

HEROISM OF CHILDHOOD.

Courage That Has No Tinge of Selfishness, Being Prompted by Love Alone—Remarkable Illustration.

The London Spectator says: There is something very pathetic about the heroism of childhood, where the means are something of really independent daring and presence of mind, something beyond mere steadfast truthfulness, which is in a sense natural to childhood. The inquest held yesterday week before Dr. Macdonald, M. P., coroner for Northeast London, on Henry James Bristow, aged 8 years, illustrates precisely what we mean. Mrs. Bristow, who lives at Walthamstow, had left this little boy alone in the room with a younger sister of only three years of age, in order to go on an errand, from which she returned before 6 o'clock to find that the little girl had climbed on a chair to reach a small paraffin lamp, and had upset it over her clothes, which, of course, caught fire at once. The boy immediately tore them off her, and laid her up in the bed, but in lifting her on to the bed his own clothes caught fire, and it took the child a long time to tear them off, which, however, at last he succeeded in doing, but not till he was so seriously hurt that, though taken at once to a hospital, he died within the week from the result of the injuries. His little sister's life he had succeeded in saving; at least, she was said to be doing well at the time of the inquest on her brother. The coroner very justly spoke of the boy as quite a little hero, and he was a hero in precisely the sense in which it seems to us that the word, as applied to a child of 8, carries a profound pathos with it, because it implies a presence of mind, a promptitude of purpose, a self-command and fortitude and steadfastness, which are usually quite beyond a child's imagination, much less his practical achievement. In the books of verse for children, which were in use a generation or more ago, there used to be some verses about a child who kept perfectly calm and self-possessed at sea during the raging of a tempest, because his father was "at the helm," which was the refrain with which the child replied to all the questions asked him as to the source of his self-possession. This is a kind of heroism—if heroism is the right name for it—which should be, we think, natural to children, at least to children who have felt the fullest trust and reverence of which children are capable. But the children of the poor are often early initiated into a kind of heroism more properly deserving of the epithet; for heroism, accurately construed, expresses, we think, more or less of the power to stand alone and cope with the difficulties or terrors of life by the promptitude and boldness of individual energy. There is certainly something in the spectacle, which is singularly impressive, and gives us a deeper sense of the spiritual force of human life. In the mature, what looks like heroism is very often love of praise and little else. The sense of what the world expects from a man will often make a coward act as if he were constitutionally brave, and a selfish man act as if he were habitually disinterested. But when a child faces the most acute pain, and (as is proved in this case) death itself, to save another, and this too in the absence of all spectators, it is impossible to ascribe his conduct to any semi-melodramatic or even imitative motive. The little boy of 8, battling alone with flame and pain to save his sister, can hardly have anything in his mind except love for her, and responsibility to his mother in her absence, and assuredly cannot have been hoodwinked up with that eagerness to win the world's good opinion, or to become the subject of the world's curiosity, which taints so much, not only of our modern life, but even of our modern courage and daring. We should doubt if the little hero of whom we have been writing so much as formed the desire to be himself brave or faithful, or to be, for himself, anything at all. Probably his first desire was to save his sister, and his next to release himself from the agony of the flame; but the former was the overmastering motive which carried everything before it, and made him deliberately incur the severe pain from the consequences of which he died. It is hardly possible not to think better of the human spirit when one sees a child of eight so affectionate, so dauntless, and so resolved.

Bible Leaves and the Police.

New York World: A man engaged in the evangelical labor of bestowing Bible leaves upon people he meets in the street, and especially to policemen, wants to know if he is right. He has been arrested once, and immediately took himself to distributing the leaflets again. He argued the propriety of doing so with the policemen, who generally allowed it was all right, but that he must "move on." He endeavored to get a permit and applied to a Justice, to the Mayor's Marshal, to the Bureau of Street Cleaning, to the Corporation Counsel, and having failed with all to secure it, resumed his task without it. He is interested in knowing what law he breaks in giving Bible leaves away. Perhaps if he is "moved on" all the time he may never find out.

An April Fool.

Buffalo News: Robby—What's an April fool, papa? Mr. Norris—An April fool is a man who takes off his winter underclothing on the first warm day.

Qualified but not Accepted.

"Is your husband a Mason, Mr. De Tompkins?" "No, Mrs. Van Stryker, but he has the grip."

A French syndicate has bought the Mickey Green silver mine, in the Ouray (Col.) district, for \$1,300,000.

