

Luxury as a Handicap.

The history of our country is a record of the successes of poor boys who seemed to be hopelessly shut off from books, culture and education, except that of the most heinous kind—from almost every opportunity for mental development. The youthful Franklins, Lincolns, Hamiltons, Garfields, Grants and Claytons—these who became presidents, lawyers, statesmen, soldiers, crators, merchants, educators, journalists, inventors, giants in every department of life—how they stand out from the pages of history, those poor boys, an inspiration for all time to those who are born to fight their way up to their own lot!

The youth who is reared in a luxurious home, who from the moment of his birth is waited on by an army of servants, pampered and indulged by overfond parents and deprived of every incentive to develop himself mentally or physically, although commonly regarded as one to be envied, is more to be pitied than the poorest, most humbly born boy or girl in the land. Unless he is gifted with an unusual mind he is in danger of becoming a degenerate, a parasite, a creature who lives on the labor of others, whose powers ultimately atrophy from disuse.—Success.

Pays the Current Price.

My young friend Jimmy Banks was married a little over a year ago. He had previously spent twelve months in the most furious courtship. The girl had not at first cottoned to Jimmy very much, but he moved heaven and earth so vigorously that she at last consented, says the *Commonwealth*. Now, the other day when he was before me but Jimmy, with a long face, and makes a complaint that the baby keeps him awake nights. "Good gracious, Jimmy!" I said. "Didn't you know that babies always do that? A baby has to have some relaxation. Go home and be thankful that it isn't twins." There is the reverse side to every joy. You can't have the advantages of bachelorhood and married life at the same time. You buy everything with a price—leisure, family, office, learning, wealth, fame, position. Nothing is free. Be sure you want the article, pay the current price and enjoy your possession.

Ham Baked in Cider.

A ham baked in cider is delicious. Choose a good lean ham of about eight pounds. Wash thoroughly and over the fleshy side sprinkle a little chopped onion, a little clove and allspice, a teaspoonful of cinnamon and a half teaspoonful of ground ginger. Make flour and water into a paste as thick as dough and cover the ham. Put skin side down in a roasting pan, fill up with cider, cook slowly for three hours, baste every ten minutes. When done, take off the paste and the rind. An hour before it is wanted for the table return to the baking pan, flesh side down, brush the fat portion with beaten egg, sprinkle generously with chopped parsley and bread crumbs and let it heat through in the oven. A gravy can be made by boiling down the cider in which the ham was first roasted.

Hard to Believe.

"Well, I never!" exclaimed Mrs. Bligh. "What's the matter?" asked her husband in a startled tone as he turned around from his shaving glass. "The idea of a grown man like you standing there for five minutes at a time admiring yourself!" "I'm not admiring myself. My feelings are those of astonishment, not admiration. I can't realize that I'm the same person who years ago was called 'precious pet' and held on people's knees and kissed by the neighbors. It's an awful thought."

Only in the Fall.

An Irish soldier was crossing a bar-rack square with a pall in which he was going to get some water. A sergeant, passing at the time, noticed that Pat had a very disreputable looking pair of trousers on and, wishing to make a report, stopped the man and asked: "Where are you going?" "To get some water." "What! in those trousers?" "No, sergeant, in the pall!"

A Temperance Champion.

Mrs. Teacup—Oh, Mr. Tubbs, I was so delighted when I heard that you were such a staunch champion of the temperance cause! Tubbs—Why, er—pardon me, exactly— "Now, don't try to hide your light under a bushel, Mr. Tubbs, I know, because I heard George say that you have been a booze fighter all your life. He said you punished more of it than any ten men in the state."

Street Car Speed.

"Ever notice," asked the street car philosopher, "how the speed of street cars is regulated by our frame of mind?" "In what way?" "Notice how slow a street car is when you are in a hurry to catch a train and how fast it goes when you run to catch it."

Grandmother Don't Advertise.

You will find that the storekeeper who is always complaining that business is not what it used to be is the man who doesn't believe in advertising. He is dead and doesn't know it.

Encouraging.

He—Darling, would you rather select the stone? She—Not the first time, dear. I am afraid I might select one that was too small.

At Quito, the only city in the world on the line of the equator, the sun sets and rises at 6 o'clock the year round.

People Who Enjoy Being Miserable.

How can anybody enjoy being miserable? Men do, and so do women. They surround themselves with an atmosphere of gloom. They hug trouble to their breasts. They make mountains out of molehills, and there are tears and groans when there should be smiles.

