YOUNG FOLKS

WILLIE'S DILEMMA.

Maw is steepin' boneset tea—
  Hate 'at stuff like ever'fing !
But she says it's good fer me
  An' my systum in th' spring.
Got th' sage an' cal'mus out,
  Fer spring fever's gittin' here,
An' they're good to have about.
  When m'laria is near.

Sulphur 'n' 'lasses is all mixed;
  Hev to take it twice a day.
Maw is gittin' things all fixed
  If th' fever comes our way !
If I make a single moan,
  Er if maw she thinks I acts
Mopey-like er make a groan,
  She says, "Take this sassafrax!"

If I give a single sneeze,
  Maw she says, "Fer massy sakes!
Beyou ketchin' some d'seez,
  Er th' fever 'n' th' shakes?"
Nen she gits th' boneset tea—
  Hate 'at stuff like ever'fing !
Nen she ups an' doses me
  An' begins a-worrying.

Jes' las' Sunday night I coughed;
  Maw got out th' oil an' lint.
Nen she runned up in th' loft
  Fer a bunch o' peppermint.
Nen she sed to gran'ma, "Now
  De you s'pose it's fever, maw ?"
Gran'ma she jes' smooved my brow,
  Felt my pulse an' tol' her "Pshaw"

If I'm feelin' kind o' sick,
  Nen maw says, "I tol' you so!
Git th' sulphur 'n' 'lasses, quick !
  That boy's in fer it, I know !"
Nen I drinks some boneset tea—
  Hate 'at stuff like ever'fing !
'At's th' way maw doctors me—
  Wish't it never wasn't spring !

THE REVENGE OF MARCIA.

"Oh dear !" sighed Marcia, "Can't I go, mamma ?"

"Why, my dear child," said mamma, "I said no ! Now, can't you be content ?"

It seemed that Marcia wanted to go to a schoolmate's home to spend the night and her mother did not wish her to go as the schoolmate was not the kind she wished Marcia to associate with. Marcia fretted and stewed and tried to think how she could get revenge. She thought awhile, and decided to run away.

If her mother had looked out of the west window a little while later she would have seen a little girl going down the road toward the Corners. Marcia walked along quite a long way until she came to a cave where she used to play with her cousins when they came to visit her from the city. She stopped here and looked in. There were the pails and broken plates they had been playing with. She went in and said to herself, "I guess I'll stay here until I get to be a big woman, then I will go home and I can go anywhere I want to, so there !"

She took off her hat, shawl and gloves and laid them on a little table which her cousin Adolphus had made her. She then picked up her bundle of quilts, pillows and provisions she had brought with her, for she had thought that perhaps she would need them. She made a bed up in one corner of the cave and put the provisions in a little crevice in the wall.

It was getting dark and she thought she had better eat supper. She put the sandwiches and a piece of cake on the table, then went out to a spring back in the pasture to get some water in a tin cup. She came back and ate her supper, washed up the dishes and went to bed.

She went to sleep directly and slept well until she awoke with a start. There was a large form coming into the cave. She kept very still. As soon as the man, for as he came nearer Marcia saw that it was a man, came nearer he took a match and lighted it. He came over where she was. She partly closed her eyes but not enough but that she could see that the man was her father. He picked her up in his arms and carried her home to her mother.

She never heard one word of reproach from her father or mother and she sometimes thinks she was too naughty to have ever come home again.

ARTIFICIAL NESTS.

Now is the time for those lovers of birds who possess gardens suitable to devise means for attracting many species into them for nesting. Those who will take the trouble to do so will be amply repaid later on by the pleasure of watching the domestic arrangements of our feathered friends. The bird most easily to be attracted into our garden and shrubberies is the lively titmouse, all the varieties of which, with two exceptions—the longtail and crested—will gladly avail themselves of an artificial nesting-place.

