

gives a sad description of Evie's home. 'It is in a very bad neighbourhood, and the children are orphans in the care of a drunken grandmother. It sounds so pitiful to hear the little girl saying in her serious voice, 'We never have any dinner without Mrs. C. gives us some. On Sundays we sometimes have a bit of cheese, and other days a bit of bread. If grandmother didn't drink perhaps we'd have some more to eat.'

Poor Evie has lately been baptised, and is trying hard to give up the evil ways she has learned. 'I'm not never going to say any more bad words, for I'm baptised now, you see, and it's different.'

Hers being a specially sad and urgent case, we kept her longer than the usual time, and six weeks of good feeding and care have done great things for her.

Rosie Taylor, eight years old. This is a very bright and too clever little girl. She is a 'fourth standard' child, and we imagine that the ill-nourished brain has been overtaxed.

'I know six beautiful reshitations,' was almost her first announcement, and Rosie's 'reshitations' and songs are a constant delight in our playroom.

The child had been in a hospital for some time.

'What was the matter with you?' we asked.

'I don't know,' answers Rosie gravely, 'but it was very bad. When I came here you know the gentleman wrote on my letter "Debility—refuses food;" that meant that I wouldn't eat, you know; but you see I wasn't hungry, and I don't like what we has to eat at home. Mother has nothing to give us except rice and bread often for long enough, 'cos father's been out of work so long. I'm getting better here. Look'—stretching out a thin little arm—'I ain't as skinny as I was when I came here. I have "coddleroil" and lots of goods things to eat every day, and it'll make me right down well in time.'

We are sorely convinced of one thing, that if all our readers could watch the effects on these poor little wasted forms of 'coddleroil' and lots of nice things to eat every day, and sea air and bathing, not one of them would rest until they had lent a hand to effect the happy change from suffering and disease to happiness and health.

Contributions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Miss Helen Wetherell, Secretary of the Church Extension Association, 27 Kilburn Park Road, London, N.W. Cards for collecting will be forwarded on application.

Gifts, such as old and new clothing of all kinds, boots, shoes, blankets, bedding, crockery, fruit, vegetables, groceries, books, fancy work, &c., are always very welcome.

JOTTINGS FROM OUR JOURNAL.

THE old difficulty of how to select the fittest meets us again as we turn over the leaves of our journal. We have so many kind letters to notice and so little room to do it in.

First comes one in large round hand: it is from Harry, Margaret, and Violet. They say: 'We three gave up biscuits in Lent, for which we got a shilling each, which we send you. Father and mother send 7s. to make up the 10s. We like reading about the orphans very much.'

The very next letter we take up has a contribution enclosed for the Docks fund, and we are told that it has been 'saved by the extra carefulness and self-denial of the servants during Lent.' These are the gifts that seem to bring a special blessing with them, and we can guess a little how glad our helpers were to offer what cost them something.

From a town in Worcestershire we receive 4s. 6d. collected by a 'hawker' who goes about with his cart selling various articles, and yet has managed to find time and opportunity to do something for the Convalescent Home at Broadstairs. Nor is he the only busy working man who has thought of us, for here is no less than 6s. collected by one who says: 'I would gladly have done more, but I am only a labourer myself. I have ten children of my own, and I feel a great pity for poor friendless little ones.'

'One shilling! A thankoffering that God has given me strength to do a good week's work.' This is from an anonymous helper, who signs herself 'A fatherless girl.' The few lines she sends with her offering seem to give us a glimpse into the life of one who has known suffering, and learnt the lessons of sympathy and trustfulness, which God sometimes teaches through suffering.

From Weybridge we have 10s., with a needless apology for the card being dirty from long hanging in the kitchen. We will gladly send other cards to other kitchens to be similarly discoloured!

What can be done in a spare few hours? Many valuable pieces of work. None better than that done by a friend of ours, who tells us he used a few spare hours to collect for us, and sends us the result in the sum of 3l. 0s. 1d.