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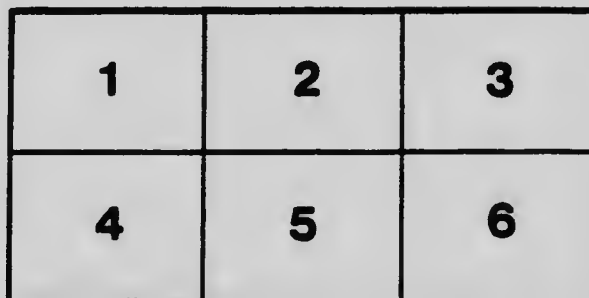
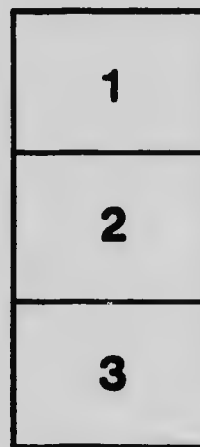
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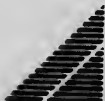
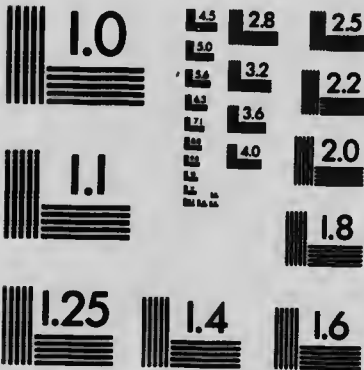
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As no history has ever been written of the Toronto Branch of the Dickens Fellowship, the advertising committee felt a booklet such as we intend this to be, would fill a long-felt desire on the part of the old members, to refresh their memory with regard to the early history of the Society, and also new members who have joined the last few years, and who therefore do not know what the Society has stood for in Toronto since its organization. The Committee therefore hope that, to both old and new members, this book will prove an interesting souvenir.

The books are distributed through the Dickens Fellowship and the various workers in this Bazaar.

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## EDITORIAL NOTES

*By Editor*

What a man with a hobby may accomplish is illustrated in the case of the late Mr. E. S. Williamson, who was chiefly instrumental in the birth and growth of the Toronto Dickens Fellowship. For years he worked in season and out of season on its behalf, bringing to it a remarkable degree of enthusiasm and wealth of ideas and enlisting in its support a band of equally ardent lovers of Dickens.

---

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or spreading the Dickens gospel of good cheer and good help and good living, in the best meaning of the term. It is moreover a hobby worth while. Some hobbies produce no dividends, effect no self-improvement, and help no fellow mortal over the hurdles of life, but no lover of Dickens can seek to translate that love into life without being a better human for it, and making the world a little better for being a unit in its myriad millioned family.

---

Mr. Williamson lived to see the Fellowship become at one time, the largest as to membership, in the Empire, with an enrolment of over one thousand. What an army of devotees it represented in one city alone! And the existence of the Toronto Fellowship led to the organization of Fellowships in other centres in Canada. It shows that there are in every centre of population a nucleus of Dickens devotees sufficient to form a Fellowship and to render some Fellowship service in the name of the master spirit.

---

Yes, Dickens still lives. It is no mere passing cult. Editions succeed editions to meet the public demand; new generations read him as our fathers were "brought up" on him, and it is safe to predict that our children and theirs will learn to know and love the creator of one of the world's great character galleries.

---

And how this Dickens cult seeks to find expression in beneficence. He who can profess a liking for Dickens' novels and not be stimulated to some form of altruistic service is a human anachronism. The true Dickensian is known by his works; and by his endowed Hospital eots and Christmas dinners to shut-ins, by rescue and uplift service, by any method of helping to bear burdens and alleviate suffering.

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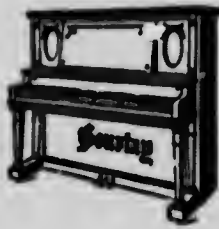
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# The Dickens Fellowship

## Toronto Branch

---

Established May 9th, 1905  
by the  
Late E. S. WILLIAMSON, ESQ.

---

The following are the minutes of this, the first meeting of the Society, held in one of the small rooms of old Association Hall :

ASSOCIATION HALL, May 9th, 1905.

The organization meeting of the Toronto Branch of the Dickens Fellowship was held in Association Hall, on Tuesday, May 9th, commencing at 8.15. Mr. E. S. Williamson in the chair.

