# HOUSEHOLD.

### Send Them to Bed With a Kiss.

O mothers, so weary, discouraged,
Worn out with the cares of the day,
You often grow cross and impatient,
Complain of the noise and the play;
For the day brings so many vexations,
So many things going amiss,
But mothers, whatever may vex you,
Send the children to bed with a kiss!

The dear little feet wander often,
Perhaps from the pathway of right;
The dear little hands find new mischief
To try you from morning till night.
But think of the desolate mothers
Who'd give all the world for your bliss,
And, as thanks for your infinite blessings,
Send the children to bed with a kiss!

For some day their noise will not vex you,
The silence will hurt you far more.
You will long for the sweet, childish voices,
For a sweet childish face at the door.
You'll press a child's face to your bosom
You'd give all the world just for this:
For the comfort 'twill bring in your sorrow,
Send the children to bed with a kiss!

FLORENCE A. JONES.

### Home Culture.

There are many persons who profess to look upon all new isms and theories with contempt, and who lose no opportunity to ridicule and make absurd any movement that leads towards the cultivation of the finer qualities of humanity and the more delicate phases of the mental and physical being. They condemn refined ideas as "nonsensical," which is, to them, the extreme of weakness and foolishness.

It cannot be denied that there is room for great improvement in the habits and manners of the masses of the people, and that anything tending in direction of reforming or reforming them should be hailed with delight and encouraged in every possible way. Instead of this, there are burlesques, caricatures and a general cheapening of those things which every intelligent person should regard as among the fundamental principles of correct and judicious living.

History and observation prove that nearly all radical reformers have been at first ridiculed, and new ideas almost always received with suspicion, if not with the most outspoken opposition. The fine old aristocrats of the *ancien regime* of France had no sooner torn utter, no ridicule too superior, when the first mention of "liberty, equality and fraternity" was made in the opening days of the French Revolution; still their scorn and ridicule gave way before the mighty effort of a long-suffering populace, over-radical though that effort became. When any such ridicule obstructs the advance of educational principles and strengthens the bonds that bind us to ignorance and awkwardness, it is time for every self-respecting element of society to stepped in to interfere and to bring to bear every influence that will further the work of elevating and refining the world. Objection to a better state of things affected only the mature portion of society, there would be less reason for regret; but when it delays the development and retards the progress of the younger members of the community, it is almost in the nature of a calamity.

There are families all over our land in which the boys and girls keep along in all sorts of careless habits and ill-bred practices simply because they not only have no encouragement from their elders to do better but would certainly be made the subjects of ridicule if they attempted to change their ways. If the boy takes pains to brush his hair, keep his hands and finger nails clean, his boots polished and his clothes free from dust, someone say, "dandy, dude" or "swell" and hints about "the best girl," or sneeringly whisper "mas's baby" or "pretty boy," then goes off into paroxysms of laughter. No sensitive boy will willingly subject himself to such annoyances as these, and there is little wonder that, after a few such experiments, he grows careless and indifferent, and at last loses all regard for his personal appearance and grows up that most disagreeable of all creatures, a slovenly, untidy man, one who is tolerated from necessity, but not welcomed with enthusiasm.

We have in mind the case of a boy of eighteen living not outside of a city, who possessed a mind naturally turning to the external refinements. His home—for such a nature was distressed by some necessary humiliations imposed on him, by a father who—heaven was filled with an appreciation that his son "might" a plough." To avert this possibility, the parent, though wealthy in this world's goods, would hand for evermore to send his boy to town in a rickety cart, though he owned a neat buggy which would have usually served the purpose as well as the cart.

It is the duty of every parent to see to it that the boy is equally educated in culture and good manners with the coal, and that in no case should there be the least discouragement to improvement permitted, but on the contrary, every indication of attention to personal appearance and the cultivation of a refined and polished demeanor should be encouraged in the warmest terms.

If, as is sometimes the case, the parents are ignorant of or indifferent to the nicer shades of propriety, there is every more need for upholding the boy in his desire to rise above his surroundings; and if he gets his inspiration outside of the family, surely his parents should be the last to reprove or make sport of him. It is very well for them to say that what is good enough for father is good enough for son, but this statement will not bear analysis. What is good enough for the present let no parent make the mistake of trying to harness his son to the usages and traditions of the past. The boys and nothing but the present of nineteenth century progress.

### Untruthful Children.

Some one asked Miss Harrison, the superintendent of the Kindergarten College, in Chicago, what she would do with a child who told lies.

Miss Harrison does not believe in corporal punishment for any delinquency.

She said: "It would depend entirely upon the sort of a lie it was." Her advice in substance was like this:

Lying is too often treated locally, when it should be constitutionally treated. There are almost as many different sorts of lies as there are different sorts of fevers.

For example, exaggeration which comes from excess of imagination. That is to be cured by teaching accuracy of observation. Make the child count all the chairs in the room. Make him hold steadily to proven facts in everything.

