

THE ACCURATE BOY

The small boy stood in the doorway with his battered hat in his hand.

'If you please, sir, do you want to hire a boy?'

The great merchant looked around at his caller.

'Did you wipe your feet on the outside?' he harshly demanded.

The small boy shook his head.

'No, sir,' he replied, 'I wiped my shoes on the outside.'

There was a moment's silence.

'Hang up your hat,' said the merchant. 'You're engaged.'

COMPOSITION ON CLOTHING

Here is one little boy's composition on clothing. Can you write a better one?

'The first place it comes from is off the backs of sheep. In some towns like Australia and Cape Colony, millions of sheep are kept. They are killed and their skins are sent to the factories to be made into wool. In summer the sheep do not want so much wool, so they get it washed and cut off, and they pack it up in bales, and the farmers send it to the nearest railway station. The farmer washes the sheep, and then he stands them up to dry, and then shaves all the wool off. Some boys have to sell newspapers so as to get clothing or something else to eat. When the cotton is ready to be cut down, the people slip out and catch slaves. The cotton is packed in bills, and sent to England. If we could not get wool, we would be cold, as we would only be able to wear cloth coats, so you see the value of cotton.'

A SUITABLE SUBJECT

'The late Marion Crawford,' said a New York editor, 'was a good if not a brilliant speaker. He imputed his success to a little Sorrento girl.'

'In Sorrento once he rose to address a children's school.'

'"Children," he began, "what shall I talk about?"'

'And this little girl piped from a rear bench very wisely:

'"What do you know?"'

FAMILY FUN

The Nerve Trick.—This feat is performed as follows:—A card having been selected, is returned to the pack, which is then handed to one of the company, who is requested to hold it by one end, horizontally before him, his thumb being above, and his fingers below. While held in this position, the performer strikes them smartly downwards, when all the cards, save one only, fall and are scattered about the ground; while the single card left in the hand is found to be that which was chosen. This curious effect is produced by very simple causes. The performer takes care, in giving the cards to be held, that the fingers of the holder shall project (as they naturally will do) about an inch on the under side of the cards. The thumb, on the contrary, is not allowed to overlap the cards more than half an inch. If the cards are thus held in a horizontal position, and pretty tightly, the effect of a smart downward rap will be to force out all the cards save the bottom one, which is retained by the greater friction of the fingers. The performer has therefore only to get the chosen card to the bottom of the pack, and the remainder of the trick follows as of course. To the adept in sleight-of-hand the getting of a given card to any required position is a matter of no difficulty whatever; but the expedients of legerdemain would demand not only far greater space than we have at command in these pages, but an amount of study and practice which comparatively few persons are prepared to undergo. We proceed, therefore, in accordance with our undertaking, to show the reader a mode of attaining the same object, for which no dexterity whatever is necessary.

The Twenty-one Cards, terminated by the Nerve Trick. —Count off twenty-one cards, and lay aside the rest of the pack. Deal these twenty-one cards, face downwards, in three heaps, requesting one of the company to note any card, and to tell you to which of the three heaps it belongs. The heap having been indicated, you pick up the twenty-one cards, placing that heap upon the other two, and deal the cards again. Once more, ask the spectator in which heap his card was, place that heap uppermost, and proceed as before. This must be repeated three times. When the spectator has for the third time stated which heap the card is in, the card will inevitably be the top card of that particular heap. You place this heap once more uppermost, and placing the twenty-one cards on the rest of the pack, give the whole to be held as directed above, but face upwards, thereby bringing the top card undermost. When the cards are struck down as above mentioned, this card will remain staring the spectator in the face.

All Sorts

When is a ship like snow?—When she's adrift.

The average life of a dog is from ten to twelve years.

Shopper: 'Can I put this paper on my self?'

Salesman: 'Yes, but it would look better on the wall.'

Guest: 'Hey, waiter, how long will my steak be?'

Waiter: 'The average length is about four inches, sir.'

The woman that maketh a good pudding in silence is better than she who maketh a tart reply.

Little Girl: 'Please, Mr. Keeper, will it hurt the elephant if I give him a currant out of my bun?'

The world is crowded only in spots. There are still 20,000,000 square miles of the earth's surface that have not been explored.

'What is the meaning of the word "lukewarm"?' asked the teacher.

'Water is lukewarm when it looks warm and isn't.'

Of the 700,000 persons who die in the United Kingdom every year only about 20,000 leave property valued at more than £500.

The air breathed daily by a person weighs 34lb—about six times as much as the food and drink consumed in the same amount of time.

A noble monument to Longfellow was unveiled at the National Capital on May 7. Longfellow is the first American man of letters to receive such an honor.

A lady entered a well-known bank and presented a crossed cheque to one of the tellers. 'I'm sorry I cannot pay this across the counter,' he said, politely. 'Oh, shall I come round that side?' replied the lady.

'Robbie,' said the visitor, 'have you any little brothers and sisters?'

'No,' replied wee Robbie; 'I'm all the children we've got.'

There are three kinds of people in the world—the wills, the won'ts, and the can'ts. The first accomplish everything; the second oppose everything; the third fail in everything.

Corrected.—A: 'Now, if I understand correctly, the first principle of Socialism is to divide with your brother man.' B: 'Then you don't understand it correctly. The first principle of Socialism is to make your brother man divide with you.'

Little Bernice, aged three, was taken up to the barber shop one day to have her hair trimmed. A few days later her mamma asked her what she saw up at the barber shop, whereupon she answered: 'Oh, mamma, there was a man came in, and another man put icing all over his face.'

Irish numismatic rarities of high value were among the lots sold recently in London in the Rashleigh collection of coins. The most prized of the lot was a gold St. Patrick farthing, which, according to Nelson's 'Coinage of Ireland,' is unique in this metal. On the obverse is shown King David crowned; kneeling to the left, playing upon the harp with thirteen strings, while on the reverse is St. Patrick, mitred, standing, holding a patriarchal cross in his left hand, stretching forth his right hand and driving out the reptiles; behind is a church. It was bought for £33.

Among the passengers from New York who landed at Queenstown by the Carmania on June 26 was a little girl of four to whose satchel was attached a label: 'Nellie Mahony, passenger to Queenstown.' She was consigned, it was stated, by her father to the care of a passenger, to be landed at Queenstown, where friends would await her. The passenger, however, declined further responsibility on the journey, with the result that the little one, instead of being left friendless, immediately became the pet of the ship. On arrival she was met by two ladies, who after fondly embracing her conveyed her away rejoicing.

The Cabinet-room in the White House is America's nearest approach to a throne-room. It is about the size of a dining-room in an average country house of the colonial style. It is almost severely simple. The coloring is olive green and white—white woodwork with olive green burlap on the walls. The chairs of the President and his nine Cabinet Ministers, which surround the long mahogany table in the centre of the room, are covered with green leather. The President's differs from the others only in that the back is higher. On a small metal plate on the back of each chair is the title of the holder and the date of his accession, but not his name. On one side of the Cabinet table is a fireplace, with a very high mantelpiece over it; on the other is a spacious, leather-covered divan. At one end of the table are the sliding-doors leading to the President's private office; at the other three large French windows, looking out across the White House grounds towards Pennsylvania Avenue. There are leather-covered armchairs in the corners. The room is practically without decoration. A room more completely symbolizing Republican simplicity it would be difficult to imagine.

For Children's Hacking Cough at night

Wood's Great Peppermint Cure, 1/6 and 2/6