

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

THE HOUSE THAT JOHN BUILT.

Is one of John Gilbert's characteristic sketches of home life among the working-classes in England.

BLOOD-DRINKERS AT A PARIS ABATTOIR.

The scene depicted in this illustration, horrible as it is, is one which may be witnessed almost any day at the abattoir of La Villette in Paris. For some twenty years past Continental doctors of no little celebrity have recommended, in certain cases of debility and anemia, the administration of fresh, warm blood. La Villette is the centre of what may be termed the blood-cure, and day after day files of patients assemble with mingled hope and horror to drink of the terrible but life-giving stream. The majority of these patients are women and children, the latter suffering in most cases from phthisis.

THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.

The first prediction of a transit of Venus was made by Kepler, and was calculated from his Rudolphine tables. In 1631, the year predicted, astronomers of Europe were eagerly on the watch for so rare a spectacle. But the calculation was in error, so that it took place when the sun was below the horizon in Europe, and was consequently invisible. It has been said that there are, roughly speaking, two transits of Venus in a century. The following table shows all the transits of which we know anything:—

- 1631. Predicted by Kepler, but not observed.
- 1639. Predicted and observed by Horrox.
- 1761. Predicted by Halley; observed by many.
- 1769. Observed generally.
- 1874—1882.

Transits of Venus are employed to measure the sun's distance. When a transit of Venus occurs the first evidence of the phenomenon is given by a slight notch being made in the contour of the sun's edge at a certain spot. This notch increases until the full form of the planet is seen. The first appearance of a notch is called the time of first external contact. But when the planet appears to be wholly on the sun, her black figure is still connected with the sun's limb by a sort of black ligament. When the whole of the planet is just inside the sun's edge, the time of first internal contact has arrived. The breaking of the ligament is a very definite occurrence, and was, until lately, taken to indicate the true moment of internal contact. The second internal and external contacts take place as the planet leaves the sun. All the principal nations have sent astronomers to different prominent stations in the South Seas and elsewhere to observe the transit of Venus in December of this year.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S CURLING-MEDAL,

Won by the Quebec Curling Club, is described on the page on which this illustration appears.

THE GODERICH SALT-BARREL ARCH.

This arch, composed almost entirely of salt barrels, was erected on the occasion of the Governor-General's visit to Goderich, which town, as our readers are aware, is the salt-producer of Canada. The effect of this novel style of architecture is by no means unpleasing.

THE MONTREAL P. B. SOCIETY'S PIC-NIC.

On Saturday, the 22nd ult., the Irish Protestant Benevolent Society of Montreal held, on St. Helen's Island, a pic-nic, which proved to be a most marked success. Notwithstanding the drawbacks to which it was exposed owing to the lateness of the season, and the surfeit of such excursions under which the public has for some time past been labouring, it was without doubt the pic-nic of the season. The committee of arrangements had done all in their power in consulting the tastes and comfort of their visitors. The list of sports comprised the usual high and long jumps, a mile race, hurdle race, boys' race through flour-barrels, putting the heavy stone, exercises on the horizontal and parallel bars, five boat races, and a swimming-match. Several of these have been illustrated by our artists.

WARWICK CASTLE.

