

but he hurried her on, and when he left her at the corner of the street in one of the worst parts of the town, he threatened both her and Jenny with cruel words if they moved till he came to fetch them.

It was now very late in the evening; the lamps were lit, but their light was very imperfect. Jenny clung to Missie's hand, sobbing softly, and Dorothy's heart was in a tumult, her blood boiling with indignation. What would she do; would no one come to her help?

A lady passing hurriedly stopped and told her it was no place for them to wait about, and then she asked where they lived.

Dorothy explained eagerly. Surely now she had found a friend; Jem had always said God would send some one to help her.

"Oh, you are gipsies," said the lady, "I thought I did not know your faces," and she turned quickly away.

"Nobody cares what we do," thought poor Dorothy, bitterly.

"That lady said this wasn't no place for us to wait about, Jenny," she said aloud, "and I won't stay, come along;" but as she turned to go a hand was laid on her shoulder.

"You come in here," said Joe, authoritatively, and he led them down a dark byway and into a house with brightly lighted windows, which looked most inviting in contrast to the dreary darkness around them.

The girls were led into a room full of a motley company of shabby, dissolute-looking men and women. Dazzled by the sudden light, Missie glanced round with anxiety and bewilderment, while Jenny, to whom the sudden warmth was comforting, stopped fretting. There was a shout of approbation as Joe said, "Ladies and gentlemen, let me introduce my singing bird, Miss Lily Lovell."

A man came forward and put a mug of steaming hot liquor to Dorothy's lips, but she pushed it angrily away.

She never remembered the words Joe used to her that night, but she knew that they filled her with a terror which made her suddenly obedient to his will, and that she found herself singing, at first with a trembling voice, and at last with all her strength spurred on by fear, the song she had been told to sing. When she finished there was a storm of noisy applause.

She was trembling all over, and so white that a kind-hearted woman sitting near the door jumped up and pulled her down to a seat beside her, and when the company clamoured for another song she said the girl should have a rest first or they'd have her fainting. Dorothy looked at her gratefully as she leant back against the dirty wall. Jenny was still clinging to her hand. As she looked round on all the evil, degraded faces, and one oath after another reached her, she shuddered. The door was held open by a man who was talking to a woman outside, and as the cold air rushed in on her it braced her nerves and she felt suddenly strong with a great resolution.

"Come on, Jenny, quick! I am going back to mother," she whispered hurriedly, and an instant later she had dashed out into the street, pulling the blind child after; almost as instantly there was a sudden shout and she knew she was followed.

On she rushed; had she been free of Jenny she could have distanced her pursuers, but the thought only made her clasp the child's hand the tighter. They turned from the narrow street into the wider one, footsteps were close behind them, a carriage was coming down the street at a brisk pace. If she could only cross first it might cut off her pursuer. A mad rush across, and then Dorothy knew that the horse was trampling on her, and that Jenny was screaming wildly.

She did not scream and was not aware of any pain, only that she did not care to get up, and then she knew nothing more for some hours, when she awoke to consciousness, to find herself in a long room, full of beds covered with red coverlets, and in most of the beds lay a recumbent form; a bright fire burned where she could just see it; long darts of flame flickered merrily up towards the chimney. It was a wonderful fire, Dorothy thought as she watched it with a dreamy feeling of delight, while a delicious sense of comfort and warmth and

rest took possession of her, and she could only lie still and enjoy it.

It was only when she tried to move that pain seized her, but she did not care to move. For long hours she lay without any definite thought, hardly caring to wonder where she was; she watched a woman in a white cap moving softly from one bed to the other, and now and then she knew that she stood by her side, and that a hand was laid on her wrist, but she did not speak or move, fearing that if she did so this beautiful dream of rest and peace would fade away.

To be Continued.

Hints to Housekeepers

DANGER FROM CARPETS.—Do not let your carpets be cleaned on the floor, as is being done in some cities. The shiny compound that is brushed on the carpet is simply soft-soap, coloured and perfumed with sassafras; it is true the carpet will look clean, but it is well-known that more or less of the soap stays in the carpet, having worked its way along the sides and in the corners. A physician or any one versed in chemistry, knows that the soap is dissolved into common grease, attracting myriads of flies, carpet bugs and insects of all kinds, besides decomposing and filling the rooms with dangerous gasses from this disgusting compound of grease, wool and dirt.

CORNSTARCH PUDDING.—One and one-half pints of milk, one-half cupful of sugar, yolks of two eggs, two tablespoonfuls of cornstarch, one teaspoonful of extract—orange extract makes an agreeable change. Put milk in a pail and set the pail in a kettle of hot water; when it reaches the boiling point add the sugar, cornstarch and yolks of eggs; cook a few minutes, then turn into a deep dish. Beat whites to a stiff froth, add three tablespoonfuls of sugar, turn over pudding and brown in the oven.

COOKIES.—One cupful of sugar, one cupful of cream, two tablespoonfuls of sour milk, one teaspoonful of soda. These are nice to eat with soft puddings.

COFFEE BREAD.—3 quarts flour, 4 eggs, 1 tablespoonful butter, 1 tablespoonful lard, 1 cup sugar, 1 cup currants, 1 cup yeast. Mix all together with warm milk into a dough soft enough to work well, and set it to rise over night. In the morning, roll it into thin cakes the size of a pie pan, let them rise until very light, then brush them with melted butter, sprinkle on sugar and cinnamon and let them bake slowly.

