

Educational Column.

Illness and unusually heavy correspondence prevented our getting out the Educational Column last week and the week before.

Since the sending out from this office of circulars calling attention to the importance of the vaccination of school children, a large number of communications have been received from officers, directors and patrons of schools, urging as objections to the enforcement of the law.

That many are violently opposed to vaccination. That some are unable to bear the expense. That the winter season is unfavorable.

That the school officers, by excluding from school those pupils who have not been vaccinated, would become liable for damages.

The time for discussing the necessity, efficiency and practicability of vaccination, and the right of the State to enforce it, is past.

These are established facts and not open to dispute. It is simply to enforce the laws, to postpone or annul by their inaction, or to determine by vote of the Legislature, whether the State is demanding their enforcement.

In support of the above the following report of the committee made to the Board of Health of Medicine is submitted. "Without vaccination, hygienic measures and methods, which are necessary to prevent the spread of small-pox, vaccination is always an inferior and less desirable method of protection in the interest of health and lives of the people that vaccination be made compulsory."

Small-pox is a disease that prevails most extensively in cold weather. It is the most common of the diseases that vaccination is usually performed and yet evidence is lacking that will warrant the conclusions that are drawn regarding the winter months have been attended with more serious results than at another season of the year.

Many to whom the Board's former circular was addressed seem to have understood it to be simply a request for information instead of a mandatory order, which the Board is determined to secure compliance. To remove this impression a letter to the Board which is being distributed throughout the State has been prepared and copies sufficient in number to supply one to each school in the State are being distributed.

Will you please see that these orders and blanks are promptly distributed, and make public the portions of this letter which will have a tendency to remove objections to and secure compliance with the Board's order.

The following questions and answers being of general interest, I deem it wise to publish them. Q. Can the Board of Health order a school to be closed if it is found that the children are not vaccinated?

Ans. Yes, if you deem the conditions warrant their vaccination they can go into any home and vaccinate any who require it.

Q. Is it necessary to enforce the order in the country districts? They are not likely to take the law.

Ans. Quite true. They are less likely to comply with the law than in the city and villages, but the law is general and no one can be exempted.

Q. Can the Board of Health compel those who take their children out of school to have them vaccinated?

Ans. Yes, if you deem the conditions warrant their vaccination they can go into any home and vaccinate any who require it.

Q. Why are you enforcing this law? There is more small-pox now than usual.

Ans. I am not enforcing the law because my judgement tells me it is best for the people of Livingston County, but I am simply doing my duty in obeying the instructions of the State Board of Health who are wiser than I.

We are in receipt of some very nice Christmas stories this week, written by the school children, but they are too late for publication this issue, with the exception of one from Gilbert Ayling which is given space now by special request. It is well written and shows the little fellow to have a very productive mind of his own.

THE NEWSBOY'S CHRISTMAS. Just as the sun was setting in one of the suburbs of London a little ragged, forlorn-looking newsboy might be seen hustling through the crowded streets trying to get rid of his last paper.

On approaching nearer to him a person could see that he was a little fellow about 12 years old. He was dressed in a pair of long trousers which were several sizes too large for him, a pair of shoes of the same lengthy dimensions and a short ragged coat which barely covered his elbows.

Several blocks from the cellar where her hero was sleeping in an elegant mansion, a father and mother were preparing to celebrate a birthday. They had two children, one a bright-faced little boy of six, and the other a girl perhaps a few years younger.

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where it was it was not noticed. After the presents were all distributed the children left the room and soon afterward went to bed. It was decided to leave the room until morning and then take it down.

After quite a sleep, became restless and decided to take a walk to cool himself down. As he walked along he thought he noticed a long line of flames shooting out through the roof of the street, but as he continued walking for a few seconds he thought he must have imagined it so he walked quietly on.

When he reached the corner he again noticed the flames, this time he was sure and he ran hurriedly along the street shouting "Fire, fire, fire!"

The firemen were aroused and after collecting a little jewelry they retreated from the burning building. While Dan was standing quietly watching the progress of the flames he heard a voice call out, "My baby, my baby, who will save my baby!"

The little boy hearing the noise got quickly out of bed and went down stairs not knowing what was the matter. His mother had missed her baby girl, as soon as Dan heard he ran rapidly through the hall and into the room where he saw how one mass of flames, when he reached