SECTION 3.

Our Woman's Paper.

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SCRANTON, PA., MAY 14, 1896.

PHILANTHROPIES AND CHARITIES.

MRS. C. D. SIMPSON, Editor.

The Ladies Managing This Paper Are Willing to Vouch for the Superior Qualities of SELF-WASHO SOAP for the Kitchen and Laundry. Manufactured by THE SCRANTON SOAP WORKS, Limited, and SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

WOMEN'S CHARITY WORK

A Few of the Causes That Enlist Their Interest.

SUFFERING HUMANITY'S FRIEND

The Many Societies That Help the Poor, the Weak and Unfortunate—Associations of All Creeds—Work Among All Classes and Its Progress.

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF SCRANTON

The Associated Charities of Scranton was organized November 24, 1893, as a bureau of information and instruction for the various charitable organizations and individuals of the city.

The objects of the association are:

To secure the concurrent and harmonious action of the different charities of Scranton in order to raise the needy above the need of relief, prevent begging and imposition, and diminish pauperism; to encourage thrift, self-dependence and industry through friendly intercourse, advice and sympathy, and to aid the poor to help themselves; to prevent children from growing up as paupers; to aid in the diffusion of knowledge on subjects connected with the relief of the poor; and, to accomplish these objects, it is designed:

First—To provide that the case of every applicant for relief shall be thoroughly investigated.

Second—To place the results of such investigation at the disposal of the secretary of the poor board, of charitable societies and agencies and of private persons of benevolence.

Third—To obtain employment, if possible; if not, to obtain, so far as necessary, suitable assistance for every deserving applicant from public authorities, charitable agencies or benevolent individuals.

Fourth—To make all relief, either by alms or charitable work, conditional upon good conduct and progress.

Fifth—To send to each poor family, under advice of proper authorities, a friendly visitor.

Sixth—To hold public meetings and print for distribution.

This society, which for two years has been trying to do the work of so large a city at the cost and with the employes that are used in the work of a much smaller place, has had its agents constantly working among the poor, sick and unfortunate, trying to keep the vast throng from becoming chronic charges. It has been successful to a certain extent in keeping many children from becoming beggars and from becoming contaminated by the many vices to which they are subjected.

Over fifteen hundred homes have been visited where a small contribution from charity, or perhaps sympathy alone, has given new hope and energy. In many cases able-bodied men were found depending on what their children brought home from the so-called charitable people, who, without knowing their circumstances, gave, and by giving injured instead of helped the case.

In all cases, as far as possible, work has been obtained and good accomplished by preventing children and adults from living on charity. Many families have been lifted above the need of taking aid and have become self-dependent, and upon inquiry we have found that they are grateful and happy in having been assisted and taught to help themselves.

Perhaps there has never been a period when so many really deserving families have had to ask assistance as in the past two years, owing to lack of work and other social and business conditions; and it is presumed there are many of whom we do not know who are keeping up the struggle unaided.

One of the objects of the board is to get kind and prudent persons to take a friendly interest in unfortunate families,not to give them alms, but, with kindness, to take a friendly interest in the home life and needs of the household, thereby becoming a great help to them in the truest sense. There are families this year in Scranton who are discouraged as never before on account of having so little work. A friend's advice and help in such homes, many of which, on account of dirt and dilapidation, ought not to be inhabited at all, would be invaluable.

Many cases have improved. Many have come to the board for advice only, and not for aid as formerly. Volunteer visitors are need also money for a wood-yard, wayfa lodge, etc.

A district nurse has been employed the past winter by the board, whose work among the poor and sick cannot be estimated in figures. The society is developing slowly but surely along those lines which from time to time become apparent needs in our peculiar and difficult social surroundings.

MRS. W. B. DUGGAN.

THE SCRANTON RESCUE MISSION.

