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MEDITATIONS OF A MAN

The book of life is never so bright but that a man may turn over a new leaf, with advantage to others as well as himself.

It is so with me. I have reformed my ways with regard to my wife, and she is a happier and more contented woman today—and her happiness makes our home brighter for me.

But I have still my children to consider, for in my determination to chase the shadows from the life of my wife I neglected to include them. It seems that I always forget something.

But it is never too late to add another link in the chain of reformation.

I will forge it today. I am responsible for the presence of my children in this world. Their tomorrow is my legitimate care of today, and by my acts they will judge me.

Do I remember that in their infancy they have neither thought nor care of the future—that to them it is a void, the meaning of which has not penetrated their infantile brains?

Do I remember that even the slightest of impressions are often indelibly stamped upon their budding memories, to accompany them through life and into the shadows beyond?

Do I remember that many of those impressions must necessarily be formed from the manner of my actions in their presence, and from the treatment I accord them.

Do I remember that as they become older their conceptions of right and wrong will be gauged mainly by the teachings they receive in their own home?

Do I remember that while their destinies must be carved out by their own hands, yet their future will be principally determined by the paths into which I lead them today?

Do I make of myself a beacon

light which they may follow in confidence and in the knowledge that it will lead them through the intricate perils of youth and into the safe harbor of maturity?

Am I to them at all times and in all things the kind and loving parent whom little children delight to fondle and caress?

Do I give to them such tender thought and care that they may see and drink in always the sunshine of their home?

Is my daily treatment of them such that they long each night for the hour when daddy comes home again?

And as the years lead them slowly from infancy to youth and from youth to maturity shall I be to them a companion, a comrade, a loyal friend as well as parent?

Alas! My shortcomings have been many and great. Always I have forgotten—and to forget is to neglect.

The burden of their care has fallen principally upon the frail shoulders of my wife—that loving companion whose burdens I should also bear, as well as theirs.

But I will make amends! I will remember all of these things, for as I am to them today so will they be to their children in their own time—for heredity is strong and may not easily be cast aside.

And when their own heads have become silvered by the lapse of time, and I have passed on to my reward, I would that they might some day think back over the years that have flown and write of me that epitaph which is more lasting than granite, more precious than gold: "My father was a good man."

Laddie's Form of Exercise.

I was making a house-to-house canvass recently and as I turned in at one house I noticed a small boy and his dog, but the dog no sooner noticed me than he came bounding toward me, barking loudly. "Don't be afraid," called the lad, "Laddie won't bite; he is just exercising his bark."—Chicago Tribune.

Famous Applan Way.

The Applan way was the first great Roman road formally undertaken as a public work. It is said. It was begun in 312 B. C. by Applan Claudius Caecus. Today the Applan way forms one of the most notable memorials of antiquity in or near the Eternal City, bordered by tombs and the ruins of monumental buildings. Long stretches of the pavement remain perfect. The width of the Applan way was from 14 to 15 feet.

A Christmas Blessing

By Rev. Dr. Howard Duffield

MAY the Blessing of the Light that shown at Midnight come to the hearts that are shadowed and the homes that are dark. May the Blessing of the Song of the Angels come to the multitudes who strive and bleed upon fields of battle, and to all who wage the hard warfare of life.

May the Blessing of the Good Word to the Shepherds come to everyone who is humbly and honestly laboring to do a share of their world's work.

May the Blessing of the Manger Cradle come to that innumerable company against whom the doors of hope and peace and rest are shut.

May the blessing of the Holy Child come to every one who has forgotten that Thou, O God, art his Father, and that all men are brothers.

May the Blessing of the Guiding Star come to those who wander in the night and cannot find the homeward way.

May the Blessing of the Stable come upon all hearts, waking a kindly sense of kinred with every living thing that walks the field and forest, or wings the air, or passes along the paths of the seas.

Hears Only the Voice.

"A lack of understanding kin be mighty comfortin'," said Uncle Eben. "De worse you talk to a mule de more he feels complimented by de attention he's receivin'."

First Dolls.

The first dolls of which there is any knowledge were found among the treasures unearthed from the ruins of Babylon. They were small figures in terra cotta and ivory, beautifully carved and must have been fascinating playthings for little Assyrian children. The little girls of Syria had mechanical dolls. The dolls the classic children played with were made of wax and clay, decorated with bright colors. As these children married very young they played with their dolls until just before their wedding day.

Rubber Preservative.