GERMAN TOAST.—Beat two eggs, add one and one-half cups of milk and a little salt, soak slices of stale bread in this, brown them on a buttered griddle, spread with jam or jelly and serve while hot.

If you drop acid on your clothes, the immediate application of ammonia will destroy the effect?

MEAT PATTIES.—Chop bits of cold meat, add a cup and a half of bread crumbs to one cup of the meat, moisten with soup stock, add a well-beaten egg, salt and pepper to taste, make into flat balls, and cook brown in a buttered pan.

IT LEADS THE LEADERS.—The foremost medicine of the day, Burdock Blood Bitters, is a purely vegetable compound possessing perfect regulating powers over all the organs of the system and controlling their secretions. It so purifies the blood that it cures all blood humors and diseases from a common pimple to the worst scrofulous sore, and this combined with its unrivalled regulating, cleansing and purifying influence on the secretions of the liver, kidneys, bowels and skin, render it unequalled as a cure for all diseases of the skin. From one to two bottles will cure boils, pimples, blotches, nettle rash, scurf, tetter, and all the simple forms of skin diseases. From two to four bottles will cure salt rheum or eczema, shingles, erysipelas, ulcers, abscesses, running sores, and all skin eruptions. It is noticeable that sufferers from skin diseases

are nearly always aggravated by intolerable itching, but this quickly subsides on the removal of the disease by B. B. B. Passing on to graver yet prevalent diseases such as scrofulous swellings, humors and scrofula, we have undoubted proof that from three to six bottles used internally, and by outward application (diluted if the skin is broken) to the affected parts, will effect a cure. The great mission of B. B. B. is to regulate the liver, kidneys, bowels and blood, to correct acidity and wrong action of the stomach and to open the sluice-ways of the system to carry off all clogged and impure secretions, allowing nature thus to aid recovery and remove without fail bad blood, liver complaint, biliousness, dyspepsia, sick headache, dropsy, rheumatism, and every species of disease arising from disorder of the liver, kidneys, bowels, stomach and blood.

We guarantee every bottle of B. B. B. Should any person be dissatisfied after using the first bottle, we will refund the money on application, personally or by letter. We will also be glad to send testimonials and information proving the effects of B. B. B. in the above named diseases on application to T. MILBURN & Co., Toronto, Ont.

PLEASANT AS SYRUP.—Mr. Douglas Ford, Toronto, Ont., states that Milburn's Cod Liver Oil Emulsion with Wild Cherry Bark is free from objectionable taste, being almost as pleasant as syrup, while for coughs and colds it gives complete satisfaction, acting promptly even in obstinate cases.

—In this week's issue we publish the annual report of the Excelsior Life Insurance Company of Toronto. An analysis of the report shows the condition of the company to be eminently satisfactory in every way, the amount of new business secured being almost without a precedent. The total assets available for the security of policy-holders amount to the large sum of \$368,595.40, the company now having new assets of \$4.75 to every \$1.00 of liability. With the management in such able and efficient hands as those of ex-Mayor Clarke and the prominent and influential gentlemen who comprise the Board of Directors, we predict for the Excelsior a future of great success.

—The love of earthly things is only expelled by a certain sweet experience of the things eternal.

The Excelsior Life Insurance Co. of Ontario, Limited.

The annual meeting of this company was held in Toronto on February 9th, at the Company's offices, 66 and 68 Adelaide street east. The attendance of shareholders was large and representative, and the greatest unanimity characterized the entire proceedings.

Among the shareholders were Messrs. J. R. Armstrong, Ottawa; William Gillies, Carlton Place; S. J. Parker, James Craig, Owen Sound; Geo. E. Weir, Dresden; J. F. Palling, M. D., W. Kennedy, Barrie; John Rowland, Collingwood; Rev. John Vickery, Thornbury; E. F. Clarke, M.P.P., John Knox Leslie, J. W. Lang, James L. Hughes, Joseph J. Davies, John Ferguson, M.D., D. Fasken, E. H. Tallmadge, James Boddy, James D. Lee, J. J. Graham, Frank Wootten, Capt. Charles Hood, Henry Nixon, etc., Toronto.

The president, Mr. E. F. Clarke, M.P.P., occupied the chair, and submitted the directors' annual report, together with certificates of the actuary and auditors.

The report shows that the past year was an eminently successful one for the Company; 495 applications for \$596,250 were received, of which 447 for \$538,750 were approved and policies issued; 13 for \$14,000 were declined, and 35 for \$43,500 were on hand awaiting completion. During the 14 months the company had been in business 657 applications for \$877,750 were received, and 607 policies were issued for \$806,250. The amount of insurance in force December 31st was \$715,250. The income of the Company during the year was \$27,453.31, and the expenditure for management, etc., \$14,593.30. The net assets of the company, which were increased during the year by the handsome sum of \$24,905.74, now amounts to \$68,738.97. The liabilities were \$16,581.56, including the reserve of \$14,783. The net surplus on policy-holders' account is \$52,152.14, making with the reserve and un-called capital, total available assets of \$368,595.44 for security of policy-holders.

The chairman stated that the company had many causes for congratulation. The immunity from death losses evinced care in the selection of risks, and would be no mean factor in promoting the future welfare of the company. The expenses for salaries and general management were remarkably small, proving that the strictest economy had been exercised in all departments. The average rate of interest upon investments was larger than