

YOUNG FOLKS COLUMN.

A SHADOW PLAY FOR EVENING ENTERTAINMENT.

An Easy Lesson in Antislavery for Boys and Girls—How the Swallows Build Their Nests—The Philosopher's Fable, Riddles and Stories.

None of our native birds mean more devotedly in their attachment to and confidence in their kindred than the swallow. Other species of birds often disappear as a country settles up, but swallows, on the contrary, always retain their property. Of attaching nests to cliffs and rocks, in order to keep their young from being taken by the enemy, they are the most expert. In building their nests in old dwellings, they are the most expert. In attaching their nests to the eaves of the house, to the roof of an open shed, to the eaves of a barn. There are many species of swallows, and they are found over a large part of the world.



YOUTH. Earth moves around. Galileo has shown it. The sun is the center.

ANECDOTE OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Reluctance in Permitting Men to be Shot for Cowardice in "Leg Cases."

In the earlier years of the war, all the death penalties of court-martial had to be sent up to the president, as commander-in-chief, for approval. When Judge Holt, the judge advocate general of the army, laid the first case before the president, he replied, "Well, I will keep this a few days until I have more time to read the testimony." That seemed quite reasonable. When the judge explained the case to him, Lincoln said, "I must put this until I can settle in my mind whether this soldier can better serve the country doing the thing. To the third you answered, 'The general commanding the brigade to be here to-day, I will wait and wait the matter over with him.' Finally there was a very rapid case of a soldier who, in the crisis of a battle, desisted from his duty. He was cowardly, throwing down his gun and hiding behind a friendly stump. The court-martial found that he had neither father, nor mother, nor wife nor child; that he was unable to wear the blue uniform, and that he was a man who stole continually from his comrades. 'Here,' said Judge Holt, 'is a case which comes exactly within your requirements. He does not deny his guilt, he will better serve his country dead than living, he has no relatives to mourn for him, he is not to be in the ranks of patriots.' Mr. Lincoln's refusal of excuse was all over. Judge Holt expected he would write 'approved' on the paper, but the president, running his long fingers through his hair, as he so often did when in anxious thought, replied, 'Well, after all, Judge, I think I must put this with my leg cases.' 'Leg cases' was the name of the cowardly soldiers who were sent to the front in the face of the enemy. But I call them, for short, my 'leg cases.' But I put it to you, Judge, and leave it for you to decide for yourself. If Almighty God gives a man a cowardly leg, how can he help his running away with him?—Lincoln's Reply in the House of Representatives of Abraham Lincoln.

THE BASKET AND STONE.
If 100 stones are placed in a straight line, a yard distant from each other, how many yards must a person walk who undertakes to pick them up one by one and put them into a basket, placed also a yard from the first stone?
Answer: It is clear that to pick up the first stone and put it into the basket, the person must walk two yards, one in going for the stone and the other in returning with it; that for the second stone he must walk four yards, and so on, increasing by two as far as the stones, which are numbered with 100 yards, so that the sum total will be the product of 100, multiplied by 50, or 10,000 yards, which amounts to more than five miles and a half.

An Amazing Shadow Play.
An entertainment that will cause young folks to wonder and many a mature artist to be proud to play along with them may be found in the play called "Shadow Play." Through every man's mind, it differs from the shadow play, because among other points, the chief player, "Buff," is not blindfolded.

He Was Not Grateful.
From a city in the Mexican state of Jalisco we have received the following request: "Please Argente, the man who has been no any inconvenience, I will return to you one exemplar of your excellent newspaper. By the time you return I shall probably have received my first, paralytic stroke, and shall have lost all recollection of you. Therefore, I now give you my paralytic stroke—don't marry anybody who has not a tolerable understanding and a thousand a year. And God bless you, day after day."

A Left-handed Forgiveness.
Julia—And you and Kate have made all up?
Sally—Yes, we've made all up and are good friends as ever. She kissed me two or three times, and I kissed her. I was a little bit of a man, and when I had kissed her I could have bitten her. We are just as good friends as we used to be, but I'll never forgive her.

Both Hands Busy.
Julia—Yes, I know exactly how you felt, and how you would feel just the same.—Boston Courier.

The Philosopher's Fable.
The philosopher, Pythagoras, being asked how many heads the number twenty had, he replied: "Compute the number twenty, one-half of my pupils study mathematics, one-fourth study philosophy, one-seventh observe silence, and beside those I have three female pupils." The question is to find out the number of the number, one-half, one-fourth, one-seventh of which, plus 3, shall be equal to that number.

A GRANDMA THAT'S JUST SPLENDID.
Grandma's eyes are dim,
And grandma's hair is grizzled
With the clouds of white, but she can't get prim
About it, she thinks it's wicked.

But grandma's nose is small,
And grandma's ears are big,
She knows her nose—she doesn't mind;
She knows her ears—she doesn't mind;
She knows her nose—she doesn't mind;
She knows her ears—she doesn't mind;
She knows her nose—she doesn't mind;
She knows her ears—she doesn't mind;

She tells me much to do,
Of stories with a fairy
And of the king and queen,
We'll—something thing and so on.

She never scolds at all;
She keeps our playthings mended;
She dresses dolls, she dresses dolls,
And grandma that's just splendid.

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