CHATS WITH YOUNG

FAMILY FINANCIERING 'They tell me you work for a dollar

How is it you clothe your six boys on such pay?"

"I know you will think it conceited and queer, But I do it because I'm a good

"There's Pete, John and Jim, and Joe, William and Ned,
A half-dozen boys to be clothed up and fed.

"And I buy for them all good plain victuals to eat, And clothing—I only buy clothing for Pete.

have grown out of date, She just makes 'em over for Joe, who is eight.

"And when little Joseph can't wear them no more. She just makes 'em over for Ned

for Pete, The family is furnished with cloth-

ing complete.' "But when Ned gets through with the clothing, and when He has thrown it aside what do you do with it then?"

"Why once more we go around the circle complete,
And begin to use it for patches for
Pete."

PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE

By the Rev. T. Sla er, 8. J. The Catholic Church is well aware that marriage is the state of life for the great majority of her children. She knows also how much of their well-being in this life and in the next depends on what sort of marriage they contract. She would not be the wise and kind mother that she is if she did not do all in her power to help them in the most im-portant crisis of their lives. She has had long experience, she knows human nature thoroughly, and, moreover, she is guided by the Spirit of God Himself. As a matter of fact, there is scarcely any point connected with marriage on which the Catholic Church has not definite teaching and laws of her own. That teaching and those laws are directed toward procuring the good of man-kind, they have stood the test of experience, they can be trusted. I propose here to prescribe very briefly what the Catholic Church teaches and prescribes with regard to the preliminaries of the marriage of her children.

According to Canon 1067, a man before completing his sixteenth year of age and a woman before completof age and a woman before complet-ing her fourteenth year are incapa-ble of contracting a valid marriage. The second section of the same Canon bids the pastors of souls do what they can to prevent too early marriages, even after the attainment of the canonical age. They should do what they can to induce Catholics to follow in this matter the approved usage of the country in which they live. The characters of the parties should be sufficiently developed, and they should have developed, and they should have acquired sufficient experience of life to enable them to manage a

home of their own. In the important matter of selecting a partner for life, sentiment and natural attraction have their legitimate influence. Still, if the choice is to be a wise one and if the marriage is to turn out a success other things besides senti nent must be taken into account. There should be no diriment or prohibitory imbe no diriment or prohibitory impediments between the parties, and they should have their parents' conthey should have their parents' conthe last scholar, the smallest in the sent from the beginning. There should be health of body and mind on both sides. It would be disastrous to marry a consumptive or one boys and girls, all older than himsubject to fits. It is to be a life-long union, and mere good looks are but a weak foundation for such a union. Common sense teaches

by and girls, all older than him-self. I then turned 'round and wrote the word on the blackboard so that they might all see how it was spelled, and learn it better. that sterling qualities of mind and heart should be preferred to a comely exterior without those qualities. As a general rule, a partner should be chosen from the same condition of life; marriages than he had gone to the head. Here same condition of life; marriages which do not conform to this rule are seldom successful. If these restrictions are to be observed, it means that young people of marriageable age should not allow themselves to drift into marriage unawares. They should have the strength of characters and the second conduct, there is herewith given strength of character and the common sense to break off an undesirable intimacy while there is yet time. They should stop in time. It goes without saying that, besides the true Faith, good morals are a bare and travel stained. In his

keeping in public, but the matter is of such importance that something must be said on it. The attitude of the Catholic Church toward company-keeping is dictated by her teaching. She teaches that before actual marriage the same laws of chastity bind those who are keeping company as bind other unmarried persons. She also teaches that it is grievously sinful to expose oneself without corresponding necessity to grievously sinful to expose oneself without corresponding necessity to the proximate occasion of committing mortal sin. The Church is well ting mortal sin. The Church is well but what I might cheat you, and SHERLOCK - MANNING PIANO COMPANY, London, Canada

should wait until about twelve months before the time when they will be in a position to fulfill their intention. Christian prudence re-quires that due caution should be used by the parties and by their used by the parties and by their parents during the time of com-pany-keeping. Theologians sgree "When Peter's clothes are too small for him to go on,
My wife makes 'em over and gives them to John.