In formally opening the meeting Mr. Williamson briefly sketched the aims and purposes of the Fellowship and gave us some idea as to how the Home Branch was conducted and what it is accomplishing.

It was moved by Mr. J. L. Hughes, seconded by Mr. A. M. Denovan, that it was desirable to form a branch of the Dickens Fellowship in Toronto.

The chairman read a letter from Prof. Goldwin Smith signifying his desire to belong to this branch.

Moved by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. G. L. McCrea, that the officers of this branch should be an Hon. President, three Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, and a Council, not to exceed 12 members, including the active officers just named. That the officers elected at this meeting shall hold office until Oct., 1906, and that the annual election of officers shall, commencing in October, 1906, take place at the first meeting of the branch in October of each year.

The election of the officers named above for the Toronto branch, was then proceeded with, showing the following :

HON. PRESIDENT—Moved by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Brown, that Prof. G. Smith be elected Hon. President.  
Carried



## "The Rose of Youth"

—Shakespeare

Is there a woman "with soul so dead" as not to long that that priceless flower—"the rose of youth"—shall be her own to wear? And yet it is open to any woman to pluck and wear that rose. In other words, to look young, attractive and comely is within the reach of all.

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When there is no sufficient reason? The woman of mature years need not think that the appearance of age is a necessary accompaniment to advancing years. It is nothing of the kind. It is within the power of every woman to do wonderfully much to repair the ravages which her own neglect and carelessness, rather than the actual flight of time, have wrought. About the art of the modern specialist there is a proficiency that is

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### ON YOUR TOILET TABLE

and that one of these is Dr. Partin's marvellous **FACE AND HEALING POWDER**. This superb powder, of which Dr. Partin is the sole manufacturer, is put up in boxes of varying size, priced, according to size, at 50c., \$1.00, \$3.50 and \$5.50. It is in five shades—white, flesh color, mauve, pale lavender, and orange. Then there is **DR. PARTIN'S HAIR RESTORE**—clean, harmless, and unfailingly efficacious in restoring the hair to its natural color and luxuriance. Its price is \$2.00 a bottle. **DR. PARTIN'S ANTISEPTIC CREAM**, for various skin affections, and his **FACE LOTION**, for application in cases of delicate or easily-irritated skin, should also find a place on Milady's toilet-table. Send for a **FREE SAMPLE** of any preparation. Also send for free booklets, "Milady's Mirror," and "The Joy of Being Beautiful."

### ADDRESS :

**DR. PARTIN'S INSTITUTE DE BEAUTE**  
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PRESIDENT—Moved by Mr. McCrea, seconded by Mr. Hughes, that we elect Mr. Williamson as our President. Carried.

VICE-PRESIDENTS—Moved by Mr. Browne, seconded by Mr. Brown, that the following gentlemen be elected as Vice-Presidents : Messrs. J. L. Hughes, J. W. Bengough, and Wm. Houston, M.A. Carried.

SECRETARY-TREASURER — Moved by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. McCrea, that Miss M. Pennell be Secretary-Treasurer. Carried.

COUNCIL—Moved by Mr. Sparrow, seconded by Mr. Hughes, that the following be elected to the Council : Mrs. Donald, Miss Windeat ; Messrs. J. B. Harris, G. L. McCrea, J. MacDonald Oxley, F. Yeigh, and J. J. Follett. Carried.

MEMBERSHIP FEE—Moved by Mr. Denovan, seconded by Mr. Hamilton, that the minimum fee of 25c. be paid by each member joining the branch between the date of its organization and Oct. 1, 1905, and that thereafter the minimum subscription be 50c. per annum, payable on or before the 1st of Nov. of each year. After discussing the advisability of increasing this to \$1.00, the original motion was carried.

It was suggested by the chairman and discussed by Mr. Hughes that we take and support a cot on behalf of this branch in the hospital for Incurable Children on Avenue Road, but nothing definite was decided upon.

The chairman read a letter from Mr. Duxbury, a celebrated English lecturer, and suggested we secure Mr. D. to recite Dickens' "Xmas Carol" at an early date. Mr. Hughes moved that the Executive Committee be authorized to secure Mr. D. and arrange the date, seconded by Mr. Brown. Carried.

It was decided that the annual subscription price of the "Dickensian" be fixed at 75c. per year, making \$1.00 for those members joining now taking the magazine.

Meeting adjourned at 9.30.

