



DEVOTED TO TEMPERANCE, SCIENCE, EDUCATION, AND AGRICULTURE.

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NOTICE.

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THE CAPTURED ELEPHANT.

The Elephant, the largest and wisest of all quadrupeds, is most abundant in India and Central Africa. Huge and powerful as the animal is, it is easily brought under control by man, and soon learns to understand and obey his orders. He will carry with his trunk the timber intended for building and other purposes, and sometimes the ends of the beams are tied with a rope, which the elephant twists round his trunk, and thus drags the load behind him. He draws with ease a block of wood that twenty-five men can hardly move.

Elephants also carry heavy burdens on their backs, their necks, their tusks, and even in their mouths. They never break or injure anything committed to their charge. From the banks of the rivers they put their burdens into boats without wetting them, laying them gently down, and arranging them where they ought to be placed.

They have been extensively used in India from remote times; and the English now use them just as the natives always have done. They are so exceedingly useful that the Government has wisely forbidden the killing of any of them, under severe penalties, and it permits the hunting of them only to those who will be careful not to injure them.

Perhaps our readers may like to know how the wild elephants are caught. In the regions where elephants live, the elephant catchers make a large strong pen of beams and logs of wood, the upright parts being set very deep in the ground so as to stand firm. From the large pen there is an opening into a smaller one, and from this into another still smaller. After the pens are all ready, many hundred men surround a large herd of elephants and begin to drive them toward the pens. As elephants are very much afraid of fire, the men build fires at night, and these keep the elephants from trying to get out of the ring which the men have formed around them. During the day-time the people keep up a loud noise with drums, rattles, and the firing of muskets. The elephants are thus gradually driven forward nearer and nearer to the pens, and at last the herd, or a part of it, is made to enter the large pen, the entrance to which is at once tightly closed.

The elephants now perceive that they are entrapped, and bellow loudly with rage, but seeing no passage except into the next pen, after some delay, they enter it in the hope of escape. Finally they enter the smallest of the pens; from this a long passage leads to the open country, but so narrow that the elephant cannot turn around in it, and only one animal at a time can pass along. Into this passage the elephants, one by one are driven or coaxed by food, and as soon as one ventures in the door behind him is quickly closed. He is then bound with strong ropes, and a strong rope is also put around his neck, and each end of the rope is fastened to a well-trained tame elephant, and thus the tame elephant helps his master to take the captured one to two large trees, to both of which he is securely fastened. The elephant at first roars and struggles, and tries hard to get away; but soon he becomes tired out, and weak, and hungry, and is willing to eat the food which is brought to him; and so he grows more and more tame each day, and at last he comes to like the man who brings him food, and obeys him as his master.

Many volumes might be filled with pleasing,

instructive, and wonderful stories about elephants, showing how wise, intelligent, and kind they are, and how much they become attached to those who treat them well. Even in their wild state they never try to hurt smaller animals, and if a wounded man or child be in their way, they will remove him carefully and pass on. When a herd is on its march through the forests, the large male elephants put themselves in the front, and tear down branches and uproot trees, to clear the way for the females, the young, and those that are feeble through age, who follow behind.

If they act thus while in their wild state, we may imagine how gentle and careful they are when tamed and treated kindly. They are very fond of little children, and Hindoo mothers often leave their little ones in their charge. The mother will place her babe on the grass, under the shade of a large tree, and will say to the elephant, "Mind the baby," and he will keep the most careful watch of it, and if it walks or creeps from under the shade, it will very gently enfold it with its trunk and carry it back. If flies or mosquitoes trouble the little one, it will tear off a small branch from the tree and keep them off, and the child

mind; indeed, the whole of the service through she had been halting and wavering between two opinions.

Nobody would have dreamed of it, but the more she tried to listen, the more the conflict went on—the more she wavered and hesitated. A stray glance once in a while toward a small coin in her hand would, alone, have given a clue to the direction of the troubled thoughts.

It was a little silver bit, one of the valuables she had hoarded among the odd scraps of things in her treasure-box—the most valuable of them all. But she had nothing to drop in the treasury she had come to think was the treasury of the Lord—nothing but the one coin looked at and kept so long. This she had resolved to give up, and, with a fluttering little heart, had taken it from her box and carried it in at the pew-door without a thought of turning back; but the time of the service was long, and the little treasure grew dearer each moment that she had it, and, before she was aware, she was debating earnestly with herself whether to part with it, after all.

