

There is a constant demand for female domestic servants, and a constant outcry because of their scarcity. All this time there are thousands of girls and women who are in want of employment but the fact is they are not willing to accept employment of the class that is needed. Many are much inclined to complain about this state of things and a good many lectures are given to females of this class to show how much better, and healthier, and wiser it would be for them to look for employment where it can always be found, rather than to seek it in those lines of industry nearly always overcrowded. There are a good many things to be said on both sides of this question. The average servant girl may be well fed and well paid, but her position in by far too many cases is about as undesirable a one as there is in our whole social system. Long hours are hers, both early and late. She is not expected to weary when all others are tired and seek rest. She is not expected to have a will or desire of her own, and above all things not a temper, the heritage of all woman-kind. She is not expected to have any social longings. Usually she is but the one of her class in the house and is expected to find all her enjoyment in the kitchen, generally the most unpleasant and out-of-the-way apartment in the whole house, or else in her own small room, frequently the most bare and dingy room in the whole house. Where and how can girls, with all the feelings and desires of the rest of us, find the means of making life pleasant and happy under such circumstances? How would we enjoy ourselves if situated in exactly the same way? How endurable would life be to us, if without much education, and without time and opportunities to read, without any pleasant home associations, without any home companions, without any hours at your own command, we found our unceasing round of duty, year in and year out, around a hot stove, in the stuffy atmosphere of the kitchen, or in the task of cleaning disordered rooms and such like things? The lives of those so much needed to make our own comfortable, ought to be made as comfortable and as pleasant as they well can be. Dear reader, there is a pretty fine scope for some real Christian work for all of us in this particular matter. The Christians who aspire to do something towards adding to the happiness of mankind can often find a finer mission field among the inhabitants of the back kitchen than among those of heathendom. But then, it is not near so inspiring to most of us to think of a mission so near our own back doors, and among those with whom we are so familiar, or it may be among those with whom we don't want to be familiar.

The Chinese have a good many singular notions of their own, but in some of them they show a vast amount of good sense. It is said to be the custom, with some at least, in China to pay their doctors stated amounts per week so long as they remain well but to cut off all payment for such times as they may be sick. The effect of all this is, of course, to encourage doctors to try all their skill in applying the ounce of preventive rather than the pound of cure. Medical science is of great value to the human race in curing the many diseases which flesh is

heir to, but its greatest advantage ought to be in searching out the hidden causes of diseases and applying the remedies just there. Too many medical men pay, apparently, little attention to removing the cause of sickness; they deal rather with its effects. It can hardly be because the latter method pays much the best.

Gen. Grant is evidently still one of the most popular men in the United States. Ever since the days when he led on the Northern soldiers to the victories that crushed out the Great Rebellion Gen. Grant has been the pet of the nation. It was on the wave of that popularity that he was so triumphantly elected President. He had never given any previous knowledge or skill of statesmanship, nor has he ever done so since. He was as President, probably one of the most pliable tools in the hands of scheming and designing politicians that ever occupied that prominent position, and yet how he continued to retain his popularity with the people! There are still thousands and thousands who would gladly work hard for his election for a third term. Now that he has fallen into financial misfortunes how public sympathy again manifests itself in his favour! Within a few days a measure was rushed through Congress without hardly a dissenting voice placing him on the "retired list" of officers, with an allowance of \$19,000 a year. There was scarcely a voice raised against it, and if it had been, it would not have been listened to with a moment's patience. Many men of wealth and influence are urging that even this is not enough—that half a million dollars, or so, ought to be raised at once among his friends, by personal contributions, and invested for his benefit. There is already a fund of \$200,000 for that purpose, raised years ago. Why it is felt that he must be so munificently provided for it is hard to see. There is nothing whatever of the "Republican simplicity" about it, such as that of Cincinnatus returning to his plough again after having served well his nation. As a matter of fact the "Republican simplicity" ideas have been about abandoned in regard to all official affairs and all officials in the Great Republic.

In England the idea that "a man must drink something" other than what may be required at his meals, is more prevalent than with us. One of the great problems the temperance men desire to solve is to substitute some popular drink to supply the place of beer, brandy and other alcoholic. Coffee houses have done a good deal as "counter attractions" but something more is still a felt want. So great is the desire to meet this case that two prizes of \$3,500 and \$1,500 respectively have been offered in England to the inventor of the two most popular temperance drinks which will take the place of intoxicating beverages. Surely such liberal offers will stimulate men to provide a popular substitute for stimulants.

