

kindly feeling. And yet we find all over the country one little sheet after another lifting up its miserable little hand against us, and often heaping violent abuse upon Dr. Barnardo, his boys, his work, and his workers.

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Our only consolation is that unpopularity and opposition often prove for classes of people and public movements as well as for individuals, the fire in which the gold is refined, and the discipline from which they come forth equipped for more vigorous effort and more lasting success. We trust it will be so with ourselves and that the opposition we have to meet, and the sense that we are exposed to a constant fire of harsh and unkindly criticism, will tend to keep us on the alert against anything that will weaken our position or give ground for attack against us. We hope, and believe also, that it will promote a spirit of unity and comradeship among us, so that our boys will be ready to co-operate with us and with each other in anything that raises our prestige, and still more, that we shall feel that it rests with each individual to maintain in his own home, and in his own neighbourhood, our fair name and reputation, and, so to speak, to "spread the light" by himself leading an honest, upright, useful life.

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The letters and reports that have reached us during the past month show us, happily, that most of those we have heard of are indeed doing this. It has been a busy month of correspondence with us, nearly three thousand letters having been received and sent out from our office since our last issue. Some of the letters received have been letters of complaint, but the majority are from boys themselves, telling us how and what they are doing, and giving us little accounts and descriptions of their life.

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There may be nothing very original about most of these letters, and they may not display any very striking literary ability, but there is a healthy, bright, hopeful tone about them that is immensely encouraging and satisfactory. Many of the hands that write these letters are much more at home with the plough-handle than the pen, but when our boys sit down to write they say what they mean and mean what they say, and these letters bring us simple, straightforward accounts of steady progress and honest effort that are a credit to the writers. They show that many of our boys are tackling the business of life in the right spirit, and that they are taking sensible views of their position. No one can say that they are not in most cases looking at the bright side of things, and there is a remarkable absence of complaint or any disposition to make the most of grievances, but rather a desire to press forward in life and to avail themselves of all their advantages and to recognize gratefully all that has been done to help and befriend them.

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And in the start in life they are getting, our boys have indeed advantages to be thankful for. Most of our agreements expire on the 1st of April, as we consider that the best season of the year for both employers and employees to be ending engagements and entering upon new ones, and we have before us a long list of names of boys whose terms of service will expire on the first of April next. These lads will then be receiving sums of money varying from fifty to two hundred and fifty dollars. Some of them will be barely seventeen, very few over eighteen, and these boys with the habits of industry they will have been taught, and the experience they will have gained, and with their money in the bank and the world before them, will have been splendidly well started in life. When we think

what an anxious problem it is to parents at home in England, amongst all classes, high and low, "what to do with our boys," we can unfeignedly rejoice in the success with which Dr. Barnardo has solved that perplexing problem in the case of so many of his boys in Canada.

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We are this month sending in to Dr. Barnardo our report for the past year of each individual boy who has been sent out during recent years. These reports go to him every year and they show what letters have been received from or about each boy, what visits have been paid him and what information has reached us from any other source during the twelve months. We have then to state all we know of his health, his conduct, behaviour, and general progress, and, in short, to give as full a history as we can of his life and doings. These thousands of reports are no light task, but it is a cheerful and pleasant one from the fact that the great majority are good reports, and convey to Dr. Barnardo the news that his boys are doing him credit in their Canadian homes. It is for us each year the rendering of an account of our stewardship, showing what our boys have done and what we have been able to do for them and we are thankful to be able to record in most cases that whatever efforts we have made have been rewarded by the well-doing and successful progress of our young charges.

Alfred B. Owen.

SURGERY ON THE FARM AND IN THE HOME.

By C. A. HODGETTS, M.D.

"OUR BOYS" FIRST AID TO THE INJURED ASSOCIATION.

PART. VI.

TO CLEANSE THE WOUND.

