

**GIFFY.**—There are Loan Funds for teachers at the Ladies' College, Cheltenham; at Bede's College, London; and at Queen Margaret College, Glasgow. For terms of the latter, address Mrs. E. J. Mills, 5, Hillhead Street. There is also the Caroline Ashurst Biggs Memorial Loan Fund; address Mrs. Alfred Pollard, 15, Chesham Gardens, Kensington, W. The Governesses' Benevolent Institution (office, 12, Sackville Street) gives temporary assistance. There is also the Universal Beneficent Society, 15, Soho Square, London; and the Church Schoolmasters' and Mistresses' Benevolent Institution, 4, Little Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.—2. We think you would hear of a provident Society for girls by applying to the Young Women's Christian Association, 26, George Street, Hanover Square, W.; the Girls' Friendly Society, 30, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.; or the London Girls' Club Union, 50, Greek Street, Soho.

**EMMA S. POWER.**—Your quotation beginning "Ships that pass in the night, and speak each other in passing,"

is from *Longfellow's Tales of a Wayside Inn, Third Evening; Theologian's Second Tale, Elizabeth, Part IV.*

**ALICE KATE GATRELL.**—It is against our rules to answer correspondents by post, even though a stamped envelope be enclosed. For correspondence classes you might apply to the Secretary, Association for the Education of Women, Clarendon Building, Oxford; to G. S. Edwards, Esq., 12, Upper Berkeley Street, Portman Square, London; to the University Examination Postal Institution, 27, Southampton Street, Strand, London; or to a lady we have recommended in this column, R. G. P., Fair View, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield. State your requirements clearly in each case.

**ART STUDENT.**—To give a complete answer to your first question—when the French *de* should be used for the English *with* in preference to *avec*—would occupy too much space, and we must refer you to a good French grammar. We may, however, throw out a general suggestion. *Avec* is used of companionship, e.g., "Venez avec moi"; *avec* with me; while *de* is used of instrument, means, or method; "saluer de la main"—to salute with the hand; "de bonne volonté"—with a good will; "de tout mon cœur"—with all my heart. The rules for the correct use of French prepositions are very numerous and can only be fully mastered by practice in speaking and reading.—2. We regret that we cannot single out suitable publishers for your pictures and rhymes. Send them to any good firm whose name you know.

**T. I. G.**—We should be disposed to say that the first four violinists of the world were Joachim, Sarasate, Ysaÿe and Lady Hall; but it is difficult and invidious to place them in exact order of merit.

**RETBELL.**—Only two questions can be answered at once. 1. Massage is medical rubbing, now much in use for certain complaints, such as rheumatic affections.—2. Send us any questions that you wish to ask "The New Doctor" or Mrs. (not Miss) Lily Watson.

**PERSEVERANCE.**—We are glad to hear from you, and assure you that we enter sympathetically into the contents of your letter. Your authors are nearly all modern. Read the *Trial and Death of Socrates* (Plato), translated by Rev. A. J. Church; Kingsley's *Heroes*; Homer's *Odyssey* (Butcher and Lang); and any classic stories translated by Church; also a good translation of Dante, unless you can read him in the original. We do not observe in your list Milton, Tennyson, George Eliot, Charles Kingsley or Christina Rossetti.—2. In the case you mention, Carlisle is doubtless a printer's error for Carlyle.

**CLARICE (Paris).**—1. The picture labelled "Mrs. Harcourt," refers to the story on the opposite page in which a character with that name appears.—2. We will inquire in "Our Open Letter-box" for your quotation. Many thanks for your very kind letter.

**QUEECHY.**—1. If you read Mrs. Watson's recent articles on the County Councils and Girls' Education you will obtain ample information regarding scholarships. There are scholarships in connection with Queen's College, Harley Street; the North London Collegiate School for Girls; the Haberdashers' Endowed High Day School for Girls, Hatcham, Surrey; and numerous others in London and the provinces. You do not give us your address, so we cannot select the information most suited to your special case.—2. We have never heard of any scholarships in Swiss schools for English girls, but we have often known girls who went to Neuchâtel or Lausanne schools to teach their own language in return for board, lodging and instruction. See previous answers in this column ("Madeline," "November," etc.).

