



GIRLS' EMPLOYMENTS.

ETANA (Change of Employment).—You propose to give up the situation you now hold as book-keeper because the hours are long and you have to work all day with gas burning. Undoubtedly these are drawbacks, yet it always seems to us that to change employment is a course attended with great risk. We have known instances of women who have abandoned the work for which they had been trained, and have certainly not succeeded in bettering their position by such action. At the same time we admit that clerical work is not remunerative, nor is it always permanent in character. You may therefore be right to take the step you propose; only we advise you to give most careful consideration to the matter. You ask whether you should try for a post as stewardess. Yes, you might wisely do so if you have any friends in the shipping interest who would help you. Otherwise you incline to nursing, only that the training is lengthy. How would it suit you to take the short course necessary to qualify you for rural district nursing? You might possibly be trained at Sister Katherine's Nurses' Home, Plaistow, E. Nurses who have been trained by Sister Katherine usually obtain good employment. The Duchess of Sutherland, in particular, speaks in high terms of the value of their services in her own part of Scotland.

E. C.—The distressing circumstances you lay before us are not properly those with which we deal in this paper. Yet we would gladly help you in your difficulty. It would be the greatest pity to let our young brother drift into bad ways for want of proper direction in early life. His mental powers being so deficient, it is manifestly impossible, as you have found, to place him in any business. We think your idea of a country life is much the wisest. Have you thought of the Salvation Army Farm Colony at Halliwell, Essex? It might be well to write for particulars to the Army's Headquarters in Victoria Street. There are also the Colony for the Unemployed, Starnthwaite, near Kendal; the Farm Colony of the Christian Union of Social Service, Lingfield, East Grinstead (President, the Earl of Meath), and the Training Farm for the Unemployed, near Chesham, Bucks. The Church Army also has what is termed an Emigration Test Farm and Market Garden, at Ilford in Essex. Here young men labour in return for their board, and whatever they earn beyond that amount is placed to their credit and paid to them on leaving. None of these institutions exist specifically to meet such a case as the one you lay before us; but probably some exception could be made in his favour. Emigration, we think, ought not to be contemplated, as his character is evidently not strong enough for it.

Bess (Children's Nurse).—Girls obtain highly paid situations as nurses who have been trained at the Norland Institute, 20, Holland Park Avenue, W. You had better write to the Principal for all particulars.

DOLLY (Artist).—You describe yourself as being in "an awkward fix," because on the death of your father you find that you must "get a little money somehow or other." It is, however, the natural condition of life that every one should earn his or her bread, and it would be much better that you should earn yours fully than that you should be content to pick up a trifle now and then by the sale of painted tambourines and china vases. Evidently you possess some artistic taste which ought to be properly educated. Our advice is that you should pursue a thorough course of training in drawing, with a view to becoming an illustrator or a designer. This you could probably do by attending classes at the best technical institute or school of art in your neighbourhood. Another suggestion is to learn photography thoroughly, so that you can take a photograph completely. But do not be content with re-touching, an employment at which you can never earn good wages.

RANJIT.—You wish to earn money, but have never learnt a trade, and apparently hom-ties prevent you from learning one. We do not see how these difficulties are to be overcome. Of course, if your future is provided for, there is no necessity for you to learn a business, though, even then, you would probably be the happier for knowing one, as you seem to have much unoccupied time; but if the pecuniary outlook is at all uncertain, you ought certainly to be enabled to earn your living. It is not surprising to hear that you have advertised in vain, because, at present, you evidently have no trained services to offer.

MARIEA (Educational).—It is exceedingly difficult for English teachers without special qualifications to obtain situations in France. You might, however, apply to the Teachers' Guild, 74, Gower Street, W.C.; to the Girls' Friendly Society's Foreign Registry, 52, Sloane Street, S.W.; the Young Women's Christian Association, 25, George Street, Hanover Square, W.; or to the Anglo-French Guild, 41, Rue Gay Lussac, Paris, through which much useful information about employment in France can often be obtained.

WEARY OF LONDON (Dressmaking).—We believe that there are many towns in England where a dressmaker with London experience could build up a good business. We cannot well mention any by name, as to do so might defeat your purpose; but we advise you to make inquiries among friends living in tolerably large towns, especially in the north of England. It would be well to avoid season places, fashionable watering places, and such very large towns as Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Brighton and Newcastle-on-Tyne. You should aim at a town of from 40,000 to 50,000 inhabitants.

FLEMING (Training for a Teacher).—You are quite right in thinking that you want more than your present qualifications to obtain a good footing in the educational world. In your case it would be best to prepare yourself privately for the Honour Certificate in the Cambridge Higher Local Examinations. Write for particulars to Dr. J. N. Keynes, Syndicate Buildings, Cambridge. For this purpose you must take three of the Groups, as you will see specified in the rules. If, having obtained this certificate, you should be unable to go to one of the Universities, you might advisably take a course of special preparation at the Cambridge Training College for Teachers. This would be an immense help to you in your later career.

LOVEDAY (Mission Nurse).—Writeto Head Deaconess Gilmore, Deaconesses' Home, 83, North Side, Clapham Common, S.W., asking her whether you could be trained for the work you propose, under her direction; or you might apply to Sister Katherine, Nurses' Home, Howard's Road, Plaistow, E. At the latter you would obtain great experience of nursing the poor, especially women and children. At the Deaconesses' Home you would be initiated into religious missionary work.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A. LEES.—There is a good demand at present for domestic servants (women) in both Canada and Australia, and at the Cape and Natal. A limited number of free passages are given for Western Australia, but none for any other colony. At the Cape assisted passages are only given to female domestic servants by special order of the Cape Government, if contracted to employers in the colony; and at Natal, if such are relatives of resident colonists, who must be nominated there.

PERPLEXED.—All invitations should be sent in the name of the mistress of the house, whether an invalid or not. If there be a husband their names are generally united in the invitation. The gentleman with whom you are conversing should take you down to supper, unless arranged otherwise by your hostess.

LIVELONG.—We cannot give you any advice, save to keep the plant till thoroughly dried before pressing it or putting it into your book. It is called "livelong," you know, from the fact that it takes so long to die. Perhaps you do not use enough pressure in drying.

MARION can obtain benzine for cleaning gloves for about fourpence a bottle at any ordinary oil-shop, we believe; or even by the half pint. There is nothing better, when carefully used.

FAIRY QUEEN.—The correct dress for a fairy queen would be white muslin or any thin material of the kind, with a scarf-like drapery. A gold star in the hair, and a wand, with a star on the top of it, which is held in the hand.

MAY E. had better purchase a small manual of instructions for doing crochet work, which can be obtained at any shop where fancy work is sold.

VERA.—We are much afraid that there is no cure for mildew spots in kid gloves, because the colour of the glove is injured or expelled. You could perhaps have them re-dyed, or you could try to dye them yourself with some of Judson's dyes.

SERGEUS PAULUS.—You must not show yourself either unkind or ungrateful to your relations. When you are eighteen you should take an opportunity of saying that, as you are not happy and they are not satisfied with your work you would like to find another home. Then tell them of that offered to you, and ask their consent. Be quite open.

UTOPIA.—We think you are making yourself anxious and unable for no reasonable cause. Strive to please and serve God, and commit all your ways and life to His care and guidance, and then you need fear no evil.

L'ESPERANCE.—You wish to obtain a recipe for producing a good figure, and with this no one could supply you. If you have recovered flesh and are in good health, our recommending any course of diet, and exercise or rest, would be unnecessary; and as to producing any merely local addition of flesh such as you desire, no doctor could accomplish that.