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The Canadian Thresherman and Farmer

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of a woman! How sweetly clinging the fingers of a child! How unutterably ten-der the winter gleam of the stars! ollw beautiful the naked trees against the skv

It was back in the childhood of the race It was back in the childhood of the race that some happy soul first caught the Christmas thrill and instilled into his neighbors the joy of life. And generation by generation, men have thought of love-ly expressions for their delight. It took many forms—each race of people expressing it in accordance with is towners ment and euroauntives.

It took many forms-each face of people expressing it in accordance with its temperament and surroundings. In the south countries, for a week, folk laid aside their warrings, and gave themselves over to happiness. Doors were flung wide. Flowers were sent to friends. There were games and dancing, feasts and laughter, pipes and timbrels. In the north, too, men and women thrilled with the gladness of being. Drag in a great log for the fire. Strew the floor with rushes. Sing for the joy of strength! Set out a torch for the wayfarer. Let the minstrel in! Let the beggar in! Let every one, any one, in! And then, in this joy period, the Child was born in Bethlehem! Little by little the story spread, and a new element crept into the thrill. This was awe.

the story spread, and a new element crept into the thrill. This was awe. Awe at the miracle of motherhood, at the mystery of the gift of life. Forth-with the Child and all children found their place. Christmas-tide had come! For generations after, old instincts spoke wholeso.aely. The Yule logs roared up deep-throated oblimneys. The dancers played Christ-mas mysteries. The singers sing Christ-mas mysteries. The singers sing Christ-mas mysteries. The singers sing Christ-mas mysteries. The torch became a candle to light the Christ-bild, and for his sake gifts were heaped on all children. And then a sad thing happened. As centuries went on, civilization brought forgetfulness of the old ways, and nearly all are lost. Christmas-tide, Christmas-tide, has be-come an orgy of grown-up gift-trading. It has become a panting, whirling season of exchange and barter: of discontent, and of worse than foolish extravgance. And above the tumult and the hurry the stars that gazed on the quiet altars of Aready, on the 'ule log, and above And above the tunuit and the hurry the stars that gazed on the quiet altars of Arrady, on the Yule log, and above all on the Manger of Bethlehem, look down in brooding wonder. And yet-romance is not wholly lost, so long as we have simple-hearted childhood to make our Christmas merry.

## Λ

Crying Children By Harriette Waters Children quite beyond babyhood some-times have distressing fits of crying. Some small boys and girls are troubled with morbid feelings which find vent in tears when the little people do not know what makes them cry. Girls are more

likely to have such fancies and shed such likely to have such fancies and shed such unintelligible tears than boys. Often it is not a mere petulance, but a sense of mysterious trouble, a morbid imagination that peoples the child-world with fancies that seem very real, although they are baseless. A sensitive, nervous, imagina-tive little girl may endure actual suffer-ing from such overwrought moods. A child of eight was thus addicted to "erying spells." It was found that the trout. "was purely mental not physical, and her was most pure the diversion. One night she was taken out to look at the

night she was taken out to look at the she was taken out to look at the stars, as a means of turning her thoughts from nerself. This was tound to be the best remedy. A self-conscious child should have her mind withdrawn from should have her mind withdrawn from introspection as much as possible. Whole-some play, much of it out-of-doors, should be encouraged, and objects of interest continually presented to attract sympathy and lead to activity in behalf of others. others.

Symparty and read to activity in behavi-direct patience is needed in dealing with such natures. It may work sad imjury to reprimand too severely, or to take it for granted that the fancie- are all foolish and the fears and tears utterly uurensonable. A child who feels that she some time when she is well and happy to speak of the positive side, and without referring to other moods, speak brightly of mother's love, and appreciation of little daughter, and of the child's power to make the rest of the family happy, when she is sunshiny and bright as she is when she is sunshiny and bright as she is now

now. Sometimes a child'a shyness is an actual pain. A little boy of six was so dependent upon his mother's presence that he could not bear to be out of her sight, and burst into terrs if she left him. He would not go to Sundry-school unless she remained near him the whole time

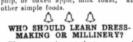
time. As this was not always convenient, a firm stano was finally taken. The child was reasoned with, and the case hid before him. If his mother promised to stay a certain time, she did. When she said that she would leave him at a certain time, she did. He was gently but firmly told that he must stay in the classroom after mother went out. He did so, shedding quiet tears for a few times. 'ne teacher did not call atten-tion to him even by seeking to comfort him, and he soon became one of the happiest scholars in the class.

## 

Belated Weaning Mrs. M. H.: As your baby was twenty-one months old in April, it is to be hoped that you weaned her hefore warm weather. The night's feedings have long been unnecessary. A child's stomach needs rest after it is old enough to take nourishment enough to last from ten



o'clock at night until six in the morning. She should be able to take clear milk if it is pure and good, broth, thoroughly cooked cereal, a coddled egg, a little rare, scraped meat, stale bread and but-ter, fruit juice, boiled rice, custard, prune pulp, or baked apple, milk toast, and there simula food.



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of instruction as the most complete and thorough training they can get anywhere at any price. Our lessons are adapted to

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