ittle boats, dunces' caps, and e-made" toys are legion, and art to the nursery does great a rainy day pleasantly and imagination and natural lessening the destructive

AND ENDS

nuslins can be stiffened withlump or two of sugar into

ainted with boiled linseed off.

the line dripping wet with-if dried in this manner they

nol rubbed on the inside of e all trace of greasy smoke.

loth are rubbed after being eed oil, they will be found to have a polish without being

e glasses, take a small piece with methylated spirits, and will clean them beautifully. soft leather.

mirrors, take a small porsufficient tea to make a warm tea, dry with a soft aste well on the mirror, and paper, the tea used for the

ain sink, don't stand dirty black marks they make are nail three or four little flat this little makeshift stand in for standing saucepans on.

ROM THE POETS

n Flowers red and white, reaths above.

ented heliotrope, tall and straight, , let them be

-Christina G. Rossetti, py Song

eepy Town. weather, noontide high, together. nbeams gently creep, float in the azure sky, epy Town.

by!

leepy Town, umberville cal valley green, ful hill. alace of dreams, ep serene, drowsily glide, to Sleepy Town. -Eleanor Cobb.

Old Song and loud, id the copse-ne cloud? thou joyous thrush, tree? cause I know

g of thy thought, young? are in thine eyes ongue; on thy faceause I know

Beauty's feet our prime; immers pass. with Time, are's despite ause I know

> -Charles Mackay. and Lad

e heart is, sail the sea-

vide world to me? here with thee, 'll be then,

wee, then. o cut and sew June roses blow, we'll go,

-Rose Mills Powers.

of anything. tone I may hear

eyes to make, lace divine: cricket's chirrface of her.

-James Whitcomb Riley. rt's Answer ask thee, pray? ought subject,

obey.' nes this love, then? not how." at same love?

sweetest? deepest?

richest? gives." e's language? it lives."

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GE FOR THE YOUNG F

CURRENT TOPICS

Friday, June 5, 1908

A very curious state of affairs has been going on in Ottawa for some time. The government wanted to make changes in the manner of recording the names of the voters, especially for British Columbia and New Brunswick This the Conservatives would not allow, and for days the members made speeches so that no money could be granted for paying salaries or carrying on the other husiness of the country. This was their plan of forcing the Premier to change the act. They have been successful, and there will not now, it is said, be any danger of preventing any man from voting or of allowing him to vote more than once or in some one else's name.

Since every man in Canada who has been a certain time in the district and who is twenty-one years of age or over, has the right to vote for a member of parliament, it does not seem as if it ought to be a hard matter to find out who has or who has not the right to vote. However, clever politicians have been known to so change the districts near the time of an election as to give the party in power an unfair advantage. That nothing of this kind will be done now is a good thing for Canada.

There is a very bitter contest going on in Eng-

There is a very bitter contest going on in England now as to how the children are to be educated. The Liberals, who are in power, think that the doctrines of no church should be taught in the schools, while the Conservatives believe that people of each denomination should see that every day their religion is being taught their own children. It is a very difficult question. All are agreed that the children should learn to be good, but how that is to be done is the matter in dispute.

The King is to meet the Czar of Russia on June 3 at Reval, on the Gulf of Finland. Until lately there has been a very bitter feeling between England and Russia. The English believed that the Czar wanted to take land in Asia from them. Not long ago a treaty was made between the two countries telling exactly how far each had a right to go. What the present meeting is for no one seems to know. The Czar's mother, who is the Queen's sister, has been visiting in England for some time. The subjects of King Edward are the freest in the world, and the King has no more right to break the least of England's laws than the humblest of his subjects. On the other hand, the Russians are very badly governed. How much the Czar has to do with the sufferings of his people few people know. It is hard for us to understand in Canada how a good man can be at the head of a people so badly treated as the Russians are. They are, however, a brave and warlike nation, and King Edward's visit may give him another title to be called the "Peacemaker."