Boxes should be constructed about twelve inches in length and four inches broad, with a lid that may be easily lifted. At one end a small hole must be cut for the ingress and egress of the tenant. It is as well not to cut the hole too large if your object be to induce the tits to take up their abode in hese boxes rather than the ubiquitous sparrow. The boxes should be nailed against a tree or wall betwee five feet and eight feet from the ground, and should not be filled with any nesting material, for you may be sure that if a bird selects the sight for its home it will first of all turn out everything that it contains and start afresh on its nest. Boxes of the size given will probably be tenanted during the coming spring by one or other of the following birds: great tit, blue tit, cole tit, marsh tit, redstart; perhaps a shy nuthatch, who will take the precaution to seal down the lid with clay and contract the entrance with the same material; or it may be a wryneck, who is quite capable of evicting a tenant, and who, after turning out the nest and its contents, will lay the eggs upon the bare wood and rear its family in seeming discomfort. Old watering-cans are very attractive to robins, and even to the dainty wagtail if the can be hung against a wall—one such last year served for the successful rearing of two broods.

LONG-FORGOTTEN PICTURE,

"John Billus, I found this photograph in the inside pocket of an old vest of yours hanging up in the closet. I'd like an explanation. Whose is it ?"

"Can't you see it's an old picture, Maria ? What's the use of stiring up memories that——"

"I want to know whose picture that is."

"Rather a pleasant-faced girl, isn't she ?"

"I want to know her name."

"No jealous fury in that countenance, is there ?"

"Whose is it ?"

"It's a portrait of a girl I used to think a great deal of, and——"

"Her name, sir ?"

"Well, you sat for it yourself, Maria, about nineteen years ago; but to tell the truth I always did think the pleasing expression was a little overdone. Put on your spectacles and look at it again, and then compare it with the reflection in that mirror over there, and see—what are you getting mad about ?"

Bronco Pete—"What kind of a death would you prefer to die, Tom?" Tornado Tom—"Oh, I kinder think I'd sooner die in a feather bed, with kindly female faces clustered round, and a few weeping children, and a minister." Bronco Pete—"Oh, but I mean suthin' within the range of probability—would you sooner be lynched, shot, stabbed, or hit on the head with an axe?"

I Am Strong Now And Do My Own Work.

Nervous System Was Exhausted and Pains Were Almost Unbearable—Health Restored by

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

As a convalescent food there is nothing to be compared to Dr. Chase's Nerve Food. Gradually and certainly this treatment enriches the weak, watery blood, restores vitality to the wasted nervous system and builds up the body generally.

If you are pale, weak, nervous, irritable and unable to sleep or eat there is health and strength awaiting you in the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

Mrs. J. Hatcher, 224 Sherbrooke street, Peterboro', Ont., and whose husband is a moulder at the Hamilton Foundry, states: "I had an attack of inflammatory rheumatism, which left me in a very run-down state of health, and in fact my whole nervous system seemed exhausted and worn out. I could not sleep, and at times the pains in my head were almost unbearable. As a result of these symptoms I was unable to attend to my housework, and felt miserable most of the time.

On the advice of a friend, I began using Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, and can say that it has proved of very great benefit to me. I am able to do my own work now, and feel stronger and healthier than I have for years. I can truthfully state that this is due to the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, which I consider a great health builder."

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, 50 cents a box, six boxes for $2.50, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto. To protect you against imitations, the portrait and signature of Dr. A. W. Chase, the famous receipt book author, are on every box.

About the ....House

HOME MADE RUGS.

Mrs. Candace Wheeler, well known as a promoter of women's industries and for her articles on and designs for home decoration, has written a book on "How to Make Rugs" in which she suggests that the weaving of rag rugs might solve the problem of how to earn an independent income for some women in farm homes.

Just at present, rag rugs are quite "the proper thing" for the floors of country and seaside cottages for piazzas, for bedrooms, and bathrooms, and for general use. They have been found to be durable, suitable and economical for such purposes, and have been seen on sale at the warerooms of one of the largest decorating firms in this city. The rugs are woven out of new rags, in two-yard lengths, with border and fringe at each end, and are not only useful but salable.

