

Christian Life Column.

THE ADMIRAL'S BIBLE.

Up to the time of the Battle of Santiago the battle-ship Texas had suffered such a series of misfortunes that the sailors declared her to have been "hoodooed" Her honorable share in that battle quite redeemed her from that nautical superstition. Among the officers of the navy, none emerged from the war with Spain with brighter laurels than the commander of the Texas, Captain, afterward Rear Admiral, "Jack" Philip. No one incident in the war more deeply touched the hearts of the American people than his courage and humanity in that battle. His modest and reverent confession of faith in God in the moment of victory, and his calm words that stopped the cheer on the lips of his eager men, "Don't cheer, boys, the poor fellows are dying," met with instant admiration as the honest expression of a brave, reverent, manly soul. Admiral Philip did not live long after the war. After his death his Bible passed into the hands of others, and its well-thumbed and heavily underscored pages revealed in part the secret of his power. Of this treasured book, Rev. Milton Merle Smith says: "I have never seen a Bible more marked and stambed than his. The portions most marked are the fourteenth chapter of John and the eighth chapter of Romans. In the former chapter every verse except three is marked.

"It was Admiral Philip's custom to note on the margin the dates when he began either the Old or the New Testament in his readings by course. I find twelve dates noted when he began to read the Old Testament, and thirty four when he began to read the New. Many, many times he must have read the Bible from its beginning to its end. I find here the secret of his gentleness and power." A number of literary quotations are pasted carefully in the Bible. On the first page of the New Testament is pasted this card:

Put any burden upon me, only sustain me. Send me anywhere, only go with me. Never any tie, but this tie which binds me to Thy service and Thy heart.

The verse most heavily underscored in this Bible is that which contains the words of Jesus: "Whoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven."

The blusterer and the braggart, the man of coarse speech and evil life may, in spite of all that, be a brave man; but the man of the highest courage is far more often a man of faith and Christian kindness. Admiral Philip was not only a man of courage, of power; he was also a man of courage, of power; he was also a man of a gentle and tender heart; a gentleman of a type which, when met, is instantly recognized and universally respected and beloved.

It is no insignificant thing to come, after the death of such a man, upon an old and thumb marked Bible, and to learn that there lay the source and secret of the spirit which the whole world has honored and still honors—S. Lectel.

ONCE THE VEIL HAS BEEN LIFTED.

If one desires to understand the life of the best character he must trace it away from the great cities, crossing mountainous plains until he comes to some lonely spot among the everlasting hills. It is there he will find the spring from which life begins, and standing there he will understand after what fashion a man believes, thinks, works and reasons. No doubt the stream will be reinforced from many quarters, from literature, from art, from science; but the stream will also keep on its way, cutting through many a rocky obstacle, and to the very end, it will carry with it some of the freshness and color of its origin. Great lives have not only begun in some single moment, when the veil was lifted, revealing the things which are unseen and eternal. Once the veil has been lifted and the man has seen, you can trust that in his future life nothing can discourage that man again, for nothing can overcome him who has once seen God.—Ian MacLaren.

Just a TEASPOONFUL of Perry Davis' Painkiller in warm water or milk, taken after exposure to cold or wet will quicken the circulation and thus prevent a chill. There is but one Painkiller, Perry-Davis'.

Children's Column.

BRER WILLIAMS AT THE SPIRIT MEETIN'.

Hit wuz at de sperrit meetin', En Brer Williams take de stan', En ax te see de home folks, En ter shake 'em by de han': En we all sot still ez a rabbit on a hill, En de man what run de meetin' 'Lowed he gwine ter fill de bill. 'Yo' folks is come, Brer Williams, En 'll soon commence ter talk, Fer de table is a-risin' En a-gwine for a walk: Den silence one en all.' En no soun' wuz in de hall; You could lissen at de quiet, En could heah a fudder fall. Den Brer Williams raise his head up, En he prime his ears at dat, En he ax de sperrit feller— How de climate whar dey at? En he say, "Hit's hot in ever' spot, En yo' better be contented Wid de worl' yo' got!"

Den dey oome a mighty ruction: "Hah's yo' folks a-comin' now!" Day hollered to Brer Williams, "You mus' rise en make yo' bow." En Brer William say dat he wish dat he could stay, But he got a quick engagement Jes at de break er day! —By Frank L. Stanton, in Collier's Weekly.

SOME BOYS I'VE SEEN.

One boy I have seen I would not recommend for any position whatever. He is bright and energetic, he has winning manners, but he is dishonest.