When a man gets old enough to know himself thoroughly he begins to entertain cynical opinions of the whole human race. —Indianapolis Journal.

The devil can't understand the stingy man, but he likes his ways.

Navigation has opened on Lake Champlain.

A woman is never so good-looking that she cannot remain an old maid, and a man is never so homely that he cannot get married.

THE ELLIPTOGRAPH.

A New Device for Drawing Perfect Egg-Shaped Figures.

There is a demand for a simple instrument that will make an ellipse quickly. A Swedish inventor has recently patented a device that seems to meet the demand. It consists of a drawing-pen or pencil fixed at right angles to a horizontal bar, at the other end of which is a leg used as a support. A handle is at the top of this bar, and at the lower end of it is a reel around which is wound a double thread. The thread passes down to the point of the pen or pencil, and is passed around two ball-headed pins pressed into the paper at the feet of the ellipse. The thread is placed around these pins, and all that needs now to be done is to draw the curve in the usual fashion.

The Turf.

The racing season in Toronto promises well. The bill already before the public pursues amounts to \$25,000. Of this \$10,000 will be divided among the thoroughbreds, and the remainder will go to the trotters. The season opens with the May meeting of the Ontario Jockey Club at Woodbine Park, lasting four days. The Woodbine Driving Club has decided so far on six days in June and July, giving \$6,000 in purses, and Mr. Charles at Dufferin Park offers \$10,000 at five meetings of three days each in June, July, August, September and October. The fall meetings of the Jockey Club, the Hunt Club and the Woodbine Driving Club have yet to be arranged.

The once famous racing horse Proctor Knott promises to do good work again this season. He is at Memphis and a day or two ago when the other horses in training went the half in 52 and 53 at hard work Proctor Knott went easily in 50 1/2 and was as fresh as possible afterwards. Some most extraordinary and scarcely credible stories are being circulated about the "facts" which the English Jockey Club are said to have collected in their investigations. "One young jockey, I am told," writes a correspondent, "was found to have upwards of £30,000 at his banker's. A professional backer was discovered to have had sixteen winning weeks in succession, during which time many thousands of pounds were paid him, and another is stated to have lent £70,000 to a municipality."

When the horses of the late August Belmont were sold the 2-year-old filly Magnolia, by The Ill-Used—Magnetism, was purchased by Baron Leopold Rothschild for \$5,100. She has been in charge of James Rowe, but will be shipped to England this week. The judgment of the court in the charge against Lord Lonsdale for furious driving, arising out of his driving motor, was as follows: The magistrates have considered this case very carefully, and the majority are of opinion that it should be dismissed. They think that there is no evidence that the horse was not under proper control, or that the life or limb of any person was endangered. At the same time the magistrates express the opinion that a public highway is not a proper place to be used as a racetrack.

The Tailor and the Dude.

"Once a Goose" writes as follows to the New York Sun: "Four years ago I was a merchant tailor, owned three houses and a good business. A Murray Hill dude got in my debt \$260; could not get him to pay me. I advertised the bill for sale. He then sued me for \$10,000 damages. I then put the bill up in my shop with a note on it—bad debt for sale; he sued me again for \$5,000. The judge at court said he was libel, and an outrageous libel. My lawyer and his lawyer now own two of the houses I once owned. After I settled the cases I met the dude with a suit of my clothes on. I then looked him. Sued me for this, and for this I have a mortgage on the other house. The only thing I ever got from this one of the 400 was his measure. I have it yet. It is not for sale. My experience is this: I would sooner have a bad debt than a good lawyer. I now sell for cash."

Hungarian Music.

It was in 1878-9, during the occupation of Bosnia. The battle of Magjag was raging. The enemy, well protected in its fortified position, repulsed the repeated attacks of the third squadron of heavy dragons (of hussars), who, disheartened and decimated, retreated in wild disorder. Defeat seemed to be inevitable. Capt. Millakovics' presence of mind bade him call in the second squadron of the Thirteenth regiment of Hungarian hussars. Using no eloquence, no encouraging word, he simply ordered the band to play three Hungarian melodies for them. The thundering hurrah which drowned the song's last cord led the lads into the fire, and although only 20 out of their 100 survived the carnage, they dislodged the enemy and won the battle. —Harper's Magazine.

Irish Logic.

Toronto Grip: Railway official—Smoking's not allowed in this room, sir. You'll have to quit. Mr. McFinnigan—I'm not smokin', sir. Railway official—But you have your pipe in your mouth, sir. Mr. McF.—Yes; an' I have my foot in my boot, but I'm not walkin'.

