

## FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

### SOME GOOD STORIES FOR OUR JUNIOR READERS.

The Day the Baby Came—A Pet Florida Crane—When the Periwinkles Go to Ride—Ten Little Soldiers—His Choice.

**Ten Little Soldiers.**  
Ten little soldiers lay in a row,  
Stretching out on the nursery floor.  
Just when they could see with their  
sharp little eyes  
Through the crack that was under  
the door.

Their captain had left them all there  
for the night,  
And said, as he crept into bed,  
"If any one tries to come into the  
room,  
You must fire and shoot him stone-  
dead."

The hours went by, and the ten little  
guys  
Were aimed at the crack near the  
door.  
When all of a sudden the crack stretch-  
ed and grew.  
And somebody opened the door.

Bang! bang! went the guns—the sol-  
diers all fired.  
But nobody seemed to be dead;  
Instead they all heard a soft kiss in  
the dark.  
"Good-night, dear!" a loving voice  
said.

Then all the ten soldiers shook badly  
with fright.  
And whispered low one to another:  
"How lucky it was that our guns were  
so small!  
What if we had killed Tommy's  
mother?"

—Mulla Thomas Elder.

**The Day the Baby Came.**  
Elsie had so often asked God for a  
baby sister that she really didn't feel  
much surprised when papa came late  
one morning and told her  
that a baby had come to their house  
in the night.

Papa didn't have time to talk with  
her, because he had to hurry away to  
send messages to the grandmas and  
aunties, so Elsie told Mary Alice all  
about it. Mary Alice was her favorite  
girl, and she was such a comfort when  
people didn't have time to attend to  
her.

"Did you hear your grandpa say,  
Mary Alice, that there's a cunning new  
baby up in mamma's room?" Elsie  
was whispering to Mary Alice, and she  
didn't wait for her to answer.  
"Now, my dear, don't say 'Ow' just  
because I pull a little. By and by  
we are going up to see the baby, and  
I want you to look nice, so you must  
be very polite to her."

Mary Alice didn't say anything, but  
she looked as if she meant to be very  
sweet and pleasant.  
"It's very nice to have an auntie,"  
continued Elsie, tying up two of Mary  
Alice's curls with a blue ribbon. "When  
she gets a little older, she'll like to  
play with us, and I'll be sure to let  
her have you for her little girl."

Mary Alice looked so serious and as if  
she didn't like the idea of being just  
to any one, so her mamma said quick-  
ly:  
"Don't cry, dear. You shall be my  
little girl always if you'd rather."

Elsie dried Mary Alice's tears and  
cuddled her until she felt happy again.  
Then she dressed her in a beautiful  
white dress, with a blue sash and set  
her in a little rocking-chair.

"Now you can watch mamma while  
she finds something pretty to take up  
to your new auntie," she said, cheer-  
fully.

Elsie looked over all her treasures  
and finally chose two small dolls and  
a picture book. Then, with Mary Alice  
in her arms, she went to sit in the  
window-seat just outside of mamma's  
door.

After a while papa came out of the  
room, and seeing Elsie, told her she  
might go in and peep at the baby.  
Elsie walked in very timidly, but she  
forgot to be afraid when she saw  
Nurse Crump sitting there with a small  
bundle on her lap. The nurse pulled  
aside the blanket so that Elsie could  
see the funny little face and the gun-  
ning hands.

Elsie put her face down close to the  
baby's and said softly:  
"I've brought up some dolls to you,  
and when you get a little bigger Mary  
Alice and I will play with you."  
The baby didn't look a bit pleased,  
but screwed up its face and stretched  
its tiny arms.

"Don't you like dolls?" Elsie asked,  
doubtfully. "Praps you'd rather have  
a picture book."  
But this didn't suit any better, and  
Elsie's dismay the baby began to cry.

"Mary Alice, I'm afraid she wants  
you," said Elsie, in great distress. "I  
don't see how I can give you up."  
Just then the doctor came into the  
room. "Well, how do you like your  
little brother, Elsie?" he said, picking  
her cheek.

Elsie nearly dropped Mary Alice in  
her surprise. Of course a doctor would  
be for dolls. She must bring up her  
top and those bright-colored marbles.  
Those would please him, she was sure.  
"Mary Alice," she said, as they went  
down the stairs, "I'm afraid you've  
gotten to get up to an uncle."

—Grace M. Remick, in Youth's Companion.

When the Periwinkles Go to Ride.

