

Roving Habits of Thought.

Lying, theft, gambling, slander, murder, and such like—they are all children of a neglected imagination. Much of the evil of this world is begotten by idle, aimless thinking.

A child of vivid imagination and uncommon sensitiveness has great fear of sailing. It naturally falls into the habit of picturing the woes that threaten it, whether they be associated with the school teacher's birch rod, the parents' clucking, or the common peril of the playground.

Or a lad hears at his father's table endless discussions of plans for making money; of fortunes won by great strokes of luck, of the luxury and display belonging to the wealthy. His imagination feeds on these themes. Covetousness grows like a weed after rain. His mind takes its bent from these repeated suggestions.

Or a girl is left to herself by a burdened mother. There is barely time to inspect her clothes; none at all to inquire into her thoughts. If she goes to Sunday school and says her lesson well; if she reads no bad books and keeps no undesirable company, what can be asked more?

How little thought is bestowed by most parents on guiding and restraining the imaginations of children, such results as these bear witness: It is not enough to instruct in righteousness, to admonish daily of sin, to notice open acts of transgression. The current of a child's thoughts should be closely watched.

The Greenwich Observatory

The Royal Observatory of Greenwich takes the lead, for its past labours as well as for its present position, over the other establishments of the same kind possessed by the English. It was founded in 1675. The interest of the marine was the controlling motive that determined the foundation of this establishment.

—Emma M. Conover, in Popular Science Monthly.

Fear and Love of Publicity.

There are two great evils inevitably arising from the present state of things. The fear of publicity and the love of publicity. As regards the former, how many timid and shamefaced persons fear to take the right course.

Rest from Labor.

We suspect that what makes many men look eagerly forward to an early retirement from their regular labors, is not so much the craving for time to devote to other pursuits than that of their main calling, as the vague hope that in greater quietness of life they may gain a tranquility and clearness of spirit to which practical life is a stranger.

"In cities should we English live, Where cities are rising ever new, And men's incessant stream goes by: We who pursue Our business with unslackened stride, Traverse its troops, with care-filled breast The soft Mediterranean side, The Nile, the East."

And almost every man, however practical, feels this obscurely; has a notion that his own life is a riddle to him, that he hardly knows where it has failed, and still less why; where it has succeeded, and whether he has reason to be proud of or humiliated by his success; and from the oppression of this confused feeling arises, we believe, a great deal of the frequent craving for leisure at the end of life.

That was a capital address which Edward Eggleston gave not long ago on "Adaptation in the S. S. Teaching." He closed with this just remark: "There never was a time when S. S. teachers should be so intimate with boys and girls as now. You should learn their innermost hearts; draw them close to you; put yourselves in their situation. It is not enough to teach them morality and truth as it is in Scripture; you have got to be their bosom friends to lead them to you. When you can do this, you will think 'my speech on 'Adaptation' worth nothing at all, because you will sit and talk with them as easily and simply as with a friend."

Frequently a word can be better spoken by a teacher to a scholar through a letter, than in any other way. There is no child but is specially pleased to get a letter by mail.

Old English forms of the Lord's Prayer.

A. D. 1258. "Fader ure in hevene, halewoide both the name, cunnen thi kunnriche, thi willa both don in hevene and in erthe. The enyech dawe biad get us taik dawe. And vorzif ure detters, as vi vorzeten ure dettaures. And lede us not into temptation, Iere de lygerous of yvel. Amen."

A. D. 1509. "Fader our in hevene, Hulawy by thi name, the kingdom come, Thi willa be done, as in hevene and in erthe. Our archidays bred gives us to day. And to give us our detters, as we forgive our dettaures. And lede us not into temptation, Iere de lygerous of yvel. Amen."

A. D. 1582. "Ove father which art in heaven, so called by thy name. Let thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, in earth also. Give us this day our super-substantial bread. And forgive us our detters, as we also forgive our detters. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. Amen."

A. D. 1611. "Our father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever. Amen."

The Hour of Temptation.

In the hour of temptation "be vigilant." The watchfulness joined with sobriety, extends to all the estate and ways of a Christian, being surrounded with hazards and snares. "He that despiseth his way shall die," says Solomon. We think not on it; but there are snares laid for us in every path we walk in, and in every step we take; in our meat and drink, in our calling and labour; in our house at home; in our journeying abroad; yes, even in God's house, and in our spiritual exercises, both there and in private.

