Childrens Corner.

THE AMBITIOUS VINE BY JOHN G. SAXE.

A Vine that stood beside a thriving

Grew weary of the labor Of self support- and thus she plainly

Unto her stronger neighbor:-

II. "I prithee bend your handsome trunk My noble forest brother; That, mutually embracing we may be,

Supporters of each other." III.

"Nay." said the tree, "I was not made to bend; I'm strong and self-reliant

As oaks are wont, but you, my pretty Are twenty times as pliant!

IV.

"So clasp your slender arms around me, dear;

And we will grow together, High as you azure cloud-nor ever

The roughest wind or weather!" V.

"Nay, nay," replied the foolish Vine "I hate

To seem so much your debtor; You do the twining now and I'll be straight;

Td like it vastly better! VI.

Nature wills otherwise," the Oak replied, However you may grumble;

The moment such a silly plan were

Together we should tumble! VII. "Come to me; and, taking Nature's

We'll keep our proper places; I to the twain will give my manly

force. And you your maiden graces. VIII.

But if, perverse, you try to live alone With none to hold and cherish Your slender form-before you're fairly grown,

You certainly will perish. IX.

"Or if, instead of fondly clinging

one who would protect you, You flirt with others,—all the tree at last Will scornfully reject you.'

X "I see-I see!" exclaimed the mus-

ing Vine, The weaker must be nourished;" Then clasped the Oak with many

a graceful [twine, And so they grew and flourished!

OLD TOM.

I have a cat which I love very much I call it Tom, and, because it has living with us so long, my father calls it "Old Tom." It is a good, sensible cat, and never scratches any one, unless it is . It follows me all over the house, and I guess it loves me. It loves milk too! I guess you'd think so if you saw it drink a saucerful. I mean to have its photograph taken some day when I have

enough pennies saved up.

The other day papa and I went for a walk, and in the window of a big store I saw a great many bottles, and right. in the center of the window was a big sign with a picture of a cat painted on. It looked just like my Tom, only not so pretty. I wondered what it was there for, and papa said the store was a ginshop, and the cat represented a kind of gin called "Old Tom," which they sold. What use is this liquor, and why do they call it "Old Tom"? We saw ever so many stores just like this, and poor, ragged-boking men and women came out. Papa said gin had hurt them, and taken away their money and their clothes. I think he must be an old thief, and they ought to know better than to drink the stuff.

I do wonder why they call it Old Tom! Is it because it has made so many miserable old Toms, who have been sent to prison and died drunkards' deaths?

I wish they would sign the pledge not drink any more, for teetotalism would turn them into Mr. Thomases, and they would be respected. When I came home from the walk, I get papa to buy me a pledge, and I signed it, and so did all our family. I wish all the boys and girls would do it.

I've changed my cat's name to Pompey.

The Carolina suicide who swallowed some pounded glass, died of a pane in

A German lately married says, "I'd vas youst so easy a needle cood valk out mit a camel's eye as to get der perhindt vord mit a womans

Mrs. Sophia Lipps, St. Louis, isnegot. ating for a divorce from Mr. Anton Lipps. In the words of the poet, better far those Lipps had never met.

A maiden lady, who had once been jilted, wrote her own epitaph, as follows: "Here lies the body of one

Who died of constancy alone. Stranger! advance with steps courag-

For this disease is not contagious!" us that there is nothing in this world that Our experience in journalism teachers will so disgust and sicken the genera reader as to learn, after wading through the particulars of an'awful accident, that there is a probability of the victim's recovery.

What is the difference between a tube and a foolish Dutchman? One is a hollow cylinder and the other is a silly Hol-

The measures spoken of in music refer generally to time. An exception is made n the case of handorgans, which furnish music by the barrel.

A minister made an interminable call upon a lady of his acquaintance. Her little daughter, who was present, grew very weary of his conversation, and at last whispered in an audible key: "Didn't he bring his amen with him, mamma?"

GEMS OF THOUGHT.

Success does not consist in not making blunders, but in never making them the second time.

If you expect good cattle, look first at the calves, if you wish good men, look carefully after the children.

There is a certain softness of manner which, in either man or woman, adds a charm that almost entirely compensates for lack of beauty.

The first qualities wanted in all who deal with the education of childrenpatience, self-control, and a youthful heart that remembers its own early days Honest and courageous people have

very little to say about either their courage or their honesty. The sun has no need to boast of his brightness, nor the moon of her effulgence.

To be pitied.-The man who is able to work and does not, is to be pitied as well as despised. He knows nothing of sweet sleep and pleasant dreams. He is a miserable drone, and eats a substa. ance he does not earn.

Happiness .-- A crust of bread, a pitcher of water, a thatched roof, and love—there is happiness for you, whether the day be rainy or sunny. It is the heart that makes the home, whether the eye rest on a potato garden or a flower patch.

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