IT may be necessary to pick out pieces of glass, bits of coal, splinters of wood or iron, fragments of clothing, etc., adhering to it, or dirt, mud, sand, etc., may have been carried into the wound, these may be removed by washing with *clean* water, as that from a spring, river or well. Should you be so placed that *clean* water is not to be obtained, then refrain from washing at all for dirty water may poison the wound and cause results far more serious than those following the injury itself. *Be sure that your own hands are washed clean before attempting to dress a wound.* When possible, add a little carbolic acid to the water, about one part of acid to forty parts of water. If the latter has been boiled so much the better. Again the articles used in dressing the wound, as pieces of linen, towels or sponges, must be scrupulously clean. Always use the water *cold* for the purpose of checking the bleeding; warm water, however, is sometimes to be preferred. We will note the cases when you should use it as we go on. If the wound is clean, we mean free from dirt, etc., do not wash, and if a *dot of blood has formed in the wound on no account disturb it*, as you may thereby start the bleeding afresh.

ARREST OF BLEEDING.

When a large blood vessel is injured—the bright red blood spurting out, as in bleeding from an artery, or dark purple blood flowing down in a continuous stream, as it does from a vein—then direct your efforts to stop it as promptly as possible. The methods of doing so will be explained in the next paper. In the generality of wounds the blood oozes and drops

or trickles from the raw surface (this is bleeding from capillaries), and is readily checked by cold water, pressure of the bandage or by raising the injured part.

In some wounds there is displacement of the skin. After careful washing these should be replaced and kept in position by a dressing or bandage. Of course further attention will be given by the surgeon on arrival. When the wound is to the belly and is followed by protrusion of a portion of its contents, medical aid should be summoned without delay, the patient in the mean time being placed in a comfortable lying down position.

DRESSING AND BANDAGING OF WOUNDS.

Fold a piece of linen, muslin, shirting, gauze or handkerchief that is clean, or preferably a piece of lint, into a pad of sufficient size as to more than cover the wound, wet it in *clean* cold water if possible, apply to the wound and bind it on with bandage, this is known as a "cold water dressing," and is the best application for contused and lacerated wounds. Where you cannot obtain the water apply the pad as it is; this is "dry dressing," in any case it is the best to use when having to deal with an incised wound. The disadvantages of the "dry dressing" are it is apt to irritate and stick to the wound, so that when surgical aid is obtained its removal is effected with some trouble, and often distress, to the patient.

Should you have at hand sticking plaster it is better to apply it in strips to an "incised" wound, passing the same across so as to allow room for any discharge to escape; you can then apply the pad.

Having so treated your wound, next see that the *injured part is placed in an easy position and supported properly*, so that your patient can be removed with as little pain as possible, and without aggravating his injury. Thus, should it be the upper limb wounded, place it in a sling; if the lower limb, prop it up by folded clothes, hay, etc., or support and steady it by binding it to the sound leg.

Whilst on the subject of wounds let me warn the reader of the risk attached to the neglecting of *slight* wounds, as cuts, scratches, abrasions, pricks, etc., which are not severe enough to interfere with work. Splinters, bits of dirt, and the like, if left untreated in the flesh, frequently lead to inflammations and the formation of gatherings or abscesses, and as a result many a finger has been lost, and hand crippled, and many a workman unfitted for labour and forced to depend for several weeks upon his club. Therefore, in *slight* injuries be careful to pick out splinters, or pieces of grit, wash away any dirt, and then bind up the wound.

BLEEDING OR HÆMORRHAGE.

In discussing the heart and blood vessels, you will remember we spoke of the tubes in which the pure bright red blood from the heart travels to the different parts of the body, as arteries, and of the tubes in which the impure dark venous blood returns to that organ, as veins. The connecting link between these two series being capillaries, it must then follow that there are three different kinds of bleeding or hæmorrhage, as either of the different tubes are injured.

The amount of bleeding depending upon the size and number of blood vessels or tubes injured and the color of the flowing blood depending upon the kind of tube injured. Thus if an artery is injured, bright scarlet blood will spurt out in jets, often to a considerable distance, this being occasioned by the pump-like action of the heart—the pressure is said to be four pounds to the square inch; the blood, too, that trickles or oozes from severed capillaries will be red,