

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

Poor Polly is Dead. A parrot owned by Dr. C. M. Gill, of 112 Hopkins place, and which had an interesting history, died recently.

Dr. Gill is a dentist, and he says that often when he had a patient in the chair Polly would laugh and call out, "Kick up old Harry!"

The most annoyance caused by the parrot, Dr. Gill says, was to the congregation of Sharp Street Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, which adjoins his house.

Poll was not a large parrot, and a person would think he was only 6 or 7 years old instead of fifty.

A True Fairy Tale. "Instead of telling fair stories, let us be fairies ourselves," said Aunt Della, when the children begged her for a fairy tale.

"How can we be fairies, auntie?" "What are fairies?" asked the lady.

"Why, little, wee folks that go about doing wonderful things. Some times they make butter after the dairy-maid has gone to bed.

"Well," said Aunt Della, "Here are Tom, Ned, Mary and Sue. Let us organize a fairy band."

"I will be Muesard Seed," said Tom, mindful of his last Shakespeare reading.

"I will be Appie Blossom," said Sue, naming herself from her favorite flower.

"I will be Blackberry," said Ned. Here goes for the berry-patch.

"I will be Achenputtel and do the dusting," said Mary, beginning, with great zeal, to put the sitting-room in order.

The next moment the click of the balls and the music of the baby's ringing laugh came from the lawn.

"It is a great deal better to help," she said, polishing a table with all her might, "than to sit down and make auntie amuse us."

"I believe I must go away somewhere for a change," she thought. "Housekeeping is very wearing, especially when baby is cross, and poor Bridget is always having a toothache in these days."

"Why, what is the matter with everybody?" said papa, coming in. "Is there good news? Has the family inherited a fortune?"

John's "Memory Book." John was six years old and went to the kindergarten. One day mamma awoke to the fact that this dearest, most lovable of boys was getting some unkind ways.

headed tyrant said very sweetly many times a day.

However, a new reign began about this time. John must be unselfish and useful, as well as his older brothers and sisters.

"But I can't remember every time!" he cried, as he dragged his reefer across the floor to the drawer in the wardrobe, banging the drawer together because Mollie had been asked not to put away his clothes.

"On—could you bring me home something nice?" in a matter-of-fact tone.

"Papa and mamma will be far away for two weeks and we wish you to do your share in keeping house while we are gone."

It must have been a helpful secret they shared, for Sister Mollie surprised Master John many times during the week, in the act of laying his clothes carefully away in his own drawer.

When she accused him of leaving her nothing to do, the small boy blushed with pleasure, and muttered something about—

"This is only practice, you see!" but what he was practicing for he did not tell.

"At last mamma and papa were ready to start. The trunks had been strapped and taken to the station.

"Is it bedtime, Mollie?" asked a cheery voice. "I'm so glad, for I have some 'portant business to s'plain to you!"

When upstairs he quickly brought her a blue book, which he announced in an awe-inspired way, was his "Memory Book."

"I am going to do everything it says all the time mother is away, and put a star at night on the blank pages for everything I do."

The book, was made from common ruled letter paper, fastened with pale blue ribbons, tied at the back with a dainty bow.

Mollie opened the book. On the first page she saw the picture of a bright-faced boy, on the highest round of a ladder turning the hands of a clock, as he glanced over his shoulder with a roguish smile.

"Beneath this was written: 'Bedtime, 7 p. m. Rising bell, 6:30 a. m. Early to bed, and early to rise, will make John healthy, happy and wise.'"

The opposite page that was marked with stars each day that he rose and retired at the proper hours.

"To say my prayers is not to pray. Unless I mean the words I say."

Memory Book for every duty done during the whole of his mother's absence—Youth's Companion.

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN.

Among the contributors to a symposium recently printed in the Chicago Record was Mr. Alexander H. Revell, a prominent business man of that city, who wrote on

The Young Man's Chances. It should not be assumed that the subject necessarily implies that one chosen to treat it has obtained more than a measure of success.

Before one can say with truth that a man has achieved success one should first ascertain what the man's own idea of success is.

Another man is happy if he can make enough to maintain a modest, comfortable home, while he retains and adds to an honorable reputation.

Each person has certain inclinations which should be followed, if the direction indicated is toward a higher life of knowledge or usefulness.

The mercantile agents tell us that of one hundred persons who start in business, but four succeed; and it might be added of the four who succeed, but one can hold on to the money longer than twenty years.

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Physicians have learned the lesson. You will find that those who have become eminent and rich are they who have selected some special study and given it the larger part of their time.

Those who are achieving wealth and renown have adopted the plan of securing their greatest knowledge on some one branch, so that when difficulties arise in any department of human activity, a certain name, or a few names, will immediately come into the minds of the disputants.

In business even in the largest stores, where centralization of people and merchandise, with a certain tendency to engulf all small stores (which is to be regretted), they recognize the principle I have been telling about.

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Then, besides selecting your vocation and staying with it, there is necessary a certain something to achieve true success—call it nerve and brains, or overdraw assurance, or untiring patience—it is a recognized characteristic of the true American.

How long it shall so remain we will not attempt to say. I believe there is too great a rush, too great a haste in this country; but we do not live in Utopia.

John repeated the lines in a drowsy voice until he fell asleep.

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is not aggressive. Mere brain power is not enough—there must be brain force as well.

The man of mere intellect may be a fine scholar and a thoughtful student; but if these alone, he can never mingle successfully in the busy actualities of the world at large.

The genius of the head may be exerted by the grasp of the hand, and the genial familiarity which thereby follows. Pluck and courage are required.

Well, how shall I let it be known that I am around? may here be asked by some young man. Let me venture an answer: By filling the position you are engaged in, no matter how humble or exalted it may be.

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