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The Advertiser

SIXTEEN
PAGES

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LONDON'S BOYS AND GIRLS LIKE CORRESPONDENCE

Daughters of the Empire Movement "Takes" Well With the
Young Folks—Write Letters to Comrades in Distant
Parts of the Empire—Send and Receive Gifts.

The movement set on foot some months ago by the Imperial Order of Daughters of the Empire, with the idea of inaugurating a correspondence between school children in the various colonies, and thereby increasing their general knowledge of the Empire, which was warmly anticipated so soon after its inception.

London's chapter of Daughters of the Empire took hold of the work with a will shortly after it was launched, and it now has the satisfaction of seeing many of the boys and girls of the various schools in London corresponding regularly with children in other parts of the British dominion, enlightening them on Canada, its vast extent, people, etc., and in turn receiving information about distant colonies and their people, which they could not obtain through regular school channels. It is surprising how the idea of the Daughters of the Empire "caught on." Not only have the boys and girls taken to it readily, but it is apparent from the tone of some of the letters received that the older people are just as keenly interested in it.

THE PLAN OF THE LEAGUE.

As previously pointed out, the girls and boys correspond only with those of their own sex, and the Daughters of the Empire, who direct the correspondence, endeavor to make it as pleasant as possible, to have the correspondents suited to each other in temperament, thus securing a bond of sympathy which might not be otherwise obtainable. To make the work still more pleasing, comrades are given the names of boys and girls in countries about which they might be eager to secure the greatest amount of information. For some time there has been a demand from England, South Africa and especially Australia for correspondents in Canada, and the league—as the correspondence branch is known—has supplied many new names. The Northwest Territories have been asked for names and a great number have been sent through the league. The boys and girls in this country with these letters, which are sent to the mother land, are quite apparent.

RECEIVING PRESENTS.

Just now many of the correspondents in the league of this city are receiving presents from foreign countries, which they do not doubt will prize very much. Gifts of various kinds, such as stationery, pens, pencils, and other school requisites, are sent through the mails, which are educative in a high degree, and the pupils of the public schools this week have received from their comrades in South Africa and other colonies some very interesting articles which tend to increase their knowledge of the world, and also have an educative value.

One lad in this city has a letter received about this time of the year in 1902 from New Zealand, and it is timely to note what the young correspondent in that distant colony has to say. The boy, it may be mentioned is about 13 years of age, and he says, among other things:

"I have succeeded in getting a correspondent for your brother. The boy takes a great interest in moths and butterflies, so also do I, and we often go together hunting for them. I meant to post that nest to you, but have almost forgotten. I would be very glad if you would send me some Canadian moths and butterflies. The present of stamps was very welcome. In the last letter you wrote to me you asked me to describe the natives and the fern life of New Zealand. There are a great many different ferns in New Zealand, and at Christmas I am going to stay at the bush, so I will perhaps get some ferns and press them for you. The Maoris, as the natives of New Zealand are called, are very clever, energetic fellows, and are very good at sports of all kinds. You can easily pick out a man of rank by the quantity of tattoo he displays. For my Christmas holidays I am going to stay at a place on the east coast of New Zealand, called Tauranga. There is bush near by, which is very pleasant for picking. I have a question about snow falling in Auckland. I am forced to say that it does not—worse luck."

A BEAUTIFUL CITY.

As the reader can see, boys are evidently the same in New Zealand as in Canada. And the girls of other places are like the girls of Canada, too, as the following extracts from a letter from a girl in Cape Town will show.

NEW YEAR'S GREETING THAT WILL ENCIRCLE THE GLOBE

The United States Government Will Flash a "Happy New Year"
to All the Races of the Earth—The Message Will be Ten
Seconds in Transmission—Route To Be Taken.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 25.—Uncle Sam is preparing an electric New Year's salute to all the people of the earth—a salutation unique in world history.

At midnight Dec. 31, from his white, towering tin factory on Georgetown Heights, Admiral Chester, superintendent of the national observatory, will have sounded completely around the earth—the cables which now span our great spinning-top—and to the continental and insular nations of the north and south, by the vast network of wire ramifying in all directions from this great globe, a signal announcing the birth of the year 1904 at the capital of our republic.