Boston Home Government.

New York Sun Beacon Street—Mother Johnny has been pulling that cat's tail again. Mrs. Street—Johnny, you may learn and repeat 60 lines of Ibsen before luncheon.

A presentation to Queen Victoria costs the presentee at least \$250, and as much more as he chooses to spend.

Four new typesetting machines are now in operation in the Government Printing Bureau at Ottawa.

The Canadian Pacific authorities say they will actively push on the construction of the Souris branch of their road this season.

The girl who is deserted by her lover at the altar is more fortunate than the woman who is deserted by her husband after. But she doesn't know it, unfortunately.

James Cummings, who for thirty-five years filled the position of lighthouse keeper on Pelee Island, is dead.

DEFECTIVE VISION.

What Causes it and How it May be Gained Against.

It is just 600 years ago since spectacles were first invented, and it can be asserted that at no time in their history have they been so generally worn as by the young; now it is quite common to see the universal and even little children wearing the universal adjunct to the windows of the soul.

Why so many children should require glasses nowadays is often a matter of discussion, and to arrive at a definite conclusion on the subject requires consideration. There certainly cannot be any doubt that many children in former times required glasses just as much as they do to-day, but with the advancement of science and the opportunities which we have for acquiring knowledge, this subject, like all others, is now better understood, and where any defects or imperfections in the body are discovered the remedy is speedily applied (if possible).

Besides these inherited defects and imperfections (for which we are not responsible) there are others which are acquired (for which we are responsible). To these we would particularly refer and endeavor to point out both cause and effect, which we trust may serve as a lesson of light to warn others of the danger.

Children of tender years, when first they begin to look intently at near objects (i. e., to read or write), often acquire some of the most serious defects of vision. This is more especially the case when the eyes are found to be unequal in focus, or when the eyes are not quite normal, the result being that the weakest eye frequently turns inward, causing strabismus or squint, and a gradual loss of vision in the affected eye, or else the child, being unable to see clearly, will hold the object too near the eyes, thus causing myopia, or near-sight, which, unless speedily and perfectly corrected, will go on increasing until the age of 27.

A few illustrations will best explain the causes and effects of bad sight in children. A bad light; a small print; a difficult lesson. The boy hopes to get the Latin Grammar into his head by putting his head into the Latin Grammar. He is doing his best without knowing it to make himself short-sighted for life, and is very likely to succeed.

Five o'clock in the afternoon. "Too soon to light the lamp." The good boy will not waste his time; he learns his lessons by fire light. Perhaps, however, it is not a lesson book which he is reading, but "Robinson Crusoe" or the "Boys' Own Book." If so, it is all the worse, for he is less likely to put it down.

Too much attention could not be given to this important subject by parents, teachers and all those concerned in the instruction of the young. Parents should make it their business to ascertain whether their children's eyes are right or not. Teachers should see that the light, the construction of the desks and the position of the body are just what is required for all these are essential, not only to the preservation of the sight, but as a preventive to disease.

As a safeguard against the prevalence of bad sight in children, we would suggest that before entering on the duties of school they be required to undergo certain simple tests, which should be on the wall of every school-room.

The loss of our sight is the greatest affliction that can befall us, and when we come to understand the wonderful mechanism of the eye and the injustice done to it, we cannot but wonder that more people do not lose their sight. Let those who have perfect sight see to it that it is preserved, and those with imperfect vision see that it be made perfect before it be too late.

The Highways and Byways.

New York Scottish American: The ministers of Jersey City are making arrangements to have a house-to-house canvass with the view of finding out what people do not attend church, and the causes that are religiously indifferent, while the next largest in charge of a member of the executive committee, whose duty it will be to invite the co-operation of the clergy of all denominations and the most active members of their congregations. The idea is to have one visitor appointed for every ten families among the non-church-going portion of the community, and to see what can be done towards getting the people to begin attending a place of worship of some kind.

Caustic.

Chapple (with his new spring suit)—Don't you think this suit—ah—a twife too tight law—me complexion? May Cutting—Yes, but it accords with everything else so perfectly I wouldn't mind a little thing like your complexion.

The English soldiers in the Soudan were supplied with St. Jacobs Oil.

