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DECATUP, TEXAS, JANUARY, 1886.

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DAY-DREAMS.

THEEL were yellow heads in the moun-

And yel ow heads by the sea; And now they are in the school-room.
As busy as they can be.

But the yellow heads from the mountain Remember the dear old rocks; And how they would climb and clamber About with their "alpenstocks"

And the vellow heads from the seaside Sit dreaming of sands and caves; Of bright blue skies and of smishine, Of foam on the ',white-cap' waves.

And it's very hard to remember The lesson they learned before, When folks are dreaming of mountain And sands and the dear seashore.

- Youth's Companion.

Swim. Mard

URING the summer that I was eighteen I left my some in Cambridge for a visit to an aunt, who lived in a little town on the banks of the Mississippi, in Tennessee.

The principal amusement during the summer of the lads in the little town where my aunt resided was swimming in the great broad river that nearly encircled the little village and almost every boy in the vicinity was an expert swimmer.

But the best boy-swimmers in the town were my cousin Bob Atherton and his particular chum and crony, Harry Shaw.

At the time of which I write, both were aged about fourteen. Bob was a stout, muscular fellow, with a firm, well grew darker and darker. Everything set chin and a cool, determined expression, that never forseok him under any circumstances.

His friend was more slender, but active as a cat and switt of foot as a young Indian

As I said before, Bob and Harry were the best boy-swimmers in the town, and several times when the day was fine and the water smooth, they had awum across the river, which, at that point, is nearly a mile in width; but they had always had a skiff along in which to return.

One unusually warm day in September we strolled down to the river bank above the town, and made ready for a awim.

We had just struck out into the current when we saw, some distance up the river, a huge raft of lumber floating down in mid-stream; and we decided to reach it, rest ourselves a little while and then swim back to shore.

We reached the raft, and having selected some planks on which to rest our- the great, muddy wates dashing over

selves, lay down to have a chat. We had been resting perhaps ten minutes, and Bob had just proposed swimming back, when we were startled by a sort of bump that shook the whole raft, and springing ny we found to our dismay that the raft had landed on the Missonri side of the river.

It was all very well-to swim the river as a volunteer teat, with a skiff along to take one in if he gave out; but to swim across as a matter o, necessity was quite a different thing.

"Well, fellows, how are we going to get back?" I asked rather ruefully.

"Swim back, of course," said both in one breath.

A fresh oreeze had sprung up, and we saw that the longer we stayed the less likely would we be to reach the opposite shore in safety.

It was now evening. The sky had become overcas; and the breeze came in little irregular flaws. A storm was evidently coming up, and storms in that region sometimes come up very suddenly. The water out in the current now then showed an ominous white-cap, but we fearlessly plunged in, one after another, like frogs jumping off a log.

The water seemed very cold at first, but the exercise of swimming soon drove the chill away and we felt quite comfortable. The choppy waves annoyed us a little, dashing into our faces at the most or expected moments, and sometimes almost taking our breath away.

We were more than a quarter of a mile out when the wind completely died away. That meant a squall. The west seemed very still for awhile, and then a distant roar was heard, and presently we saw the squall coming up the river, lashing the water with indescribable fury, and bearing along a cloud of dust and leaves.

There was no chance now but to swim for life, and this we did with all our might. We were more than half way across the river when ! noticed that Harry began to show signs of fatigue.

Once he turned on his back and tried swimming that way, but the water washed completely over him, and he came up coughing violently. I swam to him and said encouragingly :

"Keep up, old fellow."

"Yes," he replied with difficulty, "but I can't get my breath."

I got him to rest on my shoulder for awhile until be recovered himself. Then he struck out again, but in a rather feeble way. swam for some distance quite slowly.

us all the time. I saw with dismov that Harry was again falling behind. Again I urged him to renew his evertions, but be only said, faintly.

"I am afraid I can't hold out."

I helped him all I could, at the same time imploring him to do his best.

"I am doing my best," he replied. bravely.

And in a few minutes we were cheered by a faint but triumphant shout from Bob, who had reached shore. Harry and I felt our feet touch bottom with a thrill of intense thankfulness. Now that we were safe, we all felt completely exhausted, and could searcely erawl

It was a long and weary walk up the river to the place where we had left our clothes, and as soon as we had put then on we hurried home, which we reached about 9 o'clock.

