

# Courier des Dames.

Our lady readers are invited to contribute to this department.

(Written for the Canadian Illustrated News.)

## WAIIFS.

Who is the pale-faced lad that asks a copper for sweeping the crossing as I pass by in the rain? A coin placed in the little hand stretched out to receive it serves to light up with happiness a fine face, reminding me of a loved boy occupying a more favoured position in society. That little crossing-sweeper is, however, only a type of an unfortunate class to whose wants, I fear, we pay too little heed—our city arabs, drift-wood on the shores of the world's rolling waters.

These poor, little, dirty, ragged children! I often wonder when I see them in the streets of our city, where they all come from and where they find homes. They are so pretty some of them. I often see such dear little curly heads, and sweet faces, with merry laughing eyes, that any mother should be proud of and guard as a choice treasure. And yet the dirty rags in which these little ones are clothed, and their whole neglected appearance, show too plainly that they have no one who cares for them. When the sun goes down, and darkness falls on the streets, what becomes of these children? A few we may still meet, peeping into shop windows, to them so bright and tempting, where cheap toys, sweetmeats and pictures are indiscriminately jumbled together for sale. But most of the waifs have gone home—for however poor or miserable a hovel the family dwelling may be, it is still home to the child. If we could follow them, what should we see? Alas! in too many instances, it would be a sorry sight. A drunken father; perhaps—far worse—a drunken mother; dirt and wretchedness on every side, a bundle of straw or rags, or something not much better, for a bed; and nothing pure or good to be seen or heard. How can these little ones grow up to be honest or good? With such associations continually around them, how can they learn to be any different from their fathers and mothers? They learn to smoke, and drink, and swear, almost as soon as they learn to walk and talk. I have seen boys in this city, certainly not more than eight years old, so ragged their clothes would scarcely hang on their backs, loling against the

wall smoking cigar ends, to the great admiration and envy of a group of other youngsters. Juvenile depravity amongst us has grown apace, when a boy of but thirteen years was very recently brought up at Kingston as a common drunkard. A sad commentary, indeed, on our social life!

Yet these little ones enter this world as pure and innocent as those who are cradled and nursed with jealous care that no rough wind may blow upon them. But as they grow older, and are constantly brought in contact with what is debasing and evil, the very atmosphere they breathe tainted by the vices with which they are surrounded, can we wonder that they grow up vile and degraded? Bad habits come with bad companions. Soon the lads turn out on the streets to earn something towards the family's support. Their early training has led them to be averse to honest, hard work. Unless regular employment be obtained, the lads drift almost imperceptibly into living by their wits. In a word, if they are not placed at work by their guardians as apprentices to trades, they are carried by force of circumstances within the circle of the dangerous class which dwells in the purlieus of every great city. Thus many of the bright, intelligent boys who continually cross our path may by-and-by, if not assisted by some kindly hand, help to fill our reformatories and become a burden on society. Again, if the boys are in such danger, surely the girls are in still greater peril. More confiding, more in need of some one to lean upon, less fitted to fight alone the battle of life, they should not be cast upon the world without proper training to enable them to earn their daily bread by honest work. If the girls are intended for domestic servants, it is certainly the duty of the parents to have them placed early with some respectable family where the necessary training may be obtained. Servants are much wanted, but they must be thoroughly trained to be efficient; there are plenty of places, but only ignorant girls to fill them. If, on the other hand, the girls are intended to work in the factory, they should be placed under proper persons, such as would, whilst giving them thorough instruction in the business, strive to improve their moral character and protect them from insult. Too often in these days parents are indifferent as to whether their children, when at work, are brought into good or bad company, so long as they earn large wages. It is just at this time, however, when bad associations are often formed, and amongst other dangers, this should not be disregarded. But whatever is done in this direction, no effort should be spared to keep our young girls out of our streets as much as possible. The dangers of

the streets at night to young women cannot be over-estimated.

Outside influence can indeed be brought to bear upon this class to guide them in the right course, mainly when they are quite young; and it is at this time, therefore, we should seek to succour them. There are, we know, charitable institutions of various kinds which do great good; these do not, however, reach all, since they are principally intended to provide homes for orphans. And a great deal undoubtedly still remains to be done to aid our poor children in setting out in life with fairer prospects. Much may be accomplished, I think, by individual effort,—by visiting poor families whom we know, by endeavouring to encourage the children in all that is good, and by giving to them while in the early morning of life, the helping hand which they so much need, and which may, perhaps, beneficially influence their whole future course. Every struggling family in our city, which, happily, contains but a small poor population, would be reached if each of us resolved to give friendly counsel and aid in the training of some troop of little ones, dwelling in the closely packed tenement districts. We could scarcely engage in a more philanthropic mission; we could hardly devote our energies to a work which would tend more to elevate our population: If we place every boy and girl in a fair way to make an honest livelihood, we do much towards training the rising generation to be better citizens than ourselves, and to diminish crime, and the social evils which, alas! even in the new cities of this continent, where poverty is more rare than in towns in the mother country, unfortunately prevail. The State gives education to our gutter children; let us help the parents to give them that moral training which is even a greater boon.