This noble drawing of Warwick Castle, the grand old mansion which not long ago suffered much damage by fire, is from the pencil of the English artist, Mr. S. Read. Warwick Castle is said to have been founded in the tenth century by Ethelfreda, a daughter of Alfred the Great, and there was also a famous Guy of Warwick, a Saxon hero of popular romance, who has the credit of killing Colbrand, the Danish giant, and the terrible Dun Cow of Dunsmore Heath. His sword, shield, helmet, breastplate, all of enormous weight, and his porridge-pot and fork, which are big enough for the King of Brobdingnag, may be seen in the porter's lodge of Warwick Castle. Guy became a hermit in his old age, and retired to a cave or chapel at Guy's Cliff. But what is more certainly known to history is that this place was the seat of one of the Saxon governors of Mercia before the Norman Conquest, at which time it was possessed by Turketil, who was soon removed to make way for Hubert de Newburgh, the first Norman Earl. The ancient Norman castle was destroyed in the Barons' War. It was rebuilt in the reign of Edward III. The Beauchamps, of Elmley, Worcestershire, held this earldom till the reign of Henry VI. One of them, in 1394, built Guy's Tower. They distinguished themselves in the wars in Scotland and in France, where they sometimes held the highest command. By the death of the last Beauchamp without heirs, the estate devolved upon Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury, who had married one of the Beauchamp family. He was created Earl of Warwick, and is celebrated as the powerful "King-maker" in the Wars of the Roses. He was killed in the battle of Barnet, 1471, when his earldom was given by Edward IV. to George Duke of Clarence, the brother of that king. Both Clarence and his son died prisoners in the Tower of London. The earldom of Warwick was next revived in favour of Dudley, a courtier of Henry VIII. and Edward VI., afterwards beheaded for helping to raise Lady Jane Grey to the throne. The title became extinct with his grandson, Ambrose Dudley, brother of Queen Elizabeth's favourite, the Earl of Leicester. In 1618 the title, without the estates, was bestowed by James I. on Lord Rich, in whose family it remained till 1759. Upon the death, in that year of Edward Rich, Earl of Warwick and Holland, the former title was conferred upon Francis Greville, Lord Brooke, who already possessed Warwick Castle by a grant of James I. to his ancestor, Sir Fulke Greville. The second Earl of the Greville family, from 1773 to 1816, completed the work begun in the seventeenth century, in the building of this stately pile

and laying out its gardens and park. His grandson, George Guy Greville, the present Earl of Warwick, succeeded the last Earl, Henry Richard Greville, in 1853. His lordship was born in 1818.

THE COCK OF THE WALK.

An admirable picture, full of vigour and expression. The defiant attitude of the bully of the village, and the remarkable appositeness of the dunghill behind him are capital.

NURSING BABIES.

It is, perhaps, a mistake to call this a popular amusement, as it is really loved and courted by but a comparatively small section of the community. This section, for the most part, consists of people who have babies on their own, and who are actuated by a laudable determination that all the trouble and vexation occasioned by the "cherubs" shall not devolve upon themselves. These amiable individuals are loud in their praises of the pastime under notice and make a great pretence of enjoying it, but, at the same time, they show generosity by allowing friends to dance their infants in their arms almost as much as ever they please. Those who avail themselves of the gracious permission to act in this manner invariably pretend that they like doing so immensely, and their attempts at deception might be successful if their looks did not too palpably give them the lie. It may be needless to remark that their evident discomfort is largely enjoyed by the causes thereof.

People will not be required to be told that babies are by no means interesting objects. They are nearly all alike, the only perceptible point of difference between them being that some are uglier and more ill-behaved than others. They are nearly all fat, like piglings, they have all got eyes which have an unpleasant knack of persistently staring one out of countenance, and upon the faces of the vast majority are stuck little lumps of a putty-like substance, which are, by courtesy, called noses. These lumps, by the way, are generally of an aspiring character.

It has been remarked that the plainest and most ill-behaved babies are the most beloved of their parents. Further than this, that they are the ones which are principally held out for people in general to caress and toy with. There is good reason for believing that their doating parents are actuated by an evident desire that they shall not enjoy a monopoly of the very questionable pleasures which the sweet little things are in the habit of bestowing, and hence persistently adopt the course indicated. They go about their work in a very masterly manner, and those who are lacking in experience may well consent to receive lessons from them. It is their delight to get you safely caged within their own dens, and then, in a figurative sense, to throw their babies at you. They are in the habit of adopting the very clever *ruse* of asking you to dine or take tea with them, and then, when they have got you safely in the trap, of revealing their children to you. Of course you are forced to take notice of these, and, unless you wish to give mortal offence, you must take a baby on to your knee. When you get it there you are at a loss to know what to do with it. You have a hazy sort of idea, perhaps, that you ought to say "Boo," and similar sensible things, to it, and that you are called upon to chuck it under the chin, pinch its cheek, and dance it up and down. The baby would hardly be a baby if it appreciated your efforts and refrained from howling. After it has howled a sufficient length of time, and after it has kicked and struggled till your arms are well-nigh weary, it is taken back to the lap of its mamma or papa, both of whom have been watching you with countenances expressive of the liveliest satisfaction. This over, you are naturally rather humiliated, and are in rather an awkward predicament. Give a hint that the baby is inclined to be cross, and you mortally offend those who are responsible for its being; all you can do is to allow it to be taken for granted that, in the management of babies, you are simply inexplicably stupid. This is rendered particularly apparent by the fact that after the baby has left you and been gathered to the arms of its parents, it is soon in a condition of "crow" and exultation once more.

