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THE NEW HOOP.

How proud this young girl seems of her new hoop. I wonder if she knows what a pretty picture she makes framed in by its graceful circle. This bright summer weather is the time for cut-of-door games and sports. We hope that all our little friends will make the most of it and lay in a good stock of health that will last them for a long, long time.

IN FORMOSA.

A FEW years ago a scientific American visited Formosa to make a collection of animals, insects, and flowers. While stopping in one of the villages, he told some of the boys that he wanted to get some specimens of a certain kind of snake, a very beautiful green reptile that had a poisonous bite. The boys of Formosa are just like other boys; they were delighted, therefore, with the idea of making some money. The result was that there were more snakes brought than could be used,



THE NEW HOOP.

but the professor paid for every one. Among the boys that came was a little yellow-faced fellow in wide trousers and short tunic and a skull-cap. He had two snakes. He shyly entered the professor's room, and laid the snakes on his table. The professor put some copper coins with a square hole in the centre, known as "cash," into the boy's hand. As he was leaving, the scientist tossed the dead snakes into the grass but not without the boy seeing the action. He immediately returned, and laid the coins on the table, just where he had before laid his snakes.

"Why do you return the money?" inquired the gentleman in surprise.

"You don't want my snakes, I don't want your money," replied the boy, turning away in disappointment. No amount of persuasion could induce him to touch the money. He went away and the professor never saw him again.