BLANCHE B.

Dr. Colby's Pills impart Tone and Vigour to the Digestive Organs.

A majority of the mortality cases in this country may be traced to disease of the lungs. Indeed, these maladies are alarmingly on the increase. We do not know a remedy better suited to this disease than the Combination of Hypophosphites discovered by Mr. Fellows.

## News of the Week.

THE DOMINION.—The S.S. "Atlantic," of the White Star Line, was wrecked off Prospect, N.S., on the 1st inst. Particulars are given elsewhere. The gauge of the Welland R.R. was changed on Wednesday week from 5 ft. 6 in. to 4 ft. 8 in. The work was all completed between the morning and afternoon trains. The Manitoba delegation now at Ottawa, ask the Government to extend the time of the special tariff framed for that Province from the 13th May to the 1st July. The Provincial Government asks its extension for one year from the time of its first termination.

UNITED STATES.—Murders by the Cherokees are announced from Arkansas City. The employees of the New York Gas Companies have made arrangements for a strike, should the companies not concede to their demand for eight hours and the following rates: Stokers, \$3.50; helpers, \$3.00 per day. Another match for the billiard championship and a thousand dollars a side is announced between Maurice Daly and Cyrille Dion, the present champion. A defeat of the Apaches, with some loss of life, is announced. A. T. Stewart is ill, suffering from Bright's disease. The new phase of the Goodrich mystery is that James W. Knox, a prisoner in the Brooklyn Jail on a charge of forgery, claims to have information that would result in the detection of the murderer, but refuses to disclose it unless the charge against himself be dismissed. Knox was four years in the New York police. The Samana Bay Company have purchased a new steamer for Samana waters. A Post-office is about to be established on San Juan Island.

UNITED KINGDOM.—George Bidwell, one of the men alleged to have been implicated in the frauds on the Bank of England, has been arrested in Edinburgh. Together with Noyes he was brought before the Lord Mayor of London and released on bonds for future appearance. Committees of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company, the Société du Cable Transatlantique, and the New York, Newfoundland and London Telegraph Companies have agreed upon the immediate amalgamation of all those lines, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of each Company, at a meeting to have been held on Friday last.

FRANCE.—During a debate in the Assembly last week a dispute took place between Leroyer, a radical member, and the Duc de Grammont. The latter was called to order by M. Grévy, the President, but refused to retract his language. Thereupon M. Grévy announced that he would resign, and declared the sitting closed. On the following day the President's resignation was presented and read, but he was immediately re-elected by a vote of 349 against 251. M. Grévy, however, persisted in resigning, and it is said that he will accept the leadership of the Left in the Assembly. The election for his successor to the Presidency was held on Friday last with the following result:—M. Louis Joseph Buffet received 304 votes; M. Martel, 254. M. Buffet was declared elected. The Spanish Vice-Consul in Paris has absconded, leaving a deficit in his accounts to the amount of 70,000 francs. Gen. Chanzy has informed the

Committee on Capitulations that the Government has received its report on Marshal Bazaine's case, and has decided to proceed with his trial by court-martial.

AUSTRIA.—The Emperor has given his sanction to the Electoral Reform Bill.

ITALY.—Several bank-note forgers have been arrested in Rome.

SWITZERLAND.—It is reported that Mgr. Merimold has been raised to the dignity of a Cardinal.

DENMARK.—The Folkething, the Lower House of the Rig-dag, has passed a vote declaring want of confidence in the Ministry.

SPAIN.—The Carlists are receiving supplies of arms and provisions in various ways, but mostly by sea. A body of 400 Carlists, raised in Navarre last week, were equipped almost as soon as the organization was effected. It is reported that all the Custom Houses on the frontier except one have been occupied by the Carlists, who are fortifying them. The populace of Barcelona, to avenge the burning of Berga by Carlists, attacked and did serious damage to several churches. The Carlists are reported to have shot 60 prisoners at Berga.

Seven thousand Minie rifles, the first instalment of 15,000 promised, have been forwarded to Barcelona for distribution among the people. The armament committee there is preparing to levy *en masse* for the defence of the Province. A disturbance occurred in the artillery barracks at Valencia. Several men were killed and wounded. Order has been restored. General Nouvilas has arrived at Estella, twenty-five miles south-west of Pampluna, and made it his headquarters in his operations against the Carlists. The Commune has been declared in the Province of Salamanca, and some rioting followed, but it was suppressed by the gens d'armes. The population of Madrid manifest a hostile disposition towards the municipality of the city, and as the latter are determined not to resign, trouble is apprehended. Senor Castelar threatens to resign unless the Ministry adopt a more decisive and energetic policy. His colleagues hesitate to interfere in a conflict between the people and municipality of the capital. Popular leaders declare the corporation responsible for future events. Reinforcements have been sent to Cuba.

WEST INDIES.—An American detective has arrived at Havana and identified Bidwell, the Bank of England forger, as a man well known to the American police.

AUSTRALIA.—A despatch from Sydney announces that the Parliament of New South Wales has voted \$200,000 to aid emigration to that colony.

CHINA.—A despatch from Shanghai announces the arrival in that city of the Russian Grand Duke Alexis.

