

The Duke was surprised, and said, "How came you by the knowledge of these things?"

"When I first learned to read," said Stone, "the masons were at work upon your house. I approached them one day, and observed that the architect used rule and compasses, and that he made calculations. I inquired what might be the meaning and the use of these things, and I was told that there was a science called arithmetic; I bought a book of arithmetic, and I learned it. I was told there was another science called geometry; I bought the necessary books, and I learned geometry. By reading, I found that there were good books of the same kind in French; I bought a dictionary, and I learned French. And this, my lord, is what I have done: it seems to me that we may learn everything when we know the twenty-six letters of the alphabet."

Under the patronage of the Duke of Argyll, Stone, some years afterward published in London a treatise on Mathematical Instruments, and a Mathematical Dictionary, was chosen a Fellow of the Royal Society, and became a distinguished man of science.

"Such an example makes us all feel idle," said Mr. Spinner, searching in his bag. "I am looking for a rhyme about another wise man. Ah! here it is!"

THE WISE SULTAN.

Once Sultan Nushirvan the just, hunting, stopped in an open field to take a lunch. He wanted salt, and to a servant said, "Go get some at the nearest house, but pay the price the peasant asks." "Great king!" exclaimed the servant, "thou art lord o'er all this realm; why take the pains to buy a little salt?"

"It is a little thing," said Nushirvan. "And so at first, was all the evil whose most monstrous lord now presses so the world. Were there no little evils, no great could be. If I from off a poor man's tree should pluck a single apple, straight my slaves would rob the whole tree to its roots: if I should seize five eggs, my ministers at once would snatch a hundred hens. Therefore, strict justice I, even in unimportant acts observe. Bring salt, but pay the peasant what he asks."

"I am glad your Sultan showed such good sense," said the General, as he rose at the close of this story. "Let me read an incident which came all the way from frozen Russia, about a sentinel whose master seemed to lack that quality."

THE STRANGE SENTINEL.

"One day," said Prince Bismarck, "I was walking with the Emperor of Russia in the summer garden of St. Petersburg, when coming upon a sentinel in the center of the lawn, I took the liberty of inquiring why the man was placed there. The Emperor did not know. The adjutant did not know. The sentinel did not know, except that he had been ordered there. The adjutant was then despatched to ask the officer of the watch, whose reply corresponded with the sentinel's: 'Ordered.' Curiosity awakened, military records were searched, without yielding any satisfactory solution! At last an old serving man was found, who remembered hearing his father relate that the Empress Catherine II., one hundred years before, had found a snow-drop on that particular spot, and had given orders to protect it from being plucked. No other device could be thought of than guarding it by a sentinel. The order once issued was left in force for a century."

"I have heard a story similar to yours General," said Mr. Spinner, about a French soldier who was ordered to keep all passers by from touching a post covered with fresh paint. Soon the paint dried, but a sentinel was detailed for duty at the same spot. The post grew old, decayed, died, and fell to pieces, but still a sentinel was sent each day, no one knew for what reason, to the same place. "Well," continued Mr. Spinner, "let us be thankful our country is not under military rule."

"One more story, then the Captain will claim you." Defoe came of religious parents, who through troublous times tried to steer safely the family bark; they, however, shared an alarm prevalent at one period of Charles II.'s reign, that Popish rule might once again invade their realm, and either deprive them of their printed Bibles, or insist that they should only be circulated in tongues unknown to the people.

Acting on this fear, many pious people devoted themselves to the task of copying the beloved book for use in the expected dark days of privation. Lively young Daniel left his sports and his "boxing" to enter on the task, and till he had copied out the first five books of the Old Testament, when he paused, the school boy energy and fingers alike tired out. Happily the evil times apprehended never came. Defoe kept his printed Bible, and contributed himself a great deal to the lighter literature of the day.

LORD COLERIDGE ON INTEMPERANCE.—One of the most respected and best-known judges in Great Britain at the present time is Lord Coleridge. In a recent charge to the Grand Jury at Bristol, England, he said: "Persons sitting in his position must by this time be almost tired of saying that was the veriest truism in the world, and what he supposed, because it was so true, no

TEMPERANCE. NO "HEEL-TAPS" FOR THE BOYS

BY REV. THEO. L. CUYLER.

The first temperance meeting that I can now remember was held near my early home when I was about eight years old. Up to that time the habit of drinking and of offering intoxicants was fearfully prevalent among that farming community. Nearly every farmer gave to his hired hands, especially in harvest-time. Nearly every head of a family had hard cider on his table, and often "treated" his visitors to some intoxicating beverage. Whiskey, to an unlimited amount, was consumed at all the country taverns, and drunkenness abounded. When a "raising" or a "mowing-bee" or any rural gathering took place there was plenty of hard drinking; the weak-headed often went home tipsy.

