

BE KIND TO THE DOGS.

At one of the Newfoundland fisheries, a boat and crew trying to enter a small harbour, found themselves outside a long line of breakers, in great peril.

At last he boldly plunged into the angry waters, and swam to the boat. The crew thought he wanted to join them, and tried to take him aboard.

"What was it? What did the creature mean? What did he want?"

"Give him the end of a rope," cried one of the sailors, diving what was in the poor dog's brain; "that's what he wants."

A rope was thrown out; the dog seized the end in an instant, turned round, and made straight for the shore, where, not long after—thanks to the intelligence and sagacity of Tiger—the boat and crew were landed safe and sound.

The following singular incident took place only a few weeks ago. A gentleman belonging to Greencreek, who was among the saved from the wreck of the ill-fated screw-steamer Anglo-Saxon, describes, in a letter to a relative residing in that town, a remarkable circumstance connected with the landing of one of the boats belonging to the ship.

The letter is dated St. John's 1st May. He says: "The last time I saw Captain Burgess (the commander of the Anglo-Saxon) he was assisting to lower the small boat, in which was embarked twenty-two men, one lady, and myself. We left the ship without food, water, compass, or sufficient clothing.

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Bo kind to the doggies. Many a heroic deed and faithful service have they done for man.—Sabbath School Messenger.

WHERE DOES EDUCATION COMMENCE?

Education does not commence with the alphabet. It begins with a mother's look, with a father's nod of approbation, or his sign of reproof; with a sister's gentle pressure of the hand, or a brother's noble act of forbearance; with a handful of flowers in green and daisy meadows; with a bird's nest admired, but not touched; with pleasant walks in shady lanes; and, with thoughts directed, in sweet and kindly tones and words, to nature, to beauty, to acts of benevolence, to deeds of virtue, and to the source of all good, to God himself.

WHAT IS SLATE, AND HOW WAS IT FORMED?

That slate may have been once mud is made probable by the simple fact that it can be turned into mud again. If you grind up slate, and then analyze it, you will find its mineral constituents to be exactly those of a very fine, rich, and tenacious clay.

that they have been upheaved and shifted long before the Cambrian rocks were laid down "unconformably" on their worn and broken edges.

FATHERS,

"Well, well, said John, I guess you had better stay at home; and the father quietly retired from the family sitting-room, and seated himself in the cosy library.

"The question whether his eldest son, a boy of twelve summers, shall go to the party that evening has passed from his thoughts, and while the blue curling smoke circles around him he goes off in rovery.

"Hullo, John, it that you?"

"Yes, it's me! myself."

"Ha, ha! I thought you would come; you know how to manage the old man," said Bill.

"Yes," says John, "if I don't get him roused I can do about as I please."

"I wonder," says Bill, "why Willie Cook never gets away from home evenings; he would like our games just as well as any of us?"

"I'll tell you," says John; "his father keeps his eye on him; he never goes to bed till he knows where all the children are. Now my father never knows whether I am at home at nine o'clock or not."

"But," says Bill, "I should think your mother would tell him that you are out."

"She does sometimes, and he gives me a good talking to, and says he shan't have me out evening, and that is the last of it."

During the conversation the company gathere, and the party is full.

As the hour passes the social chit-chat has passed into plays. Game after game is played, commencing with tit-tat-to, and ending it may be, with chess, and not till the evening hours have passed into the depths of midnight does John return to his home.

Scenes like the above coming under our observation often remind us of the lesson taught by the concise history of Eli, who governed the Hebrews as high priest and judge for forty years, yet, failing to discipline his sons, brought trouble upon his nation; and his sons were left to disgrace themselves, and bring utter ruin to their father and their descendants.

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Read the events which occurred not more than a year from the delivery of the foregoing message, 1 Sam. xv. 17, 18: "And the messenger answered and said, Israel is fled before the Philistines, and there has also been a great slaughter among the people, and thy two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and the ark of God is taken. And it came to pass, when he made mention of the ark of God, that he fell from off the seat backward by the side of the gate, and his neck brake and he died."

For the further fulfillment of the message to Eli by Samuel read 1 Kings ii. 27: "So Solomon thrust out Abiathar from being priest unto the Lord; that he might fulfil the word of the Lord, which he spake concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh." Abiathar was of the priesthood of the house of Eli.

Dr. Clarke says: "Parental affection, when alone, infallibly degenerates into foolish fondness; and parental authority frequently degenerates into brutal tyranny when standing by itself. The first sort of parents will be loved without being respected; the second sort will be dreaded, without either respect or esteem. In the first place obedience is not exacted, and is, therefore, felt to be unnecessary, as offences of greater magnitude pass without punishment or reprobation; in the second case, rigid exacting renders obedience almost impossible; and the small and trifling offences are often punished with the extreme torture, which, hurting the mind, renders duty a matter of perfect indifference."—Zion's Herald.

DR. CHALMER'S DAUGHTER.