On Thursday, January 14, 1892, a meeting was called by Colonel H. H. Hadley, of New York city, to secure a committee who should have in charge the organizing of a Rescue Mission in Scranton. This committee leased a building at 111 Franklin avenue, and the Scranton Rescue Mission opened its doors on the night of February 11, 1892.

The first superintendent was Mr. Dews, who died two days after the opening of the mission. Mr. George Graff, of New York city, then took charge of the work, remaining but six weeks, after which Mr. W. E. Beiderwelf was called and carried on an effective work for six months. He then returned to Princeton to finish his college course, and on September 21, 1892, Mr. G. G. Sanborn, of Chicago, took up the work and has been in charge ever since that time.

The object of the mission is to have an open door where the gospel of Jesus Christ is preached every night in the year, and where men and women, most of them non-churchgoers, can be brought under Christian influences. The hearty singing of sweet gospel hymns attracts many passers-by to the meetings. Meetings have been held every night since the opening of the mission. The power of Christ to save men is told every night by those who have been saved. We have great reason to praise God for what has been accomplished through the influence of the Rescue Mission. Among the first converts of the mission was Joseph Phipps, a colored man. After his conversion he spent two years in Chicago at the Moody Institute preparing for Christian work, and is now in Africa, a missionary under the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.

When a convert has lived a consistent Christian life for one year he takes charge of the meeting that evening and at the close of the meeting we have a social time and serve light refreshments. We celebrated nine anniversaries last year. Some of the converts celebrated their third, and two their fourth anniversaries. The experiences are similar each year, some very pleasant and some very sad ones, but after all we believe that God has set the seal of his approval upon the work of the Scranton Rescue Mission.

MRS. GEORGE G. SANBORN.

HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS.

It is so many years since the inception of this great charity, and so much has already been written concerning the work it is doing for the friendless women and children of our city, it scarcely seems possible that anything new can be added.

Almost twenty-five years ago, women of ability and insight and a love for Christ in their hearts, took upon their shoulders the noble work of providing a Home for aged and destitute women, and a shelter for homeless children, which their sisters of today are privileged to continue.

The citizens of Scranton have most generously and cheerfully maintained the work, evincing an interest and sympathy with all its details most satisfactory to the workers.

The life of the Home resembles that of a large Christian family. The chief manager has general supervision of the household, while the matron cares for the comfort of the inmates, superintends the servants and attends to the various duties that usually devolve upon the mother of a family.

The inmates are taught the precepts of the Protestant religion, care being taken that no sectarian peculiarities shall be inculcated. To this end the Board of Managers are composed of women representing all the Evangelical denominations of the city.

The last Tuesday of every month a religious service is held at the Home, conducted by different pastors of the city.

Many of the young women of Scranton have endeared themselves to the old ladies by reading to them and in various other pleasant ways, perhaps the climax being reached when "afternoon tea" is served them in their own little sitting room. Every Sabbath afternoon a member of the Board spends an hour in reading to them.

Many of these aged women have passed through sad trials; most of them have reached the Home through strange vicissitudes and almost universally their hearts are full of gratitude toward their benefactors.

By far the largest number of the Society's beneficiaries are little children, those who are old enough to attend the public schools, and as a rule their conduct both there and elsewhere compares favorably with average children.

They are taught habits of industry and as far as possible assist in the ordinary work of the household. For those too young to attend school a kindergarten has been established in the Home. This has proved a most valuable adjunct to the work.

Perhaps no feature has been productive of more good than the placing of these homeless children in families. So far as possible the managers watch over their indentured children. Some are now grown to manhood and womanhood, quite a number are married and several are engaged in business for themselves.

Since the Act of 1893 giving societies the power to remove children from negligent or cruel parents, a large number have been received and placed in homes, it usually being better to remove them as soon as possible from the vicinity of their parents.

The number of deserted children is simply appalling.

On December 31, 1896, there were thirty-seven children in the Home who had been abandoned by one or both parents.