We boys were tempted by the sight and the smell of it; as the old cocks crowed the young ones learned. I recall an incident that occurred in the home of my excellent grandfather, with whom I lived. The old gentleman was in the habit of offering liquor to his guests. One day after he had been treating some visitors to some very choice "cherry-bounce," they had left a residuum of liquor in three glasses—or what toppers call "heel-taps." I gratified my curiosity by draining the glasses, "just to see how it tasted." My good and godly mother, who hated the sight of a bottled devil, discovered my prank and administered such a dose of "the rod" as would have satisfied Solomon himself. I never forgot that flogging or the attendant lecture on the mischief and danger of ever touching a drop of intoxicating drink. Very soon afterwards a temperance society was started in our neighborhood and public addresses were delivered. The first speeches against the drinking custom and the woes of drunkenness produced a profound impression on my boyish mind. I then signed a pledge of total abstinence and have adhered to it until this day. The whole community was reinvigorated by the temperance reform. My grandfather was one of the first to banish the "accursed thing" from his estate. Even now that whole region experiences the beneficial effects of the reform. Asking one of my early companions, lately, "how the temperance cause was thriving in that region," he replied, "We have not one licensed drinking-house in the whole township." Even the boys are no longer tempted by the "heel taps" in their fathers' houses. What was done in that region on the Cayuga Lake by wise and thorough temperance organization may be done again in every village and rural region.

The main thing now is to save the boys and young men. As for the confirmed drunkards, only a small percentage can be or will be permanently reformed by all the efforts of the Moodys, Reynolds, Sawyers, Willards, and thermobice-workers. The fetters once bound on are terribly hard to be broken off. To save the young requires immediate effort (1) Every Sunday-school ought to have a temperance pledge well and wisely used; it ought also to have our temperance books in its library. The Bazaar, too ought to be circulated. (2) Into all our public schools Dr. Richardson's "Temperance Lesson-Book" should be introduced. It is the book for the times. (3) Pastors should preach total abstinence to the young as faithfully as they teach obedience to parents or observance of the Sabbath, or any other primal duty. (4) Parents must keep the "heel-taps" and the wine-bottles off their own tables. We must save the boys!—National Temperance Advocate.

How to LIVE LONG.—The late William Cullin Bryant attributes his marvelous health and agility to his prudent mode of living. He rose about five o'clock in the morning, and worked with dumb-bells, a horizontal bar, and a pole for a full hour, occasionally diversifying his exercises by swinging a light chair round his head. He then bathed and had a light breakfast of oatmeal cakes, milk and fruit. After breakfast he occupied himself for a while with his studies and then walked to his newspaper office, a distance of three miles, transacted his business, and walked back again, whatever the weather might be. He worked upon his farm or in his garden in the afternoon, dined early, eating meat only once a day, and living principally upon fruit and vegetables. He seldom drank any wine, never smoked tobacco, avoided in the evening every kind of literary occupation which taxed his faculties, such as composition, even to the writing of letters, and retired to rest at ten o'clock or sometimes earlier.

THE COLOSSAL BRONZE STATUE OF VICTORY which stands in the Park at Lowell, before the tomb of the first soldiers that fell in the revolution, is a lasting and beautiful tribute of art. It is one of the first objects sought by strangers visiting our sister city, which indeed many visit purposely to see the elegant object of high art. It was obtained from the King of Bavaria by Dr. J. C. Ayer, to whom his Majesty was especially gracious in acknowledgment of what his remedies are reputed to have done for the suffering sick. It was donated by the Doctors of the city of Lowell as a permanent speaking emblem of the victories both Science and Arms.—Hagerstown, (Md) Press.

WALLACE PHINNEY. DIPHTHERIA has for a long time been very prevalent, and very fatal. Its fatality seems to be greatly owing to neglecting what is supposed to be an ordinary cold or sore throat until it has progressed to its stages, and then when medical aid is procured it has too often been found to be too late. From the fatality attending this disease every family should keep a remedy on hand and use it on first appearance of sore throat. A preparation called DIPHTHERINE has been placed before the public. It is the discovery of an English physician, and has been regarded where it has been used, to be an infallible remedy for that disease. It is placed within the reach of all, put up in bottles with full directions, and sold by Druggists and dealers in medicines at the low price of 25 cents a bottle.

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body paid the slightest attention to, viz., that drunkenness was the vice which filled the jails of England, and that if they could make England sober they could shut up nine tenths of her prisons. It was not only those particular cases to which he had been directing their attention, but other cases; and indeed a large number of the cases which a judge and jury had to deal with began, or ensued, or were connected with the vice of drunkenness."

Boys Don't Block Up Your Way! —I was sitting in the office of a prominent manufacturer in Richmond, not long since, when a boy about sixteen entered, with a cigar in his mouth. He said to the gentleman: "I would like to get a situation in your shop to learn a trade, sir!" "I might give you a place, but you carry a very bad recommendation in your mouth," said the gentleman. "I didn't think it any harm to smoke, sir; nearly everybody smokes now!" "I am sorry to say, my young friend, I can't employ you. If you have money enough to smoke cigars, you will be above working as apprentice; and if you have not money, your love for cigars might make you steal it. No boy who smokes cigars can get employment in my shop."

A word to the wise is sufficient. A FRIEND TO BOYS.

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