

Not always crowned by a laurel wreath,
It may be held by the man beneath
Who's shabby but yet has the inner glow
Of the eyes that see, and a heart to know
That it's serving your fellows amid the stress—
That means success!

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WHICH WAS SMARTER?

An Inspector having gone into an elementary school, began what he called "a test in the powers of observation." He turned to the class and asked one of the pupils to give him a number. A smart little chap stood up and said "43." The inspector turned to the blackboard and wrote 34, but no one took any notice. Once more he turned to the class and asked a number, and another little boy said "29." The Inspector turned to the blackboard and wrote 92, but still no one corrected him. Feeling rather annoyed, he turned to the class and asked once more for a number. Then a bright little lad stood up and said: "Please sir, 77, and see if you can make a mess of that one."

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WHY THEY WENT TO WAR.

A certain king sent to another king, saying: "Send me a white pig with a blue tail, or else—"

The other, in a great rage, made the hasty rejoinder: "I have not got one; and if I had—"

On this weighty cause they went to war. After they had exhausted their armies and resources, and laid waste their kingdoms, they began to desire peace; but, before this could be secured, it was necessary that the insulting language that led to the trouble should be explained.

"What could you mean," asked the second king of the first, "by saying, 'send me a white pig with a blue tail, or else—?'"

"Why," said the other, "I meant a white pig with a blue tail, or else some other color. But what could you mean by saying, 'I have not got one, and if I had—?'"

"Why, of course, if I had it I should have sent it to you."

The explanation was satisfactory, and peace was accordingly concluded.

Most quarrels are quite as foolish and needless as the war about the white pig with the blue tail.

—*Are Maria.*

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SMILE RAISERS.

From an Otago school.—One of our pupils writing an essay on the skylark, states that, "The male bird is the better singer of the two for he has more time to practise than the female."

¶

Hostess: Well, Tommie, you can tell your mother for me that you are the best behaved boy at table I ever met.

Tommie: Thank you, ma'am, but I'd rather not.

Hostess: Rather not—and why pray?

Tommie: She'd think I was ill, ma'am, and send for the doctor.

¶

Didn't you know it is against the law to beg for money?" said the lady to the tramp at the back door.

"I wasn't goin' t' beg for no money, ma'am."

"It's just as bad to beg for bread."

"I wasn't goin' t' beg for no bread, ma'am."

"What were you going to beg for, then, pray?"

"Only for one o' your photographs, ma'am."

¶

In a school a member of the committee asked the members of a class which was under examination, "What is the cause of the saltiness of the ocean?"

Soon one little girl raised her hand.

"You may tell," said the committee-man.

"Salt fish, sir," said the pupil.

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SCIENCE SIFTINGS

By "VOLT"

SOMETHING ABOUT HEADACHES.

Dr. James J. Walsh, well known in Catholic literary circles, writes interestingly in a late issue of *The American* on the important topic of headaches. "A Headache Is a Warning Bell in Your Alarm Tower," according to the title of Dr. Walsh's article, and he substantiates this assertion in the course of a laicized scientific article. The most prevalent pain that the human body is heir to is probably the common, everyday headache. These aches are not, however, the fault of the head, as a rule, but generally are warnings that something has gone wrong with the stomach, the liver, the muscles, or the heart.

"When your head aches your whole body is probably suffering, even though you may not be conscious of pain except in the head."

Years ago it was believed that this affliction was the result of too much blood and consequently people were "bled" to relieve them of the supposed excess.

There is no remedy for headaches, properly speaking. Being merely symptoms, i.e., results of a condition in some other part of the body or organ, it is necessary to locate the real seat of the trouble before attempting to cure the pain in the head. In fact, as Dr. Walsh points out, it is dangerous habitually to "relieve" a chronic headache, not so much because of the direct evil results as for the fact that this method serves to cover up evils in some other part of the system that should be unearthed and taken care of. Improper diet, too, especially in these days of devitalised and adulterated foods, is a frequent cause of headaches. We should take more vitamins in raw vegetables, fruits, etc. Cooking impairs the valuables in these foods, particularly the highly seasoned, "well-cooked" modern variety of preparation.

AN EXTINCT SPECIES OF MARSUPIAL.

From time to time discoveries are made in various parts of Australia which prove the biggest kangaroos of to-day to be but the puny descendants of enormous creatures, whose skulls alone reached a yard in length. The latest remnant of these giants of the past is a phenomenal jaw which has just been found in a fossilised state on the bank of King's Creek, near the Darling Downs, in South Queensland. The Director of the Queensland Museum states that it represents the incomplete lower jaw of the giant extinct marsupial known as the diprotodon Australis. Numerous remains, he says, have been found in Queensland of this very large animal, and complete skeletons have been secured in the bed of Lake Callabonno, South Australia. Some idea of the size of this marsupial may be gauged from the length of the skull, which in an adult may be fully a yard long. The diprotodon was undoubtedly herbivorous, and its upper and lower teeth somewhat resemble those of the kangaroo, although very greatly larger. The fore and hind limbs were of about the same length, and in this respect there is a likeness to the modern wombat. The diprotodon was probably a sluggish and inoffensive animal, and evidently roamed over the greater part of Australia. Its marsupial nature is abundantly revealed by many features of the skeleton, including the marsupial bones. In 1838 the late Sir Richard Owen first used the name diprotodon, which means "two front teeth," having reference to the two large incisors in the front of the lower jaw.

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Because Jesus was acquainted with grief, because He endured torments—to suffer as He suffered is a veritable joy to the soul filled with His holy love.—Abbe A. Sandrean.

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