HE CANADIAN WEST.

mes, M.P., Delivers an Address re St. John Canadian Club.

HE members of the Canadian Club enjoyed a treat, says the St. John Times, when H. B. Ames, M. P., of Mon-H. B. Ames, M. P., of Montreal, lectured on the Canadian West. His address was illustrated by about 100 lantern views showing scenes in the Canadian west, and depicting the aral and industrial life. The urged the danger of disordiand too freely, point that in three years the dis in the great fertile better the control of the control o Il be taken up.
uncheon began at 6:15 o'clock,
exceptionally large number
esent. The service was excel-

D. Walker, the president, in D. Walker, the president, in cing the speaker, said Mr. Ames ringing a message from the He should be so treated while ohn that he would take back a of progress from the East sident called upon Sydne to sing a song composed espe r Canadian clubs by a member rictoria club. Mr. Beckley was applauded. D. Arnold Fox

a accompanist.

Ames was enthusiastically re-The first picture shown by s a map of the Canadian West, nning, the speaker said his subs one that should interest every of a Canadian club. People hought of the Western country tely a great plain for growing but it was a great deal more hat. There was a magnificent coal, great opportunities for agriculture were there, and north a fish producing region. mes then gave a brief sketch of st from the purchase of Mani-1870. Many millions of money en expended, but it had been heerfully, as the people realized e land gave a great opportunity young men and for a business

eaker then drew attention t was marked in large s nded from Winnipeg in Man st to Edmonton. Farthe west to Edmonton. Farther was marked as wood land, and south the land was admirably d for grazing. Underlying both latter districts was a beit of process. Nature had well endowed intry to be the home of a well and self-respecting people. (Ap

Ames then took up each belt in and the pictures illustrated first nber belt. One view which at-l attention showed a field of wheat adjacent to a grove This was in the picturesque on the boundary between the dicountry and the prairie. Please views of the great agricultural

oused enthusiasm. A number of from the streets of Winnipeg hes gave a resume of school con-in the west. One-eighteenth of ds had been set apart and would be be worth \$60,000,000. This was ne school teachers of the east be offered larger salaries to go and taks charge of a small

pictures of the waving wheat and the plowing and threshing ions were then displayed, and the is explained by Mr. Ames. He into the system of disposing of nds. The system of survey div-ne land into townships of thirty-ctions each. Two sections were ed by the Hudson Bay Company, ere set aside as school lands, and ft but sixteen sections in a town oft but sixteen sections in a townm which sixty-four people could.
In the great fertile belt there
now 90,000,000 acres of arable
Of the even sections all but 5.0 acres had been taken up, and
10,000,000 of the odd sections red. It was little wonder that
were urging upon the government
on and almost niggardiness in
ing of the remaining sections. umber of views of scenes in the g belt were also shown, and irri-plans illustrated. At the conn of the lecture some views of ockies and scenes in British Cowere thrown upon the scree

of Three Walls Around the City Have Been Found

in, March 31.—Researches which been made by the German Orien-sociation at Babylon and Assur resulted in the discovery of are believed to be traces of the iction of Babylon by King Senrib of Assyria, in 689 B. C. rib of Assyria, in 689 B. C. The an scientists were able to unthe so-called "southern castle" bylon, a splendid example of a filcent Babylonian royal palace, have also ascertained that the of Babylon" recently consisted ree walls all built of clay bricks, nner wall was near 23 feet thick, came a space of 39 feet; then a d wall 28 feet thick, then another and finally an outer wall rearly

et thick.

ny private houses were unearthnich contained valuable relics of
listant past. At the greatest
is hitherto dug were found the res of human bodies without cofwhich, by their position, in some suggested they were skeletons of who had been killed. Prof. sway believes these skeletons are of the defenders of Babylon from schedil.

scherib.