Rag carpets have been made for many years and almost every country neighborhood has even got its "weaver"—who is usually overcrowded with work, and has no time for rug-weaving. It would be possible to set up a new industry without infringing upon the established one. Few old looms still exist, unfortunately; the era of cheap jute and ingrain carpets brought most of them to the wood-pile, and the secret of the only difficult part of weaving, the warping, or placing the warp in the loom, died with the women who years ago, wrought upon them. There are still looms to be purchased, however, and where an old loom still stands the secret of warping may be learned from the nearest weaver.

THE FIRST NECESSITY,

after the loom, is the carpet warp, which can be bought at any country store—a fact which shows the prevalence of home weaving. The warp can be bought in white or colors, the latter being not always reliable. One of the chief recommendations of these rugs is that they are washable, therefore the colors must be fast and not fade or "run."

Mrs. Wheeler recommends the coloring of warp and rags at home, by the old-fashioned process, which produced fast colors. Some of the aniline dyes fade, and rugs that fade would soon bring discredit on the entire industry. A faded warp is especially detrimental to the good looks of a rug. A good indigo blue will neither run nor fade, and a number of shades can be produced with indigo. Mrs. Wheeler says that orange and a very deep red are the only two colors in warp that she has found reasonably fast, and the orange "runs" so badly that it must be steeped in warm water before using; and she adds that she has used the water in which it has been steeped to dye cotton rags, which take a good lemon yellow from it. Orange red, and the crimson red known as cardinal she excepts from the usual commercial dyes. By dipping orange warp in indigo blue a fast, bright green can be secured, and this with the colors mentioned, give a choice of five colors—green, blue, orange, red and white.

Rugs intended for sale must be made of new rags, and here the question of economy must be considered. The waste from cotton mills can be bought for from ten to twelve cents per pound, and consists for the most part of piece ends,—the imperfect beginnings and endings that must be torn off when the piece is made up. This makes an ideal

MATERIAL FOR WEAVING.

Cotton bought by the yard is more expensive, and it would be necessary to figure out the cost and see whether rugs could be made at a profit by using it. To many it would seem a crime to buy new goods to tear up into carpet rags. Bought by the piece, the goods would come cheaper.

The old fashioned way of sewing carpet rags will not answer in this new departure. The filling must be smooth, without lumps or ends. If the pieces are large enough the edges may be lapped and sewed on the machine; the lap should be from a quarter to half an inch, and be sewed twice. The cloth can then be torn the seams being cut with the scissors; the work is expeditiously done, and a smooth finish secured. The rags should be torn instead of cut, wherever possible, as uniform width is thus secured. In ordinary cotton cloth an inch is recommended as the most suitable width. A pound and a half of cotton rags will make a yard of yard-wide weaving.

The simplest weaving, says Mrs. Wheeler, is warp of indigo blue and white filling. There must be an allowance of five inches of warp for fringe before the weaving is begun, and ten inches between the first and second rugs, to make the fringe for each. The rug should measure three feet by six, without the fringe. The latter is to be knotted, six threads to a knot. Such a rug can be as easily washed as a counterpane, or may be thrown on the grass during a heavy shower and be thus washed.

Variations on this are easily made. One way is to use half a pound of blue rags to the two and a half required to make up the three pounds of filling required for a six foot rug. This blue material must be distributed through the rug evenly, and a good way is to divide each color into three portions so there is an equal share of the blue in each third of the rug.

A BORDER AT EACH END.

may be made by weaving in from eight to ten or even more threads of blue or any desired color, and scattering the rest "haphazard" in short lengths through the body of the rug. Dark and light blue rugs on a white warp make an effective rug, and where much blue denim is worn the material is easily secured. In any except a blue rug a stripe of red in the border is effective. A red warp with a white filling will make a pink rug; if begun and finished with a half inch weaving of the red used for warp, with the red fringe a pretty border is provided for. The rule is a light warp with dark filling, and dark warp with light or white filling.

