

Correspondence Column



A. HETTINGER.



MARY E. PANNILL.



H. E. CHADWICK.



HELEN BROADBENT.



LOUISE WRIGHT.



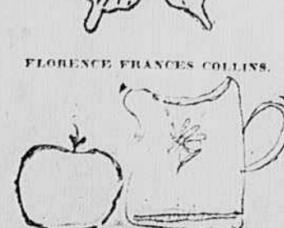
MARY DANIEL.



VIRGINIA LEE EPES.



STEPHEN C. SUTTON.



FLORENCE FRANCES COLLINS.



GRACE SLOAN.

Liked Her Sister's Book. Dear Editor, I am sending a picture and a poem I selected to go with it. I am sorry you are sick, and hope you will soon be well enough to take charge of our page again. It doesn't seem half our page without you. My mother has been extremely kind for the past two weeks, she doesn't get any better. The weather is very warm now. I liked her sister's book, and I would like to win the prize. I hope you will like the picture I send. I will close. Your faithful member, EMMA CHADWICK. Care William Chadwick, National Soldiers Home, Hampton, Va.

His School to Close. Dear Editor, Please excuse my long letter. School will be out in a week and I shall have more time to contribute. My sister wrote to me last winter and the letter was published week before last. I thought the T. D. C. was fine the week of my sister's birthday. I would like for you to send me a badge, as I have long since I had a cat the other day that we caught eating them. It has been very warm and the wild downy are beautiful. I am in a nearly all zone, but the sky is just beginning to bloom. I will close. Your member, JOHN B. WOODVILLE, JR. Fayette, W. Va.

A Pheasant Little Best. Dear Editor, I was sorry to see that you were sick and hope you will be better next week. I thank you for giving me a story so much of your valuable space. I tried so hard to write something about the house fly, but all I know is that it is a phlebotomist, that is always where the phlebotomist is to be, trailing its legs through food and spreading germs of all descriptions. I read a magazine story entitled "The House Fly" and it was great. Your loving member, HARRY E. CHADWICK. Care William Chadwick, National Soldiers Home, Hampton, Va.

Went to Carl's Neck. Dear Editor, I am sending a heading, but I think it is rather late. I went up to Carl's Neck Park to see the Jesuitic Fountain, and had a fine time. School will close soon, and I'm so glad. Your member, MARY MADANIEL. Washington, Va.

Knows What She Likes. Dear Editor, You cannot imagine how delighted I am with the beautiful book you sent me as a prize. It is exactly what I always enjoy reading the stories and compositions on the T. D. C. page. Again, thanking you for the prize and book, with best wishes for you and the club members. I am, your sincere member, STANTON, Va. EDNA POWELL.

Her Sincerest Thanks. Dear Editor, I received my prize to-day and wish to express to you my sincerest thanks. "The Old News" is a dear little book and I know I shall enjoy reading it. We are busy with our examinations now, and I certainly do hope I will pass. I enclose a drawing, which I hope to see in your paper. I am, your sincere member, MARY E. PANNILL. Care William Chadwick, National Soldiers Home, Va. LYRA V. RANSON.

Went Strawberrying. Dear Editor, I was so sorry to hear that you were not well last week. We went strawberry hunting last Monday and got very much. We all enjoyed them very much. Some picked in the fields now are white with daisies. I have just become a white gathering daisies and wild roses. I think wild roses are so pretty. I have been gathering them nearly every day last week. We have a good many daisies, but I don't mean to say anything to the other members, but I think Harry Chadwick can draw like a regular artist and write like a book. Your member, RUTH INGRAM. R. F. D. No. 2, Crewe, Va.

Where is Curtis Elder. Dear Editor, I am sending you a heading for June, and I sincerely hope you will like it enough to publish it. This is the first time I have ever tried to draw a picture. The page of the book was splendid. Harry Chadwick's story was very interesting, and I enjoyed reading it immensely. What has become of our old member, Curtis Elder? We write him soon again. I miss your letters and drawings very much. With best wishes to all, I remain, DOROTHY M. SMITH. 102 W. Main Street, City.

Seeks Forgiveness. Dear Editor, Please forgive me for not writing before, for honest I have been so busy I haven't had time. We are having some pretty weather now, and I certainly do like it. I wish you and some of the members were up here, and we could go to school. I have been fishing some this year, but just didn't catch any fish. Two of my schoolmates came to spend the afternoon with me, and we decided to go fishing. We got our rods and hooks and started out. We went to one creek but it was too large enough, so we found another and tried to go home, but instead of going we went to one creek, and we were in some one's backyard. They showed us the way home, and my, we were glad. Rebecca Chadwick, my dear Editor, will you send me another badge, as I lost mine? I am sending a puzzle, which I hope brother will like. The members, your, Green Bay, Va. POLLY BERRY.

