

son was like a sweet morsel under the tongue; but let me repeat to you the words of a thoughtful old writer who said, "As amber attracts straw, so does beauty admiration, which only lasts while the warmth lasts; but virtue, wisdom, goodness, real worth, like the loadstone, never lose their power. These are true graces." You know that beauty may be defaced by disease and lose its power to attract admiration; but beauty of the soul outlasts the life of the body, and commands the lasting admiration of men, of angels and of the King of moral beauty Himself. Therefore, dear Nelly, be grateful to God, Who has given you a lovely face; but don't fail to ask Him to adorn your soul with a beauty like His own.

### ODDS AND ENDS

Of all the peoples of Europe, the French have the fewest children and the Irish the most. The average French family numbers 3.3 persons, and the average Irish family 5.2. In England the average is 4.8.

'If I punish you,' said a mother to her little girl, 'you don't suppose that I do so for my pleasure, do you?'

'Then, whose pleasure is it for, mamma?'

Never judge a friend by his relatives but by his friends. One isn't responsible for his relatives. Be they good, bad, or indifferent, they are thrust upon him, but friends are self-chosen, and what they are so is the person.

A recently published bulletin of the Census Bureau shows that 19,625,757 copies of daily newspapers are turned out each week-day in the United States. One newspaper for every four persons! The number printed on or for Sundays is 11,534,521.

### FAMILY FUN

There is a word of five letters, and if two of them are taken away six will remain. What is it? 'Sixty.' Take away 'ty,' 'six' will remain.

Can you tell why a hare is easier to catch than an heiress? It is because an heiress has an 'i,' and a hare has none.

Can you tell what letter it is that has been used but twice in America? It is 'a,' it is used only twice in 'America.'

There is a word of five letters, and if two of them are taken ten will remain. What word is that? It is 'often.' If 'of,' is taken away ten will remain.

Can you tell when there were only two vowels? It was in the days of Noah, before you and I were born—in the days of no a, before u and i were born.

There is one word which, if you change the place of one of its letters, means exactly the opposite from what it did at first. What is the word? It is 'untied.' Place the 'i' after the 't' and it becomes 'untied.'

The next time you have some of your little friends at home, offer to turn a glass of water into milk by breathing into it. Of course they will not believe you can do it, and will make all kinds of fun at your boast. When you have their curiosity aroused, leave the room and get your magic apparatus together. You will need some limewater, a piece of glass and an ordinary glass tumbler. Enough limewater may be purchased at the chemist's for a few pennies, half a pint being more than enough for your trick. The piece of glass may be got from an old broken pane. It should be three inches long and narrow enough to enter the tumbler at its widest part.

Fill the tumbler with limewater and bring it into the room where the children are assembled. Place it on the table where all may see, but none must taste. Tell them the magic properties of your breath will change the water into milk; then breathe frequently into the tumbler, stirring constantly with a piece of glass. The perfectly transparent limewater will assume a chalky look, finally growing white until it resembles skim milk amid the applause of the audience. Next explain that your magic breath will in a few minutes produce chalk. Let the tumbler remain perfectly quiet for a time while some diversion is made. Upon looking at the water you will find that a layer of chalk has been deposited in the bottom of the glass.

## All Sorts

An ardent teetotaler, in conversation with the late Sir Wilfrid Lawson, once found fault with the practice of 'christening' vessels with champagne before being launched. Sir Wilfrid did not altogether agree with him, and said a good temperance lesson could be learnt from the practice. 'How can that be?' asked his companion. 'Well,' replied the 'witty baronet,' 'after the first taste of wine the ship takes to the water, and sticks to it ever after.'

The Vesuvian eruption has destroyed the Neapolitan oyster. The Bay of Naples produced an oyster esteemed by epicures as the choicest in all Italy. For the present at least the Neapolitan oyster is an extinct species. According to Professor Doru, director of the aquarium of Naples, the ashes from the volcano falling in the bay have covered the oysters in the beds to such a depth that every oyster in the beds was smothered, and the beds themselves were hopelessly buried.

Turkeys never came from Turkey: they are natives of America. Camel's-hair brushes are seldom made from the hair of the humpbacked quadruped. They are mostly of the bushy hair from squirrels' tails. Porpoise hide is not made from porpoise at all. It is taken from the white whale. Cork legs are not made of cork, nor do they come from Cork. The willow tree usually furnishes material for them. Cleopatra's needle, that wonderful obelisk of Egypt, was made 1000 years before Cleopatra was born, and really has nothing to do with her.

Mark Twain and D. W. Howells were one day lunching in a cafe in New York. Two overdressed young men entered, and the first said in a loud voice: 'Waiter, bring me some bisque of lobster, a bottle of white wine, and a chop. Just mention my name to the cook, too, so that everything will be done to my liking.' The second young man said: 'Bring me some sole with peas, and tell the cook who it's for.' Mr. Twain gave his order a moment later. He said, with a wink at his companion: 'Bring me a half-dozen oysters, and mention my name to each of them.'

In an article on 'The Regularity of Earthquakes,' contributed to the 'Daily Mail,' Professor Milne, F.R.S., calls attention to the theory suggested by the Rev. H. V. Gill, S.J., according to which earthquakes and such like disturbances at one place may, under certain conditions, give rise to corresponding shocks in other places. This theory depends on the fact that displacements of the material constituting the earth's mass at any point give rise to a wobble of the axis of rotation, which in turn produces a corresponding disturbance in other places symmetrically situated with regard to the first position. The theory was described in a recent issue of the 'N.Z. Tablet.'

The ferry wharf was crowded with weary home goers when through the crowd rushed a man, hot, excited, laden to the chin with bundles of every shape and size. He sprinted down the pier, his eyes fixed on a ferry boat only two or three feet out from the pier. He paused but an instant on the stringer and then, cheered on by the amused crowd, he made a flying leap across the intervening stretch of water and landed safely on the deck. A fat man happened to be standing on the exact spot on which he struck, and they both went down with a resounding crash. When the arriving man recovered his breath he apologized to the fat man. 'I hope I didn't hurt you,' he said. 'I am sorry. But, anyway, I caught the boat.'

'But, you idiot,' said the fat man, 'the boat was coming in!'

A short time ago a self-made man, who was trying to show off before others, came to grief.

It happened at a travelling show which visited his local town, of which he was (in his own estimation, at least) a very prominent character. He was taking his family and several friends around and explaining in a very bombastic manner histories of all the animals and birds in the show. When they had walked through the exhibition, they came upon a notice on which was painted in large letters: 'To the egress.'

Thinking to improve the situation, the self-made man looked round and said grandiloquently to those in his wake: 'I suppose very few of you know what an egress is, I will now proceed to explain the points of this bird to you. Follow me.' And, walking through the door to which the notice pointed, he found himself—in the street!