The researches at Assur have red in the discovery of a large port of the fortification erected around vestern outskirts of the town. The hof the unearthed fortifications out two and a half miles. They sted of clay and brick walls, also walls, bastions, and fowers ed by a deep moat. The investing of the Temple to the sods and Adad has not been completed. Times' correspondent.

espears wrote for all time.
Instance?"
his sentence: 'Tis not so dell, nor so wide as a basin of the serve. How well that
1908 spring hat!"—Louisy

## A PAGE FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS

CURRENT TOPICS

Friday, May 8, 1903

There are very few families in the Atlantic prov-There are very few families in the Atlantic provinces of Canada, in Quebec, or even in Ontario, who have not relatives in the United States. Young men and women left the farms there to find work as mechanics or clerks in the large cities of Boston, New York or Chicago. Many others went to work in the factories or took positions as servants. Young men who had received a good education four that doctors, lawyers and professors were better paid in the thickly populated cities than in their native provinces, where the hard-working people had little ovinces, where the hard-working people had little ady money. Canadians came to the gold fields of alifornia and to the prairie farms of Minnesota, Dakota or Nebraska. Even in the hospitals of New York or Philadelphia Canadian nurses were at work. Everywhere they went these Canadians prospered, and for the last quarter of a century and more they have done much to make the great Republic to the south of us richer and greater. There must be many thousands of men, woman and children of Canadian birth or descent in the United States. After the Canadian Pacific railway across the continent was finished, Canadians saw that it would pay them better to come to the Northwest Territories and to British Columbia than to go to the "States." They began to feel a pride in their own vast country. Railways were built, mines developed, prairies settled, and cities built by Canadians from the Eastern provinces. Dakota or Nebraska. Even in the hospitals of New

But now the people of the United States have come to believe that our land is richer than that of their prairie states. The Canadian government gives all who want it 160 acres of land, and they can buy

all who want it lot acres of land, and they can out more at a low price. Many farmers from the United States (some of them, we may be sure, sons or grandsons of Canadians) are coming into Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

In British Columbia there have been from the time of the discovery of gold, fifty years ago, many settlers from the United States. They have helped to develop our mines and to build our lumber mills and other industries. We are glad to have them and other industries. We are glad to have them among us. They are one with us in speech and blood, and they will do good service in building up the great Canadian nation that is to be.

money from a bank, take cash from the till of a merchant, or sign their employer's name to a check, who seem to think it no harm to take by fraud the money of the Canadian people. Every time your mother buys you a suit, or your father pays a grocer's bill, part of the price is sent to Ottawa to carry on the public business of the country—that is to build those great public works that are for the use of all the people of the Dominion, and to pay the salaries of the public servants. The largest public work which the government now has on hand is the building of part of the Grand Trunk Pacific railroad. Major Hodgins, who is now living in Victoria, but who last year was in charge of 400 miles of the road which is being built by the government of Canada, stated that contractors were being paid more for this work than it is worth. He would not sign this work than it is worth. He wo he orders on the treasury which the dishonest con-ractors sent in. The government took the part of these contractors, and Major Hodgins was asked to resign. What this gentleman says is that the government of Canada are paying a high price for cheap work. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has appointed a number of members of the House of Commons to look into the matter and find out if the charges of Major Hodgins are true.

The people of Canada should be more watchful.

The people of Canada should be more watchful. They entrust the government, with their money, and the men who waste it should not only be dismissed from office, but punished just as other dishonest men are. Those to whom the oversight of public works is intrusted should be honorable men, and any complaint they have to make of those under them should be investigated at once. No man in their employ should feel that he runs the risk of losing his place by acting as an benest man. by acting as an honest man.

It has been found by those whose duty it was to enquire into the fall of the Quebec bridge, that the plans were not carefully made, that the materials were not perfect, and that the engineer was not wise nor skilful enough to superintend such a very important piece of work. The bridge across the St. Lawrence at Quebec is one of the longest in the world, and nothing should have been left undone to make ft safe.