TORONTO BRANCH OF THE DICKENS FELLOWSHIP.

E. S. WILLIAMSON,  
*President.*

M. PENNELL,  
*Secretary.*

# The Beginning of the Dickens Fellowship in Toronto

By Miss M. Pennell

---

There is no question but what Toronto Dickens Fellowship and E. S. Williamson are terms synonymous to many. For some years prior to the establishment of the Dickens Fellowship in Toronto, he had been known by reputation to some of us at least, as a Dickens interpreter. His lectures on Charles Dickens, *Pickwick*, and *David Copperfield* had been given in most Canadian cities, and in many on the other side. His genial personality, and his undoubted talent as a platform speaker, made him the ideal Dickens exponent. Mr. Geo. L. McCrea, a member of our present Executive, and himself an ardent Dickens enthusiast, introduced himself to Mr. Williamson at one of these lectures, and later, at Mr. Williamson's invitation, met at his house in Parkdale. At this meeting—which could really be termed the first executive meeting of the Dickens Fellowship in embryo—the advisability of establishing a Fellowship in Toronto was discussed. I believe Mr. Williamson at that time was associated, either as a member, or Honorary Vice-President, with the parent Society, in London, England. It was decided to try it out. A small classified ad. was therefore inserted in the *Globe* in the Spring of 1905 inviting all Dickensians interested in establishing a Dickens Society in Toronto to meet in one of the class-rooms of old Association Hall on May 5th. About 30 or 40 responded. Among those I remember at this meeting were Mr. Hayden, Miss Malcolm, Mr. Denovan, Mr. Yeigh, Mr. McCrea, the late J. B. Harris, J. Macdonald Oxley, Miss Windeat, and others many of whom during the intervening years have either passed away, or become lost to the Dickens Fellowship. This first meeting must have been held under a lucky star. The young Society met with instant success, due to the enthusiasm of officers, executive and members alike. It seemed that there was no limit to the membership we could have secured. We finally reached 1,000 members and decided to stop there.

The fee was placed at 50c. It was felt that as Charles Dickens was a benefactor of all mankind—rich and poor alike—and had made his characters so diverse as to have an appeal to all—that this small fee would enable many Dickensians to join who otherwise might not feel themselves in a position to pay more. The Dickens Fellowship never pretended to be a study club, nor did we try to hold ourselves together in isolation,

to dissect Charles Dickens' books in an endeavor to find out why he wrote this in a certain way or why he made certain characters say certain things. The Fellowship has always followed the broadest lines—our aim has been to do as much good as we could, and get as much enjoyment as possible out of the accomplishing of it. The first business of the Society was to undertake to maintain a cot in the Home for Incurable Children, which we did from the first year, and which later was endowed, with another, in this Institution. This, while perhaps, the most important part of our work among helpless children, was, however, but a part, as we gave many hundreds of dollars to work along similar lines.

The conservation of child life is the greatest work in the world to-day—not excepting the work of carrying to a victorious conclusion the greatest war of all time. The terrible wastage of human life that is taking place daily on the battlefields of Europe, makes this fact very apparent, and no more fitting memorial could be placed to the Dickens Fellowship and its founder, than a cot in the Hospital for Sick Children, an Institution, which, largely through the generosity of John Ross Robertson, has cared for many thousands of sick and crippled children, and returned them to the world whole again. The years in which I was personally and closely associated with the Dickens Fellowship held much enjoyment and satisfaction for me, as undoubtedly it did for the others who threw themselves so heartily into the work. Like Mark Tapley, our ups and downs only made us come out stronger. Long life and prosperity to the Toronto Dickens Fellowship, and God bless them every one.

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# Charles Dickens and the Sick Child

By *B. W. Matz*

Editor of "The Dickensian" and a  
Founder of "The Dickens Fellowship"

---

When the Dickens Fellowship was started fourteen years ago, the handful of enthusiasts who inaugurated it did not realize that its appeal would be world-wide. If they had stopped to think they probably would have had no misgivings on the point, for the influence of Dickens is universal. At any rate it is a fact that not one of them had an idea that in the course of a few years the "little" society they were formulating would be operating for good in every English-speaking country. But that is what has actually happened, and to-day the Dickens Fellowship is one huge brotherhood with centres throughout the world, carrying on the beneficent work commenced by Dickens of helping the poor and oppressed, whilst at the same time enlarging their own previous estimate of the great Author's work, extending their knowledge, by more meticulous study, of the teachings of those works, and further, as our President has said, radiating joy in a sad world, and spreading good fellowship and happiness among men.