At present the Home is crowded, particularly the dormitories, but the prospects for a new building in the near future are exceedingly promising.

Two of our prominent citizens have labored faithfully in its interests, and it is expected that work will be commenced on the new building within a few weeks.

In the years that have passed great blessings have been showered upon the work. The managers are full of faith that Scranton's generous citizens will never see the work of "The Home" languish for lack of funds.

The present officers are: Mrs. J. A. Robertson, president; Mrs. C. P. Matthews, vice president; Mrs. John Genter, chief manager; Mrs. W. D. Kennedy, recording secretary; Mrs. C. B. Penman, corresponding secretary; Mrs. D. E. Taylor, treasurer.

The Board of Managers are: Mrs. E. H. Ripple, Mrs. R. G. Brooks, Mrs. F. H. Gerlock, Mrs. Cora Merrifield, Mrs. G. L. Dickson, Mrs. B. M. Winton, Mrs. W. H. Perkins, Mrs. N. Y. Leet, Mrs. E. S. Moffat, Miss Jennie Reynolds, Mrs. F. W. Mason, Mrs. C. B. Scott, Mrs. D. Langstaff, Mrs. J. R. Fordham, Mrs. A. E. Hunt, Mrs. E. F. Chamberlain, Mrs. R. W. Luce, Mrs. J. L. Stelle, Mrs. James L. Connell, Mrs. Charles Schlager, Mrs. Luther Keller, Mrs. H. M. Streeter, Mrs. A. Hendrick, Mrs. W. W. Watson.

Different committees are in charge of special departments of the work.

Every Thursday forenoon the executive board are in session to receive and discharge inmates, while the first Friday of each month the entire board meet for the transaction of general business.

AMELIA M. KENNEDY.

GREEN RIDGE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Not least among Scranton's many enterprises for the assistance and elevation of the people may be classed the Green Ridge Industrial School. This institution was established by Miss Frances Snyder, who with her sister, for several years conducted one of the best private schools of Scranton. It is a non-sectarian school for girls where they are taught to sew and are brought under many influences which conduce to a higher standard of living.

Through the kindness of Miss Sanderson's Association hall was secured free of rent, and here for two years the school held its weekly sessions. Upon the sale of this building, for church purposes, the directors of the Green Ridge library kindly allowed the school the use of the library building. Two years ago a kitchen garden was added to the school, and here under the efficient management of two teachers the children are instructed for a year and then passed into the sewing school provided they have reached the age of 10 years; here they begin on what is called "the first model," this being a square of patchwork on which they acquire the art of "overhanding." When this is successfully accomplished they pass on to the "second model," this being pieces of muslin on which they learn to "run" and "backstitch," to "hem" and to "overcast." After the child can do these stitches to the satisfaction of the inspectors of the work she is taught to cut and make six garments for a large doll, these garments being made precisely as the child's own garments would be made. At the end of the term the child whose work is considered the best, in all particulars, receives the doll as a prize.

After this child has completed the doll's outfit she is put to work on similar garments for herself, receiving them as they are finished. Two ladies have charge of the cutting-out table and instruct the children how to cut the garments correctly. A visiting committee looks after the absentees and a child absent two Saturdays in succession without a reasonable excuse is considered to have forfeited her place. By means of this visiting committee the teachers and scholars are brought in closer touch and much assistance in other directions than that afforded by the school work is often given. A supply committee devotes one afternoon in the week to the preparation of the work and purchases all supplies needed in the school. A finance committee collects the yearly dues of the members and it is these dues together with occasional, and in some instances yearly, donations which constitute the sinews of war and enable the board of managers to defray the necessary expenses connected with the running of the school. As the membership fee is only 50 cents a year it is within the power of many to assist the work and thus help an enterprise which is doing much good among growing girls. The school has just completed its fifth year of successful work and those having its interest at heart look forward to the time when it may have a building of its own and its usefulness be extended on broader lines than those which have marked its infancy.