**WHITE HEATHER.**—Many thanks for your information that the song "Bonnie Charlie's Noe Awa" may be obtained by sending 3d. to Thos. Beecham, St. Helens, Lancashire, for Part V. of Beecham's Music Portfolio.—1. December 31, 1878, was a Tuesday.—2. Your handwriting is clear. We do not think it would prevent your taking a clerkship; but it is rather sprawling, and we should consider it improved by shorter tails to your g's and y's, and better formed m's and n's. We can only answer two questions at once.

**AN OLD GIRL.**—The most useful book we know on the management of children and treatment of their ailments is not a very new one, *Advice to a Mother*, by Dr. Pye Chavasse.

**E. N. G.**—We can never answer letters by post, nor can we in this paper advertise any special teacher of harmony, partly because we do not know who would undertake lessons by correspondence. We should advise you to get the prospectus of the Guildhall School of Music or any other accredited College of Music, and apply to some master whose name you see there. Of course it would be better for you to have a teacher near at hand.

**MIRABEL.**—1. Whether the author or the publisher bears the cost of the publication of a book depends entirely on its chance of success. If the publisher thinks it will pay him to issue it, he will make an arrangement with the author, either paying him a sum down for the copyright, or letting him share the profits in some way. If the publisher does not think the book will sell, he will naturally not want to bear the expense of issuing it, and the author then has to pay for the matter of seeing himself in print. Did you read a story called *The Hill of Angels*, a few years ago, in THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER? That dealt with the question. It is now published in THE GIRL'S OWN BOOKSHELF.—2. We would certainly criticise any M.S. you sent us, but we only accept the work of practised writers for THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER.

**IRISH KATHLEEN.**—You do not give us your address or we might be able to suggest some "continuation school." Would you like correspondence lessons (1s. per lesson) from K. G. P., Fair View, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, or would you prefer one of the many amateur societies mentioned from time to time in this column? You might also write to the National Home Reading Union, Surrey House, Victoria Embankment. You are by no means too old to learn, and we applaud your determination.

**A. B. W.**—There are so many different kinds of auto-harp that we find it impossible to recommend music for one special make. If, however, you apply to Messrs. J. & F. Rowland & Co., Chesham, giving full particulars, you will probably get what you require without difficulty.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**DOROTHY.**—The painful impression that the children's dolls sent out for our Indian schools have been "used as idols," may be removed by the testimony to the contrary, published by Mrs. Eliza Bardsley, of the Manor House, Leigh Road, Hildesbury, N., in the correspondence of *India's Home* (Church of England Zenana Missionary Society, 9, Salisbury Square, E.C.). An average of 11,000 dolls are sent out annually from England; and on inquiries, such as yours, being made, she inaugurated a careful investigation of the matter, with satisfactory results. Some 200 lady missionaries (English) in connection with the above-named society, far from meeting with so serious a discouragement, earnestly beg for more dolls, as they prove an incentive to the children to come, and continue at school. That they cannot be sent to some parts of India is true; and isolated instances have been known of such idolatry, but the portrait of the Queen-Empress has been worshipped, as also statues in the public streets. We may also add that a gentleman of our acquaintance, who had no limbs, and was carried by a servant, was worshipped as a god by some grossly ignorant natives. Such rare instances of similar mistakes could not be regarded as prohibitory, in response to the urgent appeal of the missionaries for a greater supply of these valuable dolls.

**BIRDIE.**—You may have to pay as much as £4 or even £5 for a well-trained piping bullfinch. There are schools for teaching the method adopted at Hess and Fulda, and from these this country, Germany and Holland are supplied. The birds are generally formed into classes of six, and kept in a dark room, and there supplied with food simultaneously with the playing of some notes of music, and after the meal they feel disposed to imitate what they have heard. When they begin to pipe light is gradually admitted, which raises their spirits and inclines them to sing. In some schools we fear that neither food nor light are allowed them till they make an attempt to do so. After this class instruction, each bird is placed under the charge of one boy, who plays his organ from morning till night, which process is continued for a period of nine months, and we would rather dispense with the poor bird's piping than procure it at a cost of such training. There may be many other such training schools now, and, perhaps, an improvement in the method adopted.

**SILVERSHOES** is distressed without any real cause. She may rely on the words of her future husband, who does not seem likely to change his mind. She has done no harm.

**MISS SWAN.**—We make no charge for our answers to our readers. If your old postage stamps be foreign, you might dispose of them in shops where they are exposed for sale in the windows. Their respective values may be seen marked on similar examples. There is no sale for common English ones, at least we should feel suspicious as to the use made of them in this country.

