

MILK AND WATER LAMP.

PRETTY EXPERIMENT FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES.

"Sun Drawing Water" an Illusion—A Very Cheap Amusement for the Little Ones at Any Season—The Sun Must Shine.

Times upon a summer's day, when the sun is shining, and the sky is blue, you will see long bars of sunlight falling in pale, white beams across the sky. Ignorant people, who see these bars of light, sometimes say "the sun is drawing water." Now the sun draws water they cannot tell, but the simple reason that it never does is that the water is in the air.

These curious beams of light have quite another origin, as you can readily prove to yourself by one or two very simple and pretty experiments.

Close all the curtains and shutters in a room having a south window, some bright, sunny day, and leave one window where the sunlight can enter.

Here leave a small crack near the top of the window, and close this crack with a piece of paper, and in this paper make a small hole three-fourths of an inch in diameter. This will give us a slender beam of sunshine in a dark room.

Next, get a small hand-mirror and a clear glass tumbler or goblet filled with water. Then add a teaspoon of milk to the water and stir them well together.

Place the goblet of milky water on a table, or on the floor, under the beam of light, and then hold the mirror in the sunbeam, so as to throw a reflected beam of light down into the goblet.

The accompanying drawing represents the positions of the mirror and the goblet.

The beam of light enters the window at A, and is reflected from the mirror at B, and falls into the goblet at C. Before the light falls in the tumbler it is dark, and we cannot see it. The instant the light touches the water, the goblet is full of light, and shines like a lamp.

A pale, white, cloud-like glow spreads out from it in every direction, and shines on the floor and walls, and in the soft light we can easily see to read. Take the light away from the goblet, and the room becomes dark again.

Now, why is this; how happens it that the beam of sunlight, when thrown into the milky water, appears to give out so much more light? Think about this matter while we prepare for another experiment, and also hold the goblet directly in the beam of light, and study it in that way.

Get a large glass jar, such as one sees at the confectioner's, or a pickle jar or common glass preserve jar. Make a cover for it out of thick paper or cardboard, and in this cover cut a narrow slit about an inch long, and as wide as the small blade of your pen-knife is thick.

Light a bit of paper and drop it into the jar and put the cover on. The fire will burn out in a moment, and then the jar will become filled with smoke. Now place the jar under the beam of light, where the goblet stood, and with the mirror throw a beam of light down upon it.

What do you see in the jar? A slender beam of light extending downward into the jar, and growing fainter and fainter as it descends. The jar, otherwise, seems perfectly dark and empty, and yet it is full of smoke. Take off the cover, and the whole jar seems full of pale light. The smoke is brightly illuminated and we can see it pouring out of the jar in clouds.

Put the card on again and try the beam of light through the slit in the cover once more. The smoke has nearly gone, and the narrow ribbon of light has become quite faint. Study it closely and you will see something quite magical. Curious streaks and patches of inky black run across the beam of light. What is this? Nothing, really nothing. The light disappears because the smoke is melting away, and there is nothing to reflect the light and make it visible.

This is the secret of the glass of milky water and the bars of sunlight breaking through the clouds. When light strikes against anything it is reflected, sent back

or turned aside in a new direction. Every speck and mote, every particle of dust and tiny drop of mist in the air reflects the light.

Look at the beam of sunlight in our bedroom room, and you will see the bits of dust floating in the air. While they remain in the sunlight, they shine like tiny stars. When they move away into the shadow they disappear.

Stand near one end of the beam of light, and you will see a great number of these specks and atoms of dust. If the room is very smoky or dusty the sunbeam is quite plain. If the dust settles and the air becomes pure and calm, the sunbeam disappears.

So the particles of milk, spread through the water, reflected the light in every direction, and made the light visible. The smoke in the jar, in the same manner, reflected the light from every atom of the smoky paper, and gave us the pretty beam of light.

When the smoke began to melt away and disappear, the light disappeared also. There was nothing to reflect it, and it actually seemed to turn black.

We look up into the clear sky and see that it is full of light, diffused in every direction. The air is never wholly pure, and the dust and water floating in it catches the light of the sun and scatters it in every direction, and the whole heavens seem full of light.

Even a window facing the north, where the sunlight never enters, has plenty of light reflected from the sky. Artists and others who need a steady and soft light prefer a northern window, because they say the "sky-light" or light from the sky is best for their work.