We were very tired, very lame, and not a little bruised by our terrible battle with wind and waves, but then we had it to say that we had swum the Missisippi river from shore to shore in the midst of a fearful thunder storm, and had lived to gain the land in safety.—From Golden Days.

School Savings Banks.

We mentioned a little while ago about the savings bank in Mr. Higgins' school in Brooklyn. You would like to hear something about how it is managed. It is like this: Deposits of from one cent to ten cents are received by the teacher from the pupils every Monday morning. The roll is called. When all is collected from the whole school the money is deposited in a real bank. When a pupil deposits as much as twenty-five cents he or she gets a bank book, just like a grown person. The principal of the school keeps the book accounts of the children very carefully. When a pupil's odd change amounts to twenty-five cents the sum is put upon his bank book again. The accounts are examined every menth.

The principal has charge of all the bank books. When a pupil leaves the school his book is returned to him, but he or his parents cannot draw the money without the consent of the principal. Sometimes bad and drunken parents want to take their children's savings away from them. Under this plan, in five weeks' time 400 pupils saved one hundred and twenty dollars.

Try it in your schools, boys and girls. Your teachers will help you.

Try the Herald 3 months for only 10

Written for the HERALD.]

Edison.

Thomas Alpha Edison was born in Eric county, Ohio, seb. 11, 1847.

He came of an industrious stock, but owing to the limited means of his parents, his educational advantages were few, never having the opportunity of attending school but two months, and was indebted to his father for the knowledge of reading and writing.

When he was twelve years old he became a newsboy on the Grand Trunk Railway between Port Huron and Detroit, Michigan, and saved enough to purchase a small farm. His ingenuity and enterprise was here manifested by by the publication of the first newspaper ever printed on a railroad train, and which he got up through the i-strumentality of a font of old type and a small hand press. This paper was only 8:12 inches, and was called the "Herald." Still desiring experimental knowledge he purchased a lot of chemicals and started a small labratory in the corner of the baggage car, but before he progressed far a bottle of phosphorus having fallen on the floor and broken, the car took fire, and he was compelled to bid farewell to railroading for some time.

About this time an incident happened which gave coloring to his whole after life. While standing on the platform one morning he noticed the little child of the station agent in the middle of the track. Just at this moment the express came thundering down, and in a few seconds would have been upon it. With great daring, and at the risk of his own life, he sprang upon the track and anatched the child from the very jaws of death.

The grate father offered to reward him on the spot, but Edison would not think of receiving it. The agent struck on a happy idea. He offered to teach him telegraphy, with which proposition he set to work earnestly, and soon became an expert operator. He now travaled from city to city, investigating the mysteries of the telegraph and its wires, batteries, etc. Happening in "the gold room," in Wall Street, one morning, he found all in confusion. The gold indicator was out of order, and no one knew the cause. He offered his services, and in five minutes had it all right. He soon became famous for his skill, and orders for repairing complicated machinery of all kinds flowed in.

From then till now he has been busily at work, and has secured 300 patents to his electrical inventions.

Some of his most momentous patents are: the chemical telegraph, by which 2,500 words per minute can be sent, the micro-tarometer, for measuring heat, the quadruplex telegraph, the electric pen, and lastly, our present system of excellent electric lights, on which he is now experimenting to fully perfect them.

He has recently invented a process by which gold can be taken from the "tail-

ings," heretofore considered worthless by miners.

This great and inventive genius, who sets all narrow deductions at defiance, is now only forty years old, in the prime of his life, and many more wonderful things are expected from his ever busy brain and hand.

Written for the HERALD.]

Memory.

One of the most important faculties of the mind, and that by which we acquire and retain knowledge and wisdom is memory.

Conceive if you can a person whose mind is incapable of receiving an impression—a man whose youth is a blank to himself; who cannot cherish the memory of the bright faces and gentle voices of loved friends and relatives who have passed beyond his vision and whose voices are silent to him—how empty, and joyless would be his life!

But, thanks to the Infinite power, all the human race are endowed with this indispensable faculty in a higher or lower degree. A great many owe their success in life to a good memory, and no doubt it is a great source of enjoyment to the aged and those in lowly condition to reflect on their young and more fortunate days.

