

The Essay Competition.

So many good essays have been sent in that I wish we had a dozen prizes, instead of only three. But those who get honorable mention must not be discouraged. Any of you might have taken the prize, if there had not been another essay just a little better. Don't let anyone get ahead of you the next time. Almost all the essays sent in were worthy of being printed, but we have only room for the very best.

Prize in class 1, girls under 16—Lois McKinlay, age 14, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island; prize in class 2, boys under 16—G. C. M. Duff, Cookstown, Ont.; prize in class 3, under 12—Bessie Hardey, age 9, Kent Bridge, Ont. Honorable mention, class 1—J. Sexsmith, J. McDonald, M. Wilson, G. Nixon, G. Van-Nest, M. Shipley, E. Johnson, N. Barker, N. Ross, I. Grills, M. Morrison, W. Field, E. Eaton, C. Greenwood; class 2—N. Wardlaw, F. Eaton; class 3—Pearl Jose, E. Raycroft, C. Raycroft, C. Hutchinson, G. Brownell, C. Johnson, R. Henry.

Address all letters for Children's Corner to COUSIN DOROTHY, 52 Victor Ave., Toronto, Ont.

A Book I Have Read. (PRIZE ESSAY.)

A book of which I never tire is Beautiful Joe. It is the autobiography of a dog, who as a pup was owned by a brutal milkman and cruelly mutilated by him. From this life he was, however, rescued, and became the property of a kind clergyman, in whose home he lived very happily. Joe describes many thrilling adventures which he has experienced, and makes us love him from the first. I like this story because it tells so much about animals, and gives such wonderful examples of their intelligence. I also like it because the author is a Canadian.

LOIS MACKINLAY (age 14).
Charlottetown, P. E. I.

A Book I Have Read. (PRIZE ESSAY.)

The name of the book upon which I am going to write is called "Spectre Gold." It tells how a man in England has had a fortune left to him in America. He comes over to America only to find that it has gone. He then makes friends with another man, and the two go out seeking the fortune. However, the man is nearly killed by his supposed friend. He finds his fortune at last, and goes back to England a rich man.

The reason I like the book is because of its adventures and hair-breadth escapes.

G. CLARKE M. DUFF.
Cookstown, Ont.

A Book I Have Read. (PRIZE ESSAY.)

Of all the books that I have read, I like "Paul and Virginia" the best. I like it because it is a sad story. Monsieur de la Tour went away to seek his fortune, and got married unknown to his



wife's father. They sailed over to Port Louis, and he got sick and died. She was all alone then—she and her slave. They cultivated the soil in a place where there was a friend called Margaret, and this friend, with her slave, Domingo, came to live with Madame de la Tour in her little hut. Margaret had a child, and so had Madame de la Tour, both born on the same day. The priest named Margaret's child Paul, and Madame de la Tour's child Virginia. Virginia grew up to be a very handsome girl, and Paul loved her very much. But one night Paul went to visit the priest, and on his return, Virginia had gone to France. When she was coming home, the ship was wrecked, and Virginia was drowned, and Paul died of a broken heart. Margaret and Madame de la Tour died mourning the loss of their children.

BESSIE HARDEY (age 9).
Kent Bridge, Ont.

The Man from Glengarry.

A book I have taken much pleasure in reading is "The Man from Glengarry," written by Ralph Connor. I like it most for its simplicity, brightness, and goodness to nature. The author must have been a true Scot, for how clearly he has brought out the bravery and loyalty of his Scotch heroes, who would risk any-

thing to save one of their friends; and, such is his skill, that one is almost forced to believe that he has dwelt among them and witnessed their mirth-provoking and brave acts alike. Altogether, one may take much pleasure and profit from the scene the story brings up.

JENNIE SEXSMITH (age 15).
Ridgeway, Ont.

"The Prospector"

The book I shall speak of is "The Prospector." It was written by Rev. W. C. Gordon, who writes under the pen-name of Ralph Connor. It tells the story of a young man, Shock, the hero of the football field, going out to the Northwest, and of his earnest efforts to better the lives of his fellow men in that country. I liked the story because it was true, and all the characters were natural—not the impossible characters one sometimes reads of. I liked it also because it encourages us to better work, by showing what one person can do to brighten the lives of others.

JESSIE C. McDONALD (age 16).
Aberdeen, Ont.

David Copperfield.

I like Dickens' books because they are natural, witty, and, withal, pathetic. Of all his books, I think I like David

Copperfield best. David Copperfield is the son of a widow, who marries a hard, austere man. David, on rebelling against his tyranny, is sent to school. On his mother's death, he comes home. He then goes to London to work. All his possessions are stolen there, so he goes to his only living relation, Betsy Trotwood. She sends him to school. Afterward he marries a wealthy lady. She dies, and he marries the daughter of his former master.

MERNE WILSON (age 15).
Chatsworth, Ont.

Uncle Tom's Cabin.

To thoroughly understand slavery, read "Uncle Tom's Cabin." After living peaceably in his little cabin for some time, Tom was sold (to help clear his master of debt) to a traitor, who immediately sold him to a kind gentleman, whose little daughter became greatly attached to Tom. The death of this gentleman, a week before freedom papers were drawn, caused Tom again to be sold to a brutal man, who, by whipping, killed him, just as his first master's son came to free him. The cruelty suffered by Uncle Tom and others is terrible to read of.

MARY R. SHIPLEY (age 15).
Falkirk, Ont.

Ten Nights in a Bar-room.