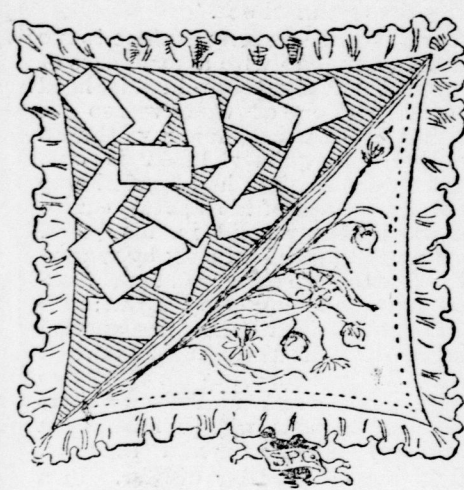
Many more experiments may be performed to show the reflection and dispersion of light, and, perhaps, these easy and pretty experiments will lead you to try others on your own account.—Prof. A. M. Mayer and Chas. Barnard, in the Household.

Love of Dress. Hindu women, it is said, often purchase jewelry at the expense of food and clothing.

A FAD SOFA PILLOW.

It is Autographic in its Original Construction.

Autograph sofa pillows are the latest fad. Our sketch illustrates one given by a fashionable club to one of its departing members. The materials are dark red and cream white India silk. The light half is embroidered with a bunch of daisies; the dark half forms a foundation for the carols of cream white linen, with the autographs outlined on with flosselle, and the card



A NOVEL AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION.

then overhanded with red silk. A double frill of red silk surrounds the pillow. A washable one may be made of white linen and duck, with the autographs outlined on with wash silk.

Apple Sauce.

As usually made, is scarcely fit to eat; yet when properly prepared, it is one of the most delicious dishes that can be served for breakfast or dinner. Apples should always be stewed in a porcelain-lined kettle or granite-ware saucepan—never in a vessel made of tin. When put in the kettle they should be dusted lightly with salt, a small quantity only of water should be added, and they should not be stirred while cooking. The kettle should be covered closely, and the cooking done quickly. As soon as the apples are thoroughly cooked, half the sugar required to sweeten the flavor should be put in the bottom of an earthen or china bowl, the apples poured over it, the balance of the sugar added, and the sauce covered until served. Stewed apple that is frequently stirred while cooking is not spicy and high flavored, like that which is quickly and quietly cooked; and after it has been strained and well beaten before serving, it has been robbed of most of its appetizing and nutritive qualities.

If it is desired to flavor apple sauce with lemon, the lemon should be sliced thin, put in the dish with the sugar and the hot sauce poured upon it. Cooking the lemon with the apple damages the flavor of the lemon, and does not improve that of the apple sauce. A little salt is very essential in nearly all cooked fruit, to develop the finest flavor; and to preserve the flavor of the sauce, or of the apples or pineapple, great care is required in the use of sugar and spices. As a general rule, too much sugar and cinnamon and nutmeg are used in apple sauce—so much, in fact, that the delicious apple flavor is lost in the heavy sweetness, or the inharmonious spiciness. And while speaking of spices, it may not be amiss to say that, in my judgment, nutmeg should never be used in apple sauce, cinnamon only when the apples are lacking in flavor. In cooking fruit, the object should be, to develop and preserve the finest natural flavors of the fruit, and only such spices or fruit juices as have a tendency to do this can be legitimately used in apple sauce. There is a harmony between the flavor of the apple and that of the pineapple, orange and lemon; and the juices of any of these fruits may be added to apple sauce when the apples lack additional richness.

Apple sauce and baked apples absorb odors very readily, and when they are to be served cold, should be kept closely covered, and not placed in proximity with other food.

To Drain the Dishes.

An appliance that will at once recommend itself as a useful accessory to the kitchen is a table grooved and inclined so that all the water upon it drains to an outlet at the front into a basin in which the articles have been washed, and which is placed under the outlet. A great many plates, cups, saucers, jugs, decanters and such ware can be drained at the same time. By a bar, which is fitted across the table, all the articles placed in the rack are held quite securely, without possibility of slipping. It is made entirely of wood, so that no part will rust, and the ware placed upon it is not liable to be chipped. The rack, legs and all parts can be folded up into a very small space, and quite flat, without the least trouble, so it takes up little room when not in use, and can be hung upon the wall if desired.

Household Hints.

For a bee sting, make a paste of earth and water. Cover the stung place with it, bind it on and it will soon give relief.