What does he do? He cheats in little, mean ways—and thinks it's smart. He writes a note on the corner of a newspaper and mails it at newspaper rates; he holds his railroad trip ticket in such a way that when the conductor punches it the boy gets three rides where he should have but two, and then he boasts of "getting the better" of the railroad; he borrowed a pencil when he entered an office on trial, and the pencil went away in his pocket. He has no keen sense of honor, he has lost his self-respect, and worse still, he does not know it.

I saw a small boy stealing a ride on the back of a street car. "Not much harm in that?" Well, it is cheating, that's all.

"John," said a lady in the office where John was employed, "don't you live near the corner of Fifth street and West avenue?" Yes, he did. "Then will you take this parcel around there on your way home?" John did not quite dare to say "No," but he grumbled out after the lady had turned away, "There's no money in working overtime." He never knew that one listener might have recommended him for a better position, nor that his surly remark lost him the chance.

"What he wants," two men were talking of a third, "is a truck that will come right up to the job and load itself." Tom was that kind of a boy. He would do his work—yes, but in a grudging sort of a way, and never in the way he was told to do it if he could possibly devise another. Unless constantly called to order, he would tip back his chair, in his leisure moments, put his feet on top of the table and drum with his fingers. Tom lost his place after a very short trial, and so will every boy who takes no pains to do as he is told or to be courteous.—Alice M. Guernsey, in The American Boy.

BADGES OF HONOR.

Someone has said that a boy is well dressed when his collar is clean and his shoes are blacked. That ought to comfort some of you lads who have been looking forward with a little dread to the opening of school. For though most boys have better things to think of than the clothes they wear, still it is not pleasant to have patches on your knees and elbows, when the boys who sit next you are resplendent in brand new suits.

Yet there are times when patches are badges of honor, while the new suits are like disgraceful uniforms. We have known boys to threaten to "stay out of school" unless they could be dressed "as well as the other boys," when perhaps the father and mother were well-nigh sinking beneath financial burdens.

A boy shows a weakness not only of head, but of heart, when he decides that he would "rather leave school" than wear a shabby coat, when his father and mother are making sacrifices for him.—Exchange.

Woman's Work.

FASHION.

This Fashion's a whimsical sort of a sprite; Her ways, I confess, are too much for me, quite!

Lavinia, sixty years ago, Was dressed in the height of the style, you know, The pride of her fond relations; Yet Mabel smiles at the quaint little miss, With her frock like that, and her shoes like this,— As some one at Mabel will smile, I wis, When the dress that to day she is proud to wear Belongs with the hoops and the powdered hair And the patches of past generations!

But this is the question that puzzles me; The rose's frock is the same, I see, With the trimming of dew upon it, That roses wore in Lavinia's day; And the tulip's petticoat, striped and gay, Is made in the same old-fashioned way; And never a change, for a hundred years, In the cut of the marigold's gown appears, Or the shape of the sweet pea's bonnet!

Yet nobody says that the flowers look queer. Pray can you explain to me why, my dear? —Margaret Johnson, in February St. Nicholas.

How many women drink enough water?

Very few indeed; and no wonder they have dried up, wrinkled faces and figures! And yet every woman can have a water cure at home. The first thing after rising in the morning the teeth should be brushed and one or two glassfuls of water drunk. If the liver needs stimulating, the water should be hot and a little salt added. Drink frequently between meals, but never while eating. Fully a pint of water should be taken before breakfast and on retiring.—Maude C. Murray-Miller, in Woman's Home Companion.

THE NEW LOOSE-FITTING FRONTS, IN JACKETS, WAISTS, ETC.

In consequence of the contour given the figure by the low-bust, straight-front corset, and the bouffant effect of shirt-waists and bodices at the front, the fit of coats, jackets and outer garments generally, of the present season, is looser than heretofore. The general principle of this easy fit over the front is similar to that of the present style overcoat for men. The satisfactory results experienced in wearing a garment of this cut are surpassed only by the feeling of comfort in knowing that a handsome bodice or shirt waist will not be crushed and deprived of its original freshness after being worn only once or twice under a garment cut on lines heretofore fashionable. A special article in The Delineator, for March, makes plain the steps by which this new fit is accomplished.

HOW A WOMAN SUCCEEDED WITH GERANIUMS.