Perhaps you have a cynic in your employ. You can pick him out with your eyes shut. He has the blues from Monday morning till Saturday night. He will tell you that he always gets the worst of it from everybody; that his talent isn't recognized; that his genius is wasted; that he isn't getting enough money; that there is no future for him, and a lot of tommyrot like that.

After that comes the brooding stage. Any man who broods over real or fancied wrongs is dangerous. He is not sane, and he is also a mighty poor workman, whether he is making hoe handles or counting money in a bank. He deliberately destroys his own efficiency and chance for success, and all for the perilous and questionable happiness of being miserable.

This Sounds Right.

Sometimes it happens that a severe shock restores health to persons who are suffering from nervous prostration, and this is how the phenomenon is explained in a foreign medical journal:

"Every external stimulus impresses the afferent centripetal fibers, or, rather, excites the molecular waves of change. The latter in turn decompose the unstable molecules of a focus, and, through the intervention of other fibers, this decomposition, being the source of new molecular movement, gives an impulse to a certain mass of connected focus."

"The new vibratory modification thus obtained forms a new nervous fluid. A portion of the current flows over the afferent fibers to the contractile muscles of the periphery, while the other portion is propagated by the reverse action of indistinct waves to the most remote centers of the organic economy, and thus a complete and natural nervous diffusion takes place."

Physicians, of course, understand what this means, but how many laymen can interpret it?

The Chinese Language.

Chinese is an ideographic language. It conveys the idea and not the word for a thing, as the figure 8 represents the idea and not the word. The Chinese have invented more than 40,000 marks for their writing, but it requires only about 2,000 marks for mercantile correspondence, and it is said to be easier to learn than the words of an ordinary foreign language. Russian is more difficult for Americans than Chinese. It takes much longer to learn the spoken language because of the variety of dialects, but any one can learn enough of the writings to answer ordinary purposes in a few months and have his knowledge perfected by a linguist within about a year. Exact instruction in one of the Chinese languages can only be given by a Chinaman.

To Bring Him to Terms.

"Yes," said young Mrs. Sola. "Henry and I had some words this morning, and I can't deny that he got the best of it."

"That will never do," returned the experienced neighbor. "You can't afford to start in married life that way." "I know it," answered the young wife. "I've thought it all over, and when he comes home tonight I'm going to bring him to terms so quick that he'll hardly know what's happened."

"That's right, my dear. Show some spirit. What are you going to do?" "I'm going to bring up the subject again and then cry."

No Dispute.

Good stories come from Scotland as well as poetry and lacy 'yes. The last is quite admirable in its way. A traveler observing an ancient couple arguing and postulating in the road, in order to avert bloodshed, asked the cause of the dispute.

"We're no disputin' at all," answered the man; "we're both of the same mind. I have got a half crown in my pocket, and she thinks she's no want to get it, and I think the same!"—*London Globe*.

Great Men and Large Families.

A careful study of the circumstances of birth and childhood of what were considered to be the fifty greatest men of modern times disclosed the fact, interesting in comparison, that the average great man was born in a family of six children, not including half brothers or half sisters. It was figured from the data that the chances for greatness in a child are two to one in favor of the older half of the family.

Improving on Euclid.

The Pioneer of Abolition tells stories of some "kindergarten" classes in the English army. Among the definitions given in an examination is one of a circle peculiarly happy, which gives a freshness to Euclid. It is, "A straight line which starts at a certain point and gets back to the same point as quickly as possible."

Cafeter.

"Don't you sometimes feel that wealth is unfairly distributed?" asked the social reformer. "I do," answered Senator Sorghum. "Many is the dollar I have given away in a campaign that didn't do me a cent's worth of good."

An Others See Him.

"Ah, he'll never be able to fill his father's shoes." "No. But he thinks his hat would come down over the old man's ears all right."

WEAR, BRAIN WORKERS.

All jugged out, ideas flow slowly as molasses, snap and energy gone! The brainy man that made work a pleasure, that goes down, energetic, better eating of digesting thought, it's better he you need to have up that stiff appetite and improve assimilation and digestion so that his of pure strong blood will be formed to nourish the broken down system. For 25 years we have made the food feeling, before your parts and energy, revive, your audacity and strength for work. No more of that like Parkinson's—try it. Times 50¢ a box, or 10 boxes for \$2.50; at Druggists, or Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont.

Booker—Is your friend a good critic?

Pertman—Oh, yes. He don't mind being sworn at a bit.

She—What has your wife got on her bonnet?

He—I think she's got \$6 on it yet.

HAMILTON'S PILLS CURE CONSTIPATION.

Mrs. Gray—Do you think this bathing suit will attract too much attention?

Her Husband—Oh no, it will scarcely be noticed.

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