Children's Column

A Daffodil's Sermon.

"Oh, Daffy-down-dilly, the air is so chilly,
How can you keep warm, you bright little thing?"
"Oh, is it so chilly?" said Daffy-down-dilly;
"I thought it was warm, for you know it is spring.
If I should once shiver, the lilies would quiver,
The birds then would see us, and they would not sing.
My heart is not chilly," said Daffy-down-dilly,
"And that is the reason I think it is spring."

—St. Nicholas.

Pets of the Japanese Children.

For pets the children have a kind of tiny rabbit and a queer breed of cats. The cats have white fur with black and yellow spots, and do not have tails. Tiny dogs also are sometimes seen. In the houses of families of moderate circumstances there is usually an aquarium well stocked with beautiful and curious varieties of fish, gold, silver, and crimson, some as round as a ball, some with spreading fins as fine as gauze. Another pet is the large katydid, whose piercing note is very much enjoyed by the children. The katydids are very numerous in certain places in the summer. As a residence for these creatures they have bamboo cages, built like tiny houses, in which they daily arrange beds of fresh flowers or leaves for the minstrels. Gaily colored butterflies are sometimes kept in the same kind of cage upon beds of flowers. Butterflies have been seen to light voluntarily on children's hands; and in Japan birds, too, show that they are not afraid of man or child.

A Kite-Flying Festival.

Miss Ida Tigner Hodnett writes of "The Little Japanese at Home," in St. Nicholas. Miss Hodnett says:

Among the outdoor sports one of the most popular is kite-flying, varied in many ways, and very fascinating to all. When their New Year comes, then does the sport of kite-flying give great delight to the little boys, big boys—yes, and to the grown up boys as well. The kites are made of very tough paper on a frame of bamboo. Various shapes are made—round, oblong, oval, but generally rectangular. Sometimes fantastic shapes, representing, birds, beasts, men or children, are made. On the more ordinary kinds are painted or sketched pictures of beautiful women, of the heroes of ancient Japanese history, of the many species of dragon, the ideal monster, all serve to make the kites attractive. The humming kite is a favorite one, and sometimes the air is filled with the musical sounds made by a swarm of them. These kites are made with a thin piece of bamboo or whalebone stretched across, placed so as to vibrate in the wind. The vibration makes a humming noise somewhat like the sound of an æolian harp.

Do Your Best.

A minister tells how when a boy he was a great whistler, and sometimes whistled in unusual and unseemly places. One day not long since, says an exchange, he came out of a hotel whistling quite low. A little boy playing in the yard heard him, and said, "Is that the best you can whistle?"

"No," said the minister, "can you beat it?"

The boy said he could, and the minister said, "Well, let's hear you."

The little fellow began his whistle, and then insisted that the minister should try again. He did so, and the boy acknowledged that it was good whistling, and as he started away the little fellow said:

"Well, if you can whistle better, what were you whistling that way for?"

Sure enough, why should not any one do his best, if he does anything? The world has plenty of poor, slipshod, third-class work done by people who could do better if they would. Let every boy and girl try to do their best, whether in whistling, singing, working or playing, and whatever they do, let them do it heartily as unto the Lord.

My Texas Cows.

I owned sixty-five acres of bottom land where the coarse blue-joint grass grew in canebrakelike rankness. My Texas cows chose this dense cover in which to bring forth their young. One spring I knew that there were over twenty calves continually hidden in the grass on this bottom. Every morning cow after cow would slip out of the herd and disappear in the tall grass. After an absence of an hour or two they would return to the herd. In the late afternoon they would again disappear, to rejoin the herd just about corralling time. When the calves were three or four days old, their mothers would bring them out into the herd, and their places in the grass would be occupied by younger calves. Once I desired to see the young calves, and I rode into the grass to hunt for them. After an assiduous search I found one calf lying prone on the earth, with its head and neck extended and pressed into the thick mat of old grass that lay on the ground. The little creature lay perfectly quiet, watching my horse. It did not so much as wink its dark eyes when I dismounted and extended my hand toward it. I leaned over it. It watched me intently, but did not stir. I dropped my hand on its head. Instantly it was on its feet and calling loudly for protection, calling that the wolf its mother had told of had come. I heard twenty mother cows bellow in answer to the calf's call that they were coming. The dry grass snapped and cracked in all directions as the maddened cows rushed wildly to their young. I mounted my horse and quickly rode away from that spot. Each cow ran in a direct line to the place where its calf was hidden. The entire herd rushed into the cover to do battle for the calf. What an uproar there was! Cows, steers, bulls, all calling loudly to one another in angry, excited tones. I had a foolish setter dog with me, and he had to mix himself into the trouble. The first cow that saw him bellowed to the others that she saw the wolf. They all pursued him, and he, dog-like, fled to me for protection, and my own cows gave me a brisk chase as I galloped over the prairie. The herd were excited and angry for hours.—Frank Wilkeson, in Our Dumb Animals.