Name the Pansy. Dear Editor, I received the book you sent me as a prize. It is so funny the way the vegetables did and I certainly do enjoy reading it. I am interested in what you say about the pansy. I have forgotten which one I would like, but you must be sure to send me a badge. Any and all the pansies that you can send me, I will be glad to receive. I hope you will be able to suggest a name for me, because we can't decide what to call it. How do you like the puzzle? Please send me many thanks for "Vegetable Vocabulary" and "The House Fly." MARY E. PANNILL. Box 28, Bassett, Va.

THE FLY. Fly is the common name of many insects belonging to various species and characterized in general by two transparent wings, besides the fly, there is only one other insect which has only two wings. It is believed by prominent scientists to be the most common species of flies. The house fly is the most common, wherever man is, and in not counting it causes a great deal of annoyance. They lay their eggs in rotting refuse, and the larval hatch in a few hours and become mature flies in eight or ten days. As each fly lays over one hundred eggs, and a new generation can be produced in a few days, the increase is astonishingly rapid. They are a source of contagion distributing disease by crawling over food and leaving the germs to be taken into the human body. Flies should be exterminated from the house whenever possible. THIBLE DIX SUTTON. Baltimore Street, South Richmond, Va.

THE HOUSEFLY CAMPAIGN. Some people believe that flies are useful, because they feed on waste matter, but no greater mistake could be made. They walk on all manner of unclean matter and then spread the germs on dishes and utensils. They breed in manure piles. If the people would remove the breeding places they would prevent many diseases. Almost any kind of germs are carried by flies. A little helpless baby should be protected against flies. Remove the breeding places. In a day or two, the egg hatches into a small, white, footless maggot, which in one or two days from the time the egg was laid, changes into the adult fly. HELEN BROADBENT. 1-10-11, Va.

VACCINATION. Vaccination was discovered by Edward Jenner about 175 years ago. This discovery is the greatest medical discovery the world has ever known. About the year 1800, vaccination began to be practiced and small-pox is now vanishing. Now vaccination is more or less compulsory in every civilized country in the world. When it is thoroughly carried out, small-pox has almost ceased to exist, but where the people are not vaccinated, or a considerable number of them are not vaccinated, it is still impossible to prevent the spread of small-pox. Some people don't believe in vaccination, but it is almost perfect protection against small-pox. Every one should be vaccinated, for two reasons: to protect himself, and others. BY CHARLOTTE C. BEAL. R. F. D. No. 1-Tunstall, Va.

THE BROWN DWARF OF RUGEN. The pleasant life of Rugen looks the Baltic water. To the silver-sanded beaches of the Pomeranian shore. And in the town of Rambly a little boy and girl, Plucked the meadow flowers together and in the sea surf played. Alike were they in beauty if not in their degree. He was the Suptman's first born, the mildest child was that. He chanced the little maiden, one morning strayed away. Among the haunted nine-hills where the elves and goblins play. That harvest time below the field, she was the first to see. Of evil voices in the air, and heard the small horns blown. She came not back, the search for her in field and wood was vain. They cried her name, they cried her name, but she came not again. Selected, EMMA V. CHADWICK. Care Wm. Chadwick, National Soldiers Home, Hampton, Va.

SHIPS. For many years the naval powers have been in a race, as to speak, to see which country could build the largest ship. England, Germany, and France have been in the race, and there has been a fierce struggle. The United States sent a large fleet, consisting of sixteen battleships, around the world, in the year, 1906. From his ambition for knowledge and action, we may well compare him and in full communion with the workings of nature, inhaling the inspiration that made his career. While the United States was sending out her large fleet, England, France and Germany were building large ships. For instance, England built a great ship, which she called the Dread Naught. France, not to be outdone, built the great ship which she called La France. The United States built a ship, not long ago, which she called the Delaware. The White Star Line, which we know to be a great line for passenger transportation, made a ship, which she named The Titanic, and she thought that this was the strongest in the world, and could stand against any emergency, but we see what a fatal disaster she came to. EDWARD HAWKINS. Staunton, Va.

THE PHANTOM BOAT. Gordon Pomeroy sat on the bank of a lonely lake. The silence was impressive, being broken only at long intervals by a bird in the distance. As he was musing on the strange stillness, he heard a faint sound as if of dipping oars; he looked in the direction from whence came the sound and saw a row-boat gliding gracefully over the water. As it came opposite Gordon, the water about the boat became very turbulent, as if some monster was trying to capture the boat and destroy its crew, but the boat rose from the disturbed waters which threatened to engulf it, and soared upward. One of the crew called to Gordon. He was about to answer, and he opened his eyes upon the ceiling over his head. The boat had disappeared. "Get up, Gordon," called his father, "breakfast is ready." CEDRIC S. BEVERLY. Freeling, Va.