Then there is the lie of egotism, which is always claiming everything for itself. Ignore the story. Make it seem not worth his while.

The lie which denies is the fault of other people. Punishment has been given arbitrarily. That is to be corrected in the guardian.

The hardest fault to correct in a child, or any one else is the deep lie of jealousy, the malicious lie. It always comes from jealousy and there seems to be only one possible remedy. Get the jealous child to do some service for the other. Make him participate in the other's life, in some way become a partner, as it were, and the jealousy ceases.

### Curing Meats.

The farmer need not refuse to eat sausages because he does not know what is in them, nor like the old gentleman decline to eat them because he "made his knowledge out of them." The home-made sausage it made after a good rule is a most excellent dish for a cold day and for those who have good digestion. It suffers more often from combination with other food of too much the same kind than because it is in itself extremely indigestible. It is not hygienic wisdom to eat hot cakes or mince pie with fried sausage, but with food that is unlike itself it has a place in cold weather foods. In preparing the meat, it is best to use one-third fat to two-thirds lean meat. A certain lady gives as a safe rule in seasoning sausage meat, one even tablespoonful of salt, one teaspoonful of sage, and a scant half teaspoonful of white pepper to each pound of meat.

Miss Corson's rule is: Use the lean trimmings of fresh pork and from one-half to one-quarter of their weight in clear firm fat cut from the back or from some part of the carcass near the skin. Therefore to 12 pounds of lean pork add three of clear fat; chop or grind the meat until very fine, removing all tough portions. Season with one cup each of salt and powdered sweet herbs (chiefly sage) two even teaspoonfuls of cayenne and four of black pepper. After the meat is thoroughly chopped and seasoned try a little piece by frying, to see if the seasoning is right. Sausage meat can be salted in bags and smoked like hams.

The favorite rule of the "Interest" will bear repeating this year for the benefit of those who are new subscribers for it is warranted. To 30 pounds of meat take 10 ounces of salt, three ounces of sage and one and one-half ounces of pepper, two level tablespoonfuls of allspice and one cup of sugar. The meat should be cut in small pieces and the seasoning sprinkled over it and well worked through it before it goes into the meat grinder. The meat should never be chopped too fine. Always cut the sausage making it appear in small pieces and mix thoroughly with the seasoning and above all to be exact in the measuring of the meat and the seasoning; then there will be no need of cooking and tasting it to see if it is just right.

The sage should be home grown, dried in the shade, then rubbed out and sifted and kept tightly corked in bottles. Most housekeepers now put their sausage meat up in bags. Take a strip of strong cotton cloth and measure around the top of a tea cup then tear the cloth of the same width. Sew up on the machine, dip in strong brine and dry before filling. Tie up one end of the bag and then fill with meat, crowding it in as hard as possible; tie the remaining end and put in a cool dry place. When the meat is used open one end rip the seam a little way and turn back. Cut the slices a little more than an inch thick for frying.

Another simple rule for a small quantity of meat that will be used in a short time is: Two pounds and a half of pork, three-quarters lean and one quarter fat. Mince this meat as fine as possible with a machine; it should be ground almost to a paste. Add a heaping tablespoonful of salt, a tablespoonful of black pepper, a tablespoonful of powdered sage, and a scant teaspoonful of summer savory. Mix all the ingredients through the meat with the hands turning it again until evenly seasoned. Roll the sausage meat into balls.

HOME-MADE DRIED BEEF.—Select a nice round of beef—better from a young animal—divide it into two pieces, following the natural line of cellular tissue; be careful so not to make any cuts or gashes for the fly to burrow in. Then for fifty pounds of the meat make a mixture of two pounds of fine salt, one ounce of powdered saltpetre, and one and a half pounds of brown sugar. Rub this mixture well into the meat every morning until used up, and at the end of two weeks hang up in a smoke house to smoke slightly or just enough to be tasted. Excess of smoke is not generally relished. It may be left hanging in any dry place away from flies. If it moulds a little on the outside that will not hurt.

CURING HAMS.—This is said to be the way in which the famous Westphalia hams are cured: They are first rubbed with dry salt and left to drain for twenty-four hours. Four quarts of salt, three pounds of brown sugar, one pound of saltpetre, four ounces of sal prunella, and four ounces of juniper berries are bruised and well-mixed together and boiled in six quarts of water. The brine is then cooled and skimmed. The hams are taken from the salt and wiped dry, and the cold pickle is poured over them and well rubbed into the meat. They are then smoked a little every day for three months until completely dry, when they will keep sound and improve in flavor for years. Hams shrink in smoking about 10 per cent. in weight while pickled or salted pork gains about 10 per cent.