**PUZZLED ONE.**—Certainly, a "first cousin once removed" is not synonymous with a "second cousin." The latter is the child of the former. Your father's, or mother's first cousin is "once removed" from "first cousinship" to you; and his, or her, child is your second cousin, being on the same level and of the same generation.

**JASPER.**—Unless you have very decided artistic talent the great and increasing competition amongst artists is much against you. But there are certain lines of work offering a small remuneration if you have any skill as a draughtswoman. For instance, you might obtain a few lessons from a re-toucher of photo-negatives and mounter, in your spare hours, and when efficient, might earn from 30s. to £3 weekly; as a re-toucher, or as a mounter of photos, from £4 to £15s. There are one or two more somewhat kindred ways of earning of which you may not have seen references in former numbers, such as stamping and colouring monograms. For this you must seek teaching and employment at a manufacturing stationer's. It is easy of attainment and brings from 15s. to 20s. a week. There is a Plan Tracing Society in Westminster (8, Queen Street) for the use of architects and builders, where, after a three months' teaching and unpaid work, you would be paid at the rate of 30s. to 6d. an hour.

**E. M. S.**—Magpies are omnivorous. They have their grain-food supplemented with very tiny scraps of meat; but they prefer insects, snails, grubs, worms, and such-like living prey. In giving meat let it be as much as they will swallow at once, because they delight in the lapping of the suppurating food, and meat would soon prove offensive. The thrush is likewise omnivorous, and to be fed as the magpie. They are usually kept in a cage far too small for so large a bird, which is a great cruelty. Get a stout wire cage, and supply a good square piece of turf to sit upon at the bottom of the cage, as well as round perches as thick as your little finger, and kept well scraped. Special care in the matter of cleanliness is required for omnivorous birds. It is considered by Mr. Waterton that the bird which has the least reference is made in the roan, partridge should have been called a thrush, not a sparrow, "which (first-named bird) is remarkable throughout all the East for sitting solitary on the habitations of man."

**FAIRY.**—As we know nothing of your family and connections it is impossible to give you an answer. The "upper ten" is a designation applied to the titled and entitled aristocracy, the hereditary "lords of the soil" during many generations, who can prove their descent; and their alliances with families of the same standing as themselves, and their hereditary right to bear arms, and a certain number of quarterings on their escutcheons. At the same time it must be remembered that, during the present century, younger sons of the aristocracy (the "upper ten") have been put into business—into banks and other offices as clerks; into the merchant service, or made "gentleman-farmers," and sent out to ranches and mines; and even keep "stores" in the Colonies; and a man's labour for bread does not deprive him of his birthright as a "gentleman," though he may lose his money.

**PATTY.**—If you can speak French, you might take a couple of rooms at a reasonable price and do your own housekeeping for the sum you name at Nice—being a large place—if not at the smaller and more fashionable Cannes or Mentone. There is also a Winter Home for invalid ladies of small means at £1 a week (ages from 18 to 40). Apply to the Hon. Sec., Miss Hankey, The Palace, Much Hadham, Herts. At Mentone, there is the Convalescent Home for Gentlemen and the Helvetia, for those of limited means. Apply to Miss Dudgeon, Les Grottes, Mentone. At St. Remo there is a similar institution at £1 5s. a week. Apply to Miss Macdonald Lockhart, The Lee, Lanark, N.B. (or to the Secretary of the Home at St. Remo). There is also a House of Rest at Pau, terms from £1 a week, according to the room. Apply to Miss C. Watson, 32, Rue de Bordeaux, Pau, Basse Pyrénées, France.

**SORROWFUL SUFFERER.**—The doctor who pronounced the pain in your head to be produced by "softening of the brain," is the person to apply to for help. He should inform your husband of your serious state, and absolutely forbid your doing any manual work whatsoever; and inform him that, unless all wear-and-tear and exhaustion of your strength, at your age, be scrupulously avoided, you will shortly require a nurse or a maid specially to wait upon you. Of course it is the medical man who is the right person both to prescribe for his patient, and to inform her family of her condition, prospects and all requirements. Shut up some of the rooms of your large house, if your maid be unable to keep them all clean. We counsel you to tell your eldest son.

Our readers will be glad to know that Miss Clifford's paper, entitled *The Pain of the World: How to Face It*, is printed separately as a pamphlet, and can be had of the publishers, Church Army, 128, Edgware Road, London. Price twopenny.