King Manuel of Portugal has determined, it is reported, to marry the woman he loves, or not to be married at all. It is not said that the young lady he wants to marry is not good or beautiful. She does not belong to a royal family, and it is very seldom indeed that a king or queen can marry the person they love. It sometimes happens that a king learns to love the princess he is obliged to marry, or that the princess falls in love with the prince chosen for her, but it is to be feared that in most royal households there is less happiness than in those of poorer people who can wed as they please. King Manuel's lady love is to be banished for a time, in the hope that he will forget all about her.

The men who have gone up to Ingenika river report that though there is gold in its sands, there is not so much of it as was at first stated. It is a long distance away and provisions are dear. The G. T. P. railroad will go near the district, so that it will not be hard when it is completed to reach the river. In the meantime there is nothing to warrant people giving up their work to go into this goldfield.

At Prince Rupert much work is going on, though the townsite is not yet laid out. It is said that the weather in the Northern city, that is to be, is very

The accident at Bellingham cast a gloom over the shipmates of the two men belonging to the crew of the New Jersey who were killed on a street car, but on the whole the visit of the fleet to the Sound has been a time of great rejoicing both to the sallors and the citizens.

The great ocean liners, the Mauretania and the Ine great ocean liners, the Mauretania and the Lusitania, are still striving to see who will make the fastest run across the Atlantic ocean. Last week the Lusitania crossed in 4 days 20 hours and 22 minutes, and averaged 24.83 knots an hour for the whole trip. It is wonderful to think that a ship so large can sail so fast.

A gentleman who arrived here from Japan, a few days since, said that though there is no other city which has so beautiful a situation as Victoria, he could not help noticing the untidy look of the streets. Untrimmed grass, broken fences and dilapidated sidewalks were things a stranger does not expect to see in a city. These little things spoil the look of the town. As has been said before, boys and girls could do a great deal to improve our streets. If no one would scatter paper or orange peel along the sidewalks; if the grass in front of each house were kept trimmed, and if the fences were mended and painted, strangers would form a very different opinion not only of Victoria, but of its citizens. The heaps, of garbage and rubbish that are to be seen in many places are disgraceful, but that is a matter for the policemen to attend to. It is almost a crime that almost within a stone's throw of some of the most beautiful views in the city people should pile up old tin cans, broken bottles, and even old clothes. Victoria will never be quite popular with travelers who have been accustomed to the neatness of a modern city till its streets are kept in nice order.

Smallpox has broken out in the state of Washington. It is a very mild type of the disease, but it is not the less catching. There is a great deal of coming and going between Victoria and the Sound cities since the cheap rates came in. Where every one is vaccinated there is little danger of catching smallpox, and if caught, the disease will not be severe. This is not the case where people have not been vaccinated.

It may be that, some day, men will sail safely through the air, but so far navigating an airship is a dangerous experiment. At Oakland, California, ten thousand people watched one of these machines go up three hundred feet. Then it burst and sixteen passengers were injured—one fatally. Yet there is a man in New York who believes that he will be able to cross the Atlantic at a speed of one hundred miles an hour within the next five years. His name is John B. Holland. He has had experience in inventing vessels to sail under water. Whether this qualifies him to construct one that will float upon the air remains to be seen.

A very terrible railroad accident happened near the quaint old town of Antwerp, in Belgium. A number of plous Roman Catholics, many of them no doubt women, were on the way to worship at a shrine when the train in which they were travelling was run into by an express train and the greater number of the passengers killed. The sights seen were heartrending. The accident is supposed to have been caused by the mistake of a workman who was repairing a switch. It is a common sight in many European countries to see people visiting the spot sacred to the memory of some good man or woman who died long ago, and whose prayers they hope will bring about the healing of their sickness or the cure of their sorrows.

There are in the United States great numbers of the descendants of Irish men and women who came to that country when times were hard in Ireland. In their new home they prospered, but though many of them grew rich, they have kept their faith in their

own religion. It is a hundred years since the Catholic church was founded in New York, and a great celebration was held there. Among those attending it is Cardinal Logue, the head of that church in Ireland, He said the other day that he was astonished at the progress that church had made, and said that he believed and hoped it would in the future have much power in the great fight against evil.