To thus ring out the old and ring in the new year completely around the world is a feat which has hitherto been impossible, inasmuch as the

black continent of Africa. From Alexandria it will be shot 750 miles up the Nile, into the very heart of Africa. Leaping out into the sea it will register itself in the files of Madagascar and Mauritius. From Lisbon to the Madeiras and over the Cape Verde Islands, thence down into the wilds of Brazil; thence down into the wilds of Argentina, and up into Bolivia; across the Windward Isles, the Lesser Antilles and the West Indies, and thence home again to the capital of the United States.

It is inconceivable that such a circuit of the earth can be made in scarcely more time than you will expend in wishing your neighbor "a happy New Year."

Over 1,180,000 miles of wire and cable this greeting to humanity will speed. At the ends of the cables the signal will arrive as an electric wave, rather than as an instantaneous spark.

When the midnight signal reaches Chicago and the central cable direct belt it will still be an hour before the birth of the new year. "When it flashes into Denver and the other mountain belt towns all good clocks will register 10 p.m., and people of that region will have two hours of the old year remaining to them. When it throbs throughout the Pacific coast cities their clocks will stand at 9 p.m. It will reach Honolulu at 7 p.m. The lonely cable operators on Midway Island will suspend their 6 o'clock dinner to speed the greeting on its way westward. They will have six more hours of the old year due them. Up to this point we have been ahead of the new year. But just west of Midway the signal crosses the international date line, where each new year is born. This queer boundary, running north and south, bisects the Pacific, and is supposed to follow the meridian of 180 degrees, but really traces a somewhat irregular course.

On the east of this line the nominal date is also one day earlier than on the west of it. Hence, although the clocks will register 6 p.m., New Year's Eve, at Midway, when the signal passes through that island, this some instantaneous spark will be felt at Guam, when clocks there will stand at 3 p.m. New Year's Day. Manila clocks will say that it is 2 p.m., Jan. 1, and the soldiers throughout the Philippines will have just finished their New Year dinners. It will be high noon in Siam when this electric impulse passes through that kingdom. At Aden, Arabia, it will be 8 a.m., and when from Alexandria the greeting is ticked to the telegraph stations up the Nile, at 7 o'clock, the eastern faces of the great pyramids will be timed by the morning sunshine. At the same hour the signal will find the Boers of South Africa beginning a summer day's toil on the veldt. At Rome it will be 6 a.m., New Year morning, and the Pope will still be asleep in the Vatican. When the throbs is felt in the main telegraph office of dear old London it will be 5 a.m.

Two New Year days in succession will fall to the lot of vessels sailing eastward across the Pacific if they pass the international date line this time. But those passing westward, simultaneously, will have no New Year Day at all. Another odd fact is that New Year Day really lasts on earth for 48 rather than 24 hours.

If other countries will, like our own, give their good wishes at the same time, this midnight greeting from us is received, given will be heard at Dover, Liverpool, Halifax and throughout Italy; a canvas drum will drop at each port of Norway; a wicker ball will fall at Kronstadt, Russia; a semaphore will come down from Montebell, France; a whistle will toot at Honolulu; a flag will be dipped at Hakodate, Japan; and a red bell will drop at Tokio, all of these acknowledging our "Happy New Year."

WOMEN'S WORK IN JAPANESE NATION

MIKADO'S LAND READY FOR WAR
Girls Employed as Conductors
on Railway Trains. Some Facts and Guesses Regarding the Outlook.

CROWN PRINCE A MONOGAMIST
He Sets a Notable Example to His Future Subjects—Interested in Women's Work.