This is indeed good work to be doing at any time. But to be doing it during the titanic struggle in which all the world has been engaged, makes it doubly worth the doing, and places the hall mark upon the Society's usefulness.

Among the foremost branches to which these sentiments apply is that of Toronto, far away from its parent tree, but flourishing under the rays of the same sun which nurtures its progenitor. It was founded in 1905 by the late E. S. Williamson, and it is fitting and worthy that his friends who have in the past worked with him to bring it to the success it has reached and who set the right value on his enthusiasm and sincerity which played so prominent a part in that consummation, should seek to set up some tangible memorial to him as ex-

pressing their appreciation of what that splendid enthusiasm meant. In deciding that this memorial should take the form of a cot to his memory in the Hospital for Sick Children, they are not only honouring his memory, but are doing other noble deeds besides. They are helping to perpetuate the name of Dickens ; they are helping along the cause of the Dickens Fellowship ; and above all they are helping to carry on a phase of Dickens' work to which he devoted his best thoughts, much time, and which he advocates so strongly in his books. Such a memorial to one who loved and cherished the great writer with so much enthusiastic admiration is surely then the finest and most appropriate to be chosen.

It was Dickens who re-discovered the child for us and set it again in our midst. It was he who taught us more than anybody not to visualize the child as a mere unit in the world, but to realize its soul, its beauty, its heart ; and the poorer the child the greater his appeal to our sense of duty towards it.

The child plays important parts in his writings and nothing in literature can be found to equal the power of creating the real child such as he manifested in the children of his brain and pen. In his life-work, apart from that realized by his writings, one of his greatest interests was children, both in sickness and in health. Their consideration was always in his mind and his service was always ready in their cause. Among his many acts on their behalf, was the help he gave to one of the most useful and largest hospitals for children in London ; but he was always ready to do all in his power for others. And it was no mean task that he accomplished in this respect.

"I love the little people," he says in *The Old Curiosity Shop*, "and it is not a slight thing when they, who are fresh from God, love us."

Naturally then children get first thoughts in the work of the Dickens Fellowship. Nearly everyone of its branches are doing something for children, either in the way of brightening the lives of those who get in the ordinary course very little brightness, helping to clothe those whose garments would be otherwise scanty and poor, or as the Toronto branch is doing so well, setting up cots in the hospitals for sick children in his honour.

No better work can be done by the Fellowship than to help forward this good work which Dickens began, and thus help to keep his memory green.

The care of the sick in Hospitals is not so much a business as a kindness. To Dickens may be given some credit for this change in method. The modern nurse is surely the outcome of his traversing of the Gamps and Prigs of days gone by, and the modern nurse is the guardian angel of the sick child. This change, unlike many of the ills he set out to reform, began and was, to a great extent, realized in his days, for hospitals were, even then, good places to be in at times. For have we not his evidence of what Maggie's experience of the hospital, to which she was taken when ill with fever, was like ?

"But what a nice hospital ! So comfortable, wasn't it ? Oh, so nice it was. Such a Ev'nly place ! . . . Such beds is there ? Such lemonade ! Such oranges ! Such d'licious broth and wine ! Such Chicking ! Oh, *ain't* it a delightful place to go and stop at !"

That the Toronto Hospital for Sick Children is already "a Ev'nly place" I have no doubt. May the occupants of the cot you are about to endow there think as Maggy thought and may every child echo her words "Ain't it a delightful place to go and stop at."

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# Dickens Plays

By F. M. Bell-Smith

President Toronto Dickens Fellowship

---

Nearly every story Dickens wrote has been produced on the stage, and in a few instances have proven great successes, but by far the larger number have failed. This is due mainly to two causes.

First, to the mistake of attempting to bring onto the stage all the well known characters in the book. Such a course is sure death to the dramatic construction, because in most of Charles Dickens' books there are several distinct narratives, the characters in which do not come together, as for instance in the *Old Curiosity Shop* "*Little Nell*" and the "*Marchioness*" never meet, and have nothing to do with one another. Again in "*Our Mutual Friend*," two or perhaps more plays might be written without any of the characters appearing in more than one of them. Our Players have given us great delight in "*The Boffins*," which was a complete story in itself, and yet think of the large number of characters who did not appear; and from those so left out there may be written a still greater play, in which the Baffins, Wilfers and Rokesmith are not seen.