"When for John, who is ten, they have grown out of date, She just makes 'em over for Joe.

does not recognize a merely in-formal promise of marriage and that it produces no canonical effects. In order to be recognized by the Church and produce canoni-cal effects, a promise of marriage So you see if I get enough clothing parties and by the local ordinary or parish priest or by two witnesses.

Marriage is a parochial Sacra-ment, and it should ordinarily take place in the parish church before the parish priest of the district in which one of the parties has a domicile or quasi-domicile, or at least has dwelt for a month. As a rule, the parish church of the bride is to be chosen if the parties belong to different parishes.

About a month or six weeks be-fore the day fixed for the marriage, the parties should present them-selves to the parish priest and tell him of their intention. He will put certain questions to them unless knows them well, and ask for their baptismal certificates, unless they were baptized in the church in which they are going to be married. The parish priest will see that the bans are published on three successive days of obligation, or procure a dispensation. The parties should dispensation. The parties should receive the Sacraments of Penance Holy Communion before

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

"CHILDREN"

Ah, what would the world be to us If the children were no more? We should dread the desert be hind us Worse than the dark before.

What the leaves are to the forest, With light and air for food, 'Ere their sweet and tender juices Have been hardened into wood.

That to the world are children; Through them it feels the glow Of a brighter and sunnier climate That reaches the trunks below.

Come to me, oh, children! And whisper in my ear What the birds and wind are sing-

Ye are better than all the ballads That ever were sung or said; For ye are living poems,

-HENRY W. LONGFELLOW TWO HONEST BOYS

An example of honesty is always instructive, whether it be given by a child or by one of maturer years. A skilful teacher, who takes great interest in the moral growth of her pupils, writes as follows: "In a standing to spell. In the lesson there was a very hard word. I put the word to the scholar at the head,

conduct, there is herewith given another interesting lesson: you want to buy any berries tonecessary condition for a happy catholic marriage.

It is difficult to treat of company-keeping in public, but the matter is of such importance that something must be said on it. The attitude of such importance that something over them. The lady told him she must be said on it.

Letter writing is a sadly neglected art. The ability to write a good, interesting letter is a real accomplishment, and one which may be acquired even by those who have no particular talent

The telephone and the modern mode of travel do away with the necessity of much letter writing in our day, but in the long ago, absent

our day, but in the long ago, absent friends were written to regularly— not just a postal card or a few hurried lines, but long, friendly, newsy letters, the kind that carries so much of the personal, and brings joy, and makes for sunshine even

on the darkest days.

A peep into grandfather's treasure box, with its little stacks of letters, yellow and faded but pains-

made a source of very great pleas-ure, as well as a means of discovering and cultivating in children tastes for literary work, which may be tokens of a rare talent.

Usually a child, when commencing to compose a letter, will say, "I don't know anything to write," and quite often a mother will tell him what to write, sentence by sentence.
This is a wrong method, as it effaces the child's individuality, discourages originality, and deprives the latter of th the letter of the impress of his personality, which would have made it dear to the heart of the recipient. Instead of dictating the letter call to his mind several items of interest, and let him arrange them in his letter in the manner which suggests itself to him.

Correct misspelled words but do not criticize composition or expression, as this tends to weaken his self confidence and check the growth of his ability.

TAKE CARE OF BABY

The life of a baby depends more or less on the sanitary care taken by the mother. Many an infant has had disastrous results from using a poor and unanitary rubber nipple.
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have been sold and not one unsatisfactory case has resulted. It is a clear transparent nipple of excellent rubber, thoroughly antiseptic will stand sterilization to the highest degree without collapsing. Buy the "Nobility" Nipple, the best for the baby. Sold at all drug

A NON-CATHOLIC TRIBUTE

Mr. William F. Ellis (Protestant), a child or by one of maturer years.