London, Dec. 25.—The social condition of woman is a fairly trustworthy measure of the civilization of a state, and judged by this standard Japan has not yet reached the summit of Western culture. This fact, however, is not a reproach, seeing that it is not long since even European nations have bridged the abyss which sunders former barbaric customs from the humane legislation of today. And the Japanese are even now working hard to imitate us. Hitherto, indeed at the present moment, the ranks of female "hands" in Japan are recruited from among the rural population by agents, who induce the country lasses to sign contracts for quite a number of years—the best portion of their lives. And the wages averaged 3d a day! For that miserable mess of food which they are to receive during working hours, but permit themselves to be wholly isolated from the outer world, just as if they were in a prison, a hospital or a nunnery. Thus they are entirely in the power of their employers, the least scrupulous of whose whims they are obliged to obey. Thanks to the initiative of the press and to the high spirit of a few wealthy firms, a strong and hard light has been thrown upon those dark places of Japan, and redress is already in sight. The Mikado's edicts have been issued, and it was the terrible state of things in vogue in the mills and works of that city which first attracted attention. The slaves of the Southern States of North America had a better time than some of the wretched girls in Osaka, the proletariat of Japan were thrown upon European markets at nominal prices. Happily the Guild of Weavers has now set to work to better the lot of these helots, and its efforts are being reinforced by Government employees.

Curiously enough, in the higher callings and professions, the female element is not only employed, but is doing scientific training, instead of mere manual labor, there was hardly any field for women's activity. Thus, in none of the ministries or government offices was a woman to be found as civil servant. The respectable firms of merchants likewise rigidly excluded members of the fair sex, refusing to employ them as saleswomen; only in a few cheap bazaars, where the work was very fatiguing and the pay utterly inadequate, were women to be seen behind the counter. But here, too, a beneficial change is now being made. The firm of Mitsui, the weavers, for example—one of the wealthiest in Japan—have just decided to take on girls.

For a considerable time past women have been engaged at railway stations, especially in dealing with passenger traffic, and now the Sanui line, which has hitherto eliminated the female element, has completely broken with its traditions, and in future the passengers by that company's line will be looked after by female conductors, and perhaps lady controllers as well. The Crown Prince of Japan takes a keen interest in this movement, which aims at making life less miserable to his future female subjects, and he has begun to set an example. He has married but one wife, and has allowed it to be generally understood that he is, and intends to remain, a monogamist to the end of his days.

In Utah there are large deposits of radio-active uranium ores and compounds that are about to be opened. Analysis shows that they will yield fifteen grains of radium to the ton of ore.

London, Dec. 25.—A Tokyo dispatch says: At a dinner given by the Oriental Association tonight, Former Foreign Minister Kato, who presided, said he deeply regretted that the people had not been taken into the confidence of the Government regarding the position of affairs between Japan and Russia. Nevertheless, he said, should the Emperor declare war, the nation would be bound to give him unqualified support. Count Kato, the Premier, said he agreed with the view expressed by Mr. Kato, and he thought it was now high time to let the people know the actual position of affairs. He said that the Japanese declared that not only a feeling of chivalry, but a desire for self-preservation required that Japan should buttress the integrity of the Daimyo. Both speakers thought that the situation had reached an extremely critical stage.

TIME LIMIT FIXED.
The Daily Mail's Kobe correspondent says it is reported that the note of protest from the Japanese Government to the Russian minister, in response to Russia's reply to the claims of Japan had been received by the Japanese Government. This period expires Jan. 7. This report does not confirm from any quarter the rumor of a similar rumor which was formerly current.

Spiced cablegrams for the far east printed in this morning's newspapers reiterate the reports of alleged war preparations, but as Japanese securities yesterday recovered their lost values it is evident that little importance is attached to these rumors in Japan.

JAPANESE PREPARATIONS.
The Daily Telegraph's Shanghai correspondent gives the names of six steamers which Japan has chartered for the purpose of carrying troops. He says that the sixth army division, at the garrison city of Kumamoto is awaiting orders to proceed to Korea. The correspondence of the Daily Mail at Sydney, N. S. W., cables that the Japanese Government has placed orders for the purchase of a large number of New South Wales concerns, and that the presumption is that this lead will be used for the manufacture of bullets.

At an extraordinary meeting of the cabinet today it is reported that it was decided to issue an emergency ordinance authorizing the guarantee of the principal and interest of an issue of 5,000,000 yen debentures of the Seoul-Fusan Railway, which is expected to be finished before the end of next year. It was announced in a dispatch from Tokyo on Dec. 22, that the Japanese Government proposed to undertake the completion of the Seoul-Fusan Railway under its direct supervision.