EMILY C. ROBINSON.

JAIL WORK IN LACKAWANNA COUNTY.

After laboring for the past three years, in a general way, among the tempted women of our city, the work within the last three months has been among the women incarcerated within the county jail. In that time I have been led to say so often, "Why, oh why, is this branch of work in the vineyard so neglected?"

Sitting in church on Sunday mornings and looking over the assembly of representative women, I have sometimes wondered how many of them have ever spent one hour—one single hour— of their lives in digging out from the debris of superstition, rebellion, lying, theft, swearing, drinking and sometimes murder, these misguided, imprisoned sisters of ours—prisoners often to the chain of circumstances that they cannot break without our help, and they will sink lower each day if we do not throw out the life-line. Jean Ingelow says, "What if she did strive to mend and none of you believed her strife; what if this sinner wept and none of you comforted her? I feel there is no sin in the category of crimes that carries with it such a trail of woes."

I am glad, oh so glad, there is a way to really rescue from a life of shame these women, and that is to love them. I have found it very difficult to separate the sin from the sinner, but there is no other way. Talfourd said in delivering his final charge to the jury, "What the masses want is not kindness, but sympathy." I believe this to be the magic key to success in the work. Life in Scranton does not differ materially from that in New York and other large cities. In Washington, with principalities and powers, sin is rampant. It is so often said, "There is no use; they never stand, so few are rescued; the same women are returned to imprisonment from time to time." This very argument is accusative. May it not be for the very reason of our inactivity in the matter? Are we guiltless, then, of the blood of our sister in the gutter? Is it none of our business that she lies groveling there? The prostrate condition of the fallen cries aloud for help.

There has been a religious service held in the county jail every Sunday for the past five or six years, with very encouraging results. A number have promised to lead a better life; some have said the first religious services they have ever attended were in the Lackawanna county jail. It is believed there have been a number of conversions in connection with these services. A separate corridor is allotted the women. They are in charge of a matron who was appointed about a year since.

A large per cent. of all committments is for drunkenness. It is useless simply to agree that intemperance is a great evil and should be crushed. Unless our belief is exemplified by our actions it is wore than useless. Every generation makes reform more difficult. It matters not what may be our sentiments, the question is, What are we doing?

ELIZABETH B. HOWELL.

WOMAN'S KEELEY LEAGUE.

The Woman's Keeley League was organized by Mrs. Ida B. Cole on November 24, 1895. Our motto is "Not Willing That Any Should Perish." Is is a temperance society, pledged to the work of prevention, cure and extinction of the drink traffic. We are firm believers that drunkenness is a disease and can be cured by Dr. Keeley's remedies. We have a cure fund, from which we advance the money for persons who wish to be cured and have not the means. It is simply a loan. The benefited are expected to repay according to their means. The league has since organization paid for two men and has a third which it hopes to help soon.

Our social work is to provide lectures and entertainment for the graduates so they may feel that they have a place to spend their evenings instead of in the saloons. This social work is quite a success. It goes far toward holding the weak. Of course, as in all such work, we meet with ingratitude, but we hope to persevere with God's grace. If it is but one soul saved and one home happy we feel it is a great deal to be thankful for. At the Scranton Institute they claim 95 per cent. cured

The officers of the league are: President, Mrs. C. H. Van Buskirk; vice president, Mrs. C. P. Ball; secretary, Miss Katherine Maher; treasurer, Mrs. O. J. Lyons.

KATHARINE MAHER.

ORAL SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF.

The Late Emma Garrett Was the Founder of This Institution.

Aristotle declared deaf mutes to be incapable of instruction, and the poet Lucretius endorsed his opinion as late as 50 B. C.