President Roosevelt is quite determined that the American navy shall be increased. He believes four first-class battleships and a number of smaller ones are needed, and he will not give his consent to a bill greating manual for a smaller number. President granting money for a smaller number. President Roosevelt has exercised all the power with which the people of the United States entrusted him when they made him their president. He is resolved to do what he believes is best for his country, let others say

When the boys who are in school today grow to be men, it does not look as if there would be any great engineering work left to do. When more than twenty years ago the trains wound up one side of the Rocky and Selkirk mountains and down the other, it was thought that no more wonderful piece of engineering work could be done. Now, however, the mighty mountains are heling cut through so that the mighty mountains are being cut through so that the trains will scarcely have to climb at all. The name of the engineer who has made this plan is J. H. Merriam. Already hundreds of men are at work near Field tunneling the mountains and clearing

At Guatemala, in Central America, a number of students planned to murder the president of the re-republic. It appears that a plot was discovered a year ago and a number of prisoners were sentenced to death. The sentence was delayed, and it is said some of these prisoners have taken part in the new plot. This time there is no delay. Eighteen men have been executed already and more cast to fellow. been executed already and more are to follow. president says the people are on his side, but a declare that there is great dissatisfaction with

Manchuria, in the north of China, is the cause of much interest and some anxiety. The Russians have built a railroad across part of the territory to the harbor of Vladivostok. The Japanese also have a road running south from that of Russia. The Chinese look with jealous eyes upon both Russia and Japan. The country belongs to them, and if they had their way the big-bearded Russian and the little brown men would both leave in a hurry. The United States want to see China get fair play, and England, Prance and Germany look on with interest. All that Russia and Japan want, they say, is the opportunity to use their railroads to carry their mails and trade from the frontier of Siberia to the sea. The American fleet is to visit Pekin. Whether that visit will result in creating a better feeling among these Eastern nations or not remains to be seen.

General Linevitch, one of the Russian generals who commanded in the Japanese war, is dead. One cannot help feeling sorry for these brave defeated generals, of whom so little is heard now.

Mr. Asquith, the new premier of England, is have a busy and an anxious time. The Irish are suscious and discontented. The new ministers he has ade have to be re-elected, and Mr. Winston Church, who was made president of the board of trade, as defeated in Manchester. Mr. Churchill is a very ever young man, who, his enemies say, and some his friends allow, has far too high an opinion of sown abilities. He did fine work as a newspaper or or sown abilities. He did fine work as a newspaper or of the probably lose his office, as he will be elected mewhere else. If he is really an able man the feat will do him good.

The government of Canada has been paying sents for persuading people from Europe to come Canada. The consequence has been that a great any people from the south of Europe, Italians and alicians, crossed the ocean last year. Most of these cople went to the prairies or found employment on livoads and canals. Great numbers of others from ondon and other parts of England were persuaded

to leave home. Work was slack last winter and many of these people were idle. Some of the members of parliament think that just as many people will now come to Canada of their own accord as will find work, and they wanted the government to give up paying people to advertise Canada. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, however, believes that the more that come the better, and so things will be done in the old way this year. Great pains are being taken to keep out sick people or those who are known to be bad.

Do the people of Victoria, and especially the older boys and girls, make as much use of the museum as they might? Every day strangers are to be seen looking at the animals and birds, the rocks and curios, but citizens take but little interest in the splendid collection. It is said that other rooms will have to be built, as there is no room to put the new birds and animals that are constantly being found and sent to be preserved.

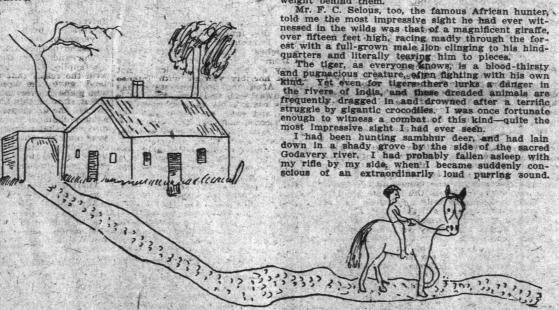
and sent to be preserved.

There is a great deal to be learned at the museum. But children should go to study some one thing, and not try to see over the whole place at one

The other night when some of us were wakened by the wind, we listened a few minutes, thought perhaps of the ships at sea, and then dozed off again and slept soundly till the morning. The same night thousands of houses in the Southern States were blown down, many people killed and others injured. In the hundred-mile belt where the tempest raged there was such terror and confusion as we cannot even imagine. It would seem as if every state on the Guif of Mexico felt the storm and that it reached as far north as Nebraska. A great windstorm is an awful and a terrible thing.