Roderick Dhu is the big gray horse  
that carries all the little Periwinkles  
and the two on the front seat—for of  
course there must be room for papa

there—three on the back seat, and a  
Periwinkle for two rolling round in  
the bottom of the carriage. That  
makes quite a load, you see; but Roderick  
Dhu likes loads of Periwinkles.  
The good thing is that papa goes  
up hill and down dale, picking up his  
ears at the chattering and laughing  
behind him, and smacking his big lips  
once in a while at the thought of the  
four plums he will have when he gets  
home—so many sugar plums as there  
are Periwinkles. Roderick Dhu has  
perfect faith in those plums!

In the bottom of the carriage, rolling  
round—with the loose little Perwin-  
kles, you know—always a shiny tin  
dipper. That's to water the little Per-  
winckles with, of course—"watering  
the critters," papa calls it.

You never saw such thirsty children!  
Once, twice, three times the shiny dip-  
per has to be filled every time they get  
to a pump or a watering trough with a  
clear little stream of spring water  
trickling down into it.

When they get to that, Roderick Dhu  
has a drink, too, and there is a great  
deal of ceremony observed. I can tell  
you! You would think it was at the  
white house in Washington, and the  
Periwinkles were just going in to din-  
ner.

First a Periwinkle gets out and un-  
derstands Roderick Dhu, then another one  
gets out with the shiny dipper. Then  
papa thinks of drinking till after  
Roderick Dhu has his long, cool  
draught.

"Oh, no, indeed—that isn't Perwin-  
kle manners. Would you have them  
filling the little shiny dipper with the  
trickling stream first—before Roderick  
Dhu's nose has a chance to dip deep  
into the trough? Then you have never  
been introduced to my little Perwin-  
kles. They never think of such a thing."

The Periwinkle with the dipper  
stands quietly waiting beside the  
trough until Roderick Dhu is through  
drinking.  
"Course," he would say if you asked  
him why, "we do it out of respect for  
Roderick Dhu's gray hairs."

And that is what I call true polit-  
eness, and I hope, when these Perwin-  
kles are all grown up, they will drink  
the clear, cool water tastes especially  
good to all the dear, polite little Perwin-  
kles.—Hilary Kent.

**His Choice.**  
See, here in my hand is half a dollar!  
And five bright pennies, all in a  
heap.  
Put on your thinking cap, little scholar,  
Which of them do you choose to  
keep?

Five bright new pennies all in a row—  
Just one half-dollar, and that one  
dingy!  
"Why, of course," little scholar said,  
"you know  
I'd choose the pennies, it wasn't  
stings!"  
—Annie Hamilton Donnell.

**A Pet Florida Crane.**  
From Forest and Stream: He stands  
at one side by the hour, just plumb-  
ing himself, then gently picking at shoe  
buttons and finger rings. Occasionally  
he is indulged in a little pastime  
that of taking the hairpins out of his  
mistress' hair. In nature he is as gen-  
tle and affectionate as a kitten, and as  
he has never been teased he has no en-  
mity for anything except a dog. One  
night he was attacked by a strange  
dog, and since then his hatred for any  
canine other than the home dog is in-  
tense, and as soon as his eagle eye de-  
fects a strange dog he gives a cry of  
alarm, and in the most quick, sedate,  
but surely walks out of range into a  
puppy retired corner. He is more val-  
uable than a watch dog, for at night,  
should any strange object intrude on  
the premises, he will quickly give a warn-  
ing in a voice so loud and clangorous  
to wake even the "seven sleepers"

themselves. Dick has always been in-  
ordinately fond of his master, whom he  
makes every effort to please. It is his  
command and he will dance, bowing  
and twirl in the most graceful man-  
ner; then, circling with wings distend-  
ed around her yard and back again to  
bow and curtsy.

Another very peculiar recognition of his  
intelligence is the manner in which he  
always welcomes his owner. He recog-  
nizes the horse and carriage as far as  
his eye can reach, and long before the  
bird is in the stable, he is already greet-  
ing a greeting, which is continued  
until the master reaches the gate.  
When at the single command, "Louder,  
Dick!" he throws his head back and  
gives forth a long, rattling note, in-  
creasing in volume and pleasure. To no  
one else will he give this welcome. It is  
unique and peculiar—for his owner  
alone.

**Queer.**  
Said a little white cloud to the deep  
blue sea:  
"If I were you and you were me,  
You could sail up here, while I'd roar  
so loud!  
What fun it would be!" said the little  
white cloud.