### Tested Receipts.

MOCHER SNOW.—Scald three cups of milk and mix one half cup of cornstarch with one cup of milk, using one quart of milk in all. Stir the diluted cornstarch into the hot milk adding also two tablespoonfuls of sugar. Cook fifteen minutes then add the white of three eggs beaten stiff and pour into a mould. Chill and serve.

In using cornstarch there is always a danger of cooking it too short a time thus leaving it indigestible and with a raw taste. Cornstarch is not cooked when it is swollen as too many cooks are apt to think for starch to be digestible ought to be subjected to heat about 20 minutes.

This pudding is prettily moulded in a large melon mould.

LEMON SYRUP.—Take the juice of six lemons and the grated rind of two, add one pint of water and one pound of sugar, boil ten minutes, strain and when cold bottle and cork tightly. Two tablespoonfuls in a glass of water makes a delicious drink.

ORANGE SYRUP.—Take the juice of six oranges and the grated rind of two, add one pint of water and one pound of sugar, boil ten minutes, strain and when cold bottle and cork tightly. Two tablespoonfuls in a glass of water makes a delicious drink.

LEMON SNAPS.—Two cups of sugar, one cup of butter, two eggs, one cup of sour milk, one teaspoonful of soda, flour enough to roll out thin, flavor with lemon and bake in a quick oven.

CHOCOLATE SAUCE.—This is to be served with the moulded snow and is an effective contrast. It may be served cold. Mix one rounding tablespoonful of cornstarch with one-quarter cup of milk and stir in one and three quarters cups of scalded milk. Melt two squares of chocolate, and four tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar and two of hot water, cook until smooth then add to the first mixture.

Beat the whites of two eggs stiff, add gradually two-thirds cup of powdered sugar, then the unbeaten yolks of the two eggs. Stir into the cooked mixture, cook one minute stirring constantly. Add one teaspoonful of vanilla.

When using powdered sugar always sift it before measuring or you will have too large a quantity. Melt the chocolate in a little saucepan set over boiling water. Add flavoring to mixtures after they have cooled but if it must be added to a hot mixture you must use more.

LEMON ICE CREAM.—Soak one-half pound of pearl tapioca over night in one and one-half cups of cold water and cook in a double boiler until transparent then add one-half cup of sugar, and the juice and grated rind of a lemon; turn into small moulds. Chill and turn to a glass dish garnished with apricots and whipped cream, sweetened and flavored with chopped walnuts and vanilla.

HONEYCOMB PUDDING.—Beat together one-half cup of sugar and a cup each of molasses and flour. Heat one-half cup of milk and one-half cup of butter, add a teaspoonful of soda. Combine the mixture and beat again. Pour into a buttered pudding mould and steam, three hours or turn into a dish and bake one and one-half hours. This pudding is more successfully steamed; than baked, it requires a very slow oven in order to be just right.

CREAMERY SAUCE.—Beat one quarter cup of butter, add slowly one-half cup of powdered sugar. Then add two tablespoonfuls each of wine, and cream or milk very slowly just before serving, stir over hot water until smooth.

ALMOND CUSTARDS.—Make a boiled custard with one pint of milk, the yolks of four eggs, four tablespoonfuls of sugar and one saltspoonful of salt. When cold add one-half cup of finely-chopped almonds and one teaspoonful of vanilla. Serve in glasses with whipped cream sprinkled with finely-shredded almonds.

In making a boiled custard the yolks give a smoother consistency than the white. Beat the eggs with a spoon until smooth and the unvarying rule is to allow a tablespoonful of sugar to each egg.

To blanch almonds pour boiling water over and let them stand ten minutes; drain, cover with cold water and then remove the skins. To shred almonds cut them in fine engthwise strips with a sharp knife.

### The Phenomena of Light.

Several theories have been advanced by the scientists to account for the fact that we have the ever present phenomena known as "light."

The two principal of the many reasons thus set forth by the learned gentlemen who have devoted their lives to such investigation are the emission or corpuscular theory, and that known as the undulatory theory.

The principles of the emission theory originated in the fertile brain of the philosopher, Descartes, who was born way back in 1596. But little attention was paid this peculiar theory at that time, and it and Descartes were both almost forgotten when, about 60 years later, Sir Isaac Newton appeared upon the scene and enunciated the same doctrine.

According to these eminent men, light consists of small particles emitted by luminous bodies, the velocity of its transmission mainly regulating the colors.

The undulatory theory, that now is most generally accepted by the scientific world, teaches that the space between the celestial bodies is occupied by an imponderable ether and that the luminosity of a body is supposed to be rapid vibratory motion proceeding from the body in question to the eye.

The waves of light proceed in all directions from every luminous point in straight lines; the motions of its particles being supposed to undulate in a transverse direction to the lines in which the light travels.

The velocity of light is so great that the human mind cannot grasp an idea of the rapidity with which light travels.

According to the best authorities attainable to the writer the distance traveled by a beam of light in a single second of time is 139,000 miles. The distance is so great that no perceptible space of time would be occupied in its passage between any two given points on the earth's surface.