There is trouble among the tribesmen in the north of India. The people who live among the hills and mountains there are very brave. There is little doubt that the well-trained forces of Lord Kitchener can defeat them, but it is a sad necessity that causes the bloodshed of brave men. It is reported that the tribes are getting supplies from Afghanistan. The matter would not be so grave if it were not for the discontent in India itself.

that unless the hunters were kept out of Behring sea the seals would soon all be killed. Now the fishermen are saying the same thing about the saim on. The invention of canning has been the ruin of the salmon. Before that, these valuable and beautiful fish went up the rivers in countless numbers and laid their eggs or spawn in the shallow water. From these the young salmon were hatched, went out to sea and in their turn joined the schools that filled sea and in their turn joined the schools that filled the rivers in midsummer. When the canneries were built, the fish were caught in thousands on their way to the spawning grounds and the eggs wer edestroyed. For some years it has been noticed that the salmon are becoming less plentiful. Hatcheries were built, but not nearly so many young salmon came from the spawn as in the days when the parent fish left her eggs in the place nature fold her was hest left her eggs in the place nature told her was best. All are agreed that unless fewer salmon are caught for some years, the fish will disappear from our



Time was when Denmark, Norway and Sweden were one kingdom, ruled over by Canute the Great. Still the blood of the Norsemen flows in the veins of many of those whom we call English or Scotchmen. The beloved wife of England's king is a Danish lady, and an English princess has become queen of Norway. King Edward is anxious that these kindred peoples shall be close friends. He and the Queen have been paying a visit to Denmark, and they have crossed the Baltic to Stockholm, and will go to Christiana. It is said that in both Sweden and Norway the kindly King and his beautiful wife will be warmly welcomed by the hospitable people. There are those who believe that there is some danger of Germany and the northern kingdoms joining together against England, and that King Edward wants to prevent it. This may only be gossip. There is nothing more natural than that the King should want to pay a friendly visit to his daughter and her husband, and the dear little children who were such pets in England last year.

Sometimes it is said that men are no longer as brave as they used to be. The Englishmen of the British cruiser Gladiator and the captain and crew of the United States passenger ship St. Paul showed on Saturday a week ago that they at least can face death as bravely as did any of the heroes of the old days. In a blinding snowstorm the St. Paul crashed into the man-of-war, almost cutting her in two. In a few minutes she was sinking, but her men stood firm while the captain of the St. Paul lowered the lifeboats. Most of the men were saved. Panic or even disorder would have cost the lives of many, perhaps of all. Such conduct makes us proud of our race.

What do the boys and girls read? Forty years ago there were but few children's books. Henty had not begun to write. Kipling was a baby, Pansy had not blossomed and Elsie was not born. When children had read their fairy tales there were none but grown people's books. Not even Tom Brown was to be had. Pilgrim's Progress was in almost every home. The Bible was read at home and in school. Books of history, poetry and good novels were read and re-read. There were few newspapers and fewer magazines. But in the long winter evenings and stormy or remy days books which boys and girls today would call dry were learned almost by heart by many a country lad. If, in after years, he was able to go to college, such reading formed a good foundation for the professor's lectures. If he stayed at home he had something to think about as he walked behind the plow or tended his cattle. There are today in parliament or in business many men whose only professors were the dead men whose thoughts lived in their books. Their minds are as strong as' the bodies which were nourished on good plain food in the days before cake and candy could be had every day.

There are more good books today than ever before, but there are still more poor and worthless ones. Too many boys and girls think that reading is only a pastime, and read books far more carelessly than they play football or hockey. The minds of such readers are not strong and vigorous. One good book read in a month would be of more benefit than a dozen or a hundred only skimmed over.

Every days the newspapers tell stories of the crimes of boys whose minds have been poisoned by bad books. Many of the lads who go to reformatories and the men who work in the penitentiaries

could trace their downfall to the wicked story which they read in secret.