Winnipeg is a fine city now, and is still growing. Last summer it looked as if there were great schools in every part of the town, but six new ones are being built this spring. This week the contract for a very large railroad depot, to be used by the Grand Trunk Pacific and the Great Northern, has been let, and the building is to be finished by August The people of Winnipeg have faith in their city, and every one seems to be determined to work for its success. Its situation is not beautiful and its climate is cold in winter and hot in summer, but it is in the middle of one of the richest grain countries in the world, and will for many years continue to grow. Faith and

BOY WE CONNELL

they or some of them could have been present. The reason given for not inviting them does not seem a sufficient one. It is that if a former governor-general should return to the country he would have to take a place lower than that held by him when he was governor-general. It does not seem as if men who were really great and noble would in these days care whether they mere at the head of a procession or at the end of it, or whether they sat at the right or left hand of the host. In the Mother Country such things are still looked upon as important.

There has been a fine sugar crop in the Hawaiian Islands this year. The work of harvesting the sugar employs many men, and they must be used to a hot climate. Pineapples are another product of these

The Central American peoples have become tired of quarreling and have appointed a court of justice to settle disputes among them. Andrew Carnegie has sent \$700,000 to build at Cartago, Costa Rico, a tem-

AGE. 9

ORIGINAL STORY

A true story about one of our ancient ancestors: I have a most curious experience to relate which occurred during my stay at a Jubbulpore hotel in Central India. I was on an inspector's tour and had taken with me my secretary, a young man of about five and twenty.

A young engineer before he left this hotel on his business, had left in charge of the proprietor a large chimpanzee, quite as tall as a man of normal height. Jocko was very fond of putting his huge forepaws on a person's shoulders and squinting at his own image which would be reflected in their eyes.

The proprietor was not eyes kind to Jocko and his

The proprietor was not over kind to Jocko and his usual home was in the back grounds of the hotel, where he was chained up for the night.

The night in question was unequalled for the violence of the thunder and lightning storms. The noises were most unearthly, and bright glowing lights flashed through the appre sky all night. ed through the angry sky all night.
"I rather pity that poor monkey, chained out in

GERTRUDE

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he was sitting on my chest and looking into my eyes!"

"With a laugh, I pushed open the door and called out, "Are you there, Mr. Devil? Your victim is exceedingly frightened of you."

"Why!" exclaimed my secretary, looking around, then turning very pale and falling back upon the bed he pointed to a corner of the ceiling. "There he is, gir" he gashed.

he pointed to a corner of the ceiling. "There he is, sir," he gasped.

I looked up—and there—perched on one of the massive pillars which composed the structure of the room—was Jocko! His wicked little dark eyes were just brimming over with fun. His ugly mouth was contorted into a malicious grin, showing the sharp teeth inside, and all the while he was chattering as if he were praising himself at the success of his adventure.

"Why, you silly fellow," I exclaimed, laughing. "That is Jocke, the monkey." "Well, I never!" he answered. "But what a fright the beast did give me, to be sure." And he laughed

nervously.

"I suppose the poor beast was so frightened by the thunder and lightning, that he broke loose and jumped in through one of the open windows," I conjectured. "I think we'd better catch him and chain him up again, or else we'll get no peace tonight."

We, therefore began to chase him around the room, but like a streak of lightning he dashed through the open door which he had forgotten to shut behind us and we saw him bolting up the masive oak stairs to the floor above. We then awakened the proprietor, but muttering that he could not always keep his eye on the brute, he went back to bed again. By this time several guests had congregated in the hall and we all began the pursuit together.

We spied Jocko coming down a back stairway and

We spied Jocko coming down a back stairway and entering at a side door, he was again tearing up and down the main hall. Suddenly he perceived an open door which had been left ajar by the occupant of that room on account of the heat.

In he darted. Following behind him, I saw him jump upon the dressing table, upsetting the dressing case and water jug, and allowing the water to slowly trickle over the velvet carpet amid the little bits of broken class and chim. broken glass and china.

The occupant of the bed, the head of which was covered with a mosquito net, was awakened by the clatter and sitting up he called, "Help! Help!"

Upon hearing his voice, Jocko jumped from the dressing table and landing on the back of the bed over which was stretched the netting, sank down in a heap on top of this unfortunate man.