When our brown and raven locks are s'lvered by age, our frail bodies worn out by disease, our minds burdened with care, then we will close our tired eyes on all unpleasant things, and let memory with gentle wings waft us into youth and gentle surroundings—once more will we feel the spirit of health that pervaded our youthful system; we will again feel the lightness of heart and mind that knows no sorrow, and feel even a deeper happiness than we did then, if our memory can reveal to us a useful and well-spent life.

That our memories can be improved is said to be a fact, and I am afraid this important faculty is neglected by many. Much might be said on its training and improvement, but I think one of the simplest modes is careful reading, earnest attention and close observation.

EVA CUTHBERTSON.

Written for the HERALD.]

Stamp Collecting.

This popular pastime is now recognized as a most pleasing and instructive amusement, and there is scarcely a viliage which has not several engaged in it.

The instruction derived from collecting foreign stamps stands pre-eminent. When a collector gets a new stamp his attention is instantly directed to the whereabouts of the country it represents, and in searching for this he also observes the manners, customs, religion etc., of foreign countries.

Sir Rowland Hill, an Englisman, invented the postage stamp, forty-seven years ago, and in this short time it has

proved a universal necessity and convenience.

It has now been forty years since the postage stamp was first used in the United States. Until then the postage was collected in money, and the prepayment was optional. From the mighty power of England, on whose possessions the sun never sets, and the great republic of the United States to the ice-laden shores of Iceland, the semi-enlightened empire of China, or the barbaric island of Borneo—all have their sets o stamps. Scarcely any small, remote islands of the world has not these great modern conveniences by which the news from all parts of the world may be obtained.

Among some of the most famous stamp collectors may be mentioned the royal family of England, the Pope, Baron Rothschild, Gen. Sherman and the sate A. T. Stewart.

Probably the largest collection of stamps in the United States is owned by Mr. Tiffany, of St. Louis, which consists of nearly ten thousand varieties, and is valued at thousands of dollars.

12,000 New York school children are stamp-collectors. "Carrious."

Next month we will strive to enlarge the Heral and several more interesting features will be added.

Not a Question of Arithmetic.

"Now, Johnny, if your father borrows \$100 and promises to pay ten dollars a week, how much will be owe in seven weeks?"

"One hundred dollars."

"I'm afråid you don't know your les-

"I may not know my lesson very well" Johnny frankly acknowledged, "but I'm acquainted with pa."

Editorship,

Some people estimate the ability of a periodical and the talent of its editor by the quality of its original matter. It is comparatively an easy task for a frothy writer to string out a column of words upon any and all subjects. His ideas may flow in one weak, washy, everlasting flood, and the command of his laughing yarns may enable him to string them together like bunches of onions, and yet his paper may be but a a meager and poor concern. Indeed, them re writing part of editing a paper is but a small portion of the work The care, the time employed in selecting is far more important, and the fact of a good editor is better shown by his selections more than anything else; and that we know is balf the battle. But we have said an editor ought to be estimated, his labor understood and appreciated, by the general conduct of his paper-its tone, its uniform, consistent course, aims, manliness dignity, and its propriety.

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CHAS. CATES, JR., Decatur, Texas.

Entered at the Decatur postoffice as second class mail matter.

We beg leave to return our thanks for the very generous patronage the HERALD has received, and also the many cheering words it has been the recipient of. It gives us new life and makes us feel as if our efforts in the journalistic line had not been entirely fruitless.

Another Christmas has passed away, and with it 1885 has been buried forever. 1885 will long be remembered as a year of great money depression, and has recorded many great failures. It has also witnessed the death of such great names as Grant, Hendricks, McClellan and Vanderbilt.

We have been asked several times why we do not give the local news in the HERALD. A weekly paper delays the local items long enough, while to endeavor to give it in a monthly paper is simply nonsense, and besides our subscribers are scattered all over the United States and have no desire to read the local happenings of a section hundreds of miles away.

The ousiness of painting the huge signs upon fences and barns which assault the eye in all parts of the country is in the hands of a few contractors in New York and Chicago. One firm in New York spends from ten to twenty thousand dollars a year in this way, paying from 11-2 to 2 cents a square foot for the work. The bigger the sign the Many can be found reaching 300 feet in length, and the biggest of all, (at Newark, Ohio), is more than eight hundred feet long and contains only one word.

