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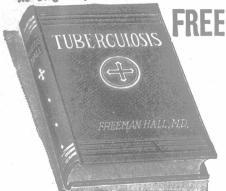
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tity of their assailant remained a mystery.

Another time, passing through the Indian Reservation of Maria, he took his bugle in one hand and his loaded revolver in the other, and, giving his horse the line, came through "on the fly," while blast followed blast from his bugle. He saw nothing, but he knew there was danger abroad by the actions of the Indian dogs, as, barking, jumping and howling, they strove frantically to break into the houses. He still believes that something uncanny visited the Mission that night!

On another occasion he tried unsuccessfully to outdistance an Indian who persisted in keeping close to the wagon. The man was lame, hobbling with the aid of two sticks, but, urge his horse as he would, the Indian reached Mr. Manderson's at the same time. How he succeeded in doing so, or what were his motives, are still mysteries to ex-driver Ross.

Many sub-contractors and couriers served on the Gaspe mail route, among whom the names of Falu, Arsenault and Gagne are still remem-

Without exception, the couriers were kind and courteous to the public, known and liked by everybody on the road. Many a weary pedestrian was picked up by the "mail man," and carried for miles on his way free of charge.

In fact, in many instances the courier was in demand when a drive was required. One evening a popular young courier was accosted by a couple of girls, who politely asked for a drive. To their surprise, the voice was unfamiliar; the popular young courier had given his place on the mail to his father for a trip. Somewhat gruffly, the old man replied:

"I've a wife at home, why should I drive girls?"

But the prospective passengers had disappeared, without stopping to discuss the question.

For over 40 years, even to the third generation, the Kerrs had given good satisfaction in this important service. They were exceedingly popular; their free and generous manner and prompitude making for them many friends. The name of Kerr will always remain associated with the mail service of the Gaspe Peninsula, and they left behind the remembrance of duty well performed.

Their successor, Mrs. Cyr, proved the words of P. Beauchesne, Esq., M. P., to be correct, when he said: " A woman has as good a head as a

The late Lieutenant-Governor Robitaille, of Quebec, also pronounced the service rendered by Mrs. Cyr to be satisfactory in every way.

Perhaps never was better service rendered over so long a period as that performed by the contractorschief and subordinate-during all the years since Archie Kerr, Sr., first carried the mail in the early pioneer days, till, recently, the railway superseded the contractors.

The days of the courier, with the jingling of his bells and the blast of his brass bugle are gone forever along the Bay de Chaleur. The mails are carried by train, and the record seems likely to be kept up; good service and prompt is the order of the day, and, with the able and energetic manager, Mr. C. R. Scoles, at the helm, we have no fear for the safe delivery of our mail. Gaspe Peninsula has emerged from her chrysalis.

The lonely trail has disappeared; the weary march is over, but in the hearts of their descendants the remembrance of these unheralded heroes of the Gaspe Postal Service can never be wholly obliterated. Perhaps the tale of their strenuous toil and hazardous journeys has never been told, yet they have left behind the record of unselfish devotion to their Sovereign and to duty.

## Co-operation in the Home.

THE MOTHER ON THE FARM.

Quite recently it was my hap to wait for a time at a railway station near a village where some years before I had been well acquainted. My boy persuaded me to walk over to see the foundation of the new foundry that was in erection. We inquired of one of the working men as to the proprietor, and learning that it was the owner of the old foundry, asked of it.

"They will both be needed now, the business is growing so fast. Why, four years ago they only needed eight men; now they have four hundred working in the foundry!"

" How do you account for the sudden growth?"

"Oh, it's the boys! Since they went into the business, it's going ahead. They're great boys!" was the enthusiastic reply.

I remembered, several years before, when these "boys" were attending college, visiting the mother with one of the leading teachers of the Province, an old friend of the mother. They were discussing the benefits of farm and country life in bringing up young people, and the educative influence of regular, useful duties to interest and develop both sides of the brain, complementary with the school lessons.

The home of these boys was just outside the village, with a little farm of ten or twenty acres. I had heard a neighbor speak jestingly of the pride they took in their farm operations. The mother on this occasion veuched for the benefit this little farm was to interest and keep those boys from any desire to frequent street corners; also, of how she tried to make home attractive to them. Now, surely, the reward of wise co-operation is reaped by all, both in financial returns, and still further in character that commands the respect and confidence of all.

I have before my mind another family-a round dozen of children when all gathered under the home roof. The father and mother had started together at the very bottom, she working shoulder to shoulder with the father, in toil and economy, as those children came in early days of struggle, in a new country. Shortly before that father's death, I heard him, with pardonable pride, tell that now, by working and holding together, they were able to add a new farm every year, for first one and then another of the sons.

The mother was a born leader and organizer. She was ready to work and wisely guide and see that all did their own selected share, so that all was harmonious. As I see it, this wise co-operation, organization, and the grace of hospitality, were the three factors of the success. The latter first: To the new minister, coming with a family of eight, the welcome message is sent, "Come and stay with us the first night, all of you, till the manse is ready. We have ten beds, and plenty of room to stow you all away.'

That home was always a welcome and restful spot for tired summer visitors, where they were at liberty to do "just as they like." "We believe it pays to have our home open to visitors," the father once said. "The young people learn a great deal from town people, and are more contented at home.'

Once, when a new subscription list was being circulated for the church funds, the mother suggested that, as all the young people helped at home to raise the funds, each should have his or her own envelope, sharing up the larger subscription being then promised—this as a matter of fairness, and giving them a sense of ownership in church life and work. The results of this, with the habit of regular attendance, were seen in the leadership those young people were soon ready to take in Christian and moral lines in the community.



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