With the coming of warm weather people will begin to betake themselves to the water, both in pursuit of pleasure and health. Bathing should not be neglected as a habit, and every young person should learn to swim. Many a valuable life is lost every year for want of having learned to swim. There are certainly

times to bathe and times not to bathe. The *Sanitary Journal*, a good authority on such subjects, has just been giving some reasonable hints in this matter which ought to be kept in remembrance. It says:—"Be not too ready to go into cold water out of doors. Better to bathe at home until the weather and water get decidedly warm. Go not into cold water when overheated, nor when cooling off, nor when cold, nor remain in too long at first. Fatal cramps are caused by such indiscretions. Dry off quickly, and dress as soon as possible, on leaving the water." Experience will teach almost anyone that it is quite safe to go into pretty cold water if you only remain in a very short time and dry off and rub very briskly immediately after.

The constant complaint about the unsightliness and nuisance of overhead telegraph and similar wires, in the cities and large towns is almost sure to bring about a good deal of trouble and annoyance in the end. In New York it has already been decided that all electric lighting wires must be buried underground before May next year; they are considered more dangerous than telegraph and other wires carrying less powerful electric currents. The State Legislature has decided that all electric light and telephone wires shall be buried within a year in all cities of 50,000 inhabitants, and the agitation is going on for still other requirements in that direction. It may yet turn out that this wholesale burial of all wires may be attended with far more trouble and annoyance than is now expected. How are they to be constantly reached and kept in order unless the surface of the streets is to be constantly torn up? The frequent tearing up of the streets now in connection with the drains and the gas pipes is a source of very serious annoyance, and often much loss too, and when a large increase is made to all this trouble in connection with wires the thing may become unbearable.

In the large cities probably a tunnel will be needed, large enough to hold all the wires, and large enough for the men to work in with ease. But may not this arrangement prove very dangerous to the men, and may not the whole of the wires be rendered useless, at times, because of the inevitable flooding of such tunnels with water, at some point? The *Scientific American* points out that all these changes must be attended with a good deal of expense, and in consequence the hope of cheaper telegraph, telephone, and lighting service to the public will be more remote than ever. The enquiry is made whether the unsightliness and annoyance attendant upon the continuance and repair of wires, as they now are, is of more importance to the general public than the additional expense of their general use? It then remarks:—"If no one is willing to be the least inconvenienced for the sake of the general welfare, if no one is willing to have a wire pass his door or cross his roof, he may not reasonably expect at the same time to have cheap service." As the question of the "wire nuisance" is now being a good deal agitated in Toronto and other Canadian localities it may be well to look carefully into

all the various phases of the question before more decisive and final steps are taken.

Certain paid agents of the liquor interests are just now at work in opposition to the adoption of the Scott Act, avowedly because "It is against the interests of temperance." It is seldom argued by these clever advocates that the drink traffic ought to be continued, or that effectual Prohibition ought not to be applied. Such arguments would not be generally received, as the popular feeling is now against anything of the sort. It is therefore necessary to change the tactics and cry out in opposition to the adoption of the law we have mainly because the law is not more efficient and more stringent. Of course it is pretty well known that the real source of the most of the opposition lies in the fact that the law is much too stringent and much too efficient for those contributing large opposition funds. The zeal of some of these men about the "interests of temperance" comes rather unexpectedly to those who do not know all the circumstances; and it comes only about such times as there are available funds to make such zeal a merchantable commodity. The ideas of the same men in regards to what constitutes "true temperance," at times where there is no Scott Act excitement on, are well worth looking into. Of course these men practice their own principles, and their every day practices are worth a little enquiring after, in view of their prominent position respecting the Scott Act agitation.

How differently men take their luck. The *Telegram* say:—"One of the speculators who lost heavily owing to the recent collapse in the stock market in New York was so grieved that he went and drowned himself. This is one form of foolishness. A defeated candidate for a commissionership in a Pennsylvania county was so disappointed at not being elected that he went crazy and had to be taken to the asylum. This is another form. People have only to go through this world once, and there is really no sense in anybody taking his reverses, no matter what they may be, so terribly to heart as to either drown himself or go crazy. It is not worth while. There are other things worth living for than the greed for riches and the ambition for place. The world is not of much account to a man when his wife is a widow."

A Model Presentment.

At the recent sessions here the Grand Jury made a practical and sensible presentment containing a number of facts and suggestions very favorably commented on by the Judge, and by the Press since. In view of the information it contains and of the suggestions to other Grand Juries in regard to similar presentments, here has been a desire to have it published entire, and it is now given for the first time in complete form. Readers of TRUTH will find it well worth reading.

TORONTO, May 17th, 1884.
To His Honor, Judge Boyd, Chairman of the General Sessions of the Peace.

The Grand Jury beg to present, that they have given careful consideration to the cases brought before them, and are