To the day of Commodore Vanderbilt's death his word was law to William II. An illustration of this is furnished by a little scene on a Luropean tour which the two made in '53. They were on board the steam yacht Northern Star on their way to St. Petersburg. William, who was an habitual smoker, was puffing at his favorite cigar. "Bill," said the Commodore, "I wish you'd give up that smoking habit of yours. I'll give you ten thousand dollars if you will." The son threw the cigar overboard, saying as he did so, "You needn't pay me anything; your wish is sufficient." He smoked no more.

Emateur Journalism datas

Is an institution of young people, ranging in age from 14 to 25 years, who either edit, publish or contribute to amateur literary journals issued throughout America and Europe as an entertaining and instructive pastime. This association of editors of minature journals now numbers 300 members, and forms quite an interesting an instructive circle whose influence will not depart with fleeting

The "College Chapel," edited by the young ladies of the Dallas Female College, is quite interesting and reflects much credit on its fair editresses.

"Gleanings," of Arlington, Texas. looks much neater in its new form.

The "Sunny South Cologist," an amateur monthly for an iosity collectors, is announced from Gainesville, Texas.

"The Carrier Dove," an excellent representative of Canadian amateur journalism, has greatly enlarged, and is one of our most welcome exchanges.

"The Youth's Temperance Magazine" is edited by a boy only ten years old. He is certainly an editorial prodigy.

The "Comet" edited by the Vandertill Bros., is about one-half the size of this paner and a model of typographical neatness.

The Christmas number of the "Violet" is immense. Miss Arlington ewhibits a great deal of pluck in getting up such a magazine, which will favorably compare with any professional journal.

"Plain Talk," although not an amateur paper, has a column devoted to "amateurdom" does much good in recruit ng our ranks.

We put the "Pacific Courant," of San Francisco, Cal., on our list with pleasure. It is the largest amateur paper we get from the Pacific coast.

For awhile Texas gave great promise of becoming the banner state of amateurdom in the South, but is very quiet

What has become of the "Gulf States" "Lone Star Enterprise," and "Southern Press?" Boys, rise and explain.

Some Special Offers.

 Send ten cents, a silver dime, and 2-cent stamp, and get this paper on trial three months and one half dozen cold water pens.

2. Send (wenty-five cents and get the HERRIDA year, and get either an olecgraph chromo or 100 choice foreign stamps free.

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With any name, complete. with ink, paris, etc., warranted to last three years, for only 25 cents. Ten different amateur papers, edited by boys and girls, for a silver dime. Chas. Cates, jr., Decatur, Tex.

Prize Question Department.

Prize winners for last month are as fol-

Premium No. 1, The Complete Works of Shakespeare, bound in cloth-awarded to Miss Minnie Knox, Decatur, Tex.

Premium No. 2, a large collection of Colorado Chrystals-awarded to Jerome W. Berryman, Arcada, Mo.

Quite a lively interest was taken in this department last month and we have concluded to have another :

PRIZE CONTEST.

For the best and most complete list of answers to the following questions we will present an elegant cloth-bound book. For the next best list a box of fine floral paper with envelopes to match. For the third next best, a rubber stamp with ink erc., and any name on them.

All lists must be sent in by February

All competitors must be subscribers. Subscriptions may be sent with lists, however.

- 1. When and by whom was the telegraph invented.
- 2. When was U. S. money established by act of Congress.
- 3. Who said "I would rather be right than President,"
- What city in Asia is nearly opposite Philadelphia.
 - 5. Who invented the cotton gin.
- 6. How long do the judges of the Supreme Court hold office.
- What natural curiosities in Iceland.
 - 8. What is latitude.
- 9. What and where is the Sargasso Sea.
- How many Territories in the 10. United States.

Excellent lists were sent by G. Williams and D. Hardeastle, Decatur, and Milton Grube, Basil, Ohio. Try again. boys. You next time. You may be the lucky winners

Exchange Department.

Open to subscribers only. Make all no-tices brief as possible.

Four numbers of the Household Mag-azine, six numbers Weekly Magnet, thirteen numbers Young Folks' Circle, five numbers Youth's Advocate, one volume Youth's Companion for 1885, one agents' sample-card book and Hunters' and Trappers' Guide—all of the above for a pair of all-clamp roller states. No for a pair of an-constant for a pair of a pair o

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