And that we may watch, it concerns us to be sober. The instruction is military, a drunken soldier is not fit to be on the watch. Thus most of us are drunken with our several fancies and vanities, and so exposed to this adversary. And when we have gained some advantage in a conflict, or when the enemy seems to retire, and be gone, yet even then are we to be watchful; yea, then especially. How many, presuming on false sateities that way, and sitting down to carouse, or lying down to sleep, have been assaulted and cut off!

Fox-Hunting and Science.

Sir Rudenik I. Murchison was recognized throughout the world as one of the most distinguished geologists of the present century. In his classification and arrangement of the Silurian system he in fact laid the foundation of the methods of classifying and describing the various formations which have been continued by the geologists of all countries. Yet he came very near never being anything more than a reckless English fox-hunting squire. He seems to have been rather wild at school; active and venturesome in the army; an enthusiastic hunter, proud of his stud of horses, and inclined to a taste for "horse talk"; and withal a desultory dabbler in art and archeology.

Humphry said it would soon get me into the Royal Society, I was fairly and easily

He said his horses and went to London to study chemistry. The study did not suit him, being too sedentary, while he was of an active disposition. Then his attention was turned to geology, and his favor gained for it as a science which, needing much observation in the field, would offer an easy outlet for his physical activity, and came nearest to his old field sports in the opportunity it afforded for open-air exercise. On the invitation of Dr. Buckland he visited Oxford, where he had the opportunity of hearing the lectures of the professor, and also of joining in one of his field excursions.

The Benefits of Civilization.

Dealing with speeches recently delivered at the annual meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the Standard draws particular attention to the remarks of Mr. Gorst, who spoke of the progress of Christianity and Anglo-Saxon ideas in the South Pacific, and drew a very blended picture of the influence of both. Mr. Gorst has practical experience of the subject, and when we find him suggesting that if the South Pacific Islanders or New Zealanders could tell their own tale, we should hear a very different version of the benefits of civilization from that to which we have been accustomed, it is impossible not to feel perplexed.

Paris, June 25.—The loss of life by the flood at Toulouse is appalling. In St. Cyprian quarter 215 corpses have already been found. The violence of the torrent frustrated all efforts to rescue the unfortunate inmates of the houses. Several men were drowned in the attempt. 20,000 persons are deprived of means of subsistence in Toulouse alone. Disasters elsewhere are of almost equal magnitude. The lower part of the city of Moissac on Tarn is hidden under water. At Povenmoulet in the department of Arége, five houses only remain standing out of 400. In the district of Foix, in the same department, two villages are completely submerged, and many bodies have been found. Crops of all kinds throughout the inundated districts have been destroyed. The troops and the authorities are doing everything in their power to save life and property. The rain has ceased, but it is feared that the melting of the mountain snows will raise the water of the Adour still higher. Later accounts state that the damage by the flood is estimated at from £12,000,000 to £15,000,000. The lowest estimate of deaths is 2,000. The French Assembly has appropriated \$398,000 for the relief of the sufferers.

Details are being received by cable of the damage caused by the inundation of the River Garonne. The destruction to life and property has been very large. Upwards of one hundred and fifty persons have been drowned, their buildings having been inundated and swept from their foundations by the flood before the inmates had a chance of escaping. The crops, for miles on each side the river banks are ruined, and still under water. Thousands of cattle, horses, etc., have been drowned.

The organ of the Vatican, the Osservatore Romano, has an article in which that journal reads the Prince of Wales a severe lesson for accepting the Grand Mastership of the English Freemasons. It describes the downfall of Charles X., Louis Philippe, and Louis Napoleon, to their connection with the craft, and implores the Prince to take warning before it is too late.

Statistics have been collected in France, Algeria and Prussia, by which it is shown that the Jewish race has a mean average duration of life exceeding that of Christians by about five years, and that this people enjoy greater immunity from disease than Christian races.

Scientific and Useful.

In watering plants, do it regularly and systematically. Do not drown them starve them. Beans should not be planted till ground is thoroughly warmed, and the bean is the best for field culture. As many bushels of beans can be per acre as wheat, and the price per bushel is more than double, and no more cost cultivation, care or marketing.

