

TELLING STORIES IN THE SCHOOLS

(By Aunt Annie.)

I have been seeing much of late about telling stories in the schools. I am very much pleased with this idea. I think in the first place it would foster a taste for reading in the child.

Now, I imagine children's taste for reading differs as widely as their taste for food. Some, no doubt, would beg a story from "Uncle Remus," and the "Tar Baby" would exactly suit their taste.

When I was a child fairy stories were not put upon the lower shelves. If they did not appeal to me, unless we except "Red Riding Hood," "Jack the Giant Killer," "Jack and the Beanstalk," "Cinderella," etc.

I used to sit and listen to some one tell Cooper's stories, and I think when I was quite young I could relate "The Last of the Mohicans," "The Prairie," "The Spy," "Waterwitch," etc.

Having had several years' experience with the young, I have come to the opinion that fairy stories are not worth telling, save just a few which have become classic, and which all want to know about.

Many think that the child's mind grasps more easily such things as are given in Grimm's Fairy Stories, but I have come to the conclusion that the normal child will digest more tangible literary food than his, and if they can not or will not, let them content themselves with the crumbs which fall to them from their school books.

Let them have the story of the French Revolution, the story of the Reformation of the 16th century. Show up Henry the 8th in his true colors, Mary of Scotland, Elizabeth of England, the pitiful story of little King Arthur, and the stirring incidents connected with William Tell.

Let them have the story of the mounted portraits of David and Pegraaty, "Betsy Trotwood and Agnes" and on another shelf carefully placed "Robinson Crusoe and Friday," and farther down, old "Don Quixote and Sancho Panza," and still on "Joe, Beth, Amy and Mey," and still on in plain view Mr. Primrose and his wife who tried his dear old soul, and last but not least "Rip" and his scolding wife, with his old dog Wolf, running out the back door and yelping from a heartless kick, they will have no taste for fairies, witches and goblins—and all the "Brier Rabbits."

DESCRIPTION OF A FLOATING MINE

Floating mines are not put down to drift at large. They are provided with an automatic mooring apparatus, so that the limits of an area sown with mines may be fairly definitely known.

In size the average mines are some four or five feet in diameter. It is charged with a high explosive, mostly of the type known to experts as picric explosives. The method by which it is discharged is not the force with which the ship strikes it.

NOT CAPABLE OF SELF-GOVERNMENT

Edward J. Dodd, president of the Chicago Patrolman's Association, has announced that he thinks the lynching of Leo M. Frank indicates that Georgia is not capable of self-government.

"About two years ago I had a severe attack of diarrhoea which lasted for over a week," writes W. C. Jones, Buford, N. D. "I became so weak that I could not stand upright."

woods of Indiana. Describe Shockey, Betsy Short, Hannah, Bud and all the rest.

I like reading that "points a moral or adorns a tale," and I do not think that fairy tales do either. Neither do I think they improve the imagination, for who could imagine conversation between a lilly and a rose.

Don't forget amid the wonders of the Arabian Nights, the ludicrous adventures of old Don Quixotte, the incomparable sketches of Irving, the life like pictures of Dickens, the satire of Dean Swift, and the Marvellous tale of De Foe, then give them little snatches of sure enough tales.

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TAVENNER REPLIES TO GARDNER

(Remarks of Clyde H. Tavenner.) I recently sat in the House of Representatives and hear the Hon. Augustus Gardner, of Massachusetts, make the statement upon his responsibility as a member of the American Congress that—

"If war were to break out today, it would be found that our coast defenses have not sufficient ammunition for an hour's fight."

Whether or not Mr. Gardner's statement is correct I can not say, because I do not know; but this I do know, that we do not have the ammunition and armament that we have paid for—and should have in return for the countless millions of dollars of the American people's money that have been expended from the public treasury.

I mean to say that those army and navy officers who do the purchasing of war munitions and who are paid a salary by the people and are trusted by the people to see that the government receives a dollar's worth of material for every dollar expended, have permitted a ring of ammunition manufacturers to outrageously overcharge Uncle Sam for armor, guns, powder, and munitions in general.

For instance, the War Department in 1913 purchased seven thousand 4.7 inch shrapnel from the ammunition ring, paying \$25.26 each therefor. At the same time precisely the same shrapnel was being manufactured in the government-owned Frankford arsenal for \$15.45, all overhead charges included.

Mr. Average Citizen, are you willing that the public officials in the War Department who are spending your money, should pay \$25.26 for an article that they could have manufactured in government plants for \$15.45?

This instance is not the exception, it is the rule. The army and navy officers in 20 years have purchased \$175,000,000 worth of armor, armament, and munitions from four firms which have a monopoly in this country on the manufacture of such supplies.