What boy or girl under sixteen will write the best short essay, on "Why We Keep Empire Day"? The editor will give a silver badge for the best and pub-lish any that are very good. Competitors must be under sixteen, the work must be eriginal and the essays must be in before the 20th of this month.

The children of British Columbia should do something to help in the grand celebration in July in honor of the founding of Quebec. There is, of course, only one place in Canada where such a celebration can be held, and that is Quebec, That is the birthplace of Canada. But every Canadian, and especially every young Canadian, can honor the memory of the great man who so bravely laid the foundation of the Canadian nation, and of the other distinguished men who helped in its building. The children of Canada are asked by the governor-general, Earl Grey, to contribute towards the monument on the Plains of Abraham, and the boys and girls of British Columbia should do their part. Victoria children should set the example. Though she is three thousand miles from Quebec, no city is more loyal to Canada or the Empire than Victoria. The children of British Columbia should do some-

The boy King of Portugal is finding out that many not only his enemies but his friends are dishonest men. It was stated some time ago that his father, King Carlos, had received from the treasury money to which he had no right. King Manuel promised that it would be returned to the last dollar. Now it turns out that the men who accused the former government of dishonesty stole a still greater sum. The consequence of these disclosures is that there is danger of another rebellion.

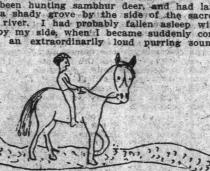
It is a great pity such a great number of people went to the new town of Prince Rupert so early in the season. There is no work there yet, and will not be till June. Provisions are dear and there are not enough houses to live in. The men who went up with but little money will suffer severely. There will be work between Prince Rupert and Edmonton for many men during the summer, but it will not pay to sit idle for many weeks waiting for it.

Every boy and girl in Victoria should try to do something for the exhibit, and to do it well. There will be a great many people at the agricultural fair in the new building this year. At every exhibition where they have yet competed the work of the Victoria children was the best in the province. Strangers in the city will judge the schools by the children's work, and it should be excellent.

TIGER VS. CROCODILE

Very few human beings have a chance of witnessing the dire tragedies of forest and jungle. It is well known that elephants fight to the death in Africa and India, and very weird must that duel be. The two mighty tuskers manoeuvre this way and that, and charge at one another, screaming and trumpeting, locking trunks and tusks and goring one another with tremendous thrusts that have six tons weight behind them.

Mr. F. C. Selous, too, the famous African hunter,



less trees shook out their tiny buds; the flowers raised their heads and smiled. Birds began to twitter on the boughs and the rabbits began to run about. Then, too, little children came from their homes and played in the sunshine, and Eastre, looking down, smiled to see the earth glad with the same life that filled her

One time the car of the White Lady was damaged. She told a wheelright to repair it, and for payment said he should keep the chips. The man was indignant, not knowing who the goddess was, and kept but

a few pieces. What was his amazement on the morrow, to find the waste wood turned to gold. But the pieces that he had discarded he could not find. So he learned wisdom from his folly, as perhaps we all must

As long as the goddess was fully honored she remained in her home, blessing the people. But once, it is recorded, she left her cave, her infant train dragging her plow, and took up her abode in a distant land. Then sorrow and mourning spread among the people, and in pity, the goddess returned and restored her past favor and benefits. So the land was gladdened once more

Napoleon's Boyhood Debt

The great emperor, Napoleon, passed his youth at the military school of Brienne. Here were laid the foundations of that knowledge which enabled him to accomplish mighty deeds in later years.

Like other boys, Napoleon was very fond of fruit. There was an old fruit woman stationed near the school, and she it was who provided tempting eatables for the future hero. Should he have no money, it mattered not at all; for she knew he would always repay her just as soon as his next allowance arrived. It so happened that when he was ready to leave the school, he was still two crowns in her debt. He said to her, before making his departure:

"My good woman, I fear I must go without paying what I owe you; but I shall not forget."

The fruit woman replied:

"Oh, do not permit that to disturb your peace of mind, my noble young man. May God preserve your health and make you happy!"