There are rotten potatoes in many farmers' cellars. If they are not removed, and the cellar sprinkled with lime, there will be occasion for the daily use of a physician to the home.

Cut the tender parts of asparagus to a quarter inch length, boil in an equal quantity of water, adding about an equal amount of well-cooked Lima beans. Cook the asparagus tender, and serve warm. Instead of beans the asparagus may be thickened with flour or with cream.

Dr. F. A. Burrall, of New York, says that for two years he has had experience in practice in the use of the following gargle, which is especially serviceable when used early in sore throat, when it seems sometimes, to abort the attack. R. Bromochloralum; Glycerin, aa. p. ss; Tr. Cocqs. M. Two teaspoonfuls in a goblet of water used as a gargle every half hour.

Potatoes are more nutritious baked than they are in any other manner, and they are better with those who have not been accustomed to eat them without seasoning. Wash them clean, but do not soak them. Bake them as quickly as possible, without burning in the least. As soon as they are done, press each potato in a cloth, so as to crack the skin, and allow the steam to escape. If this is omitted, the best potato will not be mealy. They should be brought immediately to the table.

Spirits of turpentine is a sovereign remedy for croup. Saturate a piece of flannel with it, and place it on the throat and chest, and send for your family physician. If the case be very urgent, and the child in great distress, and the distance to the doctor's residence be very great, drop three drops of the turpentine on a lump of sugar and give internally. Or a good emetic of tincture of blood root, or lobelia, or both combined, should be given. Every family should keep a bottle of spirits of turpentine in the house.

A well grown evergreen tree gives off continually an exoderm of warmth and moisture, that reaches a distance of its area in height; and when the tree plants advocates shelterbelts surrounding a tract of orchard of fifty or more acres, when the influence of such belt can only reach a distance of the height of the tree in said belt, they do that which will prove of little value. To ameliorate climate, to assist in prevention of injury against extreme climatic cold weather, and the frosting of the germ-bud of the fruit in spring, all orchards should have planted in and among them indiscriminately evergreen trees at distances each of at more than 150 feet apart. Such a course pursued we have no doubt will render greater health to the trees, and be productive of more regular and uniform crops of fruit.

During the late cholera epidemic in Vienna, a new remedy, called camphora, was used with great success in the hospitals. It is prepared simply by passing chlorine gas into pure turpentine until saturated; it gives a thick, heavy, oily fluid, of brown colour, with a strong smell of chlorine. This is freed from muriatic acid by washing with water. The remedy is applied by placing a portion in a fit vessel, and holding it to the patient to inhale.

The Rochester Express says that it has taken a great deal of pains to ascertain the condition and prospects of the fruit crop, and as far as it has learned, the prospects have not been better for years. The pear tree, throughout Northern, Middle, and Western New York, notwithstanding the long and intensely cold weather for the past six or eight weeks, is yet uninjured; the fruit buds looking healthy and vigorous, with a prospect of good yield the coming season. The apple, plum, and cherry crops also promise well. Nurserymen have no reason for complaint of the small fruits, vines, flowering shrubs, and the different varieties of the more delicate evergreens, as those have been protected by quite a large body of snow, which has covered the ground with scarcely any interruption ever since the last of November.

The best vanilla comes from the province of Oaxaca, in South America. The Tongva bean, which is often sold for it, is a poor and cheap substitute. The pure vanilla of commerce is the product of tropical America, being the bean of the Epidendrum Vanilla, a species of orchidaceous plant. The vine has a trailing stem, not unlike the common ivy, but not so woody. It is a vigorous grower, and attaches itself to any tree standing near it, and rises to the height of eighteen or twenty feet. The Indians propagate it by planting cuttings at the foot of trees selected for that purpose. The flowers are of a greenish yellow color, mixed with white; the fruit is about seven or eight inches long, of a yellow color when gathered, but which gradually turns to a brownish-black. It is wrinkled on the outside, and is full of seeds like grains of maize. The capsule of vanilla is aromatic, and remarkable for its fragrant odor, and for the volatile and dilutable oil extracted from it. As a medicine, it is esteemed by some as possessing powers analogous to vanilla. It is the same that is used in the preparation of the vanilla essence.