A little schoolgirl came down to the  
shore  
And listened to hear the big waves  
roar.  
"How queer it seems that the deep  
blue sea  
And that little white cloud are the  
same!" she said.

—Jennie Betts Hartwick.

**The Historic Remark.**  
"Let us on!" cried the young man im-  
patiently. Still the word came not. The  
army marched. But the commander was  
determined not to attack until he had  
fully prepared, and any epigram to be  
said should be said in the heart of the  
seemingly certain event of the day.  
—Detroit Journal.

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## FARM AND GARDEN.

### MATTERS OF INTEREST TO AGRICULTURISTS.

Some Up-to-Date Hints About Cultivation of the Soil and Yields Thereof—Horticulture, Viticulture and Floriculture.

**A School of Forestry.**  
The science of forestry is not only  
new in this country, where thousands  
of acres of the primeval wilderness  
still exist, but is practically unknown  
in the sense in which it is practiced  
in the old world, where forests are  
esteemed a precious possession to be  
carefully guarded by the state. This  
is the natural result of conditions in  
a new country which encourage waste  
in developing the resources of the soil.  
Forests which should have been pro-  
tected have been recklessly sacrificed  
to the energy of the pioneer and the  
greed of the lumberman. But happily  
the American people are beginning to  
realize the dangers that threaten from  
the denuding of forest lands, and steps  
are being taken to preserve the wood-  
ed domain that yet remains. The agri-  
cultural department at Washington  
and the wide-awake horticulturists of  
the country, by voice and pen, have de-  
veloped a sentiment that has resulted  
in some very beneficial legislation. New  
York state, for example, realizing that  
its forests are important factors in the  
conservation of moisture, and neces-  
sary to the preservation of its game  
and fish, in 1885 began the purchase  
of forest land in the Adirondack moun-  
tains, to be retained by the state as a  
park. Over one million acres have thus  
been acquired, which will be increased,  
if the present policy is carried out, to  
2,000,000 acres. In the prairie states of  
the west the government has en-  
couraged the planting of forests by  
offering "timber claims" to pioneers  
that will plant and maintain for a term  
of years a certain number of acres in  
trees.

The establishment of such a senti-  
ment, and the practical work it has  
done since, is the 191 goud reports are  
included in the summary.

**CONCLUSIONS OF CO-OPERATIVE TESTS.**  
1. In the average yield of winter  
wheat per acre, the Dawson's Golden  
Chaff stood highest among 11 varieties  
tested over Ontario in the year 1893,  
among 9 varieties in each of the years  
1894, 1895, and 1896, and among 7  
varieties in each of the years 1897 and  
1898.

2. Three of the varieties of winter  
wheat have been tested over Ontario  
for five years in succession with the  
following average yields of grain per  
acre: Dawson's Golden Chaff, 32.9  
bushels; Early Genesee Giant, 28.9  
bushels; and Early Red Clawson, 28.7  
bushels.

3. Dawson's Golden Chaff was the  
most popular variety with the experi-  
menters in each of the past five years.  
4. In the co-operative experiments  
for 1895, the Dawson's Golden Chaff  
possessed the strongest straw, and the  
Pooler and Imperial Amber the weakest  
straw in 1898.

5. The Early Genesee Giant, Dawson's  
Golden Chaff, and New Columbia  
possessed the strongest straw, and the  
Pooler and Imperial Amber the weakest  
straw in 1898.

6. In the co-operative experiments  
of each of the past five years the Daw-  
son's Golden Chaff was one of the  
least, and the Early Genesee Giant was  
one of the most, affected by rust.

7. In 1898, all varieties were prac-  
tically free from smut, which is nearly  
always the case when no smut is sown  
with the wheat.

8. The Pride of Genesee and the Im-  
perial Amber produced the longest, and  
the New Columbia the shortest, straw.  
9. The New Columbia, Early Red  
Clawson, and Dawson's Golden Chaff  
were the first, and the Early Genesee  
Giant and Pride of Genesee were the  
last, to mature.

10. The Dawson's Golden Chaff and  
New Columbia produced the plumpest,  
and the Pooler the most shrunken,  
grain.

**A Living on Fire Acres.**  
We get many remarkable letters  
from those who are just starting in  
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## The Band.

