

position of ten inches in a century. Now the chalk is more than 1,000 feet in thickness, and would have required, therefore, more than 120,000 years for its formation. The fossiliferous beds of Great Britain, as a whole, are more than 70,000 feet in thickness, and many which, with us, measure only a few inches, on the continent expand into strata of immense depth; while others of great importance elsewhere are wholly wanting with us, for it is evident that during all the different periods in which Great Britain has been dry land, strata have been forming (as is, for example, the case now) elsewhere, and not with us. Moreover, we must remember that many of the strata now existing have been formed at the expense of the older ones; thus all the flint gravels in the south-east of England have been produced by the destruction of chalk. This again is a very slow process. It has been estimated that a cliff, 500 feet high, will be worn away at the rate of an inch a century. This may seem a low rate, but we must bear in mind that along any line of coast there are comparatively few points which are suffering at one time, and that even on these, when a fall of a cliff has taken place, the fragments serve as a protection to the coast until they have been gradually removed by the waves. The Wealden Valley is twenty-two miles in breadth, and on these data it has been calculated that the denudation of the Weald must have required more than 150,000,000 of years.—*Lubbock's Pre-historic Times.*

THE CHINESE are always kind to animals, and never punish; hence a mule, that, in the hands of a foreigner, would be not only useless but dangerous to every one about it, becomes, in the possession of a Chinaman, as quiet as a lamb and as tractable as a dog. We never beheld a runaway, a jibbing, or a vicious mule or pony in a Chinaman's employment; but found the same rattling cheerful pace maintained over heavy or light roads by means of a *turr-r* or *cluck-k*, the beast turning to the right or left, and stopping, with but a hint from the reins. This treatment is extended to all the animals they press into their

service. Often have I admired the tact exhibited in getting a large drove of sheep through narrow, crowded streets and alleys, by merely having a little boy to lead one of the quietest of the flock in front; the others steadily followed, without the aid either from a yelping cur or a cruel goad. Cattle, pigs, and birds are equally cared for.—*Travels on Horseback.*

A LITTLE BOY, for a trick, pointed with his finger to the wrong road, when a man asked him which way the doctor went. As a result, the man missed the doctor, and his little boy died, because the doctor came too late to take a fish-bone from his throat. At the funeral, the minister said that "the boy was killed by a lie, which another boy told with his finger." I suppose the boy did not know the mischief he did. Of course, nobody thinks he meant to kill a little boy when he pointed the wrong way. He only wanted to have a little fun, but it was fun that cost somebody a great deal; and if he ever heard of the results of it, he must have felt guilty of doing a mean and wicked thing. We ought never to trifle with the truth.—*Selected.*

A LADY took her son, of some five years, to church. After the minister had been preaching about half an hour, the little fellow grew sleepy and began to nod. The mother roused him into attention several times by pushing; but as it seemed a hopeless case she concluded to let him sleep undisturbed. After a while the little fellow had his nap out, and saw the minister still holding forth. He looked up in his mother's face and innocently asked, "Mother, is this Sunday night, or is it next Sunday night?"—*Exchange.*

UNIFORM LESSONS, 1874.

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| April | 5. | The Ten Commandments... Ex. 20: 1-17. |
| " | 12. | The Golden Calf... Ex. 32: 1-6 19, 20. |
| " | 19. | The People Forgiven... Ex. 33: 12-20. |
| " | 26. | The Tabernacle set up... Ex. 40: 17-30. |
| May | 3. | The Five Offerings... Lev. 7: 27-38. |
| " | 10. | The Three Great Feasts... Lev. 23: 4-6, 5-21, 33-36. |
| " | 17. | The Lord's Ministers... Num. 3: 5-13 |
| " | 24. | Israel's Unbelief... Num. 14: 1-10 |
| " | 31. | The Smitten Rock... Num. 20: 7-13 |