Under the laws of Lycurgus they were exposed to die, and the ancient Romans threw the deaf infants into the Tiber. Under these conditions parents would occasionally hide away their deaf children and give them some instruction of their own, to which they would of course respond in some form and then it gradually began to dawn upon the minds of some of the parents that they were not idiots; that ignorance upon the part of the authorities and not mental deficiency in their victims made them dumb.

The latter half of the eighteenth century recorded isolated cases of deaf persons who were being educated according to the knowledge of some teachers, and it is known that schools for the deaf were carried on in the monasteries. As late as the present century the pagans of India and other Asiatic countries were still in the habit of killing their deaf infants. In this country of modern civilization the deaf and dumb, or, to speak more correctly, the deaf mutes, have always been objects of more or less sympathy. Thoughtful, philanthropic people have in times past adopted various methods and means by which these unfortunates could communicate their thoughts to others. Modern experience proves that the method of teaching the deaf to use the organs of speech through imitation of those who talk is at present the best method. Miss Emma Garrett, the founder of the Pennsylvania Oral

MISS EMMA GARRETT.

School, was a thoroughly educated woman of great energy and wonderful capacity for work. She was a student in the Boston Schoolof Oratory during the winter of 1877-78 and made a special study of the mechanism of speech and the teaching of speech to the deaf.

Her life in Scranton, while comparatively brief, was noted for its earnestness, activity and usefulness. Nearly seven years of tireless, self-sacrificing work was wrought among us. Her efforts in behalf of the deaf impressed her friends most forcefully with the idea that few women possessed such marked ability to awaken the dormant ideas and powers of expression in the deaf.

The patience and affection displayed toward her children was something beyond ordinary comprehension and of these the Pennsylvania Oral School stands as a monument. The first instruction of the deaf in this part of the state was in the year 1882, when the sign method was taught to a class of eight children by Rev. J. M. Koehler, of the Episcopal church, in a room provided by the board of control. The large proportion of deaf in this locality and the possibility of providing an education for them was a question worthy the attention of Mr. Henry Belin, jr., Judge Hand, Mr. W. T. Smith and other prominent men of our city. Before taking any steps to establish a school in this section Mr. Belin, at the suggestion of Mr. A. Sidney Biddle, of Philadelphia, visited Miss Emma Garrett's school and there saw for the first time the pure oral system of teaching the deaf. So impressed was he with the superiority of this system over the sign method, that upon his return a pure oral school took the place of the sign school.

On the 10th of September, 1883, Miss Mary Allen, of Chester, a former student of Miss Garrett's, was appointed teacher. The school opened in a small wooden structure built by the Methodists and used as a church in the pioneer days of Methodism. Very little progress was made during the first year. At the beginning of the term, September, 1884, Miss Garrett was induced to come to Scranton. The small class previously under instruction began to drop out one by one, and it became necessary to canvass the country and by personal appeal bring in the afflicted ones of the poor. Many a tiresome ride was taken into the rural districts and often amid squalor and filth did she find her subject. In one family four unfortunates were found. Nearly every call made a demand upon her purse, and the amount she contributed to her mission in life will never be known. It was no easy thing to keep these children in school after you had secured them. Obstacles of every conceivable form were placed in her path, and often from most unexpected quarters, but a woman of such courage was not daunted by these seemingly mountainous difficulties, and it is not surprising that the work has reached such magnificent proportions.

During the winter of 1887 Miss Mary Garrett, now principal of the home for the training in speech of deaf children before they are of school age, brought several scholars here and gave an exhibition of the oral system of training. The result was most satisfactory. In 1885 the board of control appropriated $1,000 for the maintenance of the school. In the meantime its friends were at work. The late John B. Smith, of Dunmore, gave a valuable plot of ground in North Park. Miss Emma Garrett enlisted the co-operation of Lieutenant Governor Watres, coupled with that of members of the board and the support given by the Philadelphia members of the legislature, won the appropriations in the state senate and gave Scranton the Oral School in spite of the desperate protests from the Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb. They doubtless realized that this new method would supercede the old. In 1889 our school received a medal from the Paris exposition. In 1890 Miss Garrett visited the oral schools for the deaf in seven countries of Europe.

