

Iron—Silver—Gold.

THREE RULES.

Question: What is the iron rule?

Answer: The rule of savage men:
If evil is done unto you,
Evil do thou again.
That is the Iron Rule.

Question: What is the Silver Rule?"

Answer: The rule of worldly men:
If good your neighbor does to you
Do good to him again.
That is the Silver Rule.

Question: What is the Golden Rule?

Answer: The rule of righteous men:
If evil is done unto you,
Return you good again.
This is the Golden Rule.

—*The Children's Hour.*

Choosing a Successor.

Feeling extremely ill one day, William Thompson, the renowned Maori chieftain, being at the time advanced in years, deemed it incumbent upon him to settle the succession to his supreme authority over the Maori nation. He had two grown up sons—fine spirited fellows—and, with the shrewdness that characterized him throughout life, he hit upon the following test of their respective capacities for rule, resolving that his choice between them should be determined by the result of his quaint experiment. As he was lying on a couch by the open door of his house, he summoned them to his bedside, and addressing the elder of the two exclaimed, "Shortland, take down my gun and shoot that white man standing by the hut over there." The heir apparent was in the act of obeying his father's orders, when Thompson's second son stepped forward, caught his brother's arm and remonstrated with him, saying, "Why should you kill the man? What harm has he done to you, or, for that matter, to any of us?" "Thou hast said well, my son," ejaculated the dying chief. "In thee I discern the true qualities requisite in rulers of men—intelligence, prudence and the love of justice. When I am dead, thou shalt govern in my stead." And so it came to pass; for, a few hours later, Thompson formally presented his second son to the elders of his nation as their future chief, and upon his death, which occurred shortly afterwards, no attempt was made to dispute his choice of a successor.

WRITE WRITTEN RIGHT.

Write we know is written right
When we see it written write;
But when we see it written wright,
We know it is not written right;
For write, to have it written right,
Must not be written right or wright,
Nor yet should it be written rite,
But write, for so 'tis written right.

Lavender in Ancient Times.

Lavender so common now, also easily procured, was in ancient times worth more than its weight in gold. It was the "spikenard" of the ancients, and formed the basis of a very precious ointment, in the manufacture of which the leaves of the plant were employed. The great value of "spikenard" ointment is mentioned in the Gospel of Mark. It is also known that the lavender spikes or blossoms sold for one hundred Roman denarii, or over fifteen dollars in our currency, per pound. Thus it will be seen that lavender has known better days.

CURIOUS AND SCIENTIFIC.

The Spinning Jenny.

It may be interesting to know that James Hargreaves, the Englishman, who in 1764 devised the famous Spinning Jenny, derived no money from his invention. Under the pressure of poverty he had made and sold several of his machines before taking out a patent. When the Spinning Jenny had revolutionized the weaving trade, Hargreaves found that his invention was pirated in all directions. The combined manufacturers offered him £3,000 as a recompense and for permission to use his machine; but he demanded a much larger sum, which was refused; and he then began a series of law suits—ultimately abandoning them on being advised by his attorney that his rights could not be sustained.

Frank Podmore, B. A., in an article on "The Realistic Assumptions of Modern Science," in the *Psychological Review* for April, relates a curious manifestation on the part of a soldier who was shot in the head during the Franco German war. The man survived but was subject, at frequent intervals, to a singular pathological derangement. All avenues of sensation, save that of touch, were closed. He would pursue his employment with punctuality and diligence, though seeing and hearing nothing of what went on around him. And he would respond in the most extraordinary manner to slight suggestions conveyed to him by the sense of touch. A roll of paper was placed in his hand, and he put himself into the attitude of a public singer, and sang two or three well-known songs. His walking-stick, which he had dropped, was restored to him, and, having charged it with an imaginary cartridge, he laid himself flat behind a bush to shoot imaginary enemies. Now actions of this kind, which are performed, as it were, by the organism itself without the intervention of the mind, are called reflex by Mr. Podmore, it being supposed that, in all such cases, the nerve current conveying the stimulus from the part affected along the sensory nerve proceeds to the spinal cord, or to some subordinate ganglion in the brain, and is thence reflected back, as a stimulus inciting to motion, along the motor nerves to the limbs.

There can be little doubt that premature burial occasionally takes place in France and Algeria, also in Germany, in consequence of the laws ordaining prompt interment. It is no wonder, therefore, that the following discovery signaled in *L'Electricite* has been received with great satisfaction. According to this journal it has been ascertained that the application of an electric current to the body is a certain test of vitality. Such a test being applied five or six hours after presumed death, the non-contraction of the muscles will prove beyond a doubt that life is extinct.

The Cranial Formation of the Age.

When the ethnologist shall discover one of our tall hats in his excavation of some extinct city, he will straightway elaborate a profound dissertation upon the cranial formation of a then forgotten civilization, in which he will declare that the shape of the hat indubitably points to a race of long-headed men, the mental superiors to any that exist at his time of writing. When he shall continue his researches and dig up one of the saucer head-coverings of contemporary fashion, he will of course, conclude, that the men of 1882 were a flat-headed race, with no brain development worth mentioning. And who shall there be in that far distant day to give them the lie?—*Boston Transcript*.

For ingrowing toe nails, put a very small piece of tallow in a spoon and heat it very hot. Pour it on the corner of the toe, and the inflammation and granulation will subside, and destitute of all feeling, the nail can then be pared away without the least pain.

HOW TO STUDY NATURAL HISTORY.—No more interesting study than that of natural history can be found and none more instructive; and it is not in books, but in the sight of the living creatures that our minds are most enlightened. To teachers, parents and to all, we would say that if you wish to spend an hour of your leisure time profitably, go and see the wonders of the animal, bird and fish worlds, as they can be seen at the Toronto Zoological Gardens, lately started, and you will thank us for suggesting the thing to you. They are very centrally situated near the Union Station, Toronto.