Larger rugs can be made by sewing breadths together and adding a border. Mrs. Wheeler advocates the buying of cheap, coarse muslins and calicoes which can be bought at from four to five cents a yard. From eight to ten yards, according to fineness, will make a yard of weaving. Very cheap unbleached cotton, that approaching the quality called cheesecloth, dyes well and makes a light, strong, elastic rug.

A well made rag rug will sell for $2; if prettily made in colors, from $2.50 to $3.50. Some on which extra work is expended and which are artistic in color, will bring $4 to $6. The average to be reckoned is about $2.

Mrs. Wheeler says that her most successful rag rug is a cardinal red woven on white warp. It was made of white rags treated with cardinal red diamond dye, and was purposely made uneven—that is, pains were taken to let the rags shade in color from dark to light. The border consists of two four-inch stripes of "hit or miss" green, white and red rags, placed four inches from either end, with an inch stripe of red between, the ends finished with a white knotted fringe.

CHOICE RECIPES.

Ginger Snaps—Mix one-half pound of butter with one and one-half cups sugar, add one and a half teaspoonfuls of baking soda dissolved in hot water, three eggs, season with ground ginger, and add one cup of flour. Roll thin, cut as desired, and bake in a quick oven.

Cup Pudding—Take two eggs, one cup of melted butter, one cup of sweet milk and one cup raisins seeded and chopped, two cups of flour, two teaspoons baking powder mixed with flour and a little salt. Half fill the cups and steam four minutes. Serve with sauce.

Chocolate Filing—Heat one cup of milk and two tablespoonfuls of grated chocolate together, then add three-fourths of a cup of sugar and yolks of three eggs beaten to a cream. Flavor with vanilla and bake with under crust, with a meringe of the whites spread over the top.

A tempting pick-me-up for an invalid can be prepared by beating up the white of a new-laid egg, add the yolk, together with a spoonful of wine or brandy, a little castor sugar, nutmeg, and vanilla essence to taste, beat well, and serve in a breakfast cup with a few wafer biscuits.

Tea Biscuit—Take one-half cup sugar, a piece of butter the size of an egg (melted), one egg not beaten, then add one cup of milk, a little nutmeg, mix them together and stir into three cupfuls sifted flour, into which you have put two and one-half teaspoonfuls of baking powder.

A simple and most beneficial remedy for catarrh or cold in the head is to mix about 15 drops of eucalyptus oil in a teaspoonful of vaseline and rub a little inside the nostrils at night before retiring to bed. In this way the fumes of the oil are inhaled all night while the patient is asleep.

Imperial Soup—Cook a sliced onion and carrot in one teaspoonful of butter three minutes, then add one quart stock. Cook fifteen minutes, strain, and add one pint of milk, one tablespoonful each of flour and butter blend rubber and salt, then add four tablespoonfuls grated cheese. Cook ten minutes.

HINTS TO HOUSEKEEPERS.

To remove the white spots from zinc-lined sinks, or from stove zincs, rub with a cloth wet with kerosene, says a correspondent of the Practical Farmer.

A cooking school teacher cautions her pupils against stirring oatmeal while it is cooking, as doing so makes it pasty. Oatmeal, to be at best estate, ought to be cooked slowly, three or four hours.

The always at hand sulphur match is the most convenient thing for removing ink stains from the fingers. Moisten the sulphur end with cold water and rub the stain until it disappears.

Bake apples for breakfast. Bake them the day before, if you haven't time to do it before the meal, and if the family prefer them warm, just set them in the warmer. Serve with nice sweet cream and you have a healthful, appetizing dish, which tends to reduce the quantity of meat eaten. After one is 30, the tendency of the average individual is to eat more meat than is good for him. The baked apples supply the digestive tract with fruit acids, which aid digestion and supply mineral salts also. Not always baked apples, but fried apples and apple sauce—apple sauce cooked slowly for some time till rich and jelly-like.

A CRISIS IN WOMAN'S LIFE.

