

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

The Remarkable Intelligence of Jim Crow. A TRUE STORY BY FAY STUART.

Jim was an odd-looking little fellow when Uncle Fred found him in a nest made of sticks, and brought him home to Roy. His sprawling feet had not grown strong enough to stand upon, and he had a big mouth, wide open most of the time begging for food. Father said Roy might keep the crow as long as it behaved well, so Roy nailed some slats across the top of a dry-goods box and put in some hay, making a cozy home for the bird.

It was several days before Jim could walk, but one morning, to Roy's surprise, he spread his wings and, half hopping, half flying, went on and on until he landed under the pear tree on the croquet lawn, where he stood with his head pertly on one side, as if to say, "Am I not a smart bird?" After that, he wandered all about the place, exploring every nook and corner.

Jim soon learned his name, and would come when we called. His quack was for he lifted both black feet and the ground at once, amused people, and he sometimes called him "Old Hippity-Hop."

At first, we fed him on soaked bread, which he swallowed with a "gobble-gobble," as it dropped into his mouth, but soon he refused to live any longer shut up in prison on bread and water. He kicked and pecked if we tried to put him in the box at night, so he was allowed to roost in an astrachan apple tree. He was fond of apples, and liked all kinds of fruit and vegetables; but he never baked brown were, perhaps, his favorite dish.

We decided that Jim must learn to feed himself, so Roy set a nice breakfast beside the back door-step, and we stood aside to watch. Jim kept up a dismal cawing and scolding, for a few minutes, then he hopped in front of Roy, opened his mouth, and waited patiently for it to be filled. Finally, he went to the plate, and ate as if he were half-starved.

One morning, as I looked out of the window, I saw Jim in the path, while Harold, our little cousin, was tossing small pebbles, which Jim was gulping down as if they were chocolate creams.

Jim soon became a great pet. He knew when it was time for the chickens to be fed, and was always on hand when mother went to the shed for their meal, begging for a taste of the warm mush or grain. Sometimes he trotted down the walk to meet the baker, who gave him pieces of cake and biscuits.

Jim spent much of his time in the garden, chasing bees and butterflies, but he never did any harm. One day I thought he was picking my favorite carnations, and went out to drive him away. I found the white flowers covered with ants, and Jim had been picking them off.

When we sprinkled the garden, he would hop under the spray until he had a good shower bath. Then he would fly to a sunny corner of the woodpile to dry his feathers and shine his glossy black coat. A pair of water-always stood beside the pump, and Jim learned to jump into this, with only his pretty, round head above water, and take a morning bath.

Each day he displayed some new cuteness. When mother hung out clothes, she carried the pins in a bright tin pail. It was then comical to see Jim perform. He would watch carefully for a good opportunity when mother was not looking, then hurry over to the pail, snatch a clothes pin, and run off to hide it in the grass. He always enjoyed wash days.

He often hid food and bones in the grass or dried leaves, and always seemed to remember the hiding place. One day after dinner, we set a plate of chicken bones out of doors for Topsy and her kitten. Jim was jealous at once. He hopped around the cats, and gradually drew nearer, making all sorts of feints, and looking like a baseball pitcher when he is trying to puzzle the batsman. At length he made a bold dive from behind Topsy, caught up a bone, and was off. In this way, he carried away half the bones, although the cats spit and struck at him.

One day a peddler who saw Jim asked why we did not have his tongue slit so that he would talk. He said that he had heard a crow that could talk as plainly as a parrot. We thought that would be cruel, but I began to wonder if Jim could not be taught to talk without a slit to his tongue.

The first he had been very intelligent. If he was hungry, he flew to the window and tapped against the glass; and when the door was open, he would walk in and stand on the rug. When he held his head partly on one side, and looked up at us, he appeared ever so wise.

He soon began to mimic the hens, and often we went out for a fresh-laid egg, only to discover that Jim was releasing his new phrase. He would scrawl about and find a worm, then call the hens as he had heard the rooster do. They would come flying across the yard only to see Jim gobble the choice morsel. He even learned to imitate the chickadees. Father said he ought to be called "the mocking bird."

How delighted we all were! After that Jim talked to us almost every day. He was shy when strangers were present, but with us he was so tame that he would perch upon our shoulders and follow us. He liked to sit beside us and have his head patted and his

feathers smoothed, about as well as Topsy liked to have her stroked.

Often, in the summer afternoons, when I lay in the hammock writing, Jim would hop on a seat in the arbor and stay there for hours.

