

thing, clean or unclean, will suit his palate. Fish is comparatively despised. Smoked zebra is a favorite dish, and Captain Burton speaks enthusiastically of the flavour. The negroes differ with Swift's islanders in refusing to crack the egg either at the little end or at the big end; this probably arises from a religious prejudice, whether indigenous or imported, it is impossible to say. They cluster like flies round sugar, and if any falls on the ground, they would rather eat an ounce of earth than lose a single grain. Of course the East African cuts himself into a state of torpidity. When he revives, he chats, plays, smokes and chews as before. In the cool sunset the women fetch their water from the wells, and then gather together in little groups.

As for morality, neither the word nor the thing exists among them; the idea of perfect bliss is total intoxication all day, and total insensibility at night. The wants are few and simple; the fertility of the country has cursed them with exemption from labor. Music is their favorite amusement, but their music is at the lowest ebb. Good tunists and admirable timests, they are totally destitute of a creative faculty, and are incapable of advancing a single point; their music always consists of the simplest and most monotonous combinations of sound. The banjo, drum and sounding-board are, of course, their favorite instruments. But the great reliefs of life are the regular drinking-bout and the occasional hunt. The elephant, haunting the low ground of stagnant waters and dense vegetation, is a very valuable and easy prey. The hunt is a most solemn occasion, and is inaugurated by a preliminary week of dancing and intoxication.

#### CHILDISH RECIPROCITY.

We have heard of two interesting little children, one three and the other five years old, the latter a girl. One day not long since, the girl fell into a box, out of which she could not readily extricate herself. Presently, her little brother came along, and, bracing himself well, and taking his sister's hand, he made a hard pull and helped her out. Fairly recovered in breath, she said to her little brother, "Now you fall in, and I'll help you out." Was there not gratitude combined with a desire to reciprocate in the remark?

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#### THE UNSELFISH GIRL.

In passing up the street the other day, we met two little girls, of some seven or eight summers, who seemed to be enjoying vacation finely, and all to themselves. Passing through the street, unmindful of what was going on, they looked as happy as two larks, and as beautiful as happy.

Stopping at a confectioner's shop, one of them made a purchase of sugar-candy, a large, nice-looking stick, and, breaking it, gave her little companion half; saying, as she did it, with the utmost simplicity imaginable, "Here, Mary, you may have the largest half, as you are the smallest."

Artless child, what a lesson of usefulness was contained in the simple words! God bless you! and enable you through life to manifest the same gentle and sweet spirit. What teachers children sometimes are! "In malice be ye children, but in understanding be ye men."

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