There are Backaches and Headaches and Days When Life Seems Scarcely Worth Living.

There comes a time in the life of all women when they are face to face with a grave crisis; when there are distressing backaches, headaches, dizziness; when even some women are threatened with the loss of their reason; when they suffer because they are women. The happiness of women for the rest of their lives depends upon being safely tided over this crisis. Dr. Williams Pink Pills have proved a blessing to women at all ages, and are particularly valuable at two critical periods—when girlhood is merging into womanhood and when women are approaching the turn of life. These pills make the rich, red blood that stimulates all the organs of the body, expels disease and makes the weary sufferer bright, active and strong. Mrs. A. Jones, Cypress River, Man., says:—"Out of gratefulness I feel that I must let you know the good Dr. Williams Pink Pills have done me. For years I suffered from inflammation of the womb and kindred troubles. Only those who have been similarly afflicted can tell how much I suffered, or how dreary life seemed. I tried many medicines but none of them helped me. Then I was advised to try Dr. Williams Pink Pills. I am grateful now for that advice, for after using about a dozen boxes every symptom of the trouble disappeared and life again seemed worth living. It is now several years since I took the pills, and as there has been no sign of the trouble since, I feel safe in saying the cure is permanent."

What these pills have done for Mrs. Jones they will do for all suffering women if given a fair trial. But you must get the genuine with the full name "Dr. Williams Pink Pills for Pale People" on the wrapper around every box. Sold by all medicine dealers or sent by mail post paid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for $2.50 by writing The Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

JAPAN'S MARY JANE.

Politeness distinguishes the relations between mistresses and maids in Japan. Even the ceremony of "giving notice" is turned into an occasion for compliments. A servant will never tell her mistress that she is dissatisfied, that would be unpardonably rude. Instead, she asks for a few days' leave of absence. This is willingly granted, for Japanese servants have no settled time for taking holidays. At the end of the given time the mistress will begin to wonder what has become of the girl. A letter arrives, couched in the most polite and humble terms, and giving any excuse but the real one. Sometimes it will be that she has found herself too weak for service, or that illness at home detains her. Whatever it may be, the plea is never contested, but accepted, as final, and a new servant engaged. Then, after some weeks have passed, the old servant will turn up one day, express her thanks for past kindnesses, will take her arrears of wages and her bundles, and disappear for ever. So the matter ends, with the semblance of kindest feeling on both sides.

Cholly (examining first print from the negative):—"Isn't there some way to make my moustache show a little plainer ?" Photographer:—"Why, yes; you might wait a few years and then come again."

EXPERIENCED MOTHERS.

Experienced mothers know that most of the troubles that afflict young children are due to some derangement of the stomach or bowels, and that if the cause is removed the little one will be plump, rosy and happy. For such troubles as indigestion, colic, constipation, diarrhoea, simple fevers and teething troubles there is no medicine in the world can equal Baby's Own Tablets. The action of the Tablets is speedy, and above all things safe, as they contain not one particle of opiate or harmful drug. Ask any mother who has used the Tablets and she will say that they are the best medicine in the world. Mrs. John Gill, Cranberry, Que., says:—"After having thoroughly tested Baby's Own Tablets I can say they are the best remedy for the ailments of little ones I have ever used. No mother should be without them in the house." You can get the Tablets from any druggist or they will be sent by mail at 25 cents a box by writing The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

LESSENING THE SENTENCE.

A judge in Vienna recently had before him a prisoner against whom there were over 400 charges of theft. He was convicted of all of them, and if he had been sentenced for the full term of punishment he would be doomed to 2,500 years' imprisonment; but the judge's heart melted, and, in passing sentence, he took off 1,000 years.

DR. A. W. CHASE'S CATARRH CURE ... 25c.

is sent direct to the diseased parts by the Improved Blower. Heals the ulcers, clears the air passages, stops droppings in the throat and permanently cures Catarrh and Hay Fever. Blower free. All dealers, or Dr. A. W. Chase Medicine Co., Toronto and Buffalo.