SOMEWHAT CONCILIATORY.
St. Petersburg, Dec. 25.—The Russian Government is still considering the reply of the Japanese Government to its note, which was sent in answer to Japan's demand that it should guarantee the Russian interests in the Manchurian railway. A reconsideration of proposals made in the Russian note is considered as a matter of course here. Russia has never been disposed to take any step which would lead to an abrupt termination of the negotiations with Japan. In answer to many inquiries the Russian Foreign Office has always insisted that the Russian proposals were so liberal that it would be scarcely possible to conceive any further concessions. While the foreign office is unwilling to admit that Russia is prepared to offer more than the concessions outlined in the last note, it is considered possible that the Government may suggest changes by which the Russian requirements may be met and

satisfaction given to Japan. A rumor has been circulated that the United States is still inclined to suggest the reference of the difficulties between Russia and Japan to The Hague arbitration tribunal. This rumor is believed to be merely the echo of a former suggestion made in the press of the United States.

SHIP NEMOINEE MASHED BY SEAS

With Stearing Gear Destroyed,
She Lay Helpless for Days—
Passengers Terrified.

New York, Dec. 6.—A number of the passengers who were on the Atlantic transport Nemoinee, bound for this port, when she was struck by the hurricane on Dec. 7, and disabled so that she drifted at the mercy of the storm for five days, arrived here yesterday on the Cedric. They told a thrilling story of their experience.

The Nemoinee left London on Dec. 3. Four days later she ran into a terrific sea, and the ship, which was then struck the ship, throwing her on her beam ends. It came with such force as to crush in the heavy deadlights in the cabin ports of the starboard side, and the staterooms were flooded. Most of the passengers were in bed when the wave hit the ship, and many were thrown from their berths to the floor, with bedding and everything movable on top of them.

The utmost confusion prevailed for a time among the passengers, according to the story told by the officers. Had difficulty in quieting them. When the ship righted it was found that her rudder, post had been snapped off, leaving the steering gear disabled and the ship unmanageable. One sailor was caught in the wash, and a wave dashed against the bulkheads, resulting in injuries from which he died an hour later. Three other seamen were seriously injured by waves which broke over the ship, while they were trying to make repairs to the shattered steering gear. Because of the excitement it became necessary to lock the passengers in the cabin. Oil was used to still the waves, but with little effect. For five days the ship rolled in the trough of the sea, Capt. Lucas and his officers remaining on the bridge night after night without sleep. Finally, at noon on the fifth day, a temporary steering gear was rigged, and the ship limped back to Falmouth, where the passengers were sent to Liverpool, and such as chose were sent to New York on the Cedric.

WAS A CATCHY CANTATA

"Santa Claus the Second" at
Talbot Street Sunday School.

Pupils, Both Young and Old, Took
Prominent Part.

The Christmas entertainment of the Talbot Street Baptist Sunday school was held on Wednesday evening in the body of the church, when the bright and catchy cantata, entitled "Santa Claus the Second," was most excellently rendered by the children of the school, after taking tea in the Sunday school room. Stewart Hudson was "Santa Claus the Second," and Richard Mountjoy was "Santa Claus the First."

The school has held some very successful Christmas exercises in the past, but it was the unanimous opinion of those who had the opportunity of judging that Wednesday evening's performance surpassed those of any former one. The choruses and solos certainly evinced very careful training on the part of the pupils. The solo by Miss Mary Mason, which was heartily encored, the following programme was excellently rendered: "Chorus, 'Hurray for Merry Christmas'; solo and chorus, 'When All the World is Glad'; solo and chorus, 'A Real Santa Claus'; solo and chorus, 'Nobility Cares'; and the following choruses: 'The Herald Song,' 'The Holly, 'Who'll Buy,' 'We've Waited So Long,' 'Over Seas from Far Away,' 'Good Night.'

The boys in "Longer than the Band" and "The Holly Bush Boys' Union," did their work as only boys can. The solo "Nobility Cares" by Miss Muriel Draper, was touchingly rendered. The little Chinese girls, dressed in their gay Chinese costumes, and the "Fruit Song" by Misses Altman Stewart and Hemmick were very bright and elicited much applause. The little solo chorus, "We've Waited So Long," like all the work of the little people, was much appreciated. Miss Margaret Merritt took a very excellent part quite acceptably, and also rendered a solo in good voice. Mention must also be made of the excellent work done by Miss Josie Jeffery in the part of "Grandmother Santa Claus." The Good Night Chorus by the school brought the exercises to a close.