## Varities.

Superannuated with drink is the last euphemism.

The season for keeping diaries begins with the first of the year, and lasts up to about the first week in February.

"We find that he came to his death from calling Bill Jackson a liar," was the verdict of a coroner's jury in Missouri.

A condemned murderer in a Michigan prison chews Detroit tobacco—a fact which dealers in that brand have not neglected to advertise.

A Parisian lady, having lost an opera-glass, was lamenting over the matter with a friend, and said she had only lately lost her husband also.

Landseer has a rival in Mr. Jones of Chicago, who, as a dog painter, has few equals. He can make a coach-dog out of a common white cur in ten minutes, if he is not disturbed.

The Boston Advertiser intimates that it might not be inappropriate to change the name of the Massachusetts Agricultural College to a "school to wean farmers' sons from farm work."

I once, says Dr. John Brown, asked a little girl "Who made you?" and she said, holding up her apron as a measure, "God made me that length, an' I grewed the rest myself."

A manufacturer advertises a patent shoe that will prevent horses from "bailing." Spinner says this is not a new idea, as Mr. S. has used a shoe often to stop the young Spinners bawling.

An English daily paper has sent a correspondent amongst the London poor to see the effect of the scarcity of coal. This was the effect on one elderly lady:—"Cuss them as put 'em up to the price they are. I hope they won't find coals used so spartin' in the place where they'll go one of these days."

The Chicago Post has this interesting announcement: "Queen Victoria will appear in public next season more than she has during any year since the death of Prince Albert." The Queen remarked to us the last time we saw her, that whenever she determined to go into society more than usual she would let us know through the Chicago Post.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

One day in spring, Sir Walter Scott strolled forth with Lady Scott to enjoy a walk around Abbotsford. In their wanderings they passed a field where a number of ewes were enduring the frolics of their lambs. "Tis no wonder the poets, from the earliest ages, have made the lamb the emblem of peace and innocence." "They are, indeed, delightful animals," returned her ladyship, "especially with mint sauce."

Jacobs' Rheumatic Liquid Cures Spratulas.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR REMOVING SPOTS.

The following table, from Ringer's Manual of Domestic Economy, giving the different modes of treating the principal kinds of stains on clothing, will be found to be worth preserving:

NATURE OF THE SPOTS OR STAINS.	ON WHITE GOODS.	ON COLOURED COTTON GOODS.	ON COLOURED WOOLLEN GOODS.	ON SILK GOODS.
Mechanically attached particles	Beating, brushing, and allowing water to fall from an elevation upon the wrong side of the goods.			
Mucilage, mucus, sugar, jelly	Washing out with lukewarm water.			
Fats	Washing out with soap of lye.	Washing out with lukewarm soap and water.	Washing out with lukewarm water and soap or spirits of hartshorn.	Benzine, ether, spirits of hartshorn, magnesia, chalk, clay, yolk of eggs.
Oil colors, varnish, resin	Oil of turpentine, alcohol, benzine, and then soap.			Benzine, ether, and soap, very carefully and in a very weak solution.
Stearine	Strong, pure alcohol.			
Vegetable colours, red wine, fruits, red ink	Sulphurous vapour or hot chlorine water.	Washing out with lukewarm water and soap, or spirits of hartshorn.		As with the preceding articles, but very cautiously.
Alizarine inks	Tartaric acid—the older the spot the more concentrated.	If the colour permits, dilute tartaric acid.		As before, but with great precaution.
Blood and albuminous spots	Simply washing out with lukewarm water.			
Rust, and spots of ink made of nutgalls	Hot oxalic acid, dilute hydrochloric acid, and then tin filings.	In genuine coloured goods, citric acid to be tried.	Citric acid to be tried; or, in non-coloured woollen goods, dilute chloric acid.	Nothing can be done without increasing the evil.
Lime, lye, and alkalies in general	Simply washing	Much-diluted citric acid, drop for drop upon the moistened spot, to be spread around by the finger.		
Acids, vinegar, sour wine, must, acid fruits, etc.	Simply washing; in the case of fruit, also with hot chlorine water.	According to the delicacy of the material and the colour, more or less diluted spirits of hartshorn, to be spread around on the spot moistened, drop for drop, with the tip of the finger.		
Tannin substances, fruit or green nutshells, leather	Bleaching lye, hot chlorine water, concentrated tartaric acid.	Chlorine water, diluted according to the delicacy and colour of the material, applied with a rag, and drop for drop on the spot moistened, alternately applied and then rinsed off.		
Tar, wagon grease, or also fat, resin, carbonaceous particles, and wood vinegar	Soap, with oil of turpentine, varied with the action of falling water.	Hog's lard to be rubbed on, then soaped and allowed to remain quietly then washed alternately with water and oil of turpentine.		As in the preceding, but more carefully, and instead of turpentine, benzine and a continued current of water falling from a height, and only upon the reversed side of the spot.
Superficial loss of substance by scorching	Rub over thoroughly with a pad dipped in hot chlorine water.	Whenever possible, colouring over, or raising up the nap.		Nothing can be done.