When grapes were ripe, he had a grand feast. One day, we saw him pull off a fine, large grape; then he flew to a seat, placed his foot upon the grape, squeezed out all the seeds left them beside the skin, and went back for another grape. How Jim scolded when the grapes were gathered! He rushed to the basket and chose one of the very best bunches to carry away, but father took it from him, and then Jim sulked like a little boy who has been scolded. When it grew too cold for Jim to sleep in the branches of the apple tree, we used to catch him and let him stay overnight in the shed. One night he refused to leave the tree, so he stayed out all night and caught a severe cold. In a few days, poor Jim was gone—a victim of la grippe.

In some black-footed heron colony of the woods, living upon wild grapes and berries, and stealing the farmer's corn regardless of scarecrows, there may be another crow as intelligent as our little pet; but, although friends have offered to catch us another, we have never thought it possible to fill Jim's place.—Success.

Treat Dumb Animals Kindly. The attractiveness, usefulness and length of life of the horse are usually in exact proportion to the care it receives. If it is fed regularly, has proper exercise, is never over-driven or strained with too heavy loads, is not exposed systematically to rain or cold, is spoken to kindly and not beaten or ill-used in any way, it will be plump, fresh, and spirited, its hair will be smooth and glossy, its eyes clear and bright, and it will live its full term of years. The horse is an extremely sensitive animal. It is now well known that anger and harsh, cruel words affect a horse very seriously. Sometimes a horse that has been cruelly treated in the morning will not recover from the bad effects during the entire day. Horses and dogs are the most keenly intelligent of our dumb friends, and are also sensitive to cruelty in any form. They are influenced to an equal degree by affectionate treatment. Domestic animals should be treated as dependent upon kind treatment and affection as human beings. Wild animals are tamed by kindness.

If there is any form of cruelty that is more reprehensible than another, it is abuse of a faithful horse who has given his whole life to the service of his owner. When a horse is pulling a heavy load with all his might, doing the best he can to move under it, and strike him, or swear at him, or treat him simply barbarous. We should never forget how helpless, in a large sense, dumb animals are—and how absolutely dependent on the humanity and kindness of their owners. They are really the slaves of man, having no language by which to express their feelings or needs. For example, horses are often worked hard when they have fevers, and are really very ill. They are feverishly compelled to do a hard day's work when, if the owner were in as poor condition, he would be in bed under the care of a physician. Let us ever bear in mind our indebtedness to those faithful servitors who have no means of expressing their claims upon us, and who expect no reward for the benefits they confer upon us, other than kindness, which is their only reward.—Success.

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN. As daylight can be seen through very small holes, so little things will illustrate a person's character. Indeed, the character consists in little acts, habitually and honorably or dishonorably performed, daily life being the quarry from which we build it up and roughen the habits that form it.

Taking Stock of one's Character. EARNEST B. HOLMES IN SUCCESS. Merchants take account of their stock at least once a year. Grocers must know if the canned goods are accumulating, while half the tea boxes are empty; dry goods merchants must list their muslins, merinos, silks, and ribbons, to decide in what quantities to buy next time, so that the coming year may be more successful than the last one.

Whatever your business may be, your character—your personality—is your chief stock in trade. Did you ever take stock of your character? How do you know you are not carrying an over-supply of qualities that are not ever-dead stock, but also tend to less than dead stock? Did you ever see your success-receipts? Did you ever calmly count the number of times you were called in a day, and realize that your rudeness is keeping from you customers, friends, money, advancement, and perhaps, even the love of your family? How "long" are you on dishonesty? Wouldn't your standing in business and society be higher if you "stocked up" on business integrity? You say that a rash venture of yours cost you \$10,000;—the acquisition of a little more discretion would not be a bad investment for you. A nice line of self-reliance would make a good showing on your mental shelves. People call you a "leaner." You can see now, too late, that, if you had stuck to a cherished project a few weeks longer, your long, second-hand thing would have triumphed over the difficulties. "Stick up" on perseverance, and you get a different tale the next time you undertake a big thing.

Oddly enough, in this kind of stock-taking, you never have the problem of getting rid of undesirable goods by "reduced-price sales." Just by increasing the success-qualities, you get rid of their opposites, the failure-qualities. Industry shrinks no room for idleness, aimlessness enters, disobedience vanishes the moment obedience is practiced, and hate has no place in a heart full of love.

A merchant cannot improve the quality of his stock by simply saying, "I am going to have a better stock next year." He must attend to details, and count and calculate. It is just so with

your character. You must know what your virtues and your vices are, and act accordingly. A man considers himself as a whole, and deludes himself into thinking that he is a pretty fine fellow. General good intentions may be actually be hindrances to practical character development.