No play can be made a success dramatically which attempts to tell two stories at once, unless most of the characters are interwoven into both plots. Of all the dramatized versions of Dickens' works the "*Cricket on the Hearth*" has proven the greatest success, and it is said that no play in the English language has been so often played as it has.

Another cause of failure lies in the great difficulty in finding actors who can enter into the true spirit of the author, and so produce the rarest of all qualities "*atmosphere*."

Among professional actors "Dickens" characters are hard to find, and it is a fact that it often occurs that the truest interpretations are given by enthusiastic amateurs.

A fair comparison between the productions of our Dickens Fellowship Company of Players and some of the same plays as played by English professionals, will, I think, bear out my contention that the truest ideals were found among the amateurs, notwithstanding the immense advantages of the pros in stage setting, etc.

## Dickensiana of E. S. Williamson

*By Aubrey S. Williamson*

---

The collecting of Dickensiana has been a hobby with my late father from the very first recollection I have of him. His admiration amounted almost to a passion, and the writings of that great novelist held a fascination for him that was manifested all through his life. He was never more happy than when engaged in conversation with one who fully appreciated Dickens' works, and who could discuss Dickensiana with him. He was always ready and willing to exhibit his collection to friends, and to outline to them the respective significance of each volume.

Dating from the time that my father first read "Oliver Twist" while attending Brampton Public School, until his death in October, 1915, he was an active collector of Dickensiana. His library contains one large case, devoted exclusively to this subject. Before his death, his collection had been classed as the most valuable and complete of its kind in the Dominion.

I will now endeavour to give a brief outline of some of the rare Dickensiana literary treasures at present in the collection at Brampton.

Possibly the most notable of these is a volume entitled: "Charles Dickens and Maria Beadnell," being private correspondence written by the novelist to Miss Beadnell, original of Dora in "David Copperfield." It was originally published exclusively for The Bibliophile Society, by Mr. W. K. Bixby, of St. Louis. However, Mr. Bixby printed a second edition of 250 copies, for friends of the Society, and sent my father an autographed copy of this edition.

Another highly interesting book is "Sir John Eliot," a biography, by John Forster, in two volumes, which were at one time in Dickens' own library at Gadshill Place, and which contain Dickens' book-plate.

Then there is a set of "Dombey and Son," published in the original monthly parts, with original illustrations by "Phiz" (H. K. Browne).

Looking through the collection I find a copy of "The Christmas Carol," by Dickens, published by the late Elbert Hubbard, at my father's suggestion, at The Roycroft Shop, East Aurora.

The following are a few choice volumes from the collection : "An Actor's Story," by Bransby Williams ; "Charles Dickens as I Knew Him," by George Dobby ; "Dickens and the Stage," by T. Edgar Pemberton ; "The Puzzle of Dickens' Last Plot," by Andrew Lang ; "Wellerisms," by Charles Rideal ; "Who's Who In Dickens," by Thomas Alexander Fyfe ; "In Jail with Dickens," by Alfred Trumble ; "Dickens as an Educator," by James L. Hughes ; "My Father As I Recall Him," by Mamie Dickens ; and "The Dickens Concordance," by Mary Williams.

The collection also contains nineteen bound volumes of "Household Words," a Magazine edited by Charles Dickens and Wilkie Collins, and twenty-eight volumes of "All The Year Round," a similar publication.

There are numerous sets of Dickens' complete works, in the collection, the principal of which is The National Edition, in forty volumes, containing the original illustrations by H. K. Browne, Cruikshank, others, and limited to 750 copies.

The shelves are brimming over with volumes on various phases of Dickensiana, too numerous to mention.

My father also owned the first gold watch of Charles Dickens, which he prized very highly.

The library at Brampton is decorated with Dickens pictures, of all types. Some depict familiar scenes from the famous Dickens novels, others are portraits of the author at various ages, while others are photographs of a Dickensiana nature.

My father did not confine himself to the collecting of books, alone, but was always interested in anything of a Dickensiana nature.

Some years ago, when the present collection was in its infancy, my father compiled a little book called "Glimpses of Dickens," which has since gone out of print. Before his death

he was working on another volume, "Dickens in Canada," which was never completed. It afforded him great pleasure to engage in the compiling and revising of this little work, and he spent many hours in the evening, in preparing the manuscript for publication.