In 1891 she resigned her position at Scranton and became the founder of the School for Infants at Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Oral School would not have been located here had it not been for her courageous efforts.

The obstacles in her path were many. Being a woman of great wisdom and discretion, it was displayed in her refraining from any doctrinal teaching in the Oral School, maintaining that the children should be left to choose for themselves, when once the window of understanding had been opened so as to enable them to judge. Furthermore, it was a state institution and children of all classes and creeds were in attendance.

Many who criticised her might well have taken her life and character as an example. What she suffered under misrepresentation is known to but few of her friends.

Her memory is sacred to those with whom she was most closely associted, and her purity of life and character was an inspiration to others.

FRANCES T. VAIL.

ST. VINCENT SOCIETY.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of St. Vincent de Paul Society of Scranton.

Amidst all the rush of business and the energy consumed in keeping abreast with this age of progress, it is a happiness to note that God's poor are not neglected. Philanthropy is a noble trait in every character, but when the motive of working for the poor, the weak, the lowly and the disinherited is accompanied by a higher and the holier incentive of Christian charity we cannot but admire the result. The harshness of our people has been the theme of the ribald within every quarter of our land, but before we join the chorus of condemnation, let us examine the work of our city's charities. Let us inquire into the work of those who love to sweeten sorrow by the balm of human kindness, who give from their abundance or from their little to those less fortunate than themselves. Certain it is that we experience the cheering effects of the helping hand, the willing heart and the generous soul of organized charity. Nor is this all. Instead of the spasmodic though commendable results of individual endeavor we find an organized effort to help the needy in every walk of life.

Before dealing with the particular work of the Ladies' Auxiliary of St. Vincent de Paul of Scranton, we cannot refrain from a word of praise for the Associated Charities. The current report for last year shows an amount of work which for magnitude and practicability will compare favorably with most cities having twice our population. But the notable and especially admirable feature of this great work is found in its thoroughness. Every case is thoroughly investigated and only the deserving are given assistance. That this fact is well known by all the "charity repeaters" is evident. They may make private appeals, but when ordered to the "public charity" they bid you a nervous "Good morning," and are seen no more. In a word, the Associated Charities have accomplished a work that can be appreciated only by those whose duties bring them in daily contact with the poor and needy.

The work of the Ladies' Auxiliary of St. Vincent de Paul, though more circumscribed in its activity, is none the less thoroughly representative of the spirit of universal charity. This branch has its headquarters in the chapel of St. Thomas' college and special efforts are made during the long winter months to alleviate the hardships of the poor. In the disbursements of funds, clothing, etc., no distinction is made in regard to creed. True to the examples of their founders, St. Vincent de Paul and Madame de Gondy, they recognize in every unfortunate one of God's creatures needing assistance. Strictly speaking, the intention of the founders was to have the societies made up exclusively of men, but with the change of national conditions came new demands, and hence the Ladies' Auxiliary was organized to help the society proper. The need of much assistance is evident from the fact that women more readily acquire a knowledge of neighboring destitution and thus are better qualified to recommend the deserving to the attention of the society. One evening a week may not seem much to devote to the consideration of the poor, but when you consider that the comforts of home are left to discuss visits to the abodes of want and destitution, to map out work for the following week, there seems much to admire Those less active in the work of charity are urged to contribute something to the common store house; business men catch the spirit from these willing workers and generous contributions result. In fact, every member feels it a duty to work in season and out of season for the noble cause. The reward for such disinterested generosity is found in the consciousness of work well done. In the feeling of sweet and holy joy that follows from placing one's shoulder to another's cross. Like other Cyrinians, they feel the approval from above for self-imposed tasks, and go on in the noble work without the herald's praise.

