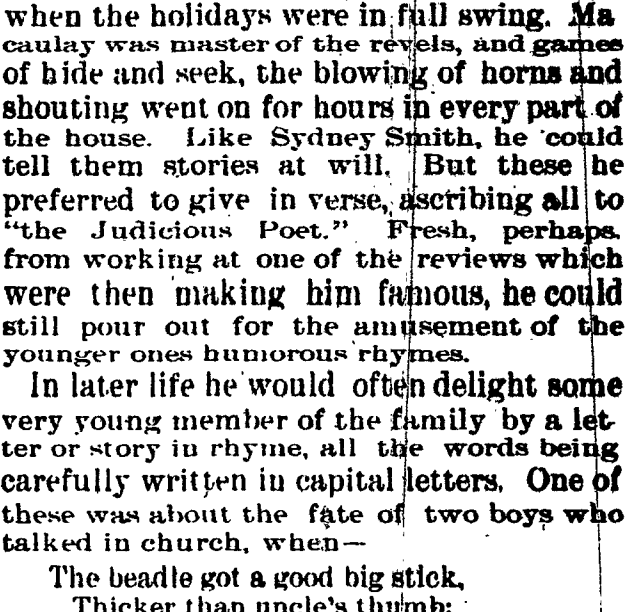


MACAULAY WITH CHILDREN.

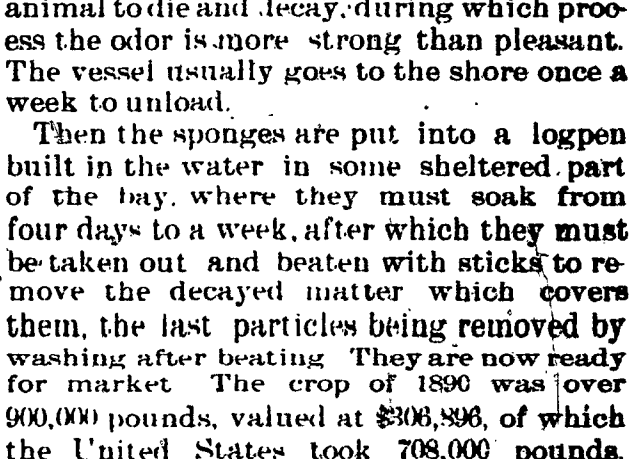
His Fondness for the Young and His



To see the beadle come!

Sponge gathering in the Bahamas.
About fifteen vessels, sloops or schooners, rigged and varying in size from five to twenty-five tons, are engaged in gathering sponges in the Bahamas. The gathering and preparing for market gives employment to 5,000 or 6,000 people of whom all but the shipowners, brokers and shippers are negroes. The vessels are chartered at from 500 to 1,000 dollars per year, and the crew at 300 dollars on shares, and seldom make \$300 per year. While those who handle them on shares get from fifty cents to seventy-five cents per day, which gives them a tolerable living there. They use a water glass to search the bottom for them; and then with a hook and line, or a dredge, haul up the sponges. The largest, leaving the smaller ones to a hook dredging has been tried, but it brought up, or destroyed the smaller ones and was ruining the beds, and an act was passed forbidding it. After they are brought up they must be exposed to the sun for the animals to die and decay, stirring with a pole the top of the sponges, and then they are

The vessel usually goes to the shore once a week to unload.



valued at \$200,000. The sponges from the eastern Mediterranean are considered better than the West Indian sponges, being usually much finer in texture. About the same number of boats and men are employed there, and the annual product varies in value from \$450,000 to \$500,000. In

Historical Trees.
In the private gardens of the palace at Osborne on the Isle of Wight, Queen Victoria has a long array of memorial trees that serve to commemorate certain events which have occurred in her family circle. In one spot, says Golden Days, stands a row of trees set out in February, 1862, when each member of the family dedicated a tree to the memory of Prince Albert, who had died during the preceding December.

the one which the queen herself planted being a pine tree. In another place is a group each of which records the marriage of one of her children, and it is under the shade of these, we are told, that Victoria prefers to have her afternoon tea table set. Not far away is a large, luxuriant bush of myrtle, which has grown from a sprig

which the queen took from the bridal bouquet of her eldest daughter, the Empress Frederick. Myrtle is always used at bridal ceremonies in Germany as orange flowers are with us, and this bush now contributes to the adornment of all the brides among the queen's descendants. Her grandchildren are now adding on various occasions to her collection of historical trees at Osborne.

Pig in a Poke.

"Pig in a poke," as our proverb has it, means a blind bargain. The French say, "Acheter chat en poche." The reference is to a common trick in days gone by of substituting a cat for a suckling pig and trying to palm it off on greenhorns. If any one heedlessly bought the article without examination he bought a cat for a pig, but if he opened the sack he "let the cat

out of the bag" and the trick was disclosed. The French "chat en poche" refers to the fact, while our proverb regards the trick.

Origin of Cards.

We are told that we owe the invention of visiting cards to the Chinese. They were first used during the Tong dynasty (718-907). The present Chinese visiting card is large enough to fold twice and is bright red in color. The origin of card playing is uncertain. It is said to have been brought to Viterbo in 1372. Cards were illuminated for Charles VI of France in 1392, then de-

pressed in mind. Cards were first taxed in England in 1710.

My Cake Is Dough.

The familiar saying, "My cake is dough," occurs in the "Taming of the Shrew." act fifth, scene first.

The Letter "D."

The letter D is the outline of a wide archway or door. It is called in Hebrew *dalet*, *dal*, *dal*.

THIS BOY HAVING HEARD SO MUCH
OF THE SUPERIOR QUALITIES OF
WHALEN'S SHIELD CHEWING
OVER ALL OTHER BRANDS. CAN
NO LONGER BE
CONVINCED BY ANY OTHER