A skilful teacher, who takes great interest in the moral growth of her pupils, writes as follows: "In a country school a large class were standing to spell. In the lesson there was a very hard word. I put the French hospital, the buildings of which had been completely burned, stood a white marble statue of the Madonna and Child, completely untouched by fire or smoke or falling embers. Amidst all the blackness or ruin about it, the figure of the Mother with the Babe was as white and unsulfied as when it left the sculptor's hand. Not a flake of marble had been still be a sculptor's hand. flake of marble had been chipped off by the intense heat, although marble walls all about the city had crum- affliction .- Wm. Browne.

aware of the danger of company-keeping, and it may be said that, where the custom prevails, she tolerates rather than approves it. Under her guidance theologians lay down the rule 'that only those persons may begin to keep company with each other who are at liberty to marry and who intend to marry within a reasonable time. A reasonable time is commonly interpreted as about twelve months. So that those who for some years to come will not be in a position 'to marry should wait until about twelve months before the time when they to months before the time when they take more than the quantity I have agreed upon?" The boy looked up and smiled. "I am not afraid," and iron girders had become bent and gnarled. In like manner, Mary is the spotless, beautiful figure, revered and beloved by countless myriads. Diana of Ephesus has gone the way of Venus and the more primitive god-desses; but the pure and lovely human personality of Mary remains as the most highly favored among women. Motherhood everywhere turn's toward her with a sense of kinship and devotion. . . She is the ages' perfect embodiment of womanhood. Piety, obedience, service and unspeakable reward are her spiritual characteristics. In a day spiritual characteristics. In a day when so many young women have lost their moorings and their bearings, it is restful to turn to the personality of the woman whom God found worthy to be the Mother of His Son, the world's Saviour."

STORE COMPLEXION NOT INJURIOUS, IF?

Those who can remember fifty years back will recall that Canadian women then had the clearest and ruddiest complexions that real beauty could tolerate. Today how rare it is to see a clear and rosy skin. The cause is improper food Then women ate no "denatured" takingly written, neatly bound together perhaps by a bit of faded
ribbon, will show you the regard in
which letters from absent friends white flour, prepared or refined cereals or white sugar sweets for were held in his time.

In looking a little farther you will see that each of these letters.

notwithstanding the very formal acids are thrown out mostly by their atkaline salts are largely acids are thrown out mostly by the has a or at and monotonous beginning, 'I take As a my pen in hand,' etc., is a nicely composed, carefully written chapter of a real life story, fairly alive with bits of wit. scraps of good description, and fine friendliness.

Even in this time of plentiful amusement, letter-writing may be made a source of very great pleas. acid) and less acid-forming white flour, refined cereals, meats and sweets, they would again have beautiful skins and store complexions would not injure them.

Roman Meal is 400 parts in each 1,000 parts 'Excess Alkali,' the 1,000 parts Excess Alkall, the only alkaline cereal sold today. It ciarifies and softens the skin because it keeps the blood normally alkaline, free from irritating acids which must find a way out of the blood by the pores of the skin or kill the body that retains them.

Roman Meal makes delicious por ridge, Muffins made from it "melt in your mouth." And for the sake of your children and your own well-being, you should always mix Roman Meal with your white flour (at least 25%) to restore valuable properties lost in making flour

VOCATIONS

It is the glory of Catholic families in some countries of Europe, espe-cially in Ireland, that each household is eager to see at least one of its members ascend the alter of God or become consecrated to His service in the religious life. For this the devoted mother and father offer their prayers to God. In their con-fidences to one another they discuss together which one of their little flock may be so happy as to receive God's call and join the army of His special followers. Though they prudently refrain from expressing their eagerness in so many words to their children, their devotion and zeal are contagious, and their prayers storm heaven, so that, as the years go on, they are often rewarded by the consolation of assisting at a first Mass, where their son is the celebrant, or at a religious clothing, where their daughter is espoused to

This disposition of generosity and fervor, this desire to give their dearest children for the service of God, brings a blessing on the entire household, and in particular on the parents themselves. The sweetest consolation of their declining years is often found, not so much in the prosperity of those of their children who have remained in the world

Heaven but tries our virtue by

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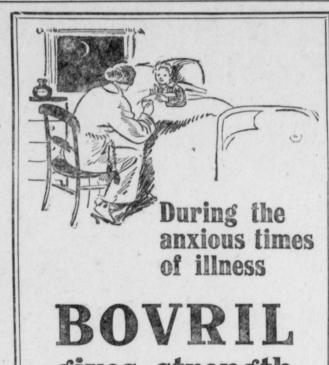
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