

CLOTHING THAT HASN'T GONE UP.

The cloak of religion.
The mantle of charity.
The ties of friendship.
The thinking cap.
The skirts of happy chance.

IDENTIFIED.

A visiting trustee, during the course of an address made to the pupils of a certain school, said:—

"My dear children, I want to talk to you a few minutes concerning one of the most wonderful, one of the most important organs in the whole world. What is it that throbs away, beats away, never stopping, never ceasing whether you wake or sleep, night or day, week in or week out, month in and month out, year in and year out, without any volition on your part, hidden away in the depths, as it were, unseen by you, throbbing, throbbing rhythmically all your life long?"

During the momentary pause of the speaker for oratorical effect a small voice was heard to say:

"I know, sir. It's the gas-meter!"

TOO MUCH TO EXPECT.

Mr. Hindleton appeared at his neighbor's door one evening in a towering rage and uttering fierce threats against his neighbor's dog, Pongo.

Vainly the neighbor tried to explain that Pongo was only a puppy.

"It belongs to Johnny," he said, "and it would break his heart if anything happened to it. I think," hopefully, "that its manners will improve."

"Manners!" repeated Hindleton. "I'm not complaining of its manners, but its nature. After it had jumped all over me it bit the back of my leg."

"That's as far as it can reach," broke in Johnny, in a wounded tone. "You don't expect a little pup like that to bite a big man like you on the neck!"

SMILE RAISERS.

Customer: "Is there any difference between the lamb you serve and the mutton?"

Honest Waiter: "That depends, sir, upon whether the customer knows the difference."

Moses: "We give little Ikey two shillings a week pocket-money."

Cohen: "Dat vos a lot of money every week, Moses."

Moses: "Ah, vell, it pleases 'im. We let 'im put it in the gas-meter; 'e thinks it is a money-box."

Teacher "I have taught you all there is to know about long measure, and I want any boy who is doubtful on any point to question me concerning it."

Pupil: "P-please, sir, how many policemen's feet does it take to make a Scotland Yard?"

The mother was sitting on a park seat. Her small son began an argument with another youth.

"Who're yer punchin' of?" he demanded, truculently.

"Tommy!" said the shocked parent. "Your grammar! You should have said, 'Of whom are you punching?'"

An old woman from a remote country district visiting Edinburgh for the first time, happened to arrive as a party of golfers were hurrying to catch a suburban train for the links.

She was much interested, and on her return to her native village the minister asked her how she enjoyed herself. "It's a braw toun," she said, "but it hurt me sair tae see sae mony decent-like men carrying bags o' broken umbrellas."

PILES

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SCIENCE SIFTINGS

(By "VOLT.")

History of the Passion Manuscript.

From Geneva comes news of the discovery of a manuscript of the History of the Passion, with which are bound miniatures of notable workmanship, many of which are accredited to Durer (says an exchange).

There are 23 miniatures in the series. They are painted in gold and colors on vellum. The coloring is brilliant and the design is striking. Eleven of them have been accredited to Durer. The other 12 are not much inferior in execution, and are apparently the work of a pupil, possibly of Nicholas Glockendon. From his hand several miniatures after Durer are known, and to him the manuscript was ascribed by its previous owner.

The signature of Durer is clearly marked. Except for small alterations the designs are identical with those of the so-called "Little Passion" on wood. This was executed between 1509 and 1511. It is the Durer of the line-engraving rather than the Durer of the block-book who is recognised in this book.

Though the date of the work is uncertain, it is believed to have been between 1507 and 1512. The book was bought recently by a Florentine collector and publisher from a bookseller in Nuremberg, who sent it to the curator of the Art Department of the Geneva Museum for examination.

Vatican Scientists.

The Rome correspondent of an exchange, writes under date, May 13:—

Under the supervision of Father John Hagan, S.J., director of the Vatican Observatory, who was formerly connected with Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., there is being issued a wonderful series of 2800 photographs of stars—one set for a catalogue of heavenly bodies and one for a photographic map of the skies.

The photographs for the catalogue are completed and those for the map of the sky are nearly ready. They will be contained in ten volumes, five of which have already been published. On the occasion of the appearance of the fifth volume the Holy Father sent a letter through Cardinal Gaspari to Father Hagan congratulating him and his associates in the Observatory on the beautiful and invaluable work they are doing.

The idea of constructing a large photographic map of the sky was conceived and proposed in 1890 by Rear Admiral Mouchez, director of the astronomical observatory of Paris. He suggested the employment of photography for the study of astronomy and especially for permanently recording the physical aspects of the heavenly bodies. The idea was accepted with enthusiasm by scientific men and a commission was at once formed to divide the difficult work among the most famous of the world's astronomers.

Pope Leo XIII., advised by the celebrated Father Denza then director of the Vatican Observatory, offered to co-operate in the great undertaking. Pope Leo's proffer of the services of the Vatican astronomers and equipment was promptly and gratefully accepted by the committee. Eighteen observatories, distributed throughout the world, were then selected to participate in the work. They were the Vatican and Catania observatories in Italy; Oxford and Greenwich in England; Paris, Bordeaux and Toulouse in France; San Fernando in Spain; Potsdam in Germany; Helsingfors in Finland; Algiers and Cape of Good Hope in Africa; Perth, Sydney and Melbourne in Australia; Cordoba in Argentine; Santiago in Chile; and Tambaja in Mexico.

The portion of the sky assigned to the Vatican Observatory extends from 54 to 64 degrees of the boreal hemisphere. In making the photographs for the map, the pose must be three-fold, and each of the three phases requires 40 minutes. From this it will be seen how long and delicate is the process of obtaining acceptable prints. For thirty years the work has been devoutly performed by Father Lais, vice-director of the Observatory, assisted recently by Professor Emannelli.

All these observatories adopted a unique type of telescope, called international type, and they immediately began their labors. The work has been pursued with great industry up to the present time.