Killed by Train.

Philadelphia, Dec. 25.—Hugh A. Mullen, one of the proprietors of the Sunday Philadelphia World, and well known in local politics, was instantly killed last night by being struck by a train at the North Philadelphia station of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Among the papers found in his pocket was an accident insurance policy for \$5,000. Mr. Mullen was 54 years old and a native of Philadelphia.

Smallpox in Buffalo.
Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 25.—Nine persons suffering from smallpox were taken to the quarantine hospital yesterday. Six of the cases were contracted at a dance hall on Broadway, where a large number of persons were exposed to infection. The health authorities are working hard to stamp out the disease. Two buildings have been quarantined and placed under police guard.

A TRIP DOWN THE THAMES BY A STEAMER IN 1837

Mrs. Jameson's Journey Between Chatham and Detroit—Strange
Fellow-Passengers—Mud Turtles Galore—Great Britain's
Wanton Sacrifice of Territory.

Many readers of The Advertiser have derived great pleasure from Mrs. Jameson's narrative of her travels through Canada in 1837 and have expressed a wish to follow her in her journey, which she has so brilliantly sketched. The following is an extract from Monday's edition, and describes her trip on the River Thames from Chatham to Detroit, in June:

It is time, however, that I should introduce you to our party on board the little steamboat, which is now puffing and snorting, and gliding at no rapid rate over the blue tranquil waters of Lake St. Clair. First, then, there are the captain, and his mate or steersman, two young men of good manners and appearance; one English and one Irish, one stout and one thin, and a naval officer; both have land, and are near neighbors on somewhere on Lake Simcoe; but both being weary of their barren, solitary life in the bush, they have taken the steamboat for this season on speculation, and it seems to them a most desirable change. The boat was built to navigate the ports of Lake Huron from Penetanguishene, to Goderich, and St. Joseph's Island, but there it was wrecked. It is a wretched little boat, dirty and ill-contrived. The upper deck to which I have fled from the close, hot cabin, is an open platform, with no defense or railing around it, and I have here my establishment—a table, a few chairs, a box of matches, paper, and a great umbrella; a gust of wind or a pitch of the vessel would inevitably send me sliding overboard. The passengers consist of my acquaintance, the Moravian missionary, with a family of women and children (the latter, however, of no great age), an assistant, (Vogler), who are about to emigrate with the Indians beyond the Missouri. These people speak a dialect of German among themselves, being descended from the early German Moravians. I find them civil, but not very agreeable. They are, however, proceeding to Michigan and Illinois. There are on board, in short, I can make nothing of them; I cannot extract an idea beyond eating, drinking, dressing and praying; nor can I make out what feelings, whether of regret, or hope, or indifference, they contemplate their intended exile to a far, far away land. The children squeal, and the women chatter incessantly.

We took in at Chatham a large cargo of the usual articles of exportation from Canada to the United States, viz., barrels of flour, sacks of grain, and emigrants proceeding to Michigan and Illinois. There are on board, in the steerage, a great number of poor Scotch and Irish of the lowest grade, and also one large family of American emigrants, who have taken up their station on the deck, and whose operations amuse me exceedingly. I wish I could before you this very original menage, even as it is before me now while I write. Such a group could be encountered nowhere on earth, methinks, but here in the west, or among the migratory Tartar hordes of the east.

They are from Vermont, and on their way to the Illinois, having been already eleven weeks traveling through New York and Upper Canada. They have two wagons covered in with horse hair, a yoke of oxen, and a pair of horses. The chief or patriarch of the party is an old Vermont farmer, upwards of sixty at least, whose thin shrewd face has been burnt to a deep brick-red color by the sun and travel, and wrinkled by age and care into a texture.

HOW THE KING AND QUEEN CELEBRATED CHRISTMAS

Went to Church, Had a Christmas Tree for the Little Princes and Princesses, Ate Plum Pudding, Took a Drive and a Walk,
and Had a Romp With the Royal Children.