It looks as if the coming man might be a woman. Chicago has five women health inspectors who each draw an annual salary of \$1,000. They are empowered with full authority to enforce their recommendations, and wear an official badge which they show when their authority is disputed. Their work lies in the poorer and dirtier sections of the city.

Lady (in coal office)—Can you not hurry this coal up for me; my bin is empty. I hope I won't have to wait long. Clerk (assuringly)—I will rush it, madam. You will have a very short "weight," I assure you.

Boston dog-fanciers have fully half a million dollars invested in rare dog flesh. The dogs in the Hillside Kennels, at Lancaster, Mass., are valued at \$100,000, and those at the Melrose Kennels are worth \$75,000.

At a ball an adoring admirer approached a young girl who was dressed in black. "May I ask you to dance?" he asked. "Yes," she replied, "but please dance very slowly, I am not yet out of mourning."

Any woman ought to be able to make herself a hat in these days, when only the foundation need be stiff and smooth. A twist and a pull and a tack will make plush or satia assume wearable form.

Sarah Bernhardt is 47 years old, yet she looks to be only 25.

"German Syrup" For Coughs & Colds.

John F. Jones, Edom, Tex., writes: I have used German Syrup for the past six years, for Sore Throat, Cough, Colds, Pains in the Chest and Lungs, and let me say to anyone wanting such a medicine—German Syrup is the best.

B. W. Baldwin, Carnesville, Tenn., writes: I have used your German Syrup in my family, and find it the best medicine I ever tried for coughs and colds. I recommend it to everyone for these troubles.

R. Schmalhausen, Druggist, of Charleston, Ill., writes: After trying scores of prescriptions and preparations I had on my files and shelves, without relief for a very severe cold, which had settled on my lungs, I tried your German Syrup. It gave me immediate relief and a permanent cure.

G. G. GREEN, Sole Manufacturer, Woodbury, New Jersey, U. S. A.

THE PROPHECY FULFILLED.

But the Prophet is Missing and His Motive Arouses Suspicion.

The San Francisco Examiner, speaking of the death of Call Deane, the well-known stock broker, at Oakland on Friday night, says: On March 30th Karl Vogt subscribed to a long document before a notary public reciting that he (Vogt) had been instructed by Providence to invest a thousand dollars in mining stocks on March 14th, and that the said stocks were to return him the sum of \$3,750. The value of stocks depreciated, however, and Vogt, who had only made a part payment on the stock, was sold out. He demanded that Deane pay him the amount he (Vogt) should have made on the investment. On Deane's refusal Vogt drew up documents declaring the will of "natural but judicial death" at mid-day, Friday, April 3rd. On Friday about noon Deane was taken ill with violent hemorrhage of the stomach, and died late the same night. Vogt is missing. Deane is stated to have been a relative of the late Isaac Butt, M. P., prominent in the Irish Home Rule movement.

The Rich Man's Son.

The rich man's son inherits lands, And piles of brick and stones and gold, And he inherits soft white hands, And tender flesh that fears the cold.

Like soft hands, and tender flesh, many diseases are inherited; especially tendencies to Asthma, Consumption, Bronchitis, and Stomach and Liver troubles; but there is a remedy, known as the "Golden Medical Discovery," which overcomes these dire cases, and cuts off all tendencies towards a fatal result. Dr. Pierce, of Buffalo, has put this remedy within the reach of all, so that even the poor as well as the rich, can obtain it. It is worth more to you than "piles of brick and stones and gold." Ask your druggist for it. It's guaranteed to benefit or cure in every case, or money paid for it will be refunded.

Noble Saloon-keepers.

Buffalo News: The Earl of Derby has the questionable distinction of owning more drinking places than any other English peer. He has 72 of the places to his credit or discredit, while the next largest is the Earl of Bedford, with 48 grog shops. The Duke of Devonshire is third with a list of 152 peers, who own 1,529 places where liquor is sold and drunk—all in "darkest England."

A Diplomatist.

Indianapolis Journal: "Which one of us do you strike the handsomer?" asked one of the two pretty girls. "It is impossible for me to compare you," said the diplomatic young man. "You are both incomparable."

Let the World Know You are In It.

It seems almost a crime for a man to "hide his light under a bushel." If he has something new, that will benefit the human race, he should make it known. Old-fogy physicians tread the beaten path of their grandfathers, denounce advertised remedies, and never learn anything new. Medical science knows no parallel to Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, compounded by a physician of skill and long experience, especially for the maladies which afflict women. It effects a permanent cure of those agonizing disorders which attack her frail organism, and is an anchor of hope alike to delicate girls and suffering women; contains no deleterious drugs. A guarantee on the bottle-wrappers, refunding the price in case of failure. Of druggists, \$1.00.