A preparation that may be used for preserving rubber may be made by getting a saturated solution of turpentine in denatured alcohol. The point of saturation is known by a drop of undissolved turpentine remaining in the alcohol. A little more alcohol is added to dissolve the drop and the solution is saturated. Rubber articles should be occasionally painted or swabbed with this solution.

Woman Rules Bhopal.

Bhopal, the second greatest Mohammedan state in India, has been ruled over by a woman for several generations.

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BIG FARM GATHERING PLANNED AT M. A. C.

Special new exhibits on agricultural subjects and entertainment of a high order are among the things announced for the annual Farmers' Week at the Michigan Agricultural College, which is to be held this year from February 2 to 6.

Speakers of national reputation, including Dr. E. V. McCollum, of Johns Hopkins University, H. G. Taylor, Chief of Farm Management, Washington, D. C., Dean Vivian of Ohio State University, and many others, will be heard by the assembled agriculturists during the week.

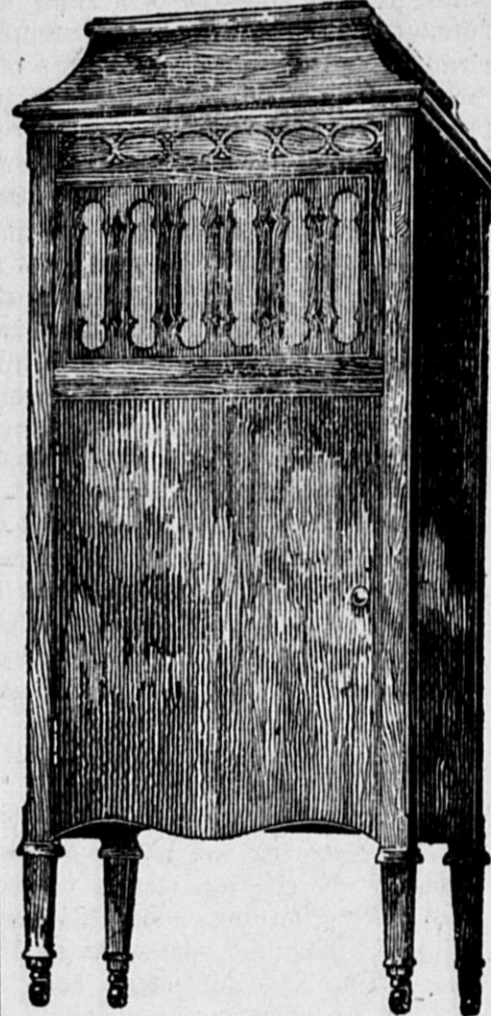
Annual meetings of a large number of Michigan's leading agricultural organizations will be held at East Lansing at the same time. Farmers, housewives, rural workers, and others interested in the agriculture of the state are expected to attend the one week gathering in large numbers. Indications are that the attendance record of more than 5,000 for the annual meeting will be broken this year, according to the men at the agricultural college who are in charge of the arrangements.

Every normal man admires a pretty woman, but few of us have the courage to tell our wives.

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Suggestions for Christmas

AT TAYLOR'S

AS USUAL, SAME AS FORMER YEARS, SANTA CLAUS HAS AGAIN DECIDED TO MAKE OUR STORE HIS HEADQUARTERS. TIME NOR SPACE DOES NOT GIVE US THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENUMERATE THE NUMEROUS CHOICE SELECTIONS TO BE SECURED AT OUR STORE THE COMING YULETIDE SEASON, BUT YOU ARE ASSURED OF THE USUAL COMPLETE STOCK WITH MANY NEW THINGS ADDED THAT WE WERE UNABLE TO PROCURE DURING THE WAR TIME PERIOD. A FEW SUGGESTIONS

Toys of All Kinds, Two Beautiful Assortments of Nippon China, No Two Pieces Alike
Books in Popular Copyrights, Also Gift Books and Picture Books for Children
Dolls in Endless Variety, Brush and Comb Sets, Manicure Sets, Smoking Sets, Music Bags, Chocolate Sets
Beautiful Christmas Cards With Envelopes, Stickers and Tags
Also Some Staples That are Always Useful, Blankets, Gloves and Mittens, Bath Robes, Fancy Turkish Towels
Men's Neckwear, Suspenders, and Hose Supporters in Fancy Holiday Boxes
Last But Not Least is Our Line of Handkerchiefs Which is the Best Ever Shown

SHOP EARLY WHEN WE HAVE TIME TO WAIT ON YOU AND DON'T WAIT FOR THE RUSH THE LAST MINUTE. OUR STORE WILL BE OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL CHRISTMAS FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

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