Snuggered Opportunities. The evil of improvidence is prevalent among young men who live only for today and will not look ahead to the needs of the future. They have not learned the power of small savings steadily continued, nor considered the advisability of hoarding some resources for times of sickness, for periods of lack of employment, for the expense of marriage, for a home of their own or for capital to start in business for themselves. They require, too, the discipline of thrift and the self-denial that it imposes.

Let them read this article by Mr. Walter M. Wood:

One of the saddest experiences common in city charity work, is the constant meeting of men who are the victims of their own improvidence. Such men may be grouped in two great classes. First, those out of work; second, those who are working but making no progress. As I have talked with many men of both classes, it seems to me that their difficulties may be classified under three heads. First, when making money they do not systematically save; second, they do not use their leisure time for self-improvement, which will enable them to change employment or to advance; and, third, they do not cultivate friends nor do they maintain close touch with those who are in a position to encourage and help them in time of extremity.

No young man truly lives who does not sooner or later, through his own efforts, provide for his maintenance and development as well as for the maintenance of those who are justly dependent upon him. A life of idleness or of dependence upon wealth accumulated by others is a mockery. While it is true that every young man should earn his living as he goes, it is equally true that during the period of his manly vigor and greatest opportunity, should lay aside systematically, either in bank account or safe investments, a sufficient amount to care for him in times of emergency and in the days of his decline.

Young manhood seems blighted to-day by the pernicious habit of living in advance of one's income, anticipating, and depending upon the uncertain future. The expending of money on useless frivolities, the loading oneself down with desirable but oftentimes unnecessary things, purchased on the installment plan, the careless loaning of money, and reckless investing, together with the waste of gambling—these things so common in our day—are steadily eating up the financial reserve of our young men and keep them constantly facing the menace of poverty, dependence and disgrace. The young man who is always at his wits' end as to how to get money enough to meet his abnormal obligations is subject to severe temptations to unfairness, dishonesty and theft. The man who lives within his income, who does not mortgage the future, who constantly lays aside something, even at a sacrifice in present comfort, is, after all, the man freest from temptations, the most settled in his life and the most content in his work.

The second form of improvidence—failure to improve one's self by the best use of all opportunities and the best employment of one's leisure time—is no less serious than the failure to save. One cannot help seeing on every hand large numbers of young men who, having gotten employment that pays a fair living wage, begin to live lives of dissolute self-indulgence and seem to forsake any hope or purpose of growing into a more perfect manhood, with greater powers for service.

It must be remembered that one works in order that he may live, and that he does not live for the simple sake of working. No man has a right to be simply a human attachment to a machine for eight hours a day and a mere animal for the other sixteen hours. God intends him to be more than that. No man has a right to become an abject slave of commercial life, a creature, moving like a counting machine, eating, sleeping and dying. There are higher uses for many powers. A young man who ceases to grow, to improve himself physically, socially, intellectually and spiritually, who ceases to grow into a more highly perfected manhood day by day, will soon show signs of dry rot, and before long he will be scheduled with the mass of human junk which so encumbers every community.

The third form of improvidence indicated—namely, the failure to cultivate friends and to keep touch with them—is especially evident among young men in a large city. By cultivation of friends I do not mean for one moment those petty, unfair and unmanly means which some use to get a "stand in" with people of influence. The friendships that comes through courtesy, honesty, helpfulness and excellence of service rendered, are the friendships truly secured, lasting, and worth the having. The securing of a position, the gaining of social place, the acquiring of liberties and of favors by underhanded or unmanly means, is the purchase of advantage with a counterfeit coin, which sooner or later returns to you, bringing with it the denunciation of those who sought to form your friends, and the promise of nothing better than disgrace. But he is not the only man in trouble who has misused his friends. The man who cuts loose from those who know him best—his relatives, his business acquaintances, his friends—and with the reckless spirit of daring throws himself into entirely new conditions of surroundings, without any business or thing to tie to, is almost sure to meet discouragement and defeat. Many of the young men walking the streets of our large cities in the deepest of distress, buffeted about by temptations and suffering the fearful suspicion that the world is growing cold and uncharitable, are nothing more or less than victims of that improvidence that has led them to cut loose from their mainstays and to drift. A young man who stays at home and the acquaintanceship of those who have known him, who goes to

the city without letters of introduction, and without any defined purpose or plan, who does not write home for months, and who seeks new companionships among the host of the city's unfortunate, is apt to find most doors closed to him, and will likely drift into that fatal state of mind when one feels that the world is against him, and that there is no use making an effort to be or to do anything.

Much of the restlessness, discontent, discouragement and failure in the ranks of young men to-day could well be avoided if they would but detect their own weaknesses, plan for their removal, and, with the strength of a prevailing purpose, in times of opportunity and adversity, provide against distress and adversity.