I have better success with geraniums than with any other flower. In July or August I plant cuttings for winter blooming, using four or six-inch pots, tin cans or anything, filled with a mixture of well rotted stable manure, leaf mold and garden soil. I put one cutting in the pot in which it is to stay and do not transplant. When five or six inches high, I pinch out the top and pinch the ends again later on, until I have a bushy plant. Keep all buds pinched off until November, and then the plants will be full of luxuriant blooms all winter. I have no pit or greenhouse, but keep my plants in the south and west windows all over the house. In very cold weather I pin a newspaper around each plant, and have never had any frozen, even in our coldest winters. In the spring I put these geraniums in beds in the yard or in larger pots on the porches where they grow very large and bloom profusely, but they are not good for house plants the following winter. I rarely ever keep a geranium more than two years.—Mrs. LeRoy R. Whitener, North Carolina, in Home and Flowers.

THE EVERY-DAY CHILD.

The mother aims at perfection for her child without realizing what perfection in a child should be. Too often the fond parent feels that the dress makes the child, and consequently adorns it in the latest and showiest fashion without realizing that harm instead of good is done to

the child by hampering its actions or making it over conscious. The every-day child will revel in dirt. It accumulates it by satisfying its curiosity, for its hands are into everything as well as its feet and knees and clothes. He must get nearer to Mother Earth. His instinct is unerring in this respect, and his good nurse repays him a thousand fold. Dr. Grace Peckham Murray, in the February Delineator, says mothers should encourage the mud pie making and sand digging, and the dress and clothing should be such that the child would not be reproved for muddy shoes, soiled and torn dresses.

RECKLESS DRUG-TAKING.

A physician, who knew what he intended to say and was not accustomed to speak rashly, once expressed his conviction that the average life of mankind would be prolonged, and the sum of human misery lessened, if every drug in existence could be destroyed and none ever again made.

He was a practicing physician, prescribing drugs daily in his treatment of disease and believing in their efficacy. What he meant was that more harm was done by the common practice of flying to the medicine-chest or the apothecary's shop for every little ailment, and by the enslaving opium, chloral and other "habits" so induced, than could be counteracted by the good effected in the legitimate use of remedies by properly educated physicians. And truly he had much to justify him in this gloomy view.

An American physician who has endeavored to investigate the use of narcotics in his State has published some startling figures as to the consumption of opium. If his results can be relied upon there is in this country an appalling number of slaves to the opium habit, most of whom doubtless began by the taking of an occasional dose on their own responsibility to relieve pain or induce sleep.

But all the harm of self drugging is not in the formation of those "habits." Many, who have never taken a dose of narcotic medicine knowingly, nevertheless seldom let a day pass without swallowing something which they think, or have been told, is good for kidney disease or gout or rheumatism or dyspepsia or biliousness, or some other ailment which they think, or have been told, they are suffering from. They may or may not have guessed the cause of their bad feelings, but the chances are ten to one that the drugs they take so recklessly will do no good, if they do not do actual harm.

Drugs are poisons, which cannot but work evil upon the system if taken in a haphazard fashion by those ignorant of their action on the delicate machinery of the living body. Laxatives and liver remedies, nervines and tonics, quinine and iron, all are useful—life saving—at the proper time and in the proper dose; but taken in the quantities that they are, in season and out of season, for some reason or no reason, they are pernicious destroyers of health.—Youth's Companion.

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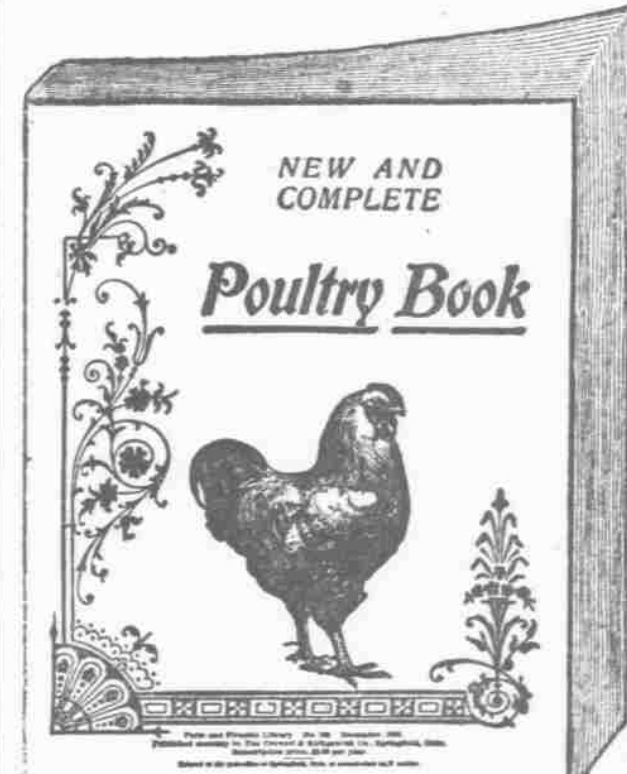
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