Too often those whose means allow them all the comforts and even the luxuries of life, are apt to forget the beggar by the wayside. How much more so will they forget the many whose natural pride and high spirit enable them to bear want and even destitution in silence. Too much cannot be said in praise of those Christian women, young and old, who visit the homes of the deserving poor and like ministering angels speak words of comfort and consolation, and at the same time furnish the wherewithal to keep soul and body together. Let the good work go on. May these few words serve to induce others to imitate the noble example of those good ladies actively engaged in the great work. May the work of taking care of Christ's chosen ones, the poor, continue on the same noble lines set down by St. Vincent de Paul, and surely a rich reward is in store for those who lend a helping hand to the needy. Be not like the rich robed fiends of old who gave stones when bread was asked for, but, animated by true Christian charity "give to the poor and lend to the Lord."

LACKAWANNA HOSPITAL TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES.

The training school was established in April, 1893. Applications for admission should be made to the superintendent at the hospital. After giving necessary certificates as to health, character and education, an applicant must enter the school as a probationer for one or two months. During that time she will work in the wards under the direction of the more experienced nurses, and also go through examinations in reading, writing and arithmetic. Her fitness for the work will during this time be ascertained, and if she proves satisfactory she will be accepted as a nurse and will now wear the uniform of the training school.

Gradually her responsibility grows greater and more is expected of the nurse. During her two years' stay in the school, she will serve about 120 nights of twelve hours night duty and the rest of the time on day duty in the surgical, medical and obstetrical wards. She will also have about six weeks' duty in the operating room and one month in the hospital diet kitchen, cooking for the very sick patients.

While in the school, the nurses are given two lectures a week by the medical staff and classes are held each week by the superintendent. All the nurses will pass a final examination and receive a diploma signed by the examining board. The work while under training is very hard and wearing, but the regular and systematic life makes it possible to stand it, and often a nurse will leave the hospital stronger than she was when entering.

Most of the nurses take up private nursing after leaving the school and find to their surprise that taking care of one patient outside is harder work than to care for six in the hospital. Where in the hospital she has regular hours for rest, she now has hardly any time away from the sick-room. The effort to be always calm and cheerful, the anxiety over the patient, the long hours and the irregular rest undermine her health in a very short time. Records show that a nurse doing private nursing has never been able to stand the work more than ten years.

May we then ask of the public the consideration for the trained nurse which she so much needs and so well deserves?

ELIE K. KRAEMER.

A CHILDREN'S WARD.

Who does not love children? There must be something very unnatural in the construction of a man or woman who cannot be attracted to or interested in little children. Their very innocence, naturalness and helplessness draw us to them and make us care for and love them. If this be true of children who enjoy the greatest of all blessings, health, how much more should we feel for and wish to be a blessing to the less fortunate little ones, those who lie day after day suffering from disease or deformity.

Childhood implies or suggests health, happiness, vigor and exuberant spirits, but alas! many little ones never know the joys of such a childhood, but are doomed to weary beds of pain. Perhaps the little one has met with some serious accident or disease has overtaken it, or may be it is the victim of some hereditary trouble. Whatever the case may be, it is sad indeed. Where comforts and luxuries abound and everything can be done that is suggested for the welfare of the little sufferer it is hard enough.

But do we give much thought to those who have not even the necessities,much less the comforts of life, who are obliged to see their little ones suffer and waste away and feel how helpless they are to provide aid. Even, perhaps, if they have medical or surgical attendance the child may need careful nursing, nourishing diet, etc., which the parents are unable to procure for lack of means. You may say, Why do they not send the child to the hospital? Did you not know there is no children's ward provided? True, there are some children there now and have been the greater part of the time, but they occupy places in the men's and women's wards; and, while they are being helped back to health, still it is hardly the proper place for children to be.

