

Children's Corner

Address all letters for this department to M. C.
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Our Lady's Letter Box.

DEAR CHILDREN,—

THE holidays have come, and I am sure there is general rejoicing in the land of the little people. It is only work that can win the reward of rest, so let us all take it gladly, and get nearer to heaven because of it. Many of you will be going to the mountains to spend your vacation, so let us ask our dear Lady of the Visitation, whose feast comes on July 2nd, to bless our journeys over hill and dale, in memory of her's so long ago, when she "went with haste into the mountains of Judea to visit her cousin St. Elizabeth and remained with her three months." Speaking of the Visitation reminds me of something I want to tell you. You know these are the days of influence. The days when men are looking for favors and seeking large places through friends who can speak a good word for them and so get them what they want. Now heaven is the "big place" we are all seeking, and 'tis a very good thing to have some friends up there—at court—to speak a word for us. In February last I talked to you about St. Francis de Sales, the sweet, gentle, loveable Father of the Visitation, the order of Blessed Margaret Mary. Now let me tell you three little instances of his influence.—No, I didn't read them—I saw them. Some one who loves him well has a relic of him—a piece of his flesh—a tiny petrified particle in a little silver case. This relic was placed on the arm of a sick person who had contracted blood poisoning, and who was in great danger of death—and likely to lose her arm even if she lived. The relic was tied around the elbow and the swelling rose no further, but gradually went down and the lady recovered entirely. A dear little boy was quite ill last winter with serious lung trouble, the relic was given him and he was quite delighted with "the little watch" as he called it and wore it while he

was dying as it was thought. Again the dear St. Francis cured the little one and he wanted to have the watch "for keeps"—but no, another larger boy, pupil of a well known New York Catholic school, also wanted it, to wear while he was undergoing an examination for a cadetship at West Point. And what did the Holy Doctor do for him? Brought him out No. 1—ahead of every other boy applicant, even of the College of N. Y. So you see, dear, children that the saints of God are also influential, learn then to love this sweet St. Francis. Read his life. Get his "spirit" written by his friend, the Bishop of Belley, and see how winning he was—yes, and is—but above all, pray to him for a little of his sweetness, which has drawn so many souls to God, and made religion so charming, as well as so consoling. A happy vacation to you all. Don't forget that July is the month of the Precious Blood and each day offer to the Eternal Father the Blood of His divine Son, your brother—think often of that wonderful, that beautiful title, which each of us may claim. The little Infant Jesus, our Brother! What will he not do for us? Ask the Blessed Mother too, to offer that same Precious Blood to the Eternal Father to prevent the commission of one mortal sin each day. Just give your angel guardian some work in adding to do for you, while your arithmetic is tossed up on the top shelf. Leave it there, and live in God's own air all vacation. Be good and then do what you like.

Devotedly,

CARMEL'S SECRETARY.

July 1893.

PUZZLES.

XXIX

Name me and you break me.

XXX

Why is a proud woman like a music box?

XXXI

Why are teeth like verbs?

Answers to Puzzles.

XXIII—Letter "A", because it changes *her* to *hear*.

XXIV—Because it is hardly done.

XXV—A kite.

XXVI—Swallow.

XXVII—Owl.

XXVIII—To-day.

"SEC."