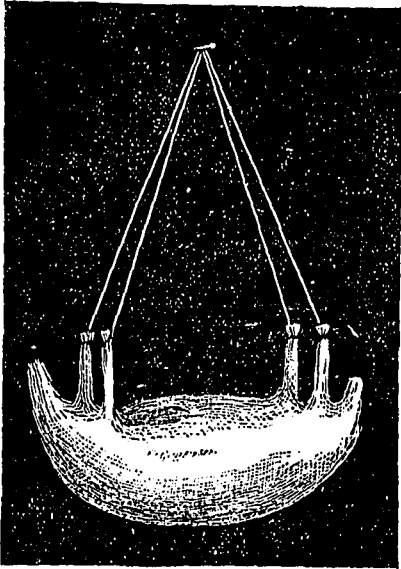


BLACKBOARD TEMPERANCE LESSON.

BY MRS. W. F. CRAFTS.



It would be hard for boys and girls in America to guess what this is a picture of, because they have probably never seen anything like it.

If you will look at the picture now you can tell where the legs and head of the goat have been.

You wonder what such bottles are used for? For carrying wine or milk or water. In the cities of Egypt men may be seen going through the streets with goat-skin bottles on their backs filled with water to sell.

People come with cups or pitchers to buy it from them.

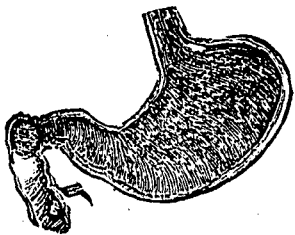
Great care must be taken of skin-bottles, or they are unfit for use. Old bottles might do very well for water or milk and for old wine, but the people who use them are wise enough not to put new wine into old bottles.

Why not? Let a verse from the Bible answer the question: "Neither do men put new wine into old bottles, else the bottles break and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish; but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved."

You do not understand it yet? Old bottles will not stretch; new bottles will stretch. When new wine begins to ferment, it will make a bottle stretch; but if it is old, and will not stretch, then it will break the bottle. Old wine is done fermenting, and so it is safe to put it in old bottles.

But, boys and girls, there are lots of skin-bottles being carried about in America, but they are out of sight. You have each got one. Sometimes you carry water in it, sometimes milk. I do hope you will never put wine of any kind into it.

Here is a picture of it:



I think you all know where you carry it; if you do not, ask the doctor. When you ask him, call it your stomach, and not a skin-bottle.

In many respects the stomach is very unlike the skin-bottle we have been talking about. The principal difference is that the skin-bottle is dead, while the stomach is living, so that things which would not injure one will ruin the other. Let me say in passing that filling the stomach-bottle too full of food is one way of being intemperate. You can tell when it is time for you to stop.

It does not hurt to put new wine into new skin-bottles or old wine into old bottles, but it does do harm to put wine or strong drink of any kind into stomachs.

The stomach is lined with a delicate skin.

When a man or woman or child begins to take a little strong drink, this skin begins to grow red. When people are in the habit of getting drunk, the skin-lining becomes as red as blood, then it becomes full of sores, and as more and more strong drink is taken the stomach becomes streaked with red and brown blood and sores. If I had a blackboard and colored crayon, I would make you a picture of what I have just told you.

But not only does strong drink destroy the stomach, but from the very first it keeps the stomach from doing its work. It will not let the stomach digest the food, and so give strength to the body. It makes the stomach keep the food so long that it turns sour, and thus disease, instead of strength, is sent through every part of the body.— Youth's Temperance Banner.

AN AGATE FOREST.

There have been exhibited lately in the well-known house of Tiffany & C., New York City, some wonderful specimens of agate from Arizona. This agate is "petrified wood," but like no other petrified wood previously discovered. The coloring is brilliant and beautiful; glowing red, the delicate blending and tinting of grays, blues and greens, with here and there a glistening quartz crystal, makes a rare combination.

These beautiful slabs, two or three feet across, were sawn from great stone logs. The perfect likeness of the tree is there, — the concentric rings, the radiating lines, the rough, gnarled bark, — and even every knot has its fac-simile in the stone.

Petrifications in wood have been discovered before, but they have been in neutral tints; the size and richness of coloring are what render this recent discovery remarkable, for, previous to this, agates thirteen inches in diameter were considered large.

The finding of this agate forest, as it might properly be termed, is interesting. When the Apache chief, Geronimo, led the frontiersmen such a lively chase in Arizona, he ran better than he knew. During the pursuit of the Indians, the heart of the Apache country was penetrated. It was on one of these wild chases that a cowboy, named Adams, found himself in the remote and before undiscovered petrified forests of Arizona.

As soon as he was able he reported his wonderful find to the Governor of Arizona. His story was laughed at.

"All right," said the cowboy, "if my story isn't true, I'll bear all the expenses of the journey there and back."

