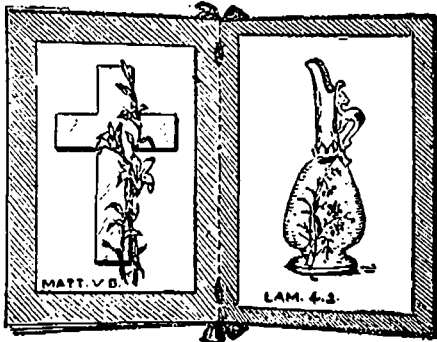




Scriptural Scrap-Book.

MOTHERS who wish to interest and instruct their children during the quiet hours of a Sun-



SCRIPTURAL SCRAP-BOOK.

day afternoon, will find a scrap book, such as our engraving suggests, a very great help. The body of the book is to be made of colored paper or of brown manilla wrapping paper folded through the centre like a sheet of note paper and stitched together firmly. A cover of stiff paste board will make it more durable. Let the Sunday afternoon work consist in filling it with suitable pictures from old Sunday school papers or magazines; where the picture suggests a text, print the book and verse under it and on some other Sunday the children will be interested in looking up these verses and committing them to memory. Certain pages might be lettered with the name of each child, and these pages dedicated to indexing the verses which each shall, from time to time, learn. The pages may be tied to the cover with bows of ribbon.—*American Agriculturist*.

"I Will Find Troy."

THE Turks have a proverb: "Behind the clouds the sun is shining; and over the hills lies Arabia."

Soon the sun's determinate rays pierce the clouds while effort climbs the hills into the promised land.

Years ago there was an unknown German lad, slaving day after day in a lot the hardest and lowliest. He was poor; he was delicate, and nearly every hour was taken up with toil. But, with all this, he was an earnest student. Sacrifices the keenest were made to get books to store his mind with knowledge.

He had long read of Troy, the undiscoverable. For thousands of years its location had remained a mystery, indeed, if it had ever existed at all. But this young German student believed that it had. Surely all those shapely and outlined points on the part of the old Greek bards were not merely myths. He said to himself: "There has been a Troy; there are still the ruins of this Troy; I will find them."

An astounding resolve, truly, on the part of a poor and unknown lad, without a dollar to call really his own. But mightier purposes have been born in lowlier hearts; grand resolves formulated and carried unto glorious achievement, even amid less promising surroundings. For years he toiled on at his tasks. One by one he bought books and studied them, until finally, the poor and lowly German lad was a master of seven or eight different languages.

Then he began business for himself. Step by step he pushed onward, prospering at every one. Soon, as a merchant, he had made a fortune. Now, indeed, he could begin to put into execution the first plans toward the realization of the dream of his boyhood. He organized a band of explorers and started eastward on his search.

Every item of expense came out of his own pocket, for there were none that could be found to join him in what was looked upon as a rash and senseless undertaking.

For long years the search went on, until indefatigable perseverance had its just reward. One day all Europe and America were electrified to learn that one Dr. Schlieman, a German explorer, had found the ruins of the ancient city of Troy. The news was almost too astounding to believe, but it proved true, nevertheless.

Not long ago I saw in an English paper where this same Dr. Schlieman had exhibited at the South Kensington Museum the wonderful treasures of gold, silver and bronze which he had unearthed from the palace of an old Trojan King.

In the depth of his earnest and determinate heart a poor unknown lad had taken to himself a wonderful and a mighty resolve. He had said, "I will find Troy?" and find Troy he did.

No purpose so purely and so resolutely formed was ever overcome. No upward springing flame of consecrated resolve ever yet went out in the ashes of defeat.

A Peanut Chinaman.

THE comical little Chinaman shown in the accompanying illustration is composed of peanuts, turkey red calico or yellow silesia—a little piece of black silk and a small quantity of thread.

Select five peanuts, one of which should be much larger than the others and used for the head; mark the eyes, nose and mouth on it with ink, then take a piece of calico, fold it together and cut it so it will measure four and one-fourth inches in length and two and one-half in width; sew these pieces together through the middle to form the trousers. Sew a peanut in the bottom of the legs for the feet, and fasten the other end of the cloth to the head.

