

FISH TAMING.

The following beautiful story, written by Prof. Upham, we extract, for our school children, from the excellent paper of an old and dear friend, the *Christian Times*, Chicago. When our little readers have been amused with the idea of fish and turtles being tamed and educated, let them stop and think a little while about this story. Think what a power there is in kindness. Even the fish felt it and the clumsy turtles. And that little girl; how beautiful and happy she looks, as we think of her, down by that pond, calling to her fish. Dear, noble little child, may you have many imitators, not only among school children, but even among grown men and women.

A few years ago I read in a newspaper in America, that the fishes in a certain pond had been tamed, and brought back again, at least in some degree, into the original association with humanity. Being at leisure at a certain time, and having some curiosity to ascertain the truth of this statement, I embarked in a boat in Boston harbor, and went down to Hingham. It was near night. Next morning quite early, I went towards the pond, which was said to be the theatre of this interesting and unprecedented state of things. I recollect that I went through a long piece of woods, which was without habitations, and which, in its tranquility and beauty was favorable to benevolent dispositions and thoughts. The early sunbeams were sporting with the dew drops; and the birds were singing in the branches. After passing through the woods and coming in sight of the pond of water, I went to a farmer's house not far from it. I knocked, and a good-looking woman, with that intelligent and benevolent aspect which marks the women of America, came to the door. Making such apology as I was able for a visit so early, I remarked that I had come for the purpose of seeing the fishes in the neighbouring pond, which were said to be tamed. Readily accepting my explanations, she pointed to a place on the brink of the water, and said that one of her children would soon come down there.

I had not stood there long before a little girl, apparently anxious not to detain me, came running down. She seated herself on a rock on the shore and looked into the mirror of the morning waters, which reflected back the delightful image of her innocent beauty. She called to the fishes; calling them sometime by the names of their tribes, and sometimes by particular names which she had given them. There was one large one, which she called Cato. But Cato was in no hurry to come. She said it was rather early for them. They had not yet left their places of slumber. But repeating still more loudly the invitation of her sweet voice, they began to make their appearance. The smaller ones came first, and then the larger ones of many varieties; at last Cato, who was a sort of king and counsellor in his finny congregation, came among them. Delighted with this renewed visit of their virgin queen, although they seemed to be conscious it was rather early in the morning, they thrust their heads above the water; and she fed them from her hand. And I fed them, also.

Observing something peculiar at a little distance in the water, I was surprised to see two turtles making their way towards her.—Her voice of affection had penetrated beneath their dark, hard shells. And I noticed that they came with great effort and zeal; as if afraid of being too late at this festival of love. One of them, as soon as they reached the shore, scrambled out of the water, and climbed upon the little rock beside her. And she fed them both. I shall not easily forget this interesting scene, this little episode of millennial humanity.

HOW KENTUCKY GOT ITS NAME.

The origin and meaning of the name of Kentucky has been accounted for in different ways, both ingenious and plausible. The latest analysis of the word Kentucky, that we have heard, we had a few days ago from the lips of an old hunter, now in the ninety-ninth year of his age. When Boone first came to that country it was inhabited exclusively by no tribe of Indians, but was the common hunting ground for all the tribes of the adjacent country. The rich valleys were covered with a chapparal of *cane*, bearing a small berry, on which the turkeys came in countless numbers to feast. Thus, it was enough for the whites to call it the land of "*Cane and Turkey*." The Indians, trying to pronounce the words, got it Kentuckee, from that it was abbreviated into Kentuck, and finally the name by which it is now known—Kentucky—the land of *Cane and Turkey*.—*Schoolmate*.

CRIME is the moral cholera of the social body. It is a disease far more deadly than mere physical pestilence can be, however virulent. It kills both the body and the soul. It affects the future as well as the present. The taint which it leaves is in the mind. Plague is only a temporary visitant, but crime is a disease permanently epidemic, a cancer always eating into the heart of our civilization.—*Dr. Mason Goode*.

