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INCORPORATED 1855

"Course not, if we pay out of our own Fourth of July money," said John.

"It'll be ten times better than crackers," said Edwin. "Come on, boys."

So away they rushed to the good-natured, curly-headed blacksmith, who sawed off the straight part of the barrel, fitted a new breech pin, bored a touch-hole, and wouldn't take a cent.

On the evening of July 3, the boys had quite an exciting time mounting and loading their cannon. Father Burton had not a word to say against the fun. He dealt out the powder and watched the whole process; and when he saw the amount of brick they rammed to help make a noise, he remarked that he guessed they were "loading for b'ar, sure enough!"

Mother looked rather anxious; but after all she was sure father would see that 'twas safe. And so he did after his own fashion.

When all was ready, there was quite a discussion as to who should touch it off next morning. John thought he ought to, because he was the oldest; Willie claimed the right, because he thought of the plan; Edwin was

equally firm, because he found the rifle barrel; and Lucius thought they had better trust him because his legs were longest and he could get out of the way quick if it didn't work. Finally it was agreed that it should be whoever was on the ground first in the morning.

And Willie resolved at once not to sleep a wink all night; John made up his mind that he could rouse when old cock-a-doodle first crowed; Edwin thought he could be sure to hear the clock strike three; while Lucius knew he should waken if either of the others stirred, and relied on his long legs to take him out ahead.

But how boys do sleep! Not one of them heard a sound after the clock struck nine, until—boom! crash! All their wonderful dreams were scattered into broad daylight, and they jerked their clothes on and gathered in the back yard almost before the smoke cleared away.

Mother was laughing to herself in bed. Father was laughing and shouting from the kitchen window. But where was the cannon? "Just blown to nowhere!" said John.

"Lucky stars!" cried Edwin. "But it's a good thing we boys weren't hanging around when it went!"

THE LAZY LAD.

By Arthur Macy.

Young Albert was a lazy lad,
And idled all the day;
He was not really bad,
But had a slothful way.
He would not work, and even had
A great dislike for play.

On journeys he could never go;
He tried and tried in vain;
But he was always late, and so
At home he would remain;
Because he was so very slow
He always missed the train.

Once he took up a slice of bread
And looked at it in doubt;
And when they asked him why, he
said,

As he began to pout,
"The butter is so hard to spread,
I'd rather go without."

And when the Christmas sleigh bells rang,
And Santa Claus cried "Woa!"
And when the reindeer swiftly sprang
Across the winter snow,
His stockings he would never hang,
Because it tired him so.

It made him tired to go to bed;
It made him tired to rise;
It made him tired to lift his head,
And tired to shut his eyes.
He would not wink, because, he said,
It seemed like exercise.

And so through life young Albert went,
A lazy, lazy lad;
He never earned a single cent,
And never wished he had.
Oh, he was very indolent,
And yet not really bad.

—St. Nicholas.

The Annoyance Of Flatulence

Many People are Annoyed With Gas in the Stomach and Intestines.

Flatulence is due to the presence of gas in the stomach and intestines, which often rolls about, producing borborygmi, or rumbling noises in the intestinal system, and causes the victim of this trouble considerable embarrassment, when such noises occur while in company.

An analysis of gas from the stomach shows that it consists to a great extent of nitrogen and carbonic acid. It is therefore probable that some of the gas in the stomach consists simply of air which has been swallowed, although for the most part, the source of flatulence is the gas given off from the food in the abnormal processes of decomposition.

In cases of chronic gastric catarrh, the secretion of gastric juice in the stomach is deficient, the food is digested slowly, and fermentation occurs with the evolution of gas.

Swallowed air, however, plays a more important part in causing flatulence, or gas in the stomach and intestines than is generally supposed, and while food may be swallowed without carrying air into the stomach with it, fluids especially those of a tenacious character, such as pea-soup, appear to carry down a great deal.

Flatulent distension of the intestines occurs when a large amount of gas or air, either swallowed or evolved from the decomposition of food, escapes from the stomach into the intestines through the pylorus. The enormous distension of the intestines and dilatation of the stomach with gases, and the rapidity with which such flatulence occurs, has long been a puzzle to medical men, and has led some to think that the only possible explanation thereof, is a rapid evolution of gas from the blood.

In the treatment of gas in the stomach and intestines, charcoal is considered by most physicians as the leading and most effective remedy. Carminatives, or medicines, such as peppermint, cardamom, sodium bicarb, etc., which expel the gas from the stomach in large volumes through the mouth, are resorted to by some people, but their use is disagreeable, and the frequent expulsion of gas through the mouth, most annoying, and after taking a remedy of this kind, one is compelled to remain out of company the rest of the day, on account of the continued belching of air.

STUART'S CHARCOAL LOZENGES do away with the necessity of undergoing the disagreeable experience of belching or expelling stomach gases through the mouth, by completely absorbing every particle of gas or swallowed air in the stomach, and also in the intestinal system, which prevents colic, and over-distension with accumulated air.

These wonderful lozenges should be used for all cases of flatulence and decomposition of food in the stomach

as well as for bad breath resulting from catarrh, decayed teeth, or stomach trouble.

Purchase a box at once from your druggist for 25 cents, and send us your name and address for free sample. Address F. A. Stuart Company, 200 Stuart Building, Marshall, Mich.

ANGRY WORDS

Poison-drops of care and sorrow,
Bitter poison-drops are they,
Weaving for the coming morrow
Saddest memories of to-day.

Angry words! oh let them never
From the tongue unbridled slip;
May the heart's best impulse ever
Check them, ere they soil the lip.

Love is much too pure and holy,
Friendship is too sacred far,
For a moment's reckless folly
Thus to desolate and mar.

Angry words are lightly spoken,
Bitterest thoughts are rashly stirr'd,
Brightest links of life are broken
By a single angry word.

Exertion, whether called labour, recreation, or amusement, is essential to health; and, as the body was made for labour, work is its natural and honourable duty. An idle man or woman is a discredit to the race, and unusually liable to fall into disease, whilst an industrious person adds to the wealth of the country, and is more likely to be healthy and happy.

An ivy branch, finding nothing to cling to beyond a certain point, shot off into a bold elastic stem, with an air of as much independence as any branch of oak in the vicinity. So a human being, thrown, whether by cruelty, justice, or accident, from all social support and kindness, if he have any vigour of spirit, and be not in the bodily debility of childhood or age, will begin to act for himself with a resolution which will appear like a new faculty.

It is the health rather than the strength that is the great requirement of modern men at modern occupations. It is not the power to travel great distances, carry great burdens, lift great weights, or overcome great material obstructions; it is simply that condition of body and that amount of vital capacity which shall enable each man, in his place, to pursue his calling and work on in his working life with the greatest amount of comfort to himself and usefulness to his fellow-men.

Self-Confidence.—There are certain obstacles in every path that can be overcome only by the presence of self-confidence. There are outward hindrances to encounter, opposition to meet, difficulties to surmount, prejudices to sweep away, the very presence of which will terrify and appall the wavering and despondent, while they will melt away before the firm dignity of self-respect and self-reliance. There are also the innumerable obstacles from within, inclinations to curb, passions to restrain, desires to guide, temptations to resist; these also need not only the power to deal with them, but a confidence in that power that can alone make it effective.

For a Sweet Stomach
and a happy life try

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EVERYWHERE. 38