To persons who are nursing babies of their own it is well to remark that the children are the sweetest little things you have ever seen, and at the same time you may make a favourable impression by stating that certain other infants with whom you are acquainted are the most disagreeable creatures imaginable. It is difficult to say whether the hearing of the truth or the untruth will give those who listen most pleasure, but it may safely be asserted that the amount of satisfaction derived from each statement will be very great.

When you have a child upon your knee and, by some marvellous chance, it is considerate enough to refrain from crying, you must not fail to improve the occasion by passing many flattering encomiums upon it. Do not, however, be deluded into the belief that all children are good if they are managed properly and do not resolve to go in for having a great deal to do with them.

When a baby is humiliating you it is not permissible to pinch it on the sly. At the same time this is occasionally done by atrocious wretches.

It is sometimes well to set yourself up as a lover of babies in general. In the event of your doing so people may be led to say many flattering things in reference to your disposition. A young lady cannot do better than devote some hours of her life to baby worship if she wishes to be considered of a loving and affectionate disposition. Many young ladies do this and are rewarded accordingly.

In paying court to babies you certainly have the satisfaction of knowing that so far as they themselves are concerned your services are perfectly disinterested. A baby never cares two straws for anybody but itself.

If you are wishful of ingratiating yourself in the favour of a mother, praise her baby, and lavish many endearments upon it.

If you are in a position to be entirely independent and wish to enjoy life perhaps the best thing for you to do is to never nurse anybody's babies but your own. At the same time never lose an opportunity of making other people nurse yours when a chance of so doing is afforded you.

People suffering from rheumatism and kindred afflictions have only themselves to thank, so long as it is in their power to rid themselves of their tortures. A few applications of the Diamond Rheumatic Cure will do the job. See the testimonials from those who have suffered and been cured.

GOLDSMITH MAID'S EARLY CAREER.

A writer in the *Evansville Journal* gives some particulars concerning Goldsmith Maid, who has just distinguished herself by the remarkable time of 2:14½: "The Maid was a wayward child. From the date of her birth on the farm of John B. Decker, in Wantage Township, Sussex County, N. Y., in the spring of 1857, to the age of six years, she distinguished herself in many ways, but never as a trotter. She was undersized, nervous, and fretful, and utterly refused heavy farm work. Mr. Decker, her owner, says he never got any work out of her but twice, one half day in ploughing corn and one half day in drawing stones. Once she was hitched to a harrow, but after a short distance she reared backward and entangled both her hind legs in the cross-piece of the harrow and so injured those members that when she goes out for her morning walks it is said she still shows signs of stiffness behind, caused by this fall in early life. From the time she was six months old until Mr. Decker sold her she was used as a race horse, though without her owner's knowledge. The boys on the farm, of course, as boys do, were anxious to know which was the speediest horse, and at an early day they found it was the 'Maid.' And so, after the 'old man' had gone to bed they would take her out the pasture or stable whenever a race could be made up and run her on the road after night. She beat everything that could be brought to run with her, so that finally none but the uninformed from a distance could be found to bet against her. These races were made up at the country stores and lounging-places in the evening after farm work was over, and the race run the same night after the 'old man' had gone to bed. No training, no groom, no jockeys, no weight for age—just a man or a boy in his bare feet, mounted bare back, with his toes hugging the mare's belly like a leech, was the style; and the 'Maid' no doubt enjoyed it more than she has some of her late races in the trotting ring. One day in the summer of 1863 two men were out buying horses for the army, and stopped all night at Mr. Decker's, and in the morning bought the 'Maid' of him for \$260, and started for home, leaving the mare behind them. On their way they met a Mr. Tompkins, who knew the little mare, and bought her of them for \$360. The two men also knew her and believed that she could be made a trotter, but were willing to make \$100 by their morning's bargain. The next day Tompkins sold her to Alden Goldsmith, an excellent judge of horseflesh, of Blooming Grove, Orange County, N. Y., for \$600. From him she took the name of Goldsmith Maid. He kept her in pretty steady training under William Bodine, to whom more than any other living man should be awarded the credit of first bringing the mare out. The renowned Budd Doble, who now drives her so handsomely, had not then either seen or heard of her. While in training for the trotting course she was so fretful and irritable, so determined to run at every opportunity instead of trotting, so hard to bring to trot after breaking from that gait, that Mr. Goldsmith many times determined to give up the training and sell her at any price, but his patient driver maintained his abiding faith in her, and assured his employer that she was the fastest animal on his premises, and would come out at last a great trotter, and finally persuaded him to keep her, which he did until this driver so brought her points that Mr. Goldsmith, in November, 1868, sold her to B. Jackman and Budd Doble for \$20,000. These gentlemen sold her to Mr. H. N. Smith for the sum of \$37,000. Mr. Doble still drives her. She made her first appearance in public in August, 1865."