"Why did you not pocket some of those pears?" said one boy to another; "nobody was there to see." "Yes there was—I was there to see myself, and I don't ever mean to see myself do such a thing." I looked at the boy who made this noble answer; he was poorly clad, but he had a noble face, and I thought how there were always two to see your sins, yourself and your God.—*Christian Inquirer*.

THE CLERKS IN THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

There are in the bank upwards of eight hundred clerks, at salaries ranging from £65 per annum to £800; the patronage is in the hands of the directors, of whom there are twenty four, each, having a denomination to permit one clerk, provided he be found qualified on examination. The vacancies are not, as in most public offices, filled up as they occur by deaths, resignations, &c., but by electing from twenty-five to thirty junior clerks every four or five months; it is usual to admit one-fifth of this number from the sons of clerks already in the service. The scale of pensions for length of service is the same as in the Government. The late governor, with much kindness and consideration for the comfort of the clerks, instituted a library and reading room, which bids fair, from the handsome donations from time to time made by the directors, to rival the best of our secondary metropolitan libraries. The Bank Annuity Society, for the benefit of widows of clerks is also being remodelled, in order to combine the principle of life assurance with the granting of annuities. This society is under the management of the clerks themselves. The subscription of unmarried clerks is compulsory.

WHAT IS A SPIKE?

Most people are impressed with the belief that a spiked gun is, for some time, rendered useless; but it is not everyone who knows what a spike is. A correspondent in the *Morning Herald* makes this clear. He says:—"They are about four inches long, and of the dimension of a tobacco-pipe; the head flat; a barb at the point acts as a spring, which is naturally pressed to the shaft upon being forced into the touch-hole. Upon reaching the chamber of the gun it resumes its position, and it is impossible to withdraw it. It can only be got out by drilling—no easy task, as they are made of the hardest steel, and being also loose in the touch-hole there is much difficulty in making a drill bite as effectually as it should do. Its application is the work of a moment, a single tap on the flat head with the palm of the hand sufficing. This can be easily done, even if it is ever so dark."

PARENTAL EXAMPLE.—Your children will be more animated to vigorous perseverance and self-dependence, the more they witness your exertions to provide for your future welfare. There are few who can witness the daily display of parental and provident care, without having the desire created within them of doing something for themselves. "A thrifty father," says a Hindoo proverb, "may have an extravagant son, but a diligent father rarely has an idle son."

Educational Intelligence.

CANADA.

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

The Baptists have subscribed funds to establish a College in Toronto, under the name of Maclay College. The Rev. Dr. Bacon, late of Columbia College, New York, has been invited to take charge of the institution.... The Board of Trustees in the City of Toronto have, with great liberality, recently erected a very superior School-house in each Ward of the City. They are all expected to be in operation this month. The Board have adopted a regulation to open each School daily with the reading of the Scriptures and Prayer. In speaking of the causes which prevent a larger attendance at some of the Schools, Mr. Barber, the City Superintendent, justly observes:—"The successful working of the Common School system, requires that the question should occupy neutral ground, and at all times be discussed in a friendly spirit. No doubt ere long that principle will become recognised, and acted upon by the good sense of the community at large, to the great benefit of education and the consequent largely increased attendance at all our city schools, which are emphatically the *Schools of the People*."

THE BRANTFORD SCHOOLS.

To an intelligent people there are few subjects of more real interest, and none of more importance than that of Education through the means of schools, and especially of public schools. Of this the inhabitants of Brantford have given abundant proof in the splendid provision made by them for the education of the young, by the erection of several excellent and commodious School-houses, and the employment therein of teachers who are really a credit to their profession and to their employers, and of incalculable advantage to this community. In no town in Canada, of equal size, are there to be found School-houses to compare with those of Brantford, and we have not the least hesitation in asserting that the schools of Brant-