TEETHING BABIES. A Trying Time for Mothers When Great Care and Watchfulness is Necessary.

There is scarcely any period in baby's early life requiring greater watchfulness on the part of the mother than when baby is teething. Almost invariably the little one suffers much pain, is cross, restless day and night, requiring special care that the mother is worn out looking after it. But there are other real dangers frequently accompanying this period that threaten baby's life itself. Among these are diarrhoea, indigestion, colic, constipation and convulsions. The prudent mother will anticipate and prevent these troubles by keeping baby's stomach and bowels in a natural and healthy condition by the use of Baby's Own Tablets, a medicine readily taken by all children and which, dissolved in water, may be given with perfect safety to every new-born infant. In every home where these Tablets are used baby is bright and healthy and the mother has real comfort with it, and does not hesitate to tell her neighbors. An improvement in baby's condition was noticeable almost at once, and I think there is no better medicine for teething babies." Baby's Own Tablets can be procured from druggists or will be sent post paid at 25 cents a box, by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

A GUARANTEE—I hereby certify that I have made a careful chemical analysis of Baby's Own Tablets, which I personally purchased in a drug store in Montreal. My analysis has shown that the Tablets contain absolutely no opiate or narcotic; that they can be given with perfect safety to the youngest infant; that they are a safe and efficient medicine for the troubles they are indicated to relieve and cure." (Signed) MILTON L. HERSEY, M. A. Sc., Provincial Analyst for Quebec, Montreal, Dec. 23, 1901.

Purify the system against disease by purifying and eradicating the blood—in other words, take Hood's Sarsaparilla. BE SURE YOU GET THE KIND YOU HAVE ALREADY USED—Dwelling to the great popularity of "The D & L" Menthol Plaster, our superior makers are putting up one-half lb. For their own use, and nothing is better. Made only by Davis & Lawrence Co., Ltd.

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Daily Thoughts for Priests, by Very Rev. J. B. Hogan, S.S.D. \$1.00 What is Lib. rational? by Conde B. Pallen. 75 The Children of the Golden Age, by Maurice Francis Egan. 75 The Children of the Golden Age, by Maurice Francis Egan. 75 The Children of the Golden Age, by Maurice Francis Egan. 75

APPLICATION will be made to the Parliament of Canada, at its next session, for an Act to incorporate a company, under the name of the "Joseph and Lake Huron Ship Canal Company," with all necessary powers to construct, operate and maintain a canal, so located as to make and build a navigable waterway from some point on the Eastern shore of Lake Erie, in the County of Huron, or Lambton in the Province of Ontario, to some point on Lake Erie, in the County of Erie, in said Province, with power to vary the above routes should further surveys prove it inadvisable to dredge, deepen, raise, or lower the level of, or otherwise improve, the existing waterway, and to form a canal to quite all or any part as may be found necessary to make said canal a navigable waterway, and to construct, operate, and maintain all works and structures necessary or proper in connection with such waterway; to build, acquire, operate, maintain, own, lease, or otherwise dispose of terminals, barges, wharfs, docks, piers, locks, locks, dams, and other structures, and locks, dams, and all works incidental thereto, and also to act as warehousemen to construct works for and to produce and use hydraulic, pneumatic, and other power, and for purposes of irrigation, to lease or otherwise dispose of said works and powers; to acquire, own, lease, and operate by cable, electricity, or otherwise, steamers, barges, or any other vessels and ferries in connection therewith and for the purpose of navigating the lakes, the St. Lawrence, and other rivers and the Gulf; and also to acquire, operate, maintain, own, lease, and for purposes of the company, and to take, use, and dispose of water for the purpose of generating hydraulic, electric, or other power, and to transmit and dispose of the same for such purposes, and to acquire all necessary powers to construct and operate a line or lines of railway and tramway (of either standard or gauge) and to construct, operate, maintain, own, lease, and operate by cable, electricity, or otherwise, steamers, barges, or any other vessels and ferries in connection therewith and for the purpose of navigating the lakes, the St. Lawrence, and other rivers and the Gulf; and also to acquire, operate, maintain, own, lease, and for purposes of the company, and to take, use, and dispose of water for the purpose of generating hydraulic, electric, or other power, and to transmit and dispose of the same for such purposes, and to acquire all necessary powers to construct and operate a line or lines of railway and tramway (of either standard or gauge) and to construct, operate, maintain, own, lease, and operate by cable, electricity, or otherwise, steamers, barges, or any other vessels and ferries in connection therewith and for the purpose of navigating the lakes, the St. Lawrence, and other rivers and the Gulf; 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