The story was true, and there, prone in the depths of the lava desert, they saw the remains of a forest, changed into brilliant-hued, translucent agate, held in form by the petrified bark, every ridge and knot perfectly translated.

For ages the water, impregnated with silica, played over and amongst these forest trees, wearing the wood away, and cell by cell, atom by atom, replacing it by the stone. It is assumed that powerful geysers may have burst forth and then, perhaps after centuries, settled away, leaving as monuments of their work these agate petrifications. Stumps, trees, twigs, fallen logs are all represented in the beautiful stone.

The cutting and polishing of these great agates is a work of exceeding difficulty. Thirty-five days were consumed in sawing across one of the stone logs. No steel instrument can make an impression, can even scratch the polished specimens on exhibition. Diamond-dust and saws with diamond teeth alone will cut them.

Of course much of the work must be done on the spot. Hence a camp has been set up in the Arizona wilderness, in the midst of desolation, and here are sawn out the blocks and slabs of agate, while the workmen, fearful of the treacherous Apaches, look carefully to their Winchester rifles, which are rarely left out of reach.— Youth's Compendium.

FIVE STEPPING-STONES.

Probably a boy never hears of a successful man but the thought that flashes through his mind is, "Why did he succeed? How did he begin?" Ex-Mayor Adson, of New York, says:

"The rules that I have followed all my life, and which I regard as necessary to success in business, are:

- 1. Close attention to details. And this means sometimes working nights, and during hours usually devoted to recreation.
2. Keeping out of debt. Regulating expenses so as to keep within your income, and at all times to know just where you are financially.
3. The strictest integrity. It is rare that a dishonest man succeeds. He does sometimes, but not often.
4. Being temperate in habits.
5. Never getting into a lawsuit. Business ought to be conducted in such a way that there will be no need of lawsuits, and it is better often to suffer a wrong than go into court about it."

TEMPERANCE ARITHMETIC.

Please work out this problem and think it over:—

The value of the food products of our country for a single year is about \$600,000,000; the cost of all the clothing is about \$400,000,000; the cost of alcoholic drinks about \$1,484,000,000; how much more does the liquor cost than the food and clothing?

IN PRUSSIA an army of dogs is being trained! Tiny portfolios containing military orders are to be tied around their necks, and they are trained, when these are put on, to trot back to the main army as fast as they can. They are also trained to hunt up wounded soldiers, and those who have lost their way. Think of being able to teach dogs to help lost people back into the right way, while some boys and girls are at work trying to help people into wrong ways!—Pansy.

Question Corner.—No. 7.

PRIZE BIBLE QUESTIONS.

- 23. During whose reign was the kingdom of Israel divided and what was the immediate cause?
24. How many of the tribes remained faithful to the house of David, and whom did the others make their king?
25. For which of the seven churches in Asia had God no word of condemnation?
26. Give a list of the places, in their order, which Paul visited in his first missionary journey?

A KIND OFFER.

A gentleman in Ontario, writes, wishing the Messenger a wider circulation, and praying for God's blessing upon it. He asks if we know of any mission in any part of the world that does not get such a paper. He would be happy to forward the money necessary to send a few copies.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

Our subscribers throughout the United States who cannot procure the international Post Office orders at their post-office can get, instead, a Post Office order, payable at Rouse's Point, N. Y., which will prevent much inconvenience both to ourselves and to subscribers.

NEW CLUB RATES.

The following are the New CLUB RATES for the MESSENGER, which are considerably reduced:

Table with 2 columns: Quantity and Price. 1 copy \$ 0 30, 10 copies to one address 2 25, 20 " " " 4 40, 50 " " " 10 50, 100 " " " 20 00

Sample package supplied free on application JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal.

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TO THE DEAF.

A person cured of Deafness and Noises in the Head of 23 ears standing by a Simple Remedy. Will send a description of it FREE to any person who applies to NICHOLSON, 177 MacDougal street, New York.

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- 1. UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.
2. BUFFON'S NATURAL HISTORY.
3. FAST IN THE ICE.—The thrilling story of Arctic adventure, by R. M. Ballantyne.
4. ILLUSTRATED NATIONAL PRONOUNCING DICTIONARY.
5. A SILVER-PLATED SUGAR SHELL.
6. A SILVER-PLATED BUTTER KNIFE.

FOR TEN NEW SUBSCRIBERS, or FIFTEEN RENEWALS at 30c each our workers will have their choice of the following:—

- 1. A KNIGHT OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.—By the Rev. E. P. Roe.
2. OPENING A CHESTNUT BURN.
3. THE HOME AT GREYLOCK.
4. BEN HUR, by General Lew Wallace.
5. THE PEER OF DAY.
6. MRS SOLOMON SMITH LOOKING ON.—By "Pansy."
7. THE POCKET MEASURE.—By "Pansy."
8. THREE PEOPLE.—By "Pansy."
9. SAVED ANIMALS.—A large box of brilliantly colored pictures of all sorts of animal and strong pasteboard.
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