



ACHOUAPMOUCHOUAN. LAKE ST. JOHN RAILWAY. (Livernois, photo.)

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#### An Interesting Chair.

In the hall of Eglinton Castle is a chair made of the oak which formed the roof-trees of "Alloway's auld haunted kirk." The back of the chair is inlaid with brass, on which is engraved the whole of "Tam o' Shanter." At the bottom is an inscription, which bears that the chair was made of the material referred to, and presented to Hugh, Earl of Eglinton, in the September of 1818, by Mr. David Auld, who built the inn and the little grotto near the monument at Alloway.

#### The Boundary Line.

The boundary line between the United States and Canada is not "imaginary," as most people suppose. The fact is the line is distinctly marked from Lake Michigan to the Pacific Ocean by cairns, iron pillars, earth mounds and timber clearings. There are 385 of these marks between the Lake of the Woods and the base of the Rocky Mountains. The British placed one post every two miles and the United States one between each British post. The posts are of cast iron, and cast on their faces are the words, "Convention of London, October 20, 1818." Where the line crosses lakes, mountains or stones have been built projecting eight feet above high-water mark. In forests the line is defined by felling trees for a space a rod wide.

#### A Startling Mistake.

The Danish word for "children" and the Icelandic for "sheep" are, it seems, very similar, and *The Fireside* tells a good story in its "Chapter of Anecdotes" based on this resemblance. The Queen of Denmark, during her visit to Iceland, inquired of the Bishop how many children he had; but the worthy bishop—whose knowledge of Danish was not so complete as it might have been—understood Her Majesty to ask how many *sheep* he owned, and promptly answered, "Two hundred." "Two hundred children!" cried the Queen astounded. "How can you possibly maintain such a number?" "Easily enough,

please your Majesty," replied the hyperborean prelate, with a cheerful smile. "In the summer I turn them out upon the hills to graze, and when winter comes I kill and eat them."

#### Influence of Music.

An excellent clergyman, possessing much knowledge of human nature, instructed his large family of daughters in the theory and practice of music. They were all observed to be exceedingly amiable and happy. A friend inquired if there was any secret in his mode of education. He replied, "When anything disturbs their temper I say to them 'Sing;' and if I hear them speak against any person I call them to sing to me; and so they have sung away all causes of discontent, and every disposition to scandal."

#### HUMOROUS.

"WHERE are you off to?" "To apply for the hand of one of the banker's daughters." "Which of them?" "That depends. If he looks pleasant I'll take the youngest, but if he's cross, the oldest."

NEAR-SIGHTED OLD GENTLEMAN: Can you tell me what that inscription is on that board over there? Resident: Sure, Oi'm in the same boat, sor! 'Twas mighty little schoolin' Oi hod whin Oi was a bye mesilf.

A mother started to tell the story of a miser to her children, and, upon asking if they knew what a miser was, her seven-year-old replied, "Oh, yes, I know, *economiser*,—somebody who always saves, and never spends a cent."

A BIG DIFFERENCE.—Wife: I think Turner, our grocer, has joined the church, John. Husband: What leads you to think so, my dear? Wife: Why, he used to say his strawberries were so much a quart; now he says they are so much a box.

THE YOUNG MAN (argumentatively): But don't you see, Miss Bessie, that when you reason in that way you are only begging the question? The young woman (blushing beautifully): I am sure, Mr. Peduncle, I—

I didn't intend to—to beg you to—to ask me any question?

THIS is the season when the invalid's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of mineral springs. Whatever may be his real or imaginary disease, he is convinced that the only thing that will do him any good is a spring strongly impregnated with a casino and containing at least sixty per cent. of ball room.

SOLICITOUS.—Mother: Where have you been, Johnny? Johnny: Down by th' old mill watchin' a man paint a picture. Mother: Didn't you bother him? Johnny: Naw! He seemed to be real interested in me. Mother: What did he say? Johnny: He asked me if I didn't think 'twas most dinner time, and you'd miss me.

IN THE CROWDED QUARTER.—Mr. Johnsing: What a nice well-behaved baby you have here, Mrs. Plumley. Mrs. Plumley: Yes; he's good now, but I had a world of trouble with him last summer. After he came home from the Fresh Air Excursion he squalled for fresh air so much that we had to get a bellows and feed him every night before he would take a wink of sleep!

BASHFUL BRIDGET.—"Well, mum, I must be afther lavin' yez," announced the cook. "What do you mean? Why are you going?" asked the astonished mistress. "I am going to be married next week," was the reply. "But, surely, Bridget, you won't leave me so suddenly. You must ask him to wait for you a few days." "Oh, I couldn't, mum." "Why not, pray?" "Sure, mum, I'd loike to oblige you, but I don't feel well enough acquainted with him to ask such a thing."

The Persian author, Saadi, tell us a story of three sages—a Greek, an Indian, and a Persian,—who, in the presence of the Persian monarch, debated this question: Of all evils incident to humanity, which is the greatest? The Grecian declared: "Old age oppressed with poverty"; the Indian answered, "Pain with impatience"; while the Persian, bowing low, made answer—"The greatest evil, O King, that I can conceive is the couch of death without one good deed of life to light the darksome way!"