Engaged in such arduous and exciting work as was the young soldier, he could hardly be blamed for allowing this trifling debt to slip his memory for the fime:

Napoleon's Boyhood Debt

Drawn by Grace Robinson, Aged Thirteen Years, 1314 Fort Street

Was misser with the in in we all of a

Opening my eyes, without moving, I beheld a magnificent tiger, quite eleven feet long, cautiously appropaching a little back-water, with his head well down between his shoulders, as though trailing his prey. Presently the monster began to lap like a giant cat, and I thought I saw the placid surface slightly troubled.

Suddenly something rose up out of the river and struck the drinking tiger a tremendous blow on the head and shoulders. It was the tail of a crocodile that was passing under water within two yards of the tiger. With a roar that shook the woods, the superb brute threw back his head, but before he could realize what had happened the two great gaping jaws were thrown above the muddy surface and had clashed together. The crocodile had missed his aim at the tiger's nose, but the long rows of terrible teeth now closed upon the animal's left cheek and on the tough hide of his neck, holding him as in a vice.

Then followed a trightful struggle. The rentile

Then followed a frightful struggle. The reptile was trying to drag the tiger into the river, while the enormous and powerful brute, with sinewy legs and claws thrust deep into the sandy bank, resisted with all his immense strength. On the other side, however, was the great and telling weight of the big crocodile, and the forward sweeps of his powerful tall that thrashed at the tiger, and bade fair to pound him to pieces.

him to pieces.

Awful to hear, indeed, were the tiger's roars of rage and pain. My nerves fairly quivered, so near and so terrific was the battle. I found myself eagerly watching to give the tiger aid, but a shot to be effective must needs be planted behind the reptile's shoulder, and that was just now under water. I could only bide my time and watch the strange tug-of-war. Sometimes one sometimes the other flagged

shoulder, and that was just now under water. I could only bide my time and watch the strange tugof-war. Sometimes one, sometimes the other, flagged in his efforts. It was not hard to see, however, which creature was likely to win. Siowly, almost inch by inch, the big tiger was dragged from his haunches, Then, ealizing the gravity of his peril, he would make a mighty effort to pull himself back to his former position. Upon that, the hideous reptile, now three parts out of the water, would drag and tear harder than ever, sweeping and thrashing with his mailed tail, while his victim, torn and mutilated, growled his agony with terrifying intensity.

After three or four of these bouts, the tiger still held his ground fairly well. But now his foe, impatient for the end, changed tactics altogether. To secure a better hold the great long jaws relaxed a moment. But at the same instant the tiger had wrenched his torn cheek from the loosened jaws, and quick as a flash his great fangs crunched with maddened force through the bony jaw and outspread tongue of the crocodile, whose swirling tail, churning the Godavery into foam, told its own story.

The biter was was now bit with a vengeance, and the struggle was more than equal. The tiger—a mganificent specimen—could drag at his enemy without being flayed alive, and drag he did. In spite of the great loss of blood, he actually gained a foot with one tremendous, lift. Then he would draw back first one foot and then the other, and in this way the struggling, snorting reptile was gradually drawn forward from the edge of the slope.

By this time I was more than anxious to help the tiger, and my chance soon came, as the crocodile was obliged to thrust forward his short fore-legs, showing the white of his shoulder. I fired twice in quick succession at the unguarded spot, and the effect was instantaneous. The big armored tail whirled and thrashed in the air. The front paws seemed to lose

their hold, and the horrible brute lay an inert mass, which the tiger dragged triumphantly still further

which the tiger dragged triumphantly still further up the slope.

Suddenly he stopped and relaxed his hold, keeping himself rigid and ready for a moment. Then he dragged his muzzle down to that of his prostrate foe, sniffed at him once or twice, and then, with a low growl—perhaps of wonder, perhaps of defiance or triumph—he turned and vanished, like a great yellow stringd photons in the beautiful great. triumph—he turned and vanished, like a great yellow striped phantom, into the long jungle grass. And most willingly did I let him go.—W. G. Fitz-Gerald in Boy's Own.