When a felon first begins to appear, cut off the end of a lemon, put the finger in it and keep it there as long as it can be borne.

For a sore throat, try a frequent gargle of salt and water. If a little is swallowed it will allay the irritation, cleanse the throat and do no harm.

For stains on the hands nothing is better than salt moistened with lemon juice. Rub the spots well with the mixture then wash off in clean water.

It is said that a good remedy for strengthening and clearing the voice, is to beat the white of an egg with the juice of a lemon and sweeten it well with sugar and use as needed.

A New Game.

There is a new game which should find favor with hostesses. All the young lady participants in it produce photographs of themselves when babies, or, at any rate, when of very tender age. These are arranged for inspection, and the young men are ushered in one by one to guess who are the originals. The one successful in guessing the most wins the game and receives the prize.

A Relief for Burns.

For burns, make a paste of baking soda and enough water to cause it to adhere. Cover with a cloth and speedy relief will be felt. If the skin is broken apply the white of an egg or liquid cuticle to the surface.

Cure for a Cough.

For a cough, boil an ounce of whole flaxseed in a pint of water, strain and add a little honey, the juice of two lemons and an ounce of rock candy. Stir together and boil a few minutes. Drink hot.

THE CARE OF CHILDREN.

THE WORK OF THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETIES.

Foster Homes in Place of Penal Institutions for the Homeless Youth of the Province—Fittable Scenes in Police Courts.

When the "Blue Laws" were first drawn up it could never have been intended that children would come under their operations, for no exceptions of any kind were made, nor were there provision for any work of a distinctively reformatory character. As a result many unhappy and undesirable cases were constantly occurring in which young and apparently innocent children were herded in police cells and gaols with old and vicious criminals for offences that could hardly be called other than the indiscretions of youth and



BOY AWAITING TRIAL.

Inexperience. In many countries this defect in the legal machinery has since been remedied by the insertion of clauses providing that children should be separately and privately tried, and instead of being consigned to goal, should be handed over to a philanthropic organization to be taught a trade and removed from the evil environment that led to his or her apprehension. Canada has made as yet but little progress in this direction.

It is a standing reproach against police courts of such cities as Toronto and Hamilton, young boys and girls, whose feet have but just strayed from the path of rectitude and who are not inherently bad, are subjected to all the delements and corrupting influences of prison and criminal associations. It is a most pathetic sight to see in the prisoners' dock, almost hidden from view by the besotted wretches who have made crime a vocation, some golden-haired youngster accused of a petty theft or a young girl whom the glitter of wealth and fashion, or perhaps the loneliness of her life has tempted to leave the path of virtue. Paraded as they now are, before the pitiless gaze of a police court crowd and a magistrate who is too much in a hurry to care for their future, they have but slim chances of reformation, and it is not to be wondered at that the whole procedure instead of saving them, becomes another agency to force them downwards.

These children, especially young girls, are afterwards spotted by the gang and subjected to advances and insults which effectively prevent any tendency to a change of conduct. Little wonder then that the boys graduate to fill reformatories and the girls go out to swell the ranks of the fallen—and for the whole thing the present defective system is responsible.

The need of improved justice in the interests of the general community as well as of the children has long been felt by those engaged in child-saving work, and at their request Hon. G. W. Allan has taken the matter in hand and will introduce a bill at the present session of the Dominion Senate, dealing with the desired changes. Petitions are being extensively circulated throughout the province asking Sir John Thompson, as Minister of Justice, to see that the children as future citizens and voters should have a fair chance to grow up without the contamination of prison life. Full provision is made so far as the laws of this province are concerned in the Children's Protection Act, introduced by the Hon. J. M. Gibson, Provincial Secretary, and passed by the Legislature in '93. Unfortunately, however, nearly all the youthful offenders are accused of larceny, which is an indictable offence and subject to Dominion law and procedure.

The tendency of the age is to pay more attention to first causes. In saving the little ones from contamination, the Children's Aid Societies that are being established throughout Ontario under the direction of Superintendent Kelso, will be doing a noble work. These will enable charitably disposed and philanthropic people to pay more attention to the claims of children. The Hon. Joseph Chamberlain said recently in a speech endorsing the work of similar societies in England: "The helplessness of these little ones, their dependence upon others, the fact that they are not responsible for the evils they endure, all plead loudly on their behalf."

