

Home Did It.

President McKinley, addressing a company of aged men and women, early settlers of northern Ohio, said: "It is a proud pleasure to be able to credit to my wife and to my mother whatever good things my fellow-countrymen ascribe to me. My wife and mother mankind is indebted for those high moral qualities, gentleness, truth and virtue which are so indispensable to good character, good citizenship and a noble life. Our whole political fabric rests upon the sanctity of the American home, where the true wife and mother preside. They teach the wife and girls purity of life and thought, and point the way to usefulness and distinction. The world owes them more than it can ever repay. The man who has a pure and true love for mother and wife requires no bond for his good behavior, and can be safely trusted in every relation in life."

Bird Schools.

The Hartz Mountains in Germany, so says the *Youth's Companion*, are the centre of the canary-bird industry. "The birds raised there have schools for the training of their voices. The best voices are carefully selected and their owners set apart in a class by themselves. A canary with a faultless voice and long experience in singing is chosen for a teacher. When the time comes to train the young birds they are suffered to hear and imitate only the pure notes of the leader of the school. The St. Andrews canaries are reckoned the finest singers in the world. Singing-schools for birds also exist in New York, where imported German bullfinches are trained with the aid of a flute, a reed organ, and the human voice. The trainers are marvellously expert whistlers. Bullfinches can be taught to pipe the tunes of popular songs and operas."

Electricity and Balking Horses.

One of the recent extensions of the use of electricity is in conquering a balky or lazy horse. A western Pennsylvania gentleman owned a horse which he said was worth \$1,000, provided he could cure him of balking. It was suggested that he try electricity. He purchased a three-volt storage battery, and connected it by wires to the bit and the crupper. The battery was placed in the rear of the horse's harness. The West Pennsylvania Humane Society, which investigated the method, came to the conclusion that a small amount of electricity used upon a horse was more humane than a whip. —*Omaha Ch. Advocate.*

On Entertaining Guests.

When you have guests at your house it is a capital mistake to act upon the theory that you ought to be with them, talking to them, or seeking to entertain them in some fashion all the time. The sensible guest will thank you if you leave him to his own devices for at least a good half of the time. Let him retire to his room to read or write or doze; let him wander about the place or the village unattended, making his own discoveries, and he will have a much better time than if you are always at his elbow. It is a good idea to put a few of your brightest books and papers in the guest chamber, so that he can retire there during the leisure intervals certain of finding the best company. The moment a guest feels that he is in the way,

or that his presence is putting the family to the slightest inconvenience, to a sensitive person the charm of the visit is gone. Of course, in a great house with an abundance of servants the question of the entertainment of guests is reduced to a fine art, but most of us do not have establishments, but we have a decent guest chamber, and would greatly enjoy a visit of a few days from an old friend. The way to make such visits a happy memory for the guest and for yourself is to let the routine of household life go on as usual, and to devote the ordinary intervals of leisure to his companionship. The rest of the time let him shift for himself. —*The Watchman.*

Caught in the Devil's Snare.

Young Mr. Hobson has been represented by his friends as a devoted Christian. Accounts of his consistent and zealous religious life have been widely published by those who have known him intimately. We have no reason to doubt the correctness of these representations. But the young man's head has evidently been turned by his achievements and the public praises which have been lavished upon him. A week ago last Sunday he travelled all day on a railroad train to give a lecture engagement in Chicago in the evening. All day Sunday crowds besieged the box-office of the Auditorium buying tickets for the lecture. He spoke to a great crowd upon a secular theme, while the multitude indulged in noisy and unseasonably demonstrations. This was a profanation of God's holy day, which no true Christian would be a party to.

Hobson is to be pitied. He has brought

disgrace upon the church of which he is a member; and has publicly and shamefully denied his Lord. His Chicago performance shocked the Christian sentiment of this city, and grieved a host of the young people who had proudly boasted that the hero of Santiago was a Christian.

As for the one hundred and sixty-three girls who are reported to have kissed the youth at the close of his lecture, they were one hundred and sixty-three fools! —*Epworth Record.*

He Attracted a Crowd.

A Cleveland paper says that in front of the New England Building a member of the Salvation Army stood the other day with his tin-labelled contribution box, with its plainly lettered invitation to contribute to a Christmas dinner fund, poised in front of him, and watched the passers-by. Perhaps a lack of dropping nickels and dimes prompted an innovation in his methods, perhaps not. Anyway he suddenly raised his voice and cried:

"How to make 5,000!"

He stopped suddenly, and so did several people.

"By this time twenty people were halted about him.

"How to make 5,000!"

The twenty grew to a crowd.

Then he finished the sentence:

"How to make 5,000 poor people happy with a Christmas dinner!"

Of course a large proportion of the crowd drifted away, but quite a number left a remembrance in the tin box. And the wise soldier of the Cross smiled.



Miss Annie Snyder is a young lady who is rapidly coming to the front as a public entertainer. Her circular contains very strong testimonials from Revs. Dr. Dowart, Dr. Stone, C. O. Johnston and others, while the

press generally refer to her readings in the most complimentary manner. Miss Snyder is a member of one of our city churches. She will be pleased to arrange engagements with Epworth Leagues and churches.