Had I more space I would mention more of the many books of Dickensiana in the collection, but those I have given suffice to show its extensive and varied nature, and will give some conception of the admiration my father had for Dickens' writings that have done so much to brighten humanity, and to cheer those who are in need of cheer.

AUBREY S. WILLIAMSON.

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## Dickens in Camp

By Bret Harte

---

Above the pines the moon was slowly drifting,  
The river sang below,  
The dim Sierras, far beyond, uplifting  
Their minarets of snow.

The roaring camp fire, with rude humor  
Painted the ruddy tints of health  
On haggard face and form that drooped and fainted  
In the fierce race for wealth.

Till one arose, and from his pack's scant treasure  
A hoarded volume drew,  
And cards were cast from hands of listless leisure,  
To hear the

And then, while round them shadows gathered faster  
And as the firelight fell,  
He read aloud the book wherein the master  
Had writ of Little Nell.

Perhaps 'twas boyish fancy,  
For the reader was youngest of them all,  
But, as he read, from clustering pine and cedar,  
A silence seemed to fall.

The fir trees, gathering closer in the shadows,  
Listened in every spray,  
While the whole camp, with Nell on English meadows,  
Wandered and lost their way.  
And so, in mountain solitudes, o'ertaken  
As by some spell divine,  
Their cares cropped from them, like the needles shaken  
From out the gusty pine.

Lost is that camp, and scattered all its fire,  
And he who wrought that spell,  
Ah, towering pine and stately Kentish spire,  
Ye have one tale to tell !

Lost is that camp, but let its fragment story,  
 Blend with the breath that thins  
 With hop-vines' incense all the pensive glory  
 That fills the Kentish hills.

And on that grave, where English oak and holly  
 And laurel wreath entwine,  
 Deem it not all a too presumptuous folly,  
 This spray of Western pine.

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# What Dickens Did for the Children

By Dr. James L. Hughes

---

Dickens stirred the world's heart to a consciousness of the possibility of educating the deaf and the blind children by his touching stories about the little deaf girl adopted by Dr. Marigold, and the blind daughter of Caleb Plummer ; and aroused interest in feeble minded children by making Barnaby Rudge the leading character in a novel.

He did more than all other reformers to save children from coercion in all its dwarfing forms. He attacked fourteen distinct types of coercion, and condemned them all from the coarse, brutal forms of physical coercion as practised by Squeers and Creakle in the schools, by the Murdstones and Gargerys in the homes, and by the Bumbles in institutions, to the sweet willed coercion of Mrs. Chrisparker in stating that she was so glad the Landlesses—"young man and woman"—had decided to adopt her views in regard to their education, because they would have had to do so whether they "*liked to do it or not.*" Mrs. Chrisparker's sweet will coercion was as heavy a curse in preventing the development of the individual soul as the coercive brutality of Squeers. Dickens described the evils of cram in schools more forcibly than any other writer ; he gave many illustrations of the crime of robbing children of a true, real childhood, as summarized by "young Jackson," when at the age of fifty he said, "My childhood had no grace of childhood, my youth no charm of youth," and "My life is like an unintelligible book with all the earlier chapters torn out and thrown away." He pleaded for more freedom for children, for a truer development of their individuality and of their imagination, for better opportunities for play, and generally for improved conditions for the physical, intellectual, and spiritual development of all children.