### The Height of Courtesy.

The Queen of Saxony is passionately fond of children, perhaps for the very reason that she has none of her own. Accordingly, she never fails to caress a baby when she gets a chance. Once, when taking a stroll in the park at Dresden, she accosted a nurse with a couple of splendid babies in her arms. "Oh! the lovely pets!" she said: "Twins, no doubt?"

"Yes, your Majesty."

"Their father must be very proud of them."

"This one's father certainly is: but the other one's father has just died."

"But you told me they were twins!"

Then the nurse blushed and said, "I beg pardon, it was not myself who said so, but your Majesty, and—I didn't dare to contradict you."

# YOUNG FOLKS.

### Polly and the Baby.

I'm going after some nuts," said Jack.
"You come, too."
"No," said Polly. "It's no fun when you've got to tug along with a baby."

Polly however, took little Joe from the cradle, where he sat trying to get both plump fists into his mouth at once, and scolding each one in turn because he couldn't, and went to see Jack fix his wagon and harness.

It really was very interesting. A soap-box on wheels made as good a wagon as any one would wish to see. Rover was having his harness fitted, lying down about half a dozen times just as it was most needful that he should stand up.

At last it was finished. Jim, Polly's brother next older than the baby, got into the wagon, Jack led Rover by a string, and he trotted off as soberly as any old nag.

All the children were delighted, and, Polly, forgetting how heavy little Joe was, followed the boys until they were almost to the grove.

"You might as well come a little farther now you're so far," said Jack.

"I'm so tired carrying the baby!"

"Put him in the wagon," suggested Jack.

"Oh, he might get hurt."

"He couldn't," said Jack, positively.

"See, I'll tie Rover here to this tree, and he'll lie down as quiet as a mice. Rover always likes lying down better'n doing anything else."

Polly looked around. It was not a public road they were in, only a path, with a green field on one side and a steep grassy bank on the other. No cows were in the field, and none could come up that bank.

Jack took off his coat and laid it in the wagon for baby to sit on. Baby was crowing and laughing like a little cherub, as he was.

They strayed into the grove, Jack throwing sticks and stones to bring down the nuts, which Polly and Jim picked up.

Polly turned often to look at baby, running back once or twice to make sure he was all right. She found his eyes closing, and laid him tenderly down in the wagon, with the coat for a pillow. Then she ran back to where she had left the boys, and soon forgot to notice how far off they were getting.

"There's some berries in the lot beyond," said Jack, "It won't take long for us to get 'em."

Baby was out of sight now, and Polly felt uneasy about going any further from him. Rover'll take just as good care of baby as you will," Jack said.

So Polly went for the berries. But before long Jack turned his head to listen.

"What's that?" he said.

"It's Rover barking," cried Polly, running with all her might.

The boys followed her. Polly screamed when at length Rover came in view.

He had caught sight of a rabbit, and was tearing along like a wild creature.

After him came the wagon, bouncing and bumping from one tree to another, now dragged on one side, now on the other, now up-side down. Polly and the boys screamed to him, but the more they screamed the faster he dashed on. Crash went the wagon top gone, bottom gone, wheels gone at last, just as Rover took a jump over the fence into the field where the berries grew.

Where was the baby?

As the rabbit had shown his pink-lined ears Rover had sprung forward with a bound which jerked the waggon high into the air. Out went baby rolling over and over down the steep bank. He reached the bottom of it before he was fairly awake. He rubbed his eyes, found that he was not hurt and sat still for a moment, perhaps wondering what was coming next, and then set up such a roar from his red lips that all the people in the nearest house ran to see what could be the matter. It was Mrs. Jones's house, and baby's mother was there, and she was the first one to reach him. She picked him up and carried him home.

An hour later three sorry-looking children, with swollen eyes and feet aching with walking about hunting for the baby, came and peeped in the door.

Baby was there, trying as hard as before to get both fists into his mouth, and scolding just as hard because he couldn't.

Polly made a rush at him.

"O baby! I'll never, never leave you again that way as long as you live!"

### What The King Saw.

The historical King is sometimes very much like the small boy who hates to be disappointed, and when suffering from affliction must have some new and special amusement provided for him. The grand monarch, Louis XIV. of France, who was not so grand on a close view, did something very much like sulking one very hot day when the heat prevented him from going out hunting. It was to have been such a splendid party, pointed the pleasure loving King, arranged by himself entirely to his own satisfaction; and the game was so fine near the chateau of Marly, where the court was then settled; but this miserable heat must come and spoil everything.

What about the poor people in those narrow streets and lanes of Paris, parching and dying for a breath of pure air, and a sight of the green trees and lawns that made Marly so beautiful? Ah! that, as the King would have said, was une autre chose—to-day the Majesty of France wished to go hunting and was disappointed. He had a great many playthings of various kinds, this disappointed King, but he frowned at all suggestions, and would amuse himself with none of them.