Editorial And Literary Department

Suggestions to House Keepers and Future Business Men.

My Dear Girls and Boys: Ruth Ingram wanted to know what had become of Curtis Elder and his fine work. Well, Curtis Elder, through his work, occupies the head of the page today, and I am sure we are all glad and proud to see him there. I am sure all of us again are sorry to hear that Mrs. Chadwick, the mother of our Chadwick girls, is ill. I know that every member joins me in an expression of sympathy and in the hope that she will soon be well. As Polly Berry went fishing without catching a fish, I think she deserves getting a new badge, don't you? We all wish her better luck for next time. Mary E. Pannill is sending her pony, Coquette, to me as a very pretty name, and when the pony gets big enough for Mary to ride she will have to send us a picture of herself and Coquette. Now, members, I should like for the girls among you to write me what you think a housekeeper can do toward helping to get rid of house flies. Housekeepers can be both private and public benefactors by exerting themselves in this line, and as you are all little housekeepers in a sense, I am certain that what you have to write about is a housekeeper's responsibility. In this time is worth hearing. You are housekeepers. Boys are future business men. So I should like for the boys to tell me how grocers can become real benefactors, using up-to-date precautions against flies. In this way our page will help along in the campaign now being carried on against the fly by all good citizens, and we shall feel that we have been soldiers in the fight for better sanitation. Harry Chadwick says she doesn't know anything about the fly. Well, learn, Harry, learn! YOUR EDITOR.

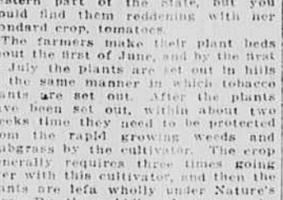
THE WEEK'S PRIZE WINNERS. Master Nicholas W. Drake, 1204 Floyd Avenue, City. James G. Cronise, Staunton, Va. Tribble Dix Sutton, Baltimore Bridge Street, South Richmond.

THE WEEK'S CONTRIBUTORS. Edith Ethel, Pauline, Jr., Jr., Harry, Johnstone, Gertrude Bowman, Wilbur Kent, Edna W. Broadbent, Helen McDaniel, Mary Berry, Polly McElroy, Stewart Beal, C. C. Neatherly, Ethel Collins, Florence F. Neatherly, Crook, Susie Powell, Edna Cronise, James G. Pannill, Mary E. Chadwick, H. E. Ranson, Lyra V. Cunningham, I. H. Smith, Dorothy M. Dickenson, Lottie Smith, Dorothy M. Drake, Nicholas W. Sloan, Grace Dunn, T. B. Elder, Curtis Sutton, Tribble Dix Ellis, Lion A. Hatfield, Stephen C. Hawking, Edward T. T. V. B. Jr. Hettinger, Andrew Wright, Louise Yestis, Mary E.

THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE. (Original.) The Russian Empire is probably the most misgoverned country in the world. The poorer class are worse than slaves, for they are arrested for the smallest matter. In Siberia there are many prisoners, and each prisoner will accommodate twenty-five thousand people. The people who are sentenced to such prisons are convicted of small crimes. The high officials who are convicted of treason are sent to Siberia, and there have to provide for themselves. Each convict has to wear a long coat with an orange patch on it. Many of the convicts have to work in the mines for life. Capital punishment is seldom used. Can you picture the horrors and the miseries of such a life, working day after day without seeing the light of day; working in the same mine, with the same pick and shovel, year after year? The prisoners would rather be dead a thousand times over. It is a wonder that a civilized nation would let this barbaric country stay on the earth, for there is not another country that practices such torments to convict the Russian Empire. The worst class of people are the Cosaaks. During a rebellion there were two drunken Russians who, in order to have some fun, set a house on fire. Two Cosaaks were watching them, and let them carry on their mean work. When the house was on fire, the Cosaaks caught the drunken men by their heads and heels and threw them in the flames. NICHOLAS W. DRAKE. 1204 Floyd Avenue, Richmond, Virginia.

TOMATO-RAISING IN BOTOLETOUR COUNTY. One of the most beautiful of the one hundred Virginia counties is that of Botetourt, which is situated in the famous Valley of Virginia, just north of Roanoke, and which received its name from an English nobleman, Lord Botetourt. If you were to visit Botetourt about the first of August, you would not find her fields green with tobacco or corn, as you would find in the Eastern part of the State, but you would find them reddening with her standard crop, tomatoes. The farmers make their plant beds about the first of June, and by the first of July the plants are set out in hills in the same manner in which tobacco plants are set out. After the plants have been set out, within about two weeks time they need to be protected from the rapid growing weeds and crabgrass by the cultivator. The crop generally requires three times going over with the cultivator, and then the plants are left wholly under Nature's care. By the middle of August the fields are red with the fruit of the now bushy vine, and we see in the place of the cultivator, wagons and boxes, which are for the purpose of carrying the vegetable to the canneries. There are one hundred and seventy-five canning factories in the county, varying in capacity from one hundred to six hundred cases per day. After the first heavy frost has fallen, the farmer's work is over, for his crop is dead and all that he looks for in the reward for his hard summer's work. Tomato-raising has done more towards giving to the homeless of the county beautiful homes than any other crop. Botetourt county ranks first in the State and second in the United States in the production of tomatoes. JAMES G. CRONISE. Staunton, Va.