In one of the allies running off from Fountain Bridge, Edinburgh, a street crowded with drunkenness and pollution, is the low-roofed building in which this good woman is spending her life to help men and women out of their miseries. Her chief work is with drunkards, their wives and daughters.

In the winter, when the nights are long and cold, you may see Helen Chalmers, with her lantern, going through the lanes of the city lanterning the deprived, and bringing them out to her reform meetings. Insult her, do they? Never! They would as soon think of putting an angel of God. Fearless and strong in the righteousness of her work she goes up to a group of intoxicated men, strikes hands with them, and takes them along to hear the Tuesday night speech on temperance.

One night, as she was standing in a low tenement talking with the intemperate father, and persuading him to a better life, a

man kept walking up and down the room as though uninterested in what was said, but finally, in his intoxication, staggered up to her, and remarked: "I shall get to heaven as easy as you; do you not think so?" Helen answered not a word, but opened her Bible and pointed to the passage, "No drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of God." The arrow struck between the joints of the harness, and that little piece of Christian straggler ended in the man's reformation.—Talmage.

A SCOFFER SILENCED.

A minister of the Presbyterian Church in America delivered a series of discourses against infidelity in a town in Louisiana, on the Red River, some of the citizens of which were known to be skeptical. A few days afterward he took passage in a steamer ascending the Mississippi, and found on board several of the citizens of that town, among whom was a disciple of Tom Paine, noted as the ringleader of a band of infidels.

"Old fellow, what do you think of these things?"

"It is a variety of flowers, plants, and shrubs, that are calculated to fill the beholder with delight."

"Yes."

"Well, if you were to send out a dove he would pass over that scene and see in it all that was beautiful and lovely, and delight himself in gazing at and admiring it; but if you were to send out a buzzard over precisely the same scene, he would see in it nothing to fix his attention, unless he could find some rotten carcass that would be loathsome to all other animals, in which case he would alight and gloat upon it with exquisite pleasure."

"Do you mean to compare me to a buzzard, sir?" said the infidel, colouring very deeply.

"I made no allusion to you, sir," said the minister, very quietly.

The infidel walked off in confusion, and went by the name of "The Buzzard" during the remainder of the passage.—Spurgeon.

PRINTERS' ERRORS IN THE ENGLISH BIBLE.

The errors of the foreign editions of the Dutch and Scotch Bibles are almost innumerable. In a black-letter Testament of 1664, printed either at Emburg or in Holland, a mistake may be met with in every column. In England itself a vigorous attempt to insure correctness was made by the restriction of the right of publishing Bibles to the King's printers, and no more curious proof of the perpetuity of English usages could be found than in the history of this monopoly.

THE WISDOM OF GOD.

God has not only created all things beautiful and wonderful in themselves; He has fitted them all to each other; He has made them all by weight and measure; He has formed them, as it were, with a balance in His hand, in such a way that if even one of them, had been a little greater or a little less in proportion to the others, this beautiful world would soon have fallen into ruins, and no living thing could have existed on it.

Do you wish examples of this? They are innumerable—the only difficulty is to choose which to tell you. Let us take the air as the first example. God created the atmosphere on the second day. It has been reckoned that it surrounds the world to a height of about fifty miles above our heads. It might seem to you a very trifling matter if it were a few miles more or less in height—as, for instance, at the top of Mont Blanc—the barometer would stand at sixteen inches, and men and animals would soon be suffocated. It, on the contrary, it were a few miles more in height, the barometer would stand more than forty-seven inches; it would be insupportably hot wherever the rays of the sun could reach, and your lungs could not bear it long. You may judge of it by the Dead Sea, where the atmosphere is only a quarter of a mile higher, and where the barometer stands at twenty-nine and three quarters, but where the heat is excessive, and the air very irritating to the lungs, as we are told in the account of Lieutenant Lynch's expedition. And if the atmosphere were higher still, the winds would be irresistible—our houses and our trees would be thrown down, we should take in

flamations in the lungs, and the nature of all things around us would be entirely changed.

Another example. On the third day God formed the sea and the dry land. If the dry land was a little harder than it is we could not cultivate it; we could neither plough nor dig. The roots of the plants could not pierce the hard soil, and they would perish. If, on the contrary, the earth were softer than it is, we could sink into the soil, as we do in a ploughed field after rain; and neither houses, trees, nor plants could be kept firm in the ground. If the water of the sea were heavier, all the fishes would borne up to the surface, and would be unable to swim in it; and they would die as they do in the Dead Sea, whose water is only a quarter heavier than distilled water. And if the water of the sea were lighter, the fish would be too heavy to swim, and would sink down and die at the bottom. If the water of the sea and the land, which always contracts and becomes heavier, as it becomes colder, did not cease to rise thus far at about the fourth degree above the freezing-point, the bottom of most of the seas and of all the lakes would be a mass of ice for the greater part of the year; whilst, on the other hand, by this admirable arrangement, their depths never freeze.