He did not exactly flatten his nose against the window-pane, after the manner of a spoiled small boy when the elements combine to make his life a burden, but he hung very heavily on the hands of his courtiers, who felt that this Majesty must be amused at any price. Some brighter spirit than the rest finally suggested a grand telescope which belonged to great a geographer, and this fine instrument was brought to Marly, and put in position for the King to gaze through it to a distance of ten miles in all directions. Its power was wonderful enabling the gazer even to distinguish the features of people at that great distance.

The King's new playing was quite as absorbing as the hunt, and for a long time he gazed spellbound through the wonderful glass. The anxious courtiers began to breathe more freely, and blessed the telescope and its inventor, when suddenly his Majesty turned very pale, dropped the glass which had yielded him so much pleasure, and ordered Count de G——to have a horse saddled, and to summon ten files of the cavalry, which he himself would command.

Forgetting his late indifference and dissatisfaction, Louis XIV. sprang into the saddle and rode furiously along the back of the Seine, with the cavalry close in the rear. Before long these wild riders encountered three young men who were coming towards them on foot. These pedestrians, who were dressed like country people, seemed to be in a hurry, and were quite excited on seeing the royal cavalry approaching them with the King at their head.

His Majesty ordered a halt, and said to the peasants, greatly to their surprise, "An hour since you three were bathing in the river, just beyond the village of Maisons."

The men assented, and the King ordered Count de G——to arrest them at once. No one dared to question his Majesty's orders, but all were greatly puzzled at the strange proceedings to which the telescope seemed to have led. The general supposition was that by its aid the King had discovered a plot against his own life, and chose to arrest the criminals himself to make sure of them.

The men were criminals beyond a doubt, but they had no design on the life of the King. They had just drowned, on a pretext of bathing in the Seine, their young stepbrother, who was their father's favorite and fearing that he would get most of the property, they resolved to make away with him. Having dressed themselves and hid their brother's clothes, they were walking along the street in fancied security when they were so unexpectedly confronted by the King and his soldiers.

Louis XIV. had seen through the geographer's telescope the drowning of the poor boy by his unnatural brothers, and while his face blanched at the sight, he determined to prevent the escape of the murderers. The guilty men were startled and thrown off their guard on their arrest by the King, which seemed to them like the vengeance of Heaven, that they confessed their crime, and all three were executed at once. If his Majesty's hunting party had not been put off, in all probability the crime would never have been discovered.—[Harper's Young People.

### Woman's Sphere.

They talk about a woman's sphere
As though it had a limit;
There's not a hundred-dollar gown,
There's not a bargain stone in town,
There's not a style from any source,
There's not an action for divorce
Without a woman in it.

If a man did not glory in his own wickedness he would accuse the devil of being a woman.

# POETRY.

### Our Minister.

The minister said, said he,
Don't be afraid of giving;
If your life ain't no use to somebody else,
You mustn't think you're living!
There's Brown, the miserable sinner,
He'd sooner a beggar would starve than give
A cent toward buyin' a dinner.

I tell you our minister's prime, he is,
He don't mince matters, determine,
When I heard him a-givin' it right and left,
Just who was hit by the sermon,
Of course there could be no mistake
When he talked of 'long-winded prayin',
For Peters and Johnson sat and scowled
At every word he was sayin'.

And the mint-ter he went on to say:
"There's various kinds of cheatin',
And religion's as good for every day
As 'tis to bring to meetin'.
I don't think much of a man that gives
The Lord anuse at my pleasure,
And spends his time the followin' week
In cheatin' and over reachin'."

I guess that dose was bitter enough
For a man like Jones to swallow;
But I noticed he didn't open his mouth
Not once after that to holler.
He urnah! says I, for the minister—
I guess I'll quit—
Give us some more of this open talk;
It's very refreshing diet.

The minister hit it every time,
And when he spoke of fashion,
And religion's put in bows and things,
As woman's ruling passion,
And a-comin' to church to see the styles,
I couldn't help a-smilin',
And a-nud'gin' my wife, and says I, "That's you."
I guess that set her thinkin'.

Says I to myself, "That sermon's pat."
And I'm much afraid that most o' the folks
Won't take the application,
Now if he'd stand up and word about
My personal mode o' sinnin'
I'd have gone to work to right myself,
And not set there a-grinnin'.

Just then the mint-ter says, says he,
"And now I've come to the fellers
Who've lost this shower by usin' their friends
As sort o' moral umbrellas.
Go home," says he, "and wear the coats
You've tried to fit for others."

My wife she nudged, and Brown he winked,
And there was lots o' smilin',
And lots o' looking down the pew;
It set my blood to biliin'.
Says I to myself, our minister
Is getting his matters mixed,
I'll to him when meetin's out that I
Ain't to call that kind of a critter.