SHORT STORIES

The Day and the Goddess In a great cave in a mountain of Thuringia there dwelt in by-gone days a goddess called by some people the White Lady, by others Ostara or, Eastre. This deity had a large train of attendants, for it was her work to watch over and guard the souls of unborn

work to watch over and guard the souls of unborn children.

When she went abroad, the kind goddess looked after the flowers and the plants which sprung blooming in her pathway, and her infant train, each with a watering-pot in hand, gave the thirsty plants water to nourish them.

Though surrounded by all these little ones, Eastre's abode was not a noisy place. The goddess herself was renowned for her silence, and though she was refited with foresight and knew all that was to hap-

gifted with foresight and knew all that was to hap-pen in the world, she never revealed the secrets, which fate, with a kind hand, hid from man's eyes. Tate, with a kind hand, hid from man's eyes.

To time and experience the White Lady left the harsh duty of dragging from youth's hopes the veil of illusion. For her, each moment as it came was full of its own interests, and she put from her the visions of the future. As typical of this silence which she wore as a crown, so freighted was it with wisdom. Eastre was always accompanied by a heron and crowned with heron plumes, the symbol of silence or forgetfulness.

This beneficient goddess possessed also a magic fountain called Quickborn, which was virtually a fountain of youth. So the goddess herself was always young, and her attendants, babes, birds, rabbits and flowers were always fresh and fair, like "lilies in the morning with the dew upon them."

Eastre was the goddess of spring, of the new life, of the resurrection and in her bonor, the neonle pre-

Eastre was the goddess of spring, of the new life, of the resurrection, and in her honor, the people presented to each other on her feast-day, presents of eggs, many colored, as symbols of the new life. The colors in the eggs were signs of the many hued clouds that the White Lady spun. For spinning was one of her great tasks, and many golden threads she wove into the lives of her chosen ones.

Often, at nightfall, the goddess would wander through the darkened cities, looking at the work of the maidens. Where she found the spinning carefully performed, she frequently left a distaff full of extrafine flax, or perhaps a golden strand of her own weaving. But where she found the work carelessly done, or neglected, she left the flax solied or the spinning-wheel broken.

Once a year the goddess took out her sacred car,

and mounting it, went along the Milky Way. As she drove over the lands, all the coldness of winter passed away and spring awoke in all its gladness. The leaf-

Napoleon became a general and conquered Italy. He then invaded Egypt. Returning by means of a sea swarming with ships of the enemy, he entered Paris and was named premier consul.

Napoleon established peace in his country; he was crowned emperor of France; still in fulfilment of his boyhood debt the old fruit woman had nothing but his promise:

shall not forget"

But such a promise was of higher value than the sum of money involved. So it was that when, one day, Napoleon entered Brienne and incognito, he remembered his promise and hastily bethought himself to repair his neglect.

to repair his neglect.

What memories were recalled as, with a trusted officer in sole attendance, he traversed the streets he had trod so often when a boy! All the incidents of his early youth came back to him vividly.

After a while he paused before the humble dwelling where the fruit woman had once made her home. A bystander informed him that the good woman still resided there. The two entered.

"May we have some refreshment?" asked the emperor

peror

"Certainly," responded the woman, and she went out into her garden, re-appearing shortly with a delicious melon, which was set before them.

While the fruit-woman proceeded with the care of her fire, one of her visitors asked:

"De you know the emperor, and whether he is expected here today?"

"He has not yet arrived" she answered "although

"He has not yet arrived," she answered, "although he is expected almost any time. Why should I not know the emperor? He bought many a basket of fruit from me while here at school."

"And did he always pay you promptly?" persisted

"And did he always pay you promptly?" persisted the empercr
"Certainly, no one was more honest," was the indignant rejoinder.

Then her distinguished visitor arose, saying:
"My good woman, you either speak untruth, or you have a poor memory. As proof that you do not know the emperor, I may say that I am he; and to prove that the emperor did not always conscientiously pay his debts, I would recall to your mind those two crowns he owed you when he left school."

At the same time the other visitor deposited of the table a gleaming heap of gold coin to the amount of 1200 francs.

And the honest woman, now recognizing the emperor, fell at his feet, almost overcome with joy at the meeting. Her little children clung to her, re-

garding the great men with astonishment, not knowing whether to laugh or weep.