BREVITIES.

A Swiss paper translates "The Band of Hope Union"—"La Fanfare de l'Union Espérante du Royaume Uni."

726 persons (exclusive of guides and porters) made the ascent of Mont Blanc between 1786, the date of the first ascension, and 1874.

The Bessemer saloon steamer was to have been ready to commence her Channel service early this month.

It is expected that Holstein will be selected as the residence of "interned" priests.

The Jubilee Singers have raised \$90,000 by their concerts—\$50,000 in England and \$40,000 in America.

A rope 10,000 fathoms long, recently made at Shadwell, is believed to be the longest rope in the world.

The Bishop of Orleans has appointed an ecclesiastical commission for the purpose of taking the preliminary steps towards the canonization of Joan of Arc.

A relic of Sir Francis Drake has been found in Guatulu Harbour, South America. It is a board bearing the inscription, "Francis Drake, Golden Hynde, Anno Domini 1577."

An after-thought, very much after, has occurred to the Brompton Oratorians, who are considering the question of canonizing the Roman Catholics put to death in the reigns of Henry and Elizabeth.

A picture in a Jesuit Church in Chili, representing purgatory, contains the figures of the Emperor William of Germany, Prince Bismarck, and Herr von Falk, the Minister of Public Worship.

A new comet has been discovered by M. Borrelly, of the Marseilles Observatory, and a colleague of M. Coggia. Its position on the 26th inst. was close to the star Theta in the constellation Draco.

The Emperor of Russia has invited the Prince Imperial to visit him at St. Petersburg, in return for the hospitality shown by Napoleon III. to the Czar at the Paris Exhibition of 1867.

A committee, including the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Petre, and Lord Howard of Glossop, has been formed for sending Roman Catholic poor children to Lower Canada.

Invisible photographs of the Prince Imperial have been seized by the Paris police. Nothing is to be seen on the card until it is plunged into a basin of cold water, when a likeness of Napoleon IV. appears to gladden the heart of his adherents.

The Prince of the Asturias passed his examination at the Theresianum School at Vienna. It is stated to be his desire after a short stay in Paris to engage in military studies either in England or Bavaria.

M. Offenbach, whose "Orphée aux Enfers" is in greater vogue than ever at the Paris Gaité, has added a new scene, which is to present all sorts of wonders at the bottom of the sea, King Neptune himself presiding over the ceremonies. As this scene consists of no less than ten tableaux, the familiar "Ballet des Mouches" is suppressed. The first representation was to have been given on the 15th ult.

The Paris papers state that the sum of £3,000 has been deposited at a banking-house as the price of a three-act opera to be composed by M. Offenbach for some theatre in London, which is not mentioned. The libretto is by an English author, and the score is to be completed by the 15th of November, £1,000 to be paid on the delivery of each act. The piece, the subject of which is "Whittington and His Cat," will be produced during the Christmas season at one of the principal London theatres.