### Safely Garnered.

"Was she your only child?" asked I,
"My only one," the answer brief;
And yet he spoke without a sigh.
Without a touch of grief.
He said the words with quiet smile.
I paused, and wondered for a while.

I marveled at that quiet tone,
In which no shade of sorrow lay;
And thought of darlings of my own,
Of laughing faces gay.
And yet not one amongst all there,
Not one, I'm sure, that I could spare.

"You need not grieve for me," said he;
"Your little ones are more blessed;
This darling child, so dear to me,
Has entered into rest.
Amid the joys that never fade,
She dwells for aye, my little maid,

I saw him raise his grey and hand
Up to the quiet summer skies—
Up to the sinless, better land,
To where his treasure lies.
Where sin is unstirring, life is fleet,
She treads the City's wondrous street.

"Your little ones," he still went on,
May live to feel life's toil and care;
But where my little child has gone,
Thank God, no pain is there.
No shade to dim the starry eyes,
In the deep calm of Paradise.

"The coming years will changes bring;
Your little ones will older grow.
But she is still the little thing
I took so long ago.
Forever, in the higher place,
She'll bear the dear and changeless face."

Too true! Down here the years roll on,
And hearts grow hardened and defiled,
Sin wrecks yet some little one—
The pure heart of a child.
No deeds that he need wish undone;
A very blameless little one.

I took the picture up again;
Too fair, too fair, those childish eyes,
To dim and sorrow with the pain
That in this old world lies.
Too free from sin—too free from tears.
To shadow with the toil of years.

"We strive and argue here below
Of mysteries beyond our ken;
But she, my little maid, doth know
The things that puzzle men.
To this young child, they have been clear
For many and for many a year."

O child, whose feet have touched that strand
Beyond the river's restless tide,
Speak to us of the Fatherland,
To Life Hereafter's eventide!
To guide us where thy feet have trod,
Up to the unknown home of God.

[Ladies' Home Journal.

### Lake Ontario.

Deep roll thy waves, Ontario,
White-crested, angry, wild,
They dash upon thy pebbled shore,
Defiance in their sullen roar:
Old ocean's land-locked child.
Ontario!

Low hang the storm-clouds o'er thy breast,
Black curtains of the sky,
Till rent with lightning's vivid flash,
The winds, let loose, the water-lash
And toss the white spray high.
Ontario!

Amid the strife of wind and wave
The rain comes rushing down,
And adds its ceaseless, hissing sound
To that of tumult all around,
And weaker waiting drown.
Ontario!

Like some rebellious spirit thou,
With Discontent enthroned
Within thy heart, or is the source
Of all this fury wild remorse,
For sin to be atoned?
Ontario!

For 'neath thy waves, Ontario,
Dark secret surely rest;
Thy curling, foam-capped billows flow,
Above deep mysteries hid below,
And yet to be confessed.
Ontario!

Now calm thy waves, Ontario,
No storm-winds round thee rave;
Upon thy smiling, azure breast
The wild bird, weary, stops to rest
And dip its pinion in thy wave.
Ontario!

Across thy bosom white-sails speed,
Fair messengers of trade;
And on the breeze the sailor's song
Comes merrily, yet solemn, along,
To cheer the sly the milkmaid.
Ontario!

A sail, a skiff, a cloud of smoke
That marks a steamer's way,
A lumber raft with hardy crew
That bravely stem thy surges through
I see this summer day.
Ontario!

In days long past, Ontario,
The Mohawk's bark canoe,
Freighted with tomahawk and knife,
To take the hated Iroquois life,
Oft crossed thy waters blue.
Ontario!

Now peace and plenty bless thy shore,
And stately homes appear
Where dusky wigwam shelters strove
To hide within the forest grove,
Where roamed the antlered deer.
Ontario

Tho moon a silvery pathway lights
Across thy darkening wave,
The cedar-perfumed breezes blow,
The laughing streamlets gaily flow
To thee, to thee inchaste.
Ontario!

The dainty tints of breaking day
First tinge thy cold, grey wave;
The gorgeous setting sun at eve
Its glowing colors stoops to leave
Upon thy flashing wave.
Ontario!

O changeful lake, thou art ever fair
In storm, in calm, at eve;
But oh! I think I love thee best
When storm-winds roar above thy breast,
Thy wild waves surge and heave.
Ontario!

The veil of night is thickening fast;
I strive the picture to portray
That hangs upon thee, love's lake,
A parting look of thee to take,
While deep repose consume.
Ontario!

K. DOLORES O'BRIEN.

### Obligation.

If ever some pure-hearted one should give
Responsive look, for gentle glance of thine,
Forget it not, as long as thou shalt live;
But, in thy heart of hearts, enshrine!

Should ever some congenial spirit say
A tender word, in friend-ship's garden grown,
Oh, let it not, as frosted flowers, decay;
But be as amaranthine crown!