As the result of frequently repeated statements similar to that made by Mr. Gardner, the average citizen is at last beginning to ask: "What becomes of the \$250,000,000 that is being spent annually on our army and navy? Who, pray, is getting the money?"

And it is time the people are beginning to show anxiety, because their money has been squandered like water, and unless Mr. Average Citizen wakes up and removes the wool from his eyes it is going to continue to be squandered.

The American people have never been let into the secret of who the profit makers are in the traffic of war and preparation for war in this country, and the methods by which they help themselves at the public trough. I will go further and venture the assertion that not 30 members of Congress know the identity of the select ring of patriots for profit into whose pockets the millions of the masses are pouring, which gentlemen have a water-tight monopoly in this country on the traffic of war trading, and who have drawn down every penny of \$50,000,000 in excessive and extortionate profits from the government by direct virtue of their influential friends.

The Secretary of the Navy can try as he will to get some one to underbid the armor ring, either in this country or abroad, and he will not be able to escape the net; he has tried and has not been able to escape it.

Armor, armament, and ammunition contractors are not big enough fools to cut each other's throats. Their business is to supply for a gigantic profit the wherewithal for the peoples of the earth to enjoy a monopoly of throat cutting and the pulling of limb from limb. As for themselves, they do not indulge in price-cutting warfare. Their game is purely profit making. They start the ball rolling by making nations distrustful of one another, and then in inducing them to overprepare for war. Does anyone doubt that if the European nations had not been so overprepared for war they would have been so willing to have entered it?

NOT ENOUGH CHILDREN

ever receive the proper balance of food to sufficiently nourish both body and brain during the growing period when nature's demands are greater than in mature life. This is shown in so many pale faces, lean bodies, frequent colds, and lack of ambition.

STOMACH TROUBLES

Mr. Ragland Writes Interesting Letter on This Subject.

Madison Heights, Va.—Mr. Chas. A. Ragland, of this place, writes: "I have been taking Thedford's Black-Draught for indigestion, and other stomach troubles, also colds, and find it to be the very best medicine I have ever used."

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FRANK TO HIS ATTORNEY

Famous Prisoner Asserted Innocence And Expected Vindication.

(From The Atlanta Constitution.) L. Z. Rosser, leading counsel for Leo M. Frank, recently released for publication the following recent correspondence between himself and his noted client. In his letter Frank maintained his innocence and gave some interesting views upon his position. Mr. Rosser declined to make a statement for publication.

The correspondence is as follows: Milledgeville, Ga., July 1, 1915. Hon. L. Z. Rosser, Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Rosser—You will, I know, pardon my not having written you sooner. Letter which I had written to others of counsel were meant for you to share.

At this writing my health is much better, my cold having nearly left me. I am sleeping fine and my appetite is good.

The warden and his staff are very kind and solicitous.

Will you please send me J. M. Stanton's present mail address. I would like to write to him. I would also like to have the present address of Col. M. J. Yoemanns.

I have been given some "chores" in and about the prison building, commensurate with my present physical condition. I go to bed at 8:30 p. m. and arise about 4 a. m. My work consumes about 5-7 hours a day. Of course I must be ready to do any other work, besides the routine work, on call. Even at that, I have several hours a day for reading, writing or any reasonable form of exercise or diversion. The sunshine and atmosphere here are great. I have plenty of opportunity to view plant life and my field for observation in the crimi-psychological field is practically limitless.

Still "stripes" and the environment of a penal institution, while interesting in their way, pall upon the vision of an innocent man. Physically, I am a part of it; spiritually, I am totally foreign. Yet, as the old saw has it, "ad astra per aspera," it cannot last for always, even though for the present I am designated as a "lifer."

I want to assure you how deep is my respect for you as a man and attorney. I am not in this predicament because of anything you did or did not do. My misfortune is the result of a "system," coupled with ignorance and chicanery.

Won't you kindly remember me to all inquiring friends, and with every good wish, I am,

Cordially yours, (Copy) LEO M. FRANK. P. S.—My dear mother delivered your message to me. "Sapienti sat."

MARKS IN WOOD RECORD HEAVY WIND STORMS

Little diagonal streaks or wrinkles across the grain of a piece of timber not only betray weakness, but sometimes indicate periods of stress through which the wood passed when it was growing. The marks are caused by what are called "compression failures," which occur when the fibers bend or buckle under a too heavy strain. In cutting up logs collected by the forest service laboratory at Madison, Wisconsin, it was noticed that these compression failures appeared on the north side of a number of trees which came from the same locality in Florida.

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