Stand Fast, Boys! Stand Fast!

If war is a business, then it, of all trades known to humanity, should be transacted upon the strictest and most comprehensive lines. Half-way war is no war at all, and dawdling and uncertainty never yet won a battle, averted disaster, or reconstructed the shattered remains of accident or misfortune.

There are those who claim that courage is, to a great extent, a physical condition. Men who are morally brave may, it is said, be physically cowardly.

Whatever may be the truth in this matter it is beyond question that the world has no use for cowards of any sort. It can pity, but never trust them. There is no telling at what untoward moment they may fall into a state of collapse, and wreck every interest that has been entrusted to their care. There are few epithets more opprobrious than that of coward, few names to which a man is more reluctant to answer.

During the war of 1812, a regiment of volunteers, while protecting an outpost, was set upon by the enemy, who had swung the flank of his army around with the intention of sweeping this little band of patriots from their position. The colonel was a man who had never been able to understand the meaning of the word fear. When the attack was made, with one tremendous bound he reached the highest point of the earthworks thrown up for the protection of the post, and shouted to his men to follow. With bullet and sabre they mowed down the advancing foe. A shot from the enemy tore away a portion of the colonel's throat. A groan of despair was heard among the men, and they began to waver. Concentrating his entire remaining strength in the effort, he clutched his throat with one hand, swung his sword with the other, swung it with such effect that a headless body rolled down the incline, then turned to his men and cried out: "Stand fast, boys! Stand fast!"

It was not the voice of the commander, but a shriek unlike anything human—a cry without any comparison. It shook the surrounding air and quivered and vibrated above the volleys of musketry and the clang of swords. It set the blood of the men in a flame. As one man, they poured over the earthworks and, like fiends made desperate by calamity, they wrought such havoc and destruction that the enemy fell back disconcerted and terror-stricken. They held their post and kept their colors floating. The unquenchable spirit that, in defiance of death itself, shouted that last battle-cry, "Stand fast, boys! Stand fast!" lives today, and is ingrained in the very nerve and fibre of the American people. It is a part of the integrity of our institutions; it is anchored into great America so deep that no enemy can mine beneath it, no bomb can explode it, and no torpedo that human hands can make can blow it up.—New York Ledger.

Berlin's Bird Man.

Berlin pays a salary to a professional bird-catcher, who keeps scientific institutions supplied with birds, nests and eggs. He is the only man in the empire permitted to do so.

A School Girl's Battle.

From The Mail, Milford, Ind.

Miss Emma Rybolt, a prepossessing school girl of Milford, Ind., is of more than usual intelligence, and is ambitious to rise in the literary world.

"In the fall of 1896," said Mrs. Rybolt, "Emma was taken ill. She was a close student and her work began to tell on her. She grew weak, pale and nervous, and complained of pains in her back, chest and limbs. A few weeks passed and she grew worse. The doctor said she was a victim of nervous prostration, and should have been taken from school weeks earlier. She gradually grew worse, her nerves were so tense that the least noise irritated her and she had a fever and a continual twitching in her muscles. The symptoms were much like St. Vitus' dance.

Her Battle.

"A year passed, and, under a change of physicians, Emma became somewhat better but soon was as bad as ever. One day I read of a case similar to hers which was cured by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People and I decided to try them.

"Emma had no faith in proprietary medicines but tried the pills, and after taking a dozen doses, she began to improve. It was about the first of April when she began and by the middle of May, after taking about eight boxes, she was entirely cured.

"While ill, she lost twenty-eight pounds, but now weighs more than ever before. Her nerves are strong and she is in perfect health. We are all confident that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People cured her, and I cheerfully recommend them in all similar cases. MRS. E. A. RYBOLT."

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this third day of September, 1897.

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Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People will cure all diseases arising from a poor and watery condition of the blood, will build up a run down system and are a specific for paralysis, locomotor ataxia and other diseases long regarded as incurable.

Calling Down a Beat.

Lord George Bentinck did not like a debtor. When dining once in his club he noticed a man whom he knew as a defaulter also dining there. The latter called for his bill. As the waiter was bringing it Lord George interposed, and, in his commanding, incvisive tones, said, "Waiter, bring that bill to me." Coolly casting his eye over its items, Lord George said, in a voice heard all over the room, and with a severity of tone, which made his unfortunate victim wince, "Before Captain —— orders such expensive dinners he should pay his debts of honor."—San Francisco Argonaut.

Woman As a Hater.

Men are good at revenge—they have so many ways of prompt action—but, while she must wait long perhaps, a woman is the best hater if once wronged, and if before death her day comes she strikes.

In Hungary whiskey is distilled from turnips, maize, potatoes and molasses.

A Beautiful Skin

is one of the chief requisites of an attractive appearance. Rough, dry, scaly patches, little blistery eruptions, red and unsightly ringworms—these would spoil the beauty of a veritable Venus. They are completely and quickly cured by Tetterine. 50 cents a box at drug stores or for 50 cents in stamps from J. T. Shuptrine, Savannah, Ga.

A cow may have many good qualities, but she is too modest to blow her own horn.

Educate Your Bowels With Cascarets.

Candy Cathartic, cure constipation forever. 10c, 25c. If C. C. C. fail, druggists refund money.

A sort of opium is obtained from the common lettuce.

Lyon & Co's "Pick Leaf" Smoking Tobacco is the best for Pipe and hand-made Cigarette smoking. Rich, ripe, mellow, fragrant. Beats the world. Try it.

An Anti-Substitution Victory.

Allen S. Olmsted, of Le Roy, N. Y., whose phrase, "A sample sent free on application," is so ubiquitous in the newspapers, won a signal victory when Justice Laughlin, in Supreme Court, Buffalo, issued a permanent injunction on the ground that the Foot Powder in question was an infringement on *Foot Ease*, the original one, for shaking into shoes, etc. Suits will be brought against all others who imitate his trade mark, powder or sample packages, which packages are sent free. A postal card addressed Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y., gives your feet relief.

DYSPEPSIA, INDIGESTION and all Stomach troubles cured by Taber's Pepsin Compound. Sample bottle mailed free. Write Dr. Taber Mfg. Co., Savannah, Ga.

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Guaranteed tobacco habit cure, makes weak men strong, blood pure. 50c, $1. All druggists.

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From Gold Commission's official survey. Address Gardner & Co., Colorado Springs, Colo.

The Southern Saw Works are the leaders in the South. See their advertisement in this issue. Their saws will suit you.

We will give $100 reward for any case of catarrh that cannot be cured with Hall's Catarh Cure. Taken internally.

F. J. CHENEY & Co., Props., Toledo, O.

I cannot speak too highly of Piso's Cure for Consumption.—Mrs. FRANK MOSES, 215 W. 22d St., New York, Oct. 29, 1895.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c. a bottle.

In Hamburg the authorities tax a dog according to its size.

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Moscow has a hospital large enough to hold about 7,000 persons.

Why Josephine's Name Was Changed.

Lieut. Alexander Sharp, Jr., naval aide to Assistant Secretary Roosevelt, was Wednesday assigned to the command of the improvised gunboat Vixen. The Vixen was formerly P. B. Widener's yacht Josephine, which happens to be the Christian name of Mrs. Sharp. When Mrs. Sharp was told by her husband that he had asked Secretary Long to make him captain of the Josephine, Mrs. Sharp dropped the remark to the effect that "if you do get that yacht, she will be the only Josephine you ever commanded." Lieut. Sharp thought this was pretty good, and told it to Secretary Long. Then the Secretary changed the name of the Josephine to Vixen, and Mrs. Sharp is wondering if the Secretary's choice had reference to the story told him by her husband.

Beauty Is Blood Deep.

Clean blood means a clean skin. No beauty without it. Cascarets, Candy Cathartic clean your blood and keep it clean, by stirring up the lazy liver and driving all impurities from the body. Begin to-day to banish pimples, boils, blotches, blackheads, and that sickly bilious complexion by taking Cascarets,—beauty for ten cents. All druggists, satisfaction guaranteed, 10c, 25c, 50c.

Whatever Noah's shortcomings were, he knew enough to go in when it rained.

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Scrofula, Catarrh, Rheumatism, all skin and blood diseases, from the smallest pimple to the foulest ulcer. $1.00 per large bottle, 3 for $2.50, at druggists, or sent for price, express paid, by Blood Balm Co., Atlanta, Ga.

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Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder for the feet. It cures painful, swollen, nervous, smarting feet and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age. Allen's Foot-Ease makes tight or new shoes feel easy. It is a certain cure for sweating, callous and hot, tired, aching feet. *Try it to-day.* Sold by all druggists and shoe stores, 25c. Trial package FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

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