If ever some unselfish one should do
An act of kindness, in the time of need,
Within thy mem'ry, faithfully renew
The fragrant incense of the deed!

Should ever some angelic woman trust
The treasures of her coming years to thee,
Let not her hopes be trodden in the dust;
But loyal to thy promise be!

E. R. L.

### A Gratifying Report.

In another column of this issue we publish the forty-second annual report of the Western Assurance Company, of this city. The management have every reason to congratulate themselves on the excellent showing of the year's business, the profits for the twelve months amounting to nearly a quarter of a million of dollars, and the net premium income to upwards of two and a quarter millions of dollars. One of the most important features in connection with the annual meeting was the decision to increase the capital stock of the comp ny to $2,000,000.


## WESTERN ASSURANCE CO.

### Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders.

**Forty-Second Annual Report—Eminently Satisfactory Results of the Year's Operations—The Dividends Maintained and the Reserve Fund Largely Added To—Mr. G.R.R. Cockburn Added to the Directorate and the Old Board Re-Elected.**

The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the above Company was held at its offices at Toronto, on Wednesday, 22nd February, 1893. Mr. A.M. Smith, President, occupied the chair, and Mr. J. J. Kenny, Managing Director, was appointed to act as Secretary to the meeting. The Secretary read the following

FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.

The Directors have pleasure in submitting to the Shareholders their Report on the business of the Company for the year ending 31st December last, together with accounts relating thereto.

The increase in premium income, which was anticipated on causes referred to in the last Annual Report, has been fully realized; the total premium receipts of the Company (after deducting the amount paid for reinsurance) having reached the sum of $2,232,465.59.

It must be a matter of general regret that statistics compiled in relation to fires in Canada and the United States show that the total fire waste on it is continent in 1892, as in the preceding year, was considerably in excess of what has, in the past, been the average amount of such destruction. Among the serious losses of the year may be mentioned a conflagration of considerable magnitude at Milwaukee, Wis., and one involving a loss of some $3,500,000 at St. John's, Nfld. In this latter disaster, however, the Company was not involved, it having been deemed inadvisable to establish an agency in Newfoundland. During the closing months of the season of inland navigation there were also some exceptionally heavy losses to lake shipping, which materially reduced the profit of that branch of the business.

Taking into account, therefore, the fact that these unfavourable experiences have made the year a trying one generally to companies engaged in Fire and Marine underwriting, your Directors feel that the results of the business of 1892 to the "Western" must be eminently satisfactory to the Shareholders. These results may be briefly summarized as follows:—

The profit balance on the year's transactions is $221,156.78. Two half-yearly dividends, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum have been paid, and $190,000 has been carried to the reserve fund, which now amounts to $1,030,000. The amount contributed to interest on earning and non-sure existing risks is $738,772.75; and, after deducting this from the total surplus funds of the Company, a net surplus remains over capital and all liabilities of $346,284.18.

The Directors regret to have to record the loss during the year of one of their number in the death of Mr. A. T. Fulton, who for the past nine years had been a valued member of the Board. The vacancy thus caused was filled by the election of Mr. G. R. R. Cockburn, M.P.

In closing this report the Directors desire to express their appreciation of the efficient services of the Officers and Agents of the Company during the past year.

STATEMENT OF BUSINESS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1892.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Fire premiums | $1,86 ,371 75 | |
| Marine premiums | 631,709 26 | |
| | | $2,537,961 01 |
| Less re-assurance | | 2,297,777 12 |
| Interest account | $2,238,383 59 | |
| | 75,629 67 | |
| | | $2,313,913 26 |
| Fire losses, including an appropriation for all losses reported to Dec. 31, 1892 | $1,997,993 17 | |
| Marine losses, including an appropriation for all losses reported to Dec. 31, 1892 | 377,623 16 | |
| General expenses, agents, commission, and all other charges | 7,7 29 83 | |
| Balance to profit and loss | 221,156 78 | |
| | $2,313,913 26 | |

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Dividend No. 62 | $ 95,000 00 | |
| Dividend No. 63 | 95,000 00 | |
| Carried to reserve fund | 190,000 00 | |
| Balance | 5,951 05 | |
| | | $ 385,951 05 |
| Balance from last year | $ 27,4 1 33 | |
| Premium on new stock | 25,3 5 00 | |
| Profit for the year | 221,156 78 | |
| | | $ 551,893 71 |

LIABILITIES.

| | |
|---|---|
| Capital stock, paid up | $ 670,000 00 |
| Losses under adjustment | 214,538 57 |
| Dividend payable January 30th, 1893 | 95,000 00 |
| Reserve fund | 29,817 86 |
| Balance profit and loss | 5,951 05 |
| | $1,005,951 05 |
| | $1,935,459 48 |

ASSETS.

| | |
|---|---|
| United States and State bonds | $ 112,300 00 |
| Dominion of Canada stock | 202,687 7 |
| Bank, Loan Company, and other stocks | 21,277 64 |
| Company's building | 65,0 1 00 |
| Debentures | 224,719 95 |
| Cash on hand and on deposit | 228,1 1 95 |
| Bills receivable | 75,3 8 18 |
| Mortgages | 13,3 3 88 |
| Re-assurances | 38,0 3 77 |
| Interest due and accrued | 8,2 9 5 |
| Agents' balances and other accounts | 270,995 12 |
| | $1,935,459 48 |

A. M. SMITH,
President.
J. J. KENNY,
Managing Director.

Western Assurance Office,
Toronto, Feb. 11th, 1893.