Being entangled in the netting he was easily caught this time, and we took him to the proprietor, threatening that if he did not take more care of the mischlevous chimpanzee we would report him to the

A few days later I said "god-bye" to Jocko and Jubbulpore, Jocko, I think received better attention since that night of his escapade, when he gave my young secretary such a scare, yet probably set him on the road to becoming a better man. VICTORIAN.

ESSAYS ON EMPIRE DAY

Why We Keep Empire Day

Empire Day is kept in all the British countries in remembrance of Queen Victoria, the good queen of Great Britain and Ireland and the colonies and the

Great Britain and Ireland and the colonies and the Empress of India.

It is a wonderful thing that England has obtained a great deal of her greatness under the rule of woman. In Queen Elizabeth's reign the arts, literature and great naval victories; in Queen Anne's reign England won many great victories on land, and in Queen Victoria's reign she made more strides in all directions than in any other reign.

Empire Day was really Queen Victoria's birthday, which is on the twenty-fourth of May. When she died and her son ascended the throne, he decreed that all over Greater Britain that date should be kept in her memory, so that those boys and girls who were not large enough to remember the deeds which she did and the example she set, as she was not here, they could ask why the twenty-fourth of May was kept, and would be told in memory of the best and greatest queen ever known in the world's history, greatest because she was the best queen—Victoria the Good. ducen ever known in the world's history, greatest because she was the best queen—Victoria the Good, THOMAS HEYLAND, Age 11. 343 Michigan street, James Bay, Victoria, B. C.

An Essay on Empire Day

One of the days in which all loyal British subjects take more than ordinary interest is Empire Day—Empire Day, the day which celebrates the birthday of our former queen, Victoria, whose memory is still cherished and beloved in the hearts of all.

It is on this day especially that we consider the vastness of the British Empire, and feel that, though the people comprising it are of different creeds and color, we are one.

All under the flag which has

"Braved a thousand years

The battle and the breeze"
are proud to show their loyalty on this occasion of national rejoicing. The Canadian, the Hindu, the Australian, and others, one and all make this day a time for joy and goodwill.

A few days before Empire Day, the scholars sing "The Maple Leaf" and other patriotic songs.

On Empire morning, in Victoria, one sees people already going to the different places of amusement, with happy faces.

After a hurried lunch, the people go either to a concert or field sports, which take place about the same time.

In the evening there are fireworks, and when the An Essay on Empire Day

same time.

In the evening there are fireworks, and when the last rocket has been fired, the people return home to-dream of the pleasant time they have had.

CLAUDE E. EMERY, Age 13 years.

On the twenty-fourth of May nearly all Canadians, who are loyal to their country, celebrate Empire Day. Flags, streamers and ribbons of both Canada and England float over the land. This is a grand event, and we all put on our best Sunday clothes, and go to see the sports. Then after strolling around town all morning, we go to dinner. After dinner we go to the field where are held the sports. Then we go to tea, and then—O! then we go to Nanaimo's beautiful harbor and see, sitting on the beach, a number of Indians, from our own city, Ladysmith, Chemainus, Valdez and Kuper Island. These have come to the Indian cance races. After the races, a mammotian fireworks display is shown.

Now the metry day is over!

ARTHUR HAZEL, Age 13.

14 Prideaux Street, Nanaimo.

Empire Day is kept to commemorate the birthday of Queen Victoria, she was such a good and great queen. Everybody looks forward to Empire Day, as it is a day of public rejoicing. The fireworks are always very brilliant and nice, and there is a great crowd at the Beacon Hill Park and the Gorge.

Everybody tries to make it a success, and it mostly always is. We get two days' holiday from school, and the children are all talking and hearing about it. The young and old people all enjoy themselves, as it is one of the greatest holidays in the year.

GERTY BRADY, Age 12. 838 Broughton Street.

WITH THE POETS

My Task To love some one more dearly ev'ry day,
To help a wandering child to find his way,
To ponder o'er a noble thought, and pray
And smile when evening falls,

To follow truth as blind men long for light. To do my best from dawn or day till night, To keep my heart fit for His holy sight. To do my best from dawn of day till night,—Maud Louis Ray, in Harper's Magasine

hope accomplish wonders in the life whether of a man or a city. Boys and girls in Victoria ought to think much of its beauty and its climate and resolve that when their turn comes to do its work, they will make the most of its splendid situation as a seaport and the chief city in an island rich in timber, minerals

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President Fallieres is in England and the English people as well as the sovereign has welcomed the representative of France. It is hoped by the French nation that this visit will lead to an alliance with England. There does not seem, as though there were any reason why such near neighbors as France and England should not be friends, but that has been true for many years. It is to be hoped the friendship of which this visit and the exhibition are signs will be a real and lasting one.