In the first place, they are occupying space that is meant for adult patients; next, the environments are not those with which we should wish to surround little sick children. Imagine in a charity hospital, such as the Lackawanna, a severe accident case being brought in, perhaps from a mine explosion or something similar. The patient, suffering indescribable agony, may be placed in a bed adjoining or very near the one occupied by a little child. Think how the moans and groans would affect a strong man or woman. I wonder how the little child, weak and nervous from its own suffering, must feel! Then, perhaps, as does sometimes happen, the accident case dies in view of these little patients. What a shock it would be for us who are well and strong to witness such a sight. Can you picture anything more distressing for a child to bear? These thoughts are not pleasant to dwell on and it must be unnecessary to cite any more reasons why a children's ward is needed in our city.

The Lackawanna hospital is doing a grand and noble work, but it is much handicapped for lack of room. What is more needed than a children's ward?

Only one charity hospital in this large and growing city, and practically no place in it for the sick and suffering children. It was a sweet thing for those young girls to do a short time ago when they held a fair and entertainment at a private residence and realized a handsome amount of money for some missionary or charitable work. The thought suggests itself that other circles of girls might form themselves into a society and do similar work for this new undertaking.

What could be more lovely than to see girls and boys who are blest with health and vigor working for the poor little unfortunate ones who are around them? Some have already been at work; two Sunday schools in the city sent in handsome contributions a short time ago; others also have become interested and have sent in their contributions, and only a few days ago two ladies asked permission of the directors to go among their friends and solicit for the children's ward. The permission was readily granted and in a very short time the ladies returned and placed $25 in Miss Kraemer's hands. They found their friends more than willing to contribute to such a worthy cause. If any think it is not worthy, let them visit the Lackawanna hospital and see the dear little children who are there receiving care and treatment, and who while suffering pain are still patient and wear bright, smiling faces. We, who are in health and in the enjoyment of many blessings beside, may draw a lesson in cheerfulness, patient endurance and contentment from these little sufferers. After a visit to the hospital we are sure no one will fail to see the necessity of a children's ward.

BERTHA E. FULTON.

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FOR

Crouch Bros. & Beatty

OPENING OF

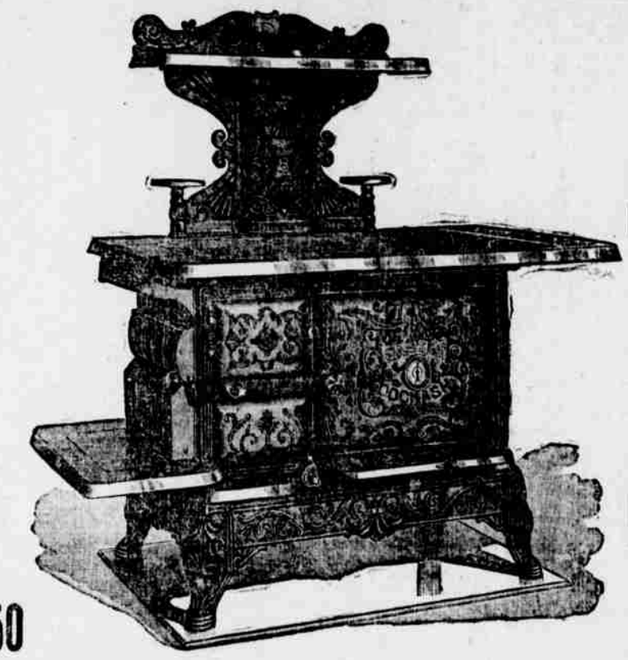
FINE FOOTWEAR

ABOUT MAY 15.

MEARS BUILDING, Cor. of Washington and Spruce.

EASTER DOCKASH RANGE.

Buy the Best Stoves and Ranges in the World. Prices From $5 to $150



Baked 7 Barrels of Flour in 7 Days in Dockash Range Standing Out of Door Cost of Fuel 21c.

Only Stoves and Ranges with Hypocaust Oven Ventilation.

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SCRANTON STOVE WORKS,

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