AUDITORS' REPORT.

To the President and Directors of the Western Assurance Company:

GENTLEMEN,—We hereby certify that we have audited the books of the Company for the year ended 31st December, 1892, and have examined the vouchers and securities in connection therewith, and find the same carefully kept correct, and properly set forth in the above statement.

R. H. CATHRON,
JOHN M. MARTIN, F.C.A.,
Auditors.

Toronto, Feb. 11, 1893.

In moving the adoption of the report, the President said:

When addressing the last annual meeting of Shareholders, I referred to the withdrawal from business of a number of Fire Insurance Companies in Canada and the United States during the preceding year, and predicted that, as a consequence of this, as well as from advances in rates that were being effected in many quarters, companies remaining in the field and offering to the public undoubted security in the form of large capital and assets might during the year 1892 look for a considerably increased volume of business.

These predictions, as the accounts now presented to you show, have been fully realized, and those who are to come after us, in the front rank of the companies doing business on this continent.

The President then referred to the relations which had been recently established between the "Western" and the British America Assurance Company, and explained, at some length, the advantages which might be looked for from these two Toronto companies working in harmony, particularly in the management and supervision of their business at the more distant Agencies.

Mr. Geo. A. Cox, Vice-President, in seconding the adoption of the report, said:—

I am glad to have an opportunity, Mr. President, to second the adoption of a report that must, I am sure, be eminently satisfactory to the Shareholders. I also desire to extend to yourself and to the Shareholders my congratulations upon the magnificent record that you have given us, showing the result of the Company's business for the last twenty years. An average annual dividend of over twelve per cent. for twenty consecutive years, notwithstanding the widespread and serious conflagrations that have overtaken the Company during that long period, is certainly very reassuring; but to return to the statement under consideration, it is the more gratifying to be able to meet our Shareholders with such an exhibit as has been made there to-day, when it is evident from the reports published thus far that many Fire Insurance Companies in Canada and the United States, as well as in other parts of the world, have found the years of 1892 an unprofitable one.

In comparing the figures of this report with those presented a year ago, it is encouraging to find that the ratio of losses to premiums is considerably lower in 1892 than it was in 1891, and this is perhaps still more important to observe that while, as a result of the largely increased business, the aggregate amount paid for general expenses is in excess of similar charges in the preceding year, the actual percentage of expenses to premium income is 1.37 per cent. below that of 1891. The saving in itself is equal to a profit of some $31,000.

In regard to the proposed increase in the capital of the Company, I heartily concur in all that the Report has to say upon the wisdom and advisability of taking the final step to bring our capital up to the authorized amount. This may be accomplished at once, and with a large enough to command public confidence but there are few, if any, companies to day doing a larger volume of business than the "Western" transacts on a smaller cash capital than $1,000,000. In reference to the price at which the present stock shall be new over to Shareholders, I would point out that taking into account the present low rate of interest obtainable on investments, and bearing in mind that the Directors desire to maintain the present rate of dividend, 10 must be considered a favorable price to Shareholders. This new issue of stock, besides increasing the working capital by $500,000, will, it must be borne in mind, add a further $100,000 to the surplus position which $690,000 paid up, while our stock stands on the share list at a premium of seventy per cent. So much for the past; and now a word as to the future. As you have been advised by circular, the Directors think that the time has come when, in regard to its paid-up capital, as well as in other respects, the "Western" should take its stand among the "millionaire" companies of this country. The business has now attained such proportions that we think—basing our judgement upon the past experience of the Company—that we may safely assume the responsibility of continuing to pay satisfactory dividends to Shareholders upon the increased capital. If the resolutions are adopted which are to be submitted to you to-day, to complete the issue of the capital which is provided for by the Company's charter, namely $2,000,000—fifty per cent. of which will be paid up, thus giving us a cash capital of One Million Dollars—this action, we feel confident, will materially aid us, and those who are to come after us, in maintaining the position of the "Western" in the front rank of the companies doing business on this continent.

The President then referred to the relations which had been recently established between the "Western" and the British America Assurance Company, and explained, at some length, the advantages which might be looked for from these two Toronto companies working in harmony, particularly in the management and supervision of their business at the more distant Agencies.

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