When would such luck fall to her again? How empty would the crevice be at home; how strange she would feel when she was no

felt and knew that He saw, and that her treasure was safer than it had been before.—*Geo. Kingle, in N. Y. Observer.*

THE LAST SIEGE OF GIBRALTAR.

The most memorable, in some respects, of all the fourteen sieges to which Gibraltar has been subjected was the last, called the "great siege," one of the mighty struggles of history, which began in the year 1779. The famous General Elliott was commander of the fortress. Spain, in alliance with France and Morocco, endeavored to surprise Gibraltar; but a Swedish ship gave Elliott the alarm. The garrison comprised but five companies of artillery, and the whole force was less than five thousand five hundred men. The enemy's force was fourteen thousand. The siege began by the blockading of the port, and a camp was formed at San Roque with the design of starving out the garrison. When the English Governor resolved to open fire upon his besiegers, a lady in the garrison fired the first shot. Never did a siege war rage more furiously than did this for nearly three years. The garrison was often reduced to sore straits for food; "a goose was worth a guinea," and Elliott tried upon himself the experiment of living upon four ounces of rice a day for a week. Exciting stories are told of the privateers that ran in, amidst terrible dangers, with provisions, and of the storms which threw welcome wood and cork within reach of the besieged. The rock at one time would surely have been taken had it not been for Admiral Rodney, who, sailing off the strait, captured a small fleet of Spanish war ships and merchantmen, and clearing the strait of of besiegers, brought his prizes into port. But all danger was not yet averted; Gibraltar was again blockaded; scurvy broke out in the garrison, and Morocco refused her harbors to English ships. The enemy crept closer and closer to the fortress, but relief coming every now and then enabled the English still to hold out. The bombardments were fearful to endure. "The city was almost destroyed; scarcely a house habitable, and those left standing pierced by shot and shell." At one time the desperate garrison fell to plundering the town; Elliott shot the leaders in this outrage. The long agony, full of terrific combats and frightful privations, ended by the final abandonment of the siege early in 1783.—*Harpers' Magazine.*



is no more afraid of the immense, but kind animal, than a little one with us is of the family dog. It is wonderful, too, with what gentleness and care these enormous animals will make their way through crowded streets of Indian cities, gently touching with their trunks those who are in their way, and never hurting anybody.

KATHERINE'S FIRST SACRIFICE.

Little Katherine sat in the pew alone. The chip hat which her mother had woven, as best she could had slipped back on her shoulders as she sat leaning forward, with her small chin resting on her hand and her eyes on the preacher.

Nobody would have guessed but that she knew the sermon by heart, so well had she seemed to listen; and indeed, she could have told a great deal of it, but she was a little body and there were many parts she could not understand. Besides, strange as it might seem, she had something troubling her busy

longer rich; and, besides, it was such a bit of a thing, would the great, far-away Eye ever see it, after all? And she would take a tiny glance, to see if it was still there. A sorry conflict she had of it, and preaching-time never seemed so wondrously long. How her heart quickened and fluttered as she heard at last the jingle of coin and knew that her turn was coming—that she must either give or keep.

"There'll be plenty," she thought; "nobody dreams about mine, and the great folks are dropping in enough to build a church, don't I hear it ring? He won't see mine;" but a small, still voice seemed to be saying: "He sees the smallest reed hidden in the brook, and knows the evil and good thoughts hidden within the heart, and He will see and remember the smallest gift for His name's sake." In a minute more the little coin was dropped among the treasures of the great folks and slipped down out of sight among the larger coin, and Katherine leaned forward again, with her chin resting on her hand, and sat thinking; but they were light thoughts this time, like the sweet, soft breathing of the air after the restlessness of

— The Normal College of New York city has recently finished its eighth year. This college, it is well-known, receives girls who have graduated from the grammar departments of the city schools, and gives them special training for teaching. There were about 1,300 students during the past year, who accomplished much satisfactory work. The graduating class—211 in number—were obliged to pass examinations in fifteen studies. The number of accepted candidates for admission next year is over 700; so that the institution enters on its ninth year with a roll of about 1,800 names.

— In his address at the Commencement at Amherst College, Rev. Roswell D. Hitchcock remarked: "The really instinctive scholar is also instinctively a gentleman. But scholarship may be acquired, and so, too, may the gentlemanly habit. It is one of the good signs of our time that so many of the old barbarous customs of college life have already been outgrown. Let none of them be spared. The memory of them is all we need for our cabinet of fossils. Let this institution be known as one within whose precincts no freshman is ever outraged, no son of poverty despised, no faithful instructor insulted, and it shall wear a crown of glory among its rivals."

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