You may think, perhaps, that it would be a matter of indifference to us whether our globe were a little larger or a little smaller than it is, since for so many years men lived upon it in total ignorance of its size. But there is a necessary proportion between the size and weight of the earth, and the strength which God has given to our limbs and muscles. If, for example, we conveyed to the moon, and if it were like the earth in all respect except that it should weigh five times less than we do upon the earth. We might bound up like grasshoppers to a great height in the air, but we should be so unsteady on our limbs that the hand of a child could throw us over. And if our earth, on the contrary, was as large as the planet Jupiter, all other things remaining the same, each of us should feel as if we were forced to carry the weight of eleven people as heavy as ourselves. The weight of a man of ten stone would be one hundred and twenty stone, and none of us could walk or stand upright—scarcely even move.

THE UNIVERSALIST SERMON.

"Two plain men having a sharp discussion as to the effect of Universalist preaching, agreed to refer the question to Esquire P——, an intelligent, firmly grounded, consistent Christian.

"Oh," said he, "if you believed as I do, you would have no trouble of that sort."

"I wish," said he, "that you could hear Brother B——, of P——, preach, you would be convinced; he makes it so plain."

"From that time I was anxious to go to P——, and the opportunity soon came. I was in a packet on Sunday morning, and stepped upon the wharf at P—— as the bells were ringing for afternoon service; and so eager was I for the relief I expected, that I actually ran through the streets to be in time.

CHANGE OF TEMPERATURE IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE.

Mr. Howorth has been engaged for some time on a series of papers discussing the changes that have taken place to the present time in regard to the distribution of land and water, and the consequent effect upon the climate. He finds that the result has been a great increase in the amount of cold in the far north, rendering regions such as those of East Greenland, once capable of supporting a considerable population, now entirely uninhabitable, and literally covered the year round with snow and ice. He says, however, that while the evidence is overpowering that the climate has been growing more severe in the highest latitudes, there is a great deal of evidence to show the cold has decreased elsewhere, and that especially in view of the accounts given of the climate of Gaul and Germany in the Roman time, we can not but admit that there has been a great improvement since that date. Thus we are told of winter when the Danube and Rhine were frequently frozen over, and of the occurrence of the aculear and mouse in localities far south of their present habitat. Ovid laments over the fearful severity of his place of exile on the coast of Thrace, and refers to the occurrence of white foxes there, and contemporaneous references corroborate his statements.

The Man of Long Life. He has a proper and well proportioned stature, without, however, being too tall. He is rather of the middle size, and somewhat thick set. His complexion is not too florid; at any rate, too much rudeness in youth is seldom a sign of longevity. His hair approaches rather to the fair than the black; his skin is strong but not too rough. His head is not too big; he has large veins at the extremities, and his shoulders are rather round than flat. His neck is not too long; his abdomen does not project; and his hands are large, but not too deeply cleft. His feet are firm and round. He has also a broad, arched chest, a strong voice, and the faculty of retaining his breath for a long time without difficulty. In general, there is a complete harmony in all his parts. His senses are good, but not too delicate; his pulse is slow and regular.

Mr. Howorth inquires whether, even within the prehistoric period, the circumpolar climate may not have been very temperate, when that of more southern latitudes was very severe. We know, in fact, that during the miocene period Greenland once possessed a climate not dissimilar to that of the Eastern United States, as shown in the occurrence of numerous species of trees of large size, some of them, like our cypress, etc., absolutely identical with our forest vegetation of the present day. Mr. Howorth also refers to the general impression among whalers that excessively severe winters in the more temperate latitudes are accompanied by an unusual degree of mildness in the more northern latitudes.

This we accept as an arguery in favour of Captain Hall's exploration, since the winter of 1871-72 was one of the severest on record of late years; and should Mr. Howorth's suggestion be correct, the captain could have enjoyed an unusual freedom from snow and ice, permitting him to prosecute his researches to great advantage.—Harper's Magazine for December.

CREDULITY CHALLENGED.

A Correspondent of the London Daily News, speaking of the Escorial, lately particularly destroyed by fire, gives an account of some relics which the palace contained, and which had been collected by devout Spanish kings from all quarters of the earth. Among these were a bar of the gridiron on which St. Lawrence was burnt; a piece of the sponge in which drink was given to our Saviour while hanging on the cross; some pieces of the column to which he was bound when scourged; two thorns from his crown; a piece of his tunic; a piece of the manger in which he was born; the thighbone of St. Paul; some bones of the evangelists St. Mark and St. Luke; the body of one of the innocents slain by order of Herod; a finger of St. Lawrence and half of his backbone; the entire bodies of St. Maurice, St. Theodorus, St. Mercurius, St. William and others; the heads of St. Blas, St. Julian, St. Felix and others; a rib of St. Albans; the knee of St. Sebastian; a foot of St. Philip the apostle; one of the water pots from the marriage feast at Cana, and other most interesting relics of men and events mentioned in ecclesiastical history.