hugh Johnstone sues the tenant for payment of the last half year's rent amounting to £455.

The tenant pleads that he is entitled to retain the sum due because the landlord has violated the agreement concerning the leasing of heather, with the object of procuring additional cover for game. He said leasing that the tenant's sheep had no young heather to eat.

He also pleads that he has suffered severe losses in consequence of the landlord's keepers having killed down wooden hawks, owls and smaller birds, owing to which there has been a plague of voles, which have eaten up the pastures. The case is regarded throughout Scotland as a test action, and if the tenant is the winner, then landlords who sacrifice everything to the preservation of game are likely to have a bad time of it.—London Truth.

A New Leather Saw.

The introduction of a new saw for leather is to be noted—an upright implement, this like a hacksaw and having direct steam attachment, at each end of it a steam cylinder, each of which has for a single steam port. The upper piston draws the saw and the lower piston up and the lower piston draws the saw and the upper piston down, each piston drawing the saw, but neither of them pushing it, this causing the saw at all times to be rigid, so that a very thin saw can be employed.

Below the lower cylinder are a heavy pair of balance wheels, these giving a steady as well as uniform motion to the saw, and to these balance wheels are connected a pair of rods, the upper ends of which connect with a knuckle joint at the lower end of the saw, thus throwing the lower end of the saw out as it is going up and against the leg as it is coming down. The leg carriage is operated by the same engine that runs the saw.—New York Sun.

Electrician Revived from Death.

A curious accident has happened at Kempten to a workman employed at the town electrical works. He was accepted in fastening some of the conducting wires, when his head must have come in contact with some of the upper wires. He received such a shock that he fell senseless among the net of conductors, and instinctively held on with his hands. They remained hanging so fast that later on they had to be torn loose.

His companions believed that he was already dead, when they released him, but a doctor who was called succeeded in bringing him back to life. The flesh of the man's left hand was entirely burned off, and he had received injuries on his face, but it is believed that they will not be fatal.—London News.

Hooked Out the Fish by Horsepower.

A gentleman who resides in Bolivar reports that a large sawfish was captured a few days ago near Redfeer which measured 16 feet in length, 3 feet 8 inches length of saw, 6 feet wide and 2 feet thick from dorsal to ventral fin. It got inside the bar that runs parallel with the peninsula, and not being able to get out was caught, and after being made fast with a hawser it took two horses and four men to pull the fish ashore.—Galveston News.

Treasury department statistics for the year ended with June 30, 1892, showed that our country exported nearly three times as much wheat as it did during the previous year—in round numbers 150,000,000 bushels in place of 50,000,000.

A child born at Wauseon, Ia., on the 19th of September has a smooth, round hole in its back near where the points of the shoulder blades come together, through which the action of the lungs can be plainly observed.

Carved Gloves.

Now that leather forms so important an element of decorative work the economical woman will, in her day and generation, save up her old gloves of all light tints. I know she knows that by dipping the well and working them up in gasoline she can make the delicate and pretty book covers, photograph frames and blotter pads of the fair. If only there a few stitches to the clever manipulation, a few strokes of the brush by the skilled artist to transform the cast off glove into a thing of beauty, it is a joy forever.

And there might be some one further enough to give all the more for the gift, one present because it was made of the gloves her dad wore—or some sentiment can even be attached to a woman's glove. It was her woman's glove that she loved to the point ruled to life in the lion's cage, and it has been a woman's glove that many a knight has taken upon his spear for a talisman in the lists of honor and glory.—

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