## HOME FOR INCURABLE CHILDREN

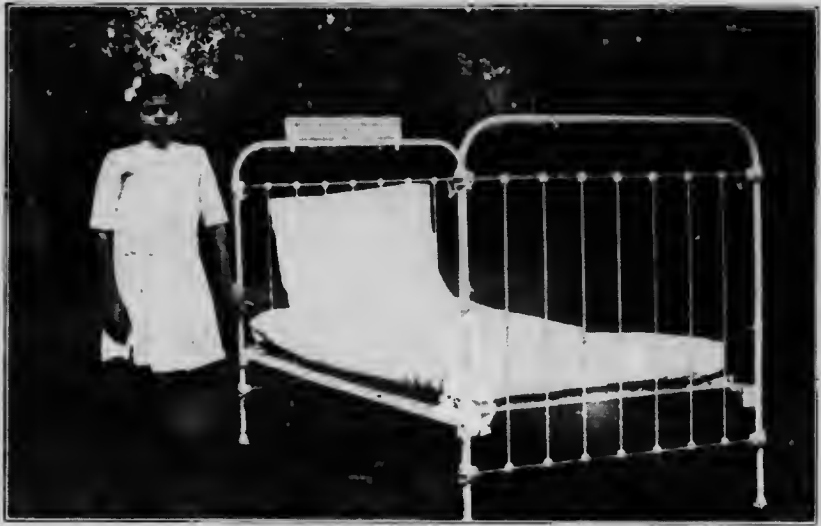
BLOOR ST. WEST

At the first meeting of the Dickens Fellowship it was decided to undertake some tangible work among helpless children, as the children—particularly suffering children—were always very close to Dickens heart. At that time this Institution was very much in need of funds. Mrs. R. A. Donald, one of our charter members, was Treasurer of the Home at the time, and through her we learned their needs. We undertook to maintain a cot at \$100 per annum. This we did for 7 years, when the Dickens Fellowship Rainbow Bazaar held in Foresters' Hall, October, 1912, provided us with \$5,000, which endowed this cot, and another, THE RAINBOW COT.

In addition to this, the Fellowship, from the first year, has provided the Christmas dinner complete, for all the patients and staff of this Institution.

*Thirty-five*





VICTORIA ST. CLAIR

This little girl was our first patient, and she is still the occupant of the Dickens Fellowship Cot. She was found, a small baby, on St. Clair Avenue, on Victoria Day many years ago. She was hopelessly crippled and had been abandoned by her parents. She was taken to the Home for Incurable Children, and bears the name Victoria St. Clair.



MASTER CLARENCE STEWART

Our patient in the Dickens Rainbow Cot, endowed by the Dickens Fellowship from the proceeds of the Rainbow Bazaar.

*Thirty-six*

# The Dickens Fellowship Players

What they have done, and why.

By F. W. Hayden

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To "The Dickens Fellowship Company of Players" much praise must be given for their many Dickensian productions.

Their first attempt to please the public, and to raise money for the charitable work of the Fellowship was very successful, the play being the famous *Bardell vs. Pickwick* trial, which was produced on May, 1907, and so great was the demand for seats that four performances had to be given.

The next venture was *The Cricket on the Hearth*," which was so well received in Toronto, that the Players entered it on the Earl Grey competition at Ottawa. They did not win the "trophy," though of the performance one of the Ottawa papers wrote: "It seemed as if the play were being presented by a good class of professional actors, and there will be considerable surprise that it does not figure higher in the judges' estimation."

In 1909 another attempt was made through the medium of a dramatization of "Little Nell," but again failure was their lot. Nothing daunted, the next year saw them again in the competition with "The Cricket on the Hearth," and this time they were crowned with success, and the trophy was won at home in the Royal Alexandra Theatre.

The production of the "Christmas Carol," on December, 1911, was another artistic success, but the box office was disappointed, the receipts not equalling the expenditure. There were thirty-nine characters in this play, which, with the special scenic effects caused the initial expenses to be very large; but the following December, when the play ran for a week, the Players achieved their greatest financial success; the receipts being over \$1,000. A very clever comedy "Our Mutual Friend," was staged in 1912, and many small plays and sketches have been given, with great pleasure and profit to the Fellowship at the regular monthly meetings.

The dramatic work is very interesting and that it may continue, is the wish of the Fellowship, though just now there are not many young men available. There is no better way

of getting acquainted with Dickens' characters than by taking a part in these plays and sketches, and it is hoped that many new players will offer themselves this season.

Where so many have taken part in the past and where all have done so well, it would not be wise to individualize especially, as it is known that all have worked for the good of the Fellowship, and for the furtherance of its aims in fostering a love for the works of Charles Dickens, and continuing that which was so dear to the heart of the great novelist and man ; viz., the help of the sick and needy children.

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## Our Honor Roll

Members, or relatives of members, of Toronto  
Dickens Fellowship, who are doing, or  
have done, their bit "at the front."

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ARNOLD M. THURSTON  
P. V. HOBBS  
T. H. BRISCOE  
W. W. DAVIS  
— RIMMER  
HUGH MILLER  
GEORGE MILLER  
W. A. ATKINSON  
GEORGE F. HAYDEN  
CAREY FOSTER  
JOHN A. CLEMENCE  
PAUL MILLS  
A. T. NEAL  
L. C. WELCH  
ERNEST A. MORGAN  
EWART W. MORGAN  
HERMES HUGHFS  
ARTHUR TEER  
GORDON EVANS  
NOEL EVANS  
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