THE HOUSEFLY CAMPAIGN.



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Puzzle Department



Four things we all should be. POLLY BERRY.

the scenery of America, he took up his residence in Boston. Here, having married again, and enjoying the friendship of such men as Longfellow, Holmes, and Hawthorne, and from which place he very frequently made expeditions of exploration and discovery, he spent the last twenty-five years of his life. Over his grave, in 1873, was laid a boulder—the very boulder, on which, perhaps, decades past, in the clearness of an Alpine twilight, sat the boy Louis Agassiz, dreaming of what was afterwards realized in the greatest naturalist of his time. J. B. CUNNINGHAM. Staunton, Va.

MOSQUITOES. The mosquito is also another insect that carries disease. It is a certain kind of mosquito that carries disease from one person to another, such as malaria and yellow fever. They breed very extensively in rain barrels and other water holding vessels therefore all the old tin cans and other water vessels should be removed or screened. The female mosquitoes do the spreading of these diseases as the males never suck blood. When a mosquito sucks blood from a person, the parasites are taken with the blood. After about ten or twelve days, these parasites pass through the stomach walls and gather in its throat. Then if it bites a well person she is likely to become some of the parasites into the person's body, in this way after a few days or weeks, a new case of malaria develops, so the way to prevent all this trouble is to keep the premises clean and rid of water vessels. WILLE ANN STAPLES. Kesaville, Va.

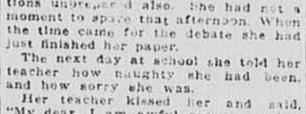
A TEMPTATION. It was a beautiful spring day. The woods were filled with pretty flowers and singing birds. The three school children were looking to go to the woods and gather flowers. So the teacher said, "All who have prepared their papers for the debate this afternoon, may go at noon and spend one hour gathering flowers." The temptation was so great when the children started that one girl who hadn't prepared her paper, after having this girl was so happy, for she knew she was deceiving her teacher. When she returned to school, she found she had left one of her recitations unprepared also. She had not a moment to spare that afternoon. When the time came for the debate she had just finished her paper. The next day at school she told her teacher how naughty she had been, and how sorry she was. Her teacher heard her and said, "My dear, I am very sorry you disobeyed me, but I hope you will never do it again. EDNA W. KENT. Kent's Store, Va.

A DOG. Once there was a great, big dog old whose name was Frank, and the dog's name was Jim. He was so big that he could carry his master around the yard. His master had a little sister two years old. Their house was on top of a sign hill, and on one side the hill came down to a river. One day when they were at play the baby fell and started rolling down the hill straight to the river. This dog saw her and he ran and lay down on the bottom to stop her. The baby rolled right against the dog, and that stopped her and saved her life. Then the dog took her to her father, with her dress in his mouth. VIRGINIA LEE EPES. Old Church, Va.

THE WRECK OF THE VESPERUS. The Vesperus was a vessel owned by a skipper. This skipper had a little motherless daughter to keep his company. Blue were her eyes as the fairy flax. Her cheeks like the dawn of day. And her bosom white as the hawthorne buds. That one in the month of May. The skipper stood beside the helm smoking a pipe. He watched how the veering flaw did blow. Later an old sailor said to the skipper, "I pray thee put into yonder port. I fear a hurricane. Last night the moon had a golden ring; to-night we see no moon." Composed by REBECCA COOPER. 221 Halifax Street, Petersburg, Va.

SP. L. GU-N. ROT. EJER. C.

BIRD PUZZLE.



T. B. DUNN.



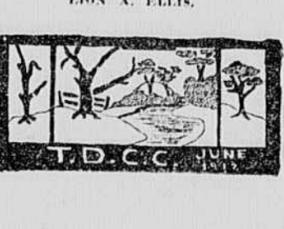
ELIZABETH REID. ETHEL ROLLING.



MARY E. YEATTS. LION A. ELLIS.



UNSIGNED. ETHEL NEATHERLY.



LYNWOOD NEATHERLY.



HARRY C. BRAY.



MARGARET THOMPSON.



Tobacco barns in Cuba. HARRY BRAY.



BUSIE CROOK.