The coat requires a piece of black silesia, measuring seven by five inches; fold this so it will be three and one-half by five inches, cut a little opening in the middle where it is folded to slip the head through; then begin-



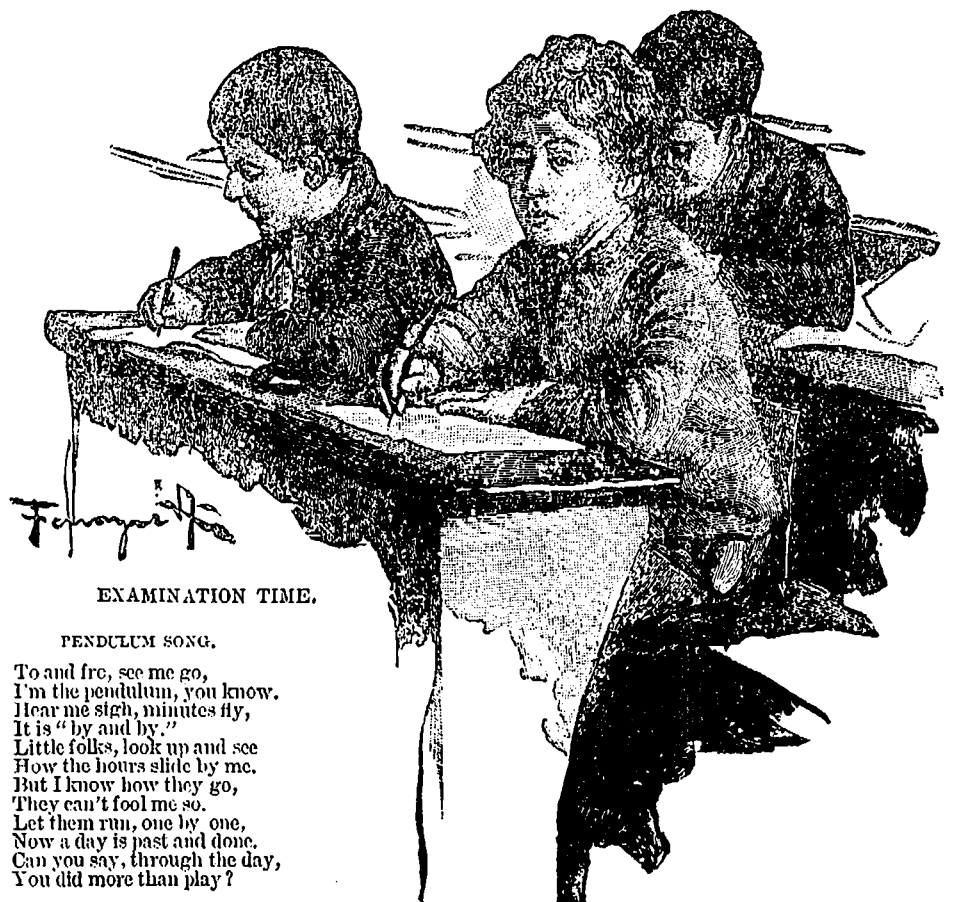
ning at the bottom, cut a place at each side two inches long and one inch wide; this forms the coat. Sew it up, hem it, fasten the hands in, slip it over the head and tie a piece of narrow ribbon around the neck to conceal the stitches. The cue is made of black waxed thread braided tight and glued to the head. The hat consists of a circular piece of black silk. It should be suspended by a black silk from a hanging lamp.—*American Agriculturist*.

TO AMUSE THE BOYS.—Take any pretty picture, figure or flower, with a clear outline. Cut it out, lay it face down in a dish, fill with water and soak 20 minutes. The back of a plate with a rim is good, so is a scalloped sauce-plate or any pretty plate. Pour off the water, wipe off the drops, leaving the surface damp; see that the picture is in exact place; then pour on carefully and quickly plaster of Paris stirred with water, so that it will just run easily, and let it stand until hard. In an hour or so it sounds hollow when tapped; loosen the edges with a knife and out drops a pretty placque. If the plaster overruns the edges of the picture, scrape it gently with a pen-knife to make the outline clear. The thinner the paper of the picture, the nicer the placque. A bit of ribbon, doubled and laid in the plaster while soft, being sure to get it at the top, makes a good loop for hanging.

SOME way the few days the boys went fishing are found at the end of the year not to have lessened the amount of work done.

N. E. Farmer:—"We know of farmers who have the horses shod only in winter when sharp calks are needed. They save a considerable sum in a year besides keeping the feet of the horses in better condition than if shod according to the prevailing fashion."

At a recent meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, Ernest E. Thompson, of Canada, said that some birds, especially sparrows have ventriloquial powers. Birds, when surprised in the act of singing, will be silent for a moment, and then give forth a faint song that seems to come from a distance, though the singer be not more than ten feet away. Thrushes and robins, the lecturer said, also have this power.



EXAMINATION TIME.

PENDULUM SONG.

To and fro, see me go,
I'm the pendulum, you know.
Hear me sigh, minutes fly,
It is "by and by."
Little folks, look up and see
How the hours slide by me.
But I know how they go,
They can't fool me so.
Let them run, one by one,
Now a day is past and done.
Can you say, through the day,
You did more than play?