Perhaps the very best piece of news that was in the papers last week is that the quarter of a million shipbuilders in Great Britain who have been idle since January have gone to work again. We can have no idea what it means to say that 250,000 men are idle. Fancy, if you can, what suffering there would be in Victoria if every father of a family earned nothing for four months. Yet this would not be a thirtieth part as many idle men as have gone back to work in the shipbuilding yards and shops of England and Scotland. Is the good time coming when this terrible waste will cease?

There are several of those who have been gover-nors-general of Canada still living, and Senator Mac-donald of British Columbia thought it would add greatly to the interest of the Quebec Tercentenary if

ple of peace, where this court shall sit. It is to be hoped that this will be the beginning of prosperity for these countries. Only intelligence and industry are needed to make their peoples prosperous.

THE GORGE A Cumine

Will the the second of the sec

There have been terrible floods on the Trinity river and other places in Texas; many people were drowned and much property destroyed. In New York, too, hailstorms have injured the grape crop. The frost of last week has so it is said, done the crops on the Canadian prairies little or no harm.

There were very few boys and girls who did not enjoy themselves on Monday and Tuesday. Perhaps there is not a city in Canada where parents take as much trouble to give their children as good time as they do in Victoria. The two long delightful days have gone, but when the children are men and women, living, perhaps, far away, the memory of the happy time they spent and the beautiful sights they saw will come back to them. They will realize more fully than now the goodness and kindness of their fathers and mothers.

Everywhere we hear that the children are pleased with the pictures. This is the children's own part of the paper, and the editor is very proud of it. Yet the boys and girls must not forget that much is to be done after their drawings have been sent in. Some very nice pictures could not be reproduced this week. One of these was painted. The others were done very faintly with lead pencil. The lines should be copied in ink and the paper on which they are drawn should be six or twelve inches wide. The very guod Easter picture which had no name on it last week was by Le Roy Johnson, James Bay.

almost on the verge of tears in his nervousness. "I beg of you—I implore you to come."

Still assuring him that he was under a delusion, I dressed, and taking up the night light which was kept burning all night, on account of the numerous snakes and reptiles which were common in India, and which could not be detected in the dark, I led the way into his room. He implored me to enter first, saying he was sure that the too-powerful visitant who had got such a strong hold on him, was still in the room.

"How do you know it was the Devil?" I asked him as we reached the door.

"Sir," he answered, "you will not believe me, but

this terrific storm," I murmured to myself as I turned in at about ten o'clock.

I had been sleeping for about three hours when I was awakened by a thunderous knocking at my room door, which, though very loud, could scarcely be heard above the terrific noise made by the thunder, which seemed as if it was determined to shake every atom of glass out of the windows.

"Who's there, and what's the matter?" I asked, rather chagrined at having a midnight visitor.

"O, Mr. Clements! for God's sake, come!" answered the shaking voice of my secretary. "He's got me at last!"

What do you mean by waking me like this?" I ed. "Who has got you?" asked.

And with a voice scarcely above a whisper, he answered, "The devil has got me, sir." As soon as I could control my strong inclination to laugh, I continued, "That shows you have a very guilty conscience." And indeed, I would not have been surprised if he had a guilty conscience, for Mr. Wheeler was what you would call "a fast young man," and very quickly spent his money.

and very quickly spent his money.

"O, sir, please do not laugh at me," he implored, almost on the verge of tears in his nervousness. "I beg of you—I implore you to come,"

Still assuring him that he was under a delusion, I dressed, and taking up the night light which was kept burning all night, on account of the numerous snakes and reptiles which were common in India, and which could not be detected in the dark, I led the way into his room. He implored me to enter first, saying he was sure that the too-powerful visitant who had got such a strong hold on him, was still in the room.

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