London, Dec. 25.—Christmas morning at Sandringham, the adults were awakened from their slumbers by the skirl of the bagpipes as the state piper perambulated the exterior of the house; while the juniors were already busy and gleeful, for had not Santa Claus visited them during the hours of darkness in the orthodox manner, and scattered largesse with a bountiful hand. The house contained just a bit of the gathering of the three generations of the family, and the day was celebrated in the good old-fashioned manner; so everybody was down early for breakfast in the dining saloon, which was partaken of en famille. An air of suppressed curiosity and excitement was all-pervading, for everyone had prepared presents for everyone else, some of much value, some of lesser, but all dictated by affection, and obtained after much careful study of requirements and preferences. As there were numerous presents from the many relatives abroad, which arrived by post and rail, so that it really took quite a long time to go through them all, so soon as breakfast had been finished, apart from the family presents, numerous articles had been sent to the household, and everyone, from the highest to the lowest, received a suitable gift from the King and Queen.

The children of the royal household, a few visitors. The hymns and anthems—having been previously submitted to the Queen—were then selected for the day, and were rendered by the choir, which consists of school children and employees.

Lanchester is, of course, the children's dinner, and for their sake the orthodox fare was introduced, the pudding coming in well aligned, to the great joy of the young princes and princesses. Some portion of the afternoon was spent out of doors, and the children were taken to the house, and everyone, from the highest to the lowest, received a suitable gift from the King and Queen.

The people on the estate have not been neglected. King Edward is desirous that there shall be suitable Christmas cheer in ever home, and so has provided joints of beef and other substantial commodities, which were duly distributed by the agent and his assistants on Christmas eve. Their

ture much resembling that of tanned sail-canvas—the smile nearest me at this moment. The answer to his neck and hands are like knotted whiplords; his turned-up nose, with large nostrils, snuffs the wind, and his small light blue eyes have a most keen, cunning expression. He wears a smockcock over a flannel shirt, blue woolen stockings, and broken pipe shoes. In his straw hat, and all day long he smokes or chews tobacco. He has with him fifteen children of different ages, the two eldest girls, who are of the first three wives. The present wife, tall, intelligent, care-worn woman, seems about thirty years younger than her husband. She sits on the shaft of one of the wagons I have mentioned, a baby in her lap, and two or three of the younger children crawling about her feet. Her time and attention are completely taken up in dispensing to the whole brood, young and old, rationed food, consisting of bread, of Indian corn, and pieces of sassafras root. The appearance of all (except the poor anxious mother) is usually robust and cheerful, but the eldest son, a very young man, has been very recently married to a very young wife, and these two, together all day, hand in hand, under the shade of a sail, neither noticing the other, nor conversing with each other, but it seems to me, in silent contentment with their lot. I found these people, most unlike others of their class I have ever met with before, very curious, not communicative, answering to all my questions and advances with cautious replies, and the old man with even laconic brevity. In contrast with the gentle anxious wife with her baby presented to all the others, interested me very much, and so overpowered by fatigue, and so disinclined to converse, that I found no quarter and having his history and antiquities, and traditions of heroes, and epochs of peace and war. No place in the United States presents such scenes of poverty and misery, and themselves, and permanently affecting, as they occurred, both its profligacy and prosperity. Five times the flag has changed, and the old sovereignties have claimed its allegiance; and since it has been held by the United States, it has been three times transferred; twice it has been besieged by the Indians, once during a war, and once during a peace; truly a long list of events for a young city of a century old! Detroit, almost a rival her old grandeur, Quebec, who stands in defiance on the summit of her rocky height, in warlike and tragic experience.

Can you tell me why we gave up this fine and important place to the English without leaving ourselves even a fort on the opposite shore? Polts and blockheads as we have been in all that concerns the partition and the general conduct of these matters, now that we have ignorantly and blindly ceded whole countries, and lost millions of acres of our best land and water to our neighbors, I am told that we are likely to quarrel with them so to war about a portion line through the barren tracts of the English commissioners the foolish bargain they had made, the real extent, value, and resources of the territories ceded to the United States, the man covered his eyes with his clenched hands, and burst into tears.

(To be continued next Saturday.)

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Continued on page 13.