Napoleon ordered that the poor dwelling be torn down, and that another be erected in its place.

"It is in this house," he said, "that I wish to lodge whenever I come to Brienne; and I wish it to bear my name."

Before taking leave of the fruit woman he promis-Before taking leave of the fruit woman he promis-

ed that he would take good care of her children. He kept his word, so that you may know the debt of his boyhood was paid honorably and in full.

The Schoolbay Brain.

One of the most substantial and genuine delights for those of humorous appreciation consists in a study of the answers made by schoolgirls and school-boys in examination papers. A writer in the current Harper's Weekly has collected

a new batch of these, of which
the following specimens are
among the most choice:
"Blood consists of two sorts
of cork-screws—red c o r k—
screws and white cork-screws."

Asked to evaluate what a butt-

Asked to explain what a butterss is, one boy replied, "A we-man who makes butter."

One pupil defined primate as "the wife of a Prime Minster." "Gravity was discovered by Isaac Walton. It is chiefly noticeable in the autumn, when the apples are falling from the

To the question, "What is a limited monarchy?" this answer was returned:
"A limited monarchy is government by a king who, in case of bankruptcy, would not be responsible for the entire national debt. You have the same thing in private life in limited liability companies."

Bitter Cold in Russia Only three times in two hun-dred years has Russia known such severe and sustained cold weather as that of the winter

Old-Time Bird-Trainers

The training of birds and animals to perform all kinds of tricks is by no means a modern notion; it has been done from the earliest times. The editor recently read an account of some trained birds that were exhibited in London, in 1789, by a juggler named Breslaw, than which nothing more wonderful is done now. A dozen birds, taken from different cages, were placed on a table in the presence of the spectators. Little paper caps were put on their heads, and little guns were put under their left wings, being arranged so as to stand erect, as genuine guns stand when held by men. The birds then ranged themselves in line, like a company of soldiers, and marched up and down the table in admirable order. Then a single bird was brought forward and placed between two files of birds, three in each line, acting as a guard. They marched from one end of the table to the other, conducting the prisoner, where they placed him in front of a little brass cannon, which had been charged with a small quantity of powder. The guards then retired, three on one side and three on the other, the prisoner being left alone. Another bird was then brought out, and a lighted match was placed in its claws. At a word from the trainer, this little cannonier jumped to the tail-plece of the cannon and applied the match to the priming. There was a little report, at which the prisoner fell, as if killed, where it lay until the trainer called it, when it hopped up and went into its cage.

Nursery Rhymes. people, and in pity, the goddess returned and restored her past favor and benefits. So the land was gladdened once more.

In different countries this goddess was known by different names, and though her occupation was the same, its form was sometimes slightly altered. But in all lands, at her approach earth was gladdened, warriors laid down their arms, and peace and good-will reigned on earth.

Is it any wonder, then, that, when Christianity was introduced amongst the people, though they discarded their other gods they refused to entirely give up Eastre? No! they held the name, the symbols, and the kind feelings, and grafted them onto their new faith, and today we celebrate Easter, with the feeling of joy, as of old, at the new life, the resurrection.

And it is, as of old, a day for the children; for the flowers; for the gift of eggs as symbols of the new life. Nor does it lose anything of sweetness or glory, because, far back in the darkness of non-civilization, the people were roused, glorified, humanized, by the influence of the reawakening, the resurrection of nature.—Chicago News.

"There was a crooked man, and he went a crooked And he found a crooked sixpence beside a crooked style; ought a crooked cat, which caught a crooked

And they all lived together in a little crooked house." Now this little crooked man, he led a crooked life.

And so when he got married, he got a crooked wife;

And yet, if you'll believe me, though funny to relate,

This selfsame crooked wife of his contrived to keep

him straight.

What a Little Girl's Made of?
"What are little girls made of, made of
What are little girls made of?
Sugar and spice and everything nice—
That's what little girls are made of.

"What are little boys made of, made of, What are little boys made of? Snips and snalls and puppy dogs' talls— That's what little boys are made up."