"Ten Nights in a Bar-room" is an excellent book. It tells of many highly-respected young men who have been degraded through liquor. Simon Slade was once a kind-hearted and industrious miller in Cedarville, and was liked by everyone. He started to keep a tavern, and in ten years his wife was in the asylum, and his son occupied a prison cell, charged with the terrible crime of murdering his father. My reason for liking this book is that it shows plainly the effects of drinking, and is a warning to all young people to abstain from strong drink.

ELIZABETH JOHNSTON (age 15).
Norwich, Ont.

Swiss Family Robinson.

The French Revolution, 1789, when Louis XVI. and his queen were murdered, spread misery and want over all Europe. This book describes the effect of the Revolution, not on the State, but on one Swiss family. A poor pastor (Velti, by name), his wife and four boys were driven from their beloved home. Escaping to England, he went as a missionary to Port Jackson, but was shipwrecked and deserted by the sailors. By means of a raft, they reached a small island, part of which was inhabited by savages. Here they lived for four years. They had a great many comical and interesting adventures.

Reasons for liking the book: (1) It is full of adventures. (2) It is instructive. (3) It has a good moral.

Headford, Ont. NELLIE BARKER.

All letters intended for the Children's Corner should be addressed to Cousin Dorothy, 52 Victor Ave., Toronto, Ont.



"Chums"

About the House.

Seasonable Recipes.

Eggs on Toast.—Put the whites of the eggs in a bowl, and keep the yolks entire. Beat the whites stiff, and pile on slices of toast which have been dipped in hot milk. Make a depression in the top of each pile, and drop into it the yolk. Season lightly, and cook in the oven three minutes.

Eggs and Cheese.—Lay on a buttered baking-pan several slices of buttered bread. Cover with grated cheese. Beat up as many eggs as required; season, and pour over the bread. Sprinkle more grated cheese over the top, and bake until the eggs are set.

Poached Eggs.—When poaching eggs, never let the water more than simmer, and keep tightly covered. Serve on toast with cream sauce, if you choose. Eggs are also very nice poached in milk.

Cupped Eggs.—Place some cups in a pan of hot water. In each cup put a tablespoonful of cream. Break an egg into this; add pepper and salt and a few bits of butter. Bake ten minutes.

"Boiled" Eggs.—Put in a warm pan on back of stove, pour boiling water on,

cover, and let stand 10 minutes. Eggs cooked this way are much more digestible than when boiled three minutes.

Scrambled Eggs.—Pour half a cup sweet cream in a buttered frying-pan. When hot, turn in six eggs. Cook slowly, stirring constantly. Season, and serve hot.

Egg Omelette.—(1) Butter a small frying-pan. Beat up in a cup one egg and one tablespoon sweet cream. Pour on pan, and cook. Do not turn. When done, roll. Repeat until enough eggs are cooked. (2) Six eggs (beaten separately—whites and yolks), $\frac{1}{2}$ pint sweet milk, 6 teaspoons cornstarch, a little salt, $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking powder. Add the whites last. Put in buttered pan, and cover. When cooked, roll, serve.

Devilled Eggs.—Boil hard. Split in two, lengthwise. Mash yolks with minced cooked ham, butter, seasoning, and mustard. Refill the whites, and serve cold, or brown in oven.

Scalloped Eggs.—Boil hard; chop roughly, and mix with a cream sauce.

Curried Eggs.—Make a sauce as follows: Slice 1 onion, and grate 1 tart apple. Put in a pan, with 2 ozs. butter or dripping, and cook gently. Add 1 pint milk, and thicken with 1 tablespoonful flour, blended in a little milk. Cook, adding 2 dessertspoons curry

powder and the juice of half a lemon. When cooked, mix with 1 hard-boiled egg (chopped), and pour into a shallow dish. Now cut the other hard-boiled eggs, as many as necessary, in two, lay gently in the sauce, with the yolks showing, and serve with a border of boiled rice.

Spring Housecleaning Hints.

Matting.—Allow six inches at ends for turning under, and hem. Spread newspapers and carpet-lining under to make it wear well. Matting may be cleaned with dry corn meal. If very dirty, wash with weak salt and water, and dry well with a dry cloth.

To Clean Carpet.—Beat, and sweep out of doors, damping the broom in clean cold water at frequent intervals. Brooms for sweeping carpet should be wet in boiling suds once or twice a week. This toughens them, and helps to keep them from cutting the carpet. When sweeping the carpet, salt or almost dry tea leaves sprinkled over it are good. The sweeping should always be done along with, not across the pile. Mixtures of ammonia and water (2 teaspoons ammonia to the gallon), and vinegar and water (a cup of vinegar to a pint of water) are often recommended for brightening carpet.

Both are good, but for different colors. Before using, it is well, if possible, to try a little of each on a turned-under portion, and use the one that is most effective. To clean spots on carpet get ten cents' worth soap-bark; steep a few bits in hot water, and rub the soiled spots; rinse with clear warm water, and rub until nearly dry. If the carpet is very dirty, beat, and clean as above, and tack down. Take a bar of laundry soap, and shave in enough water to dissolve (a pint or more); let melt on stove; remove, and, when cool, add half an ordinary bottle ammonia. Apply with a stiff scrubbing brush, and wash off with a cloth wrung out of clear water, using as little water as possible. See that the carpet is not walked on till dry. When "laying" carpet, place on floor, and tack along the ends of the breadths at one end of the room. Now, stretch, and tack along the opposite end, leaving the sides until the last.

To Clean Wall Paper.—Rub downward with dough or stale bread. To remove grease spots, rub gently, once or twice, with spirits of wine, or apply a paste of pipe clay and water; let dry, and brush off. Blotting paper and a warm iron are also often effective in removing grease spots.