It is proposed to have in each city and town of Ontario an incorporated children's aid society. These organizations will be given authority by the Government to receive the guardianship of all deserted, orphaned or neglected children. The regularly constituted agent of any society is an officer who will have power to bring before the courts any child under fourteen found begging or stealing who is without proper guardianship, who is found associating or dwelling with a thief, drunkard or vagrant, or who by reason of the neglect or drunkenness or other vices of the parents is suffered to be growing up without salutary parental control or education or in circumstances exposing such child to a life of dissolute life.

Every citizen who knows a child to be ill-treated or to be living with immoral people is expected to notify the society at once. The agent or secretary will then issue a "warning notice," to the offender, setting forth that unless there is immediate improvement the child will be taken away. Should this latter course be necessary the little one is removed to the Children's Shelter and the judge applied to for a date of hearing. Witnesses are summoned in the usual way, and the parents have the right to attend and give rebuttal evidence. If the judge decides to give the parent another chance the Society is instructed to exercise supervision and see that the home is improved, that the child attends school daily and is properly treated. If, however, it is considered that the best interests of the child as a free-born citizen and a future voter, that the Society should be appointed its guardian, the judge makes out an "order of delivery" to the Society, appointing that body the legal guardian until the boy or girl is 18 years of age.

Having received charge of the child, the next duty of the Society is to provide it with a home. An important point in the law is that these children are not to be put into institutions to be artificially reared, but must be provided with foster homes, that is placed under the care of kind-hearted Christian people, who will strive to train them as good citizens under the influence of love and sympathy. This system, in addition to being by far the simplest and happiest solution of the problem, is also vastly more economical than the orphanage or industrial school plan. It has proved the recently successful in Scotland, Australia and other countries. It is believed that many good homes and hearts throughout Ontario will be opened to receive and bless these unfortunate little ones.

To aid the societies in finding such the law provides for committees of men and women in all the electoral districts. These committees will also be the local guardians of the societies' wards when placed out and will be a valuable aid to maintain the state's protectorate over the children.

All the children's aid societies will work in unison and will assist each other in providing homes for their proteges. For instance, if the Hamilton society should have a child they wished to place some distance off they would call in the assistance of the Brantford, London or Paris society, and vice versa, each society exchanging information and aiding each other a hundred ways. If any reader has a childless home and longs to hear the patter of little feet and feel the caress of chubby, grateful arms they should send their names to the children's aid society. Just address your request to the secretary of the Children's Aid Society of St. Thomas, Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton, Barrie, Peterboro' or any other large centre, and it will reach the right parties, but be sure and don't make this mistake: don't say you want to adopt a healthy, well-educated boy or girl of 11 or 12, for they are very scarce and very valuable. Apply for a baby or a little tot of 4 or 5, and then you have a human soul that you can train for God, and a little heart you can teach to love you and call you by the sweetest of all names—mother.

There is no better service anyone can render to church or state than the training of a child for good citizenship. It is a noble task and worthy of even some trials and disappointments. Numerous touching stories are told of the gratitude of these boys and girls to faithful foster parents after they have grown up and gone out to make their way in the world.

This work is one of the most important to the community that could possibly be taken up, and every citizen should do his best to advance it. In time it will make institutions for children unnecessary, and it will provide justice and good home surroundings for the unfortunate little ones now treated so shamefully by indifferent and unworthy parents.

The first report of the Superintendent of Neglected and Dependent Children of Ontario of which this is a brief notice, marks a new and noteworthy era in the history of the philanthropic work of the province. It means that hereafter the state in addition to providing custody prisons for the detention of criminals will also seek to stay the stream of crime by giving timely aid and recognition to child-saving work. Nursed in hot beds of vice and denied reasonable opportunities of acquiring either moral or intellectual training it is little wonder that many children have grown up to be the thieves and vagrants of the community, constant source of unrest and insecurity. Mr. Kelso, the state superintendent, should be heartily and generously supported by the philanthropists of Ontario so that the neglected or morally abandoned children of the province may have that care and justice secured to them which it is in the interests of all of us they should obtain.

Florence Damerfelt Hill, in her famous work "Children of the State," says: "We shall probably always have among us parents who are vicious, or indolent, or incapable, or afflicted. But what we may reasonably hope, and it is much, is that more and more their children be saved from the brand of pauperism, and passing under the control of the State, receive at her hands the good gift of honest and loving family life; then, neither disgracing her in her years, nor ashamed themselves of her guardianship, shall they rise up to call her blessed."

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