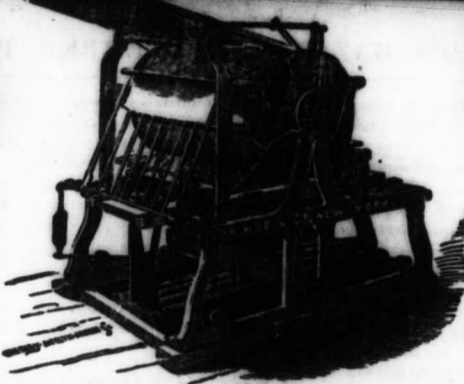


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LITTLE CHILDREN.

PRECIOUS and delightful as children are, they are not like rare exotics or costly gems; they are here, and there, and everywhere, springing up like the wayside grasses and are like the stars of Heaven for multitude. There are few hearts that cannot, either in their own house or in the houses of others, rejoice in youthful sunshine—who can not study the infirmities of little children. Most of our readers, will understand, that the difficulty of realization is forcibly felt in going through a child's daily history. We find there fear of some supposed danger; pain caused by some little accident; weariness of constraint; despondency at tiny difficulties; naughtiness showing, like the serpent's trail in paradise; mingled with that bright light upon brow and lips, that sweet music of words and laughter, which make even our scared hearts feel child-like for the time—in looking back on the day's alternations, we wonder how little effect we have had in equalizing the temperature. We have spoken of the love of gold, but the moment's fear, or pain or difficulty, has been too strong to realize it; we have appealed to their love for us, but in the moment a temptation or passion has swept it away; we have spoken of God's anger, but it has only made the little one shrink or shudder. It is clear that something more tangible is needed to impress. Those who have had the management of the young know well the effect of employment in alleviating sorrow and subduing waywardness, 'who will do this for me?' 'I, and 'I,' and 'I,' will be cheerfully answered by little voices that had been previously choked with sobs. Now when met by this difficulty, let us carry this principle of action to its highest extent. Let the child have a strong and vigorous motive for learning that spelling lesson, for resisting that piece of gluttony, for helping that helpless little sister, for giving the kiss of joyousness to that offending playmate. Let it be distinctly seen that here is something to be done for God; that He is watching to see how the trial is borne, how the temptation is resisted, how the service is performed; for, trifling as they may appear to us, they are not so either to the child or God.

A SPANISH BEAUTY.

She stood like a falcon about to soar; and you held your breath, lest loud respiration should alarm her. Her eye, haughty, fierce, penetrating, seemed to look upon the crowd as subjects of her sport or alternate scorn. No glance could withstand her. The pupil of her eye comprised all its visible parts, save when the long heavy lashes lifted up, and you detected the blue transparency of the ball within, like the azure of heaven, momentarily revealed through breaking clouds. There was a mysterious fascination in these dark orbs which you could not forego, though you felt its terror. Her dress was calculated to display all the danger of her voluptuous figure. Her coal-black hair, falling in undulating folds upon her neck, was surrounded by a Madras handkerchief of brightest hues, which relieved its glossy transparency; and a dark velvet bodice, with a row of silver buttons in front, half-revealed, half-concealed the swell of her bosom. Her round and delicate waist was encircled with a faga, or sash, of

richest silk, and varied colours; while the tunic, though reaching below the knee, permitted the eye to determine the elaborate sculpture of the limbs it covered. The slender and polished ankle developed into faultless symmetry above, and terminated in a delicate foot below. Her face was oval and her cheeks had that peachy blossom so rarely found, even where youth and beauty meet. But her teeth! that feature so seldom beautiful, and so irresistible in perfection! Hers were regular, dazzlingly white, and of the purest elephant's bone. The proudest empress would have envied her their possession, and exchanged for them the costliest jewels of her crown. She drunk in for a few moments the flattering incense of admiration, more eloquent in its speechlessness—and then addressed herself to her task. She was to dance the "Ole" the favourite of a Spanish audience, and for which she had (what they call in Paris) *une specialite*—an unrivalled, inimitable talent. Its representation is prohibited on the public stage, and therefore it was only on occasions like this, the intense passion of the Andalusians for it could be gratified. What constitutes its chief charm is the combination of motions, haughty, and voluptuous, at the same time defiant and alluring beyond imagination; passion awakened by disdain, stimulated by coquetry, maddened by desire—the riot of the mysterious expression of the gestures—the indefinable action of the features; the sound of the governed respiration, and the radiating and intoxicating perfume which beauty involves in motion. It is in fine, the union of all the sensual powers from liquid eyes, dewy lips, ardent gestures, and voluptuous motion, that reaches, penetrates, frenzies every soul! It is not such dances they get up for the stage; dances taught by rule, and performed by art; a dance of legs and arms, soulless and inexpressive. No! this dance was a poem, a painting, a melody. It filled the soul, it pleased the eye, it intoxicated the heart.—*Sketches in Spain.*

The attempt made at Sebastopol to get up the fragments of the vessels sunk at the mouth of the harbour appears likely to prove successful. Another and better diving apparatus is about to be put in operation.

QUARANTINE IN THE BLACK SEA.—A letter from Vienna, in the *Post-amst Gazette*, says:—"Accounts from Calatz of the 13th state, that Russia has not only re-established the quarantine of four days in the ports of the Black Sea, but has extended it to all the frontier of Bessarabia, on the side of Moldavia. This measure is of a political and in no way of a sanitary character, as the health of the Principalities is most satisfactory and no sanitary cordon exists between the Russian and the Austrian frontier."

THE ITALIAN LEGION AT MALTA.—On examination, the "passports" given by the Austrian consul at Malta to the soldiers of the Italian Legion were found to be no passports at all, but a sort of permission for them to pass by way of Genoa to Parma and other places. In all the bearer is described as "Militaire;" so that he would have to enter the Austrian service as a soldier. The English officers belonging to the legion explained this to the men, and shewed them, that the Austrian interference was a mere trap to get them into Austrian clutches. The result is, that all the members of the legion have agreed to go to England, and 600 of them left in the sailing transport Tudor, towed by the Red-pole. Besides the men, thirty officers are on board—among them Lieutenant-Colonel d'Horsay and Major Lache; the rest Italians. The men left in good spirits. The remainder, about 300, are to be followed in a few days.

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