No Canteen There.

The Soldiers' Home in Washington, with 800 men inside its walls, has hardly an inmate in the guard-house once a month. There is no canteen permitted within a mile of the grounds, and earnest temperance efforts are made to help the men keep to a high standard of daily living.

Paulus, the famous singer of Boulangism has refused an offer of 30,000 francs a month to sing at Berlin. He replied: "Magnificent offer in the case of any other country, but in Berlin—never!"

The Queen of Spain is said to be laboring under a mania or hallucination that she will some day come to want, and she is therefore laying away every penny she can rake and scrape. She even borrows small coins of the pages about the place and forgets to repay them, and the other day she was caught selling 14 pairs of her old shoes for 4 cents a pair.

HORRIBLE MURDER AT WISAW.

Husband Found Dragging His Dead Wife Along the Public Highway.

A horrible case of wife murder occurred on Saturday night, the 15th ult., near Wisaw, Lanarkshire. Richard Tobin (aged 34), miner, Cleland, and Margaret Nugent (aged 25), his wife, had been in Wisaw making purchases. Between ten and eleven o'clock Tobin was met by two men in The Ride (a narrow footpath). He was then dragging his wife along the ground, and when the men approached him he asked them to help him lift her as she was drunk. They were proceeding to do so when they discovered that the wife was dead; and that her face was battered almost beyond recognition. One of the men at once hastened off to inform the police, while the other remained and endeavored to detain Tobin, but he struggled with him, drew a knife and threatened to do for him. Tobin escaped, but was afterwards found by the police near No. 2 Spindleside Pit, Cleland, hiding under the fire-box near the engine-house, and was taken into custody. On the doctor examining the body of the wife he found several deep indentations in her forehead, three of her teeth knocked out, and two deep wounds on the lower part of her body—all evidently the result of forceful kicks. The wall, too, for several yards near the scene of the tragedy, bore traces of blood and hair, as if the unfortunate woman's head had been dragged along it. Tobin was only slightly under the influence of liquor, and on being apprehended he denied all knowledge of the affair.

A Hint to Mistresses.

New York Tribune: "If housekeepers would take a hint from hotels," says a hotel man, "they would have less trouble in getting all the help they want, though they offer only moderate wages. The difference is not so much in the work as in the hours. In a private house a girl's labors are from the rising of the sun until she goes down of the same, and more too. And if she does happen to get through her work and ventures to sit down, her mistress is apt to object. In a hotel a girl has certain well-defined duties to perform, and after they are performed, as a rule, her time is her own. If some such arrangement could be recognized in private houses the servant problem would be simplified.

The Secret of His Wealth.

A millionaire said "the secret of my wealth" is in the word S-A-V-E; and the secret of my health is in the word S-A-G-E. By this last he meant Dr. Sage, whose Catarrh Remedy cured him of one of the worst cases of Catarrh, and thereby saved him from much suffering and premature death, enabling him to make his millions, and enjoy life. The cures made by this medicine are simply wonderful.

Too Many "Early" Girls.

One of the latest absurdities of the day is the manner in which young school girls, from 15 to 17, are allowed to emulate their elder sisters in indulging in social dissipations. During the recent season there have not only been dancing saloons, but also private cotillions and dinner parties given for children who should either be asleep in the nursery. If dinners are to be given for the "doves," as the "sub-bude" are often called, what is left for them when they are really introduced into society? It is no wonder that some of the debutantes of the last few seasons have been found to be well versed in the ways of the world, and ready to go quite as far as their elders, when it is considered that the bloom of maidenly freshness has been taken off at innumerable cotillions, dances, sleighing parties and dinners. Mothers would do well to refuse to allow their daughters so much social liberty while they are at school, for they will find if they continue that their "buds," when presented to fall-grown society, lack the nameless charm that ingenuousness alone gives to young als.—Boston Gazette.

Not the Education She Wanted.

Judge: Mrs. Gazzam (to her daughter)—Annie, I'm thinking of sending you to boarding-school. Annie—Why, mamma, I never intend to keep boarders.

The Sultan of Turkey is said to be

impaired with the superstition concerning cross-eyed people. He had a man in his suite afflicted with an obliquity of vision in one eye, and as the courier was too useful to discharge the eye was extirpated.

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