### The Kansas Experiment Station sends out the following valuable information on the sand-plug:

Among the native fruit of Kansas  
there is none more interesting or val-  
uable than the sand-plug (Prunus Watsoni).  
Distributed abundantly over the  
western half of the state, it borders the  
streams and covers the adjacent sand-  
hills, sometimes extending into the  
clay uplands, but always at a zone of  
vigor in growth and quality in fruit.  
In its natural habit it attains a height  
from two to eight feet, having usu-  
ally a tree-like form, though often  
branching and bearing fruit from  
ground to top. Branches horizontal,  
with a tendency to zigzag and tangled  
growth, and often terminating in  
sharp, spiny points. Twig slender, of  
cherry red color and abundantly sup-  
plied with lenticles. Leaves thick,  
glabrous, very finely serrate, serrations  
sometimes so pointed as to be  
spiny. In shape it is usually  
from one-half to 1 1/2 and one-half  
inches, and in habit conduplicate or  
trough-like when exposed to brilliant  
sunlight, and almost flat in dim light.  
Blossoms small, occurring in dense  
clusters in early spring. Fruit oblong  
to round, yellowish pink to dark red,  
one-half to one and one-fourth inches  
in diameter, ripening from July 1 to  
September 15. Sixteen-fourth to  
three-fourths inches long, slender. Pit  
small, roundish to long, slender and  
pointed. The plant propagates most  
rapidly by sprouts from the roots. If  
a specimen is dug from a thicket it  
will generally be observed to have but  
a single large root, eight or ten inches  
below the surface, which extends to  
the east and west, supporting perhaps half  
a dozen other but much smaller roots.

The sand-plug has varied into many  
types. But it has not produced, as we  
might suppose, different types for dif-  
ferent localities. It has crowded them  
close together, often in the same or  
adjacent thickets. Near the Arkansas  
river were found as many as six per-  
fectly distinct types on a ten-acre lot.  
Profusion of varieties is to be noted  
in every favored locality. It has been  
thought that the roots of this hardy  
plum might make valuable stocks for

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## THE HONEYBEE.

### Origin of Nursery Rhymes.

"Three Blind Mice" is a music-  
book of 1669.  
"A Froggie Would a-Wooling Go"  
was licensed in 1580.  
"Little Jack Horner" is older than  
the seventeenth century.  
"Pussy Cat, Pussy Cat, Where Have  
You Been?" dates from the reign of  
Queen Elizabeth.

"Boys and Girls Come Out to Play,"  
dates from Charles II., as does also  
"Lucy Locket Lost Her Pocket."  
"Old Mother Hubbard," "Goosey,  
Goosey, Gander," and "Old Mother  
Goose" apparently date back to the six-  
teenth century.

"Cinderella," "Jack the Giant-Kil-  
ler," "Blue-Beard," and "Tom Thumb"  
were given to the world in Paris in  
1697. The author was Charles Per-  
rault.

"Humpty-Dumpty" was a bold, bad  
baron, who lived in the days of King  
John, and was tumbled from power.  
His history was put into a riddle, the  
meaning of which is an egg.

"The Baa in the Wood" was found  
upon an actual crime committed in  
Norfolk, near Wraydon Wood, in the  
fourteenth century. An old house in the  
neighborhood is still pointed out upon  
a mantel-piece in which is carved the  
entire history.

**Canned Fruit.**  
Canned fruit should be emptied im-  
mediately after opening. Often a most  
dangerous acid is formed by the chemi-  
cal action of the air upon the solder of  
the cans. It is this acid, indeed, which  
is responsible for much of the prejudice  
against canned food. Many of the re-  
ported accidents have been traced to  
this form of kitchen misadventure.

**Gilt Frames.**  
Gilt frames that are tarnished or  
rubbed may be renovated by the fol-  
lowing treatment: Clean well and dust  
first, then apply with a soft brush a  
mixture made up by heating the white  
of three eggs with cream of tartar and  
a dash of soda.

**Latest in Jewellery.**  
A new large watch has a small dial  
enclosed by a watch with a large  
round case, which contains the move-  
ment. It is said to be a better time-  
keeper than former watches of this  
class.

**Beautiful New Silks.**  
Faint, beautiful, Victoria reappears  
in many other latest styles of silks.  
brought out in harmonious variety,  
these are used alike for entire gowns,  
fancy waists, caps, etc., and for all  
rich combination robes and accom-  
paniments.

**Lack of Moisture.**  
An electrician advises that often the  
sole trouble, when the household be-  
comes with not ring, is lack of ring.  
Shake up the electric jars, and it will  
does not effect the relief sought for  
more water in them.

Nineteen times out of twenty a wo-  
man jumps down from her bicycle al-  
though it was a dog-cart or some other  
vehicle equally low. There is no need  
for this. She will find it far more  
becoming to her dignity to step al-  
lightly at the proper time, with a  
downstroke of the foot.

The new purple or plum-red tain-  
cloths, velvets, satin brocades, etc.,  
are beautiful, and very becoming to either  
a blonde or a brunette with color.

Little silver horns or trumpets, long  
and slender, are found in the shops for  
an additional equipment to the fire-  
engine service. Their use is to  
extinguish with a puff of steam the  
flame of the alcohol lamp under the  
hot-water kettle.

An excellent cure for brittle nails is  
to soak them daily for a few minutes  
in blood-warm sweet oil. Lemon juice  
will remove stains and prevent rag-  
ing. For whitening the hands nothing  
is better than wearing gloves all night,  
after anointing the hands with a little  
sweet oil. Gloves should be worn  
when engaged in any work that  
is likely to soil the hands.

Never enter a sick-room in a state of  
perpiration, as the moment you be-  
come cool your pores absorb any in-  
fection that may be there. Do not ap-  
proach contagious diseases with an  
empty stomach, nor sit between the  
sick and the fire, because the heat at-  
tracts the vapour.

The highest masts of sailing vessels  
are from one hundred and sixty to one  
hundred and eighty feet high, and  
spread from thirty thousand to one hun-  
dred thousand square feet of canvas.

The best way to ascertain whether  
coffee has been adulterated is to pour  
cold water on it. If pure, it will color  
the water very slightly. If mixed with  
chicory the water will take a brownish  
hue.

Black gowns of lovely transparent or  
semi-transparent over silk or satin,  
and in heavier materials for day  
wear, will take the place in the ranks  
of fashion for the two seasons before  
us.

George III., wondering how the apple  
got into the dumpling is nothing to the  
small boy, looking between two  
uncut leaves of a magazine, said "Mam-  
my, how did they ever get the printing  
in there?"

"What is the meaning of the word  
'fantastic'?" asked the teacher.  
"Please, mamma," spoke up little  
Johnny Holcomb, "it means a circus  
procession passing the school-house,  
and the scholars not allowed to look  
out."



SHROPSHIRE RAM, A SPLENDID TYPE OF THE BREED.

put in motion, have revealed a great  
lack of experts in forestry, that is,  
men qualified by knowledge and experi-  
ence to manage these forests in a  
manner calculated to develop the high-  
est perfection, and yield an annual  
crop of timber which can be cut to ad-  
vantage. On this account Dr. Fernow,  
who for many years was chief of the  
forestry division of the department of  
agriculture, has earnestly advocated  
the establishment of a college of fore-  
stry, and his efforts have at last been  
rewarded. Such a school has recently  
been made a department of Cornell  
University, and Dr. Fernow has been  
installed as director thereof. The dem-  
onstration school forest will consist of  
30,000 acres of the Adirondack Forest  
Reservation, and many of the methods  
practiced in Germany, where the sci-  
ence is most highly developed, will be  
taught. Under this system the  
reckless destruction of the king of the  
forest, which have been maturing for  
hundreds of years will be discouraged,  
and instead younger trees will be cut  
which can be spared with benefit to  
those remaining, and leave the forest  
practically intact.

**Wheat Tests in Ontario.**  
In a report on wheat tests, the On-  
tario Experiment Station as-  
Seven varieties of winter wheat were  
sent out for co-operative experiments  
in the autumn of 1897. These were  
divided into three sets, with three var-  
ieties in each set, the Dawson's Golden  
Chaff being used in all the sets as a  
basis by which the results of all the  
varieties could be compared with one  
another. We have received 191 full  
and satisfactory reports of results of  
conducted winter wheat experiments  
for 1898.

The following table gives the com-  
parative yield of straw and grain per  
acre of each variety of winter wheat  
tested in 1898 on 191 farms.

	Grain	Straw per
	per acre, (weighted	per acre, (weighted
Dawson's Golden Chaff.....	30.6	30.6
Imperial Amber.....	29.3	29.3
Early Genesee Giant.....	28.2	28.2
New Columbia.....	27.6	27.6
Early Red Clawson.....	26.9	26.9
Pride of Genesee.....	25.5	25.5
Pooler.....	24.6	24.6

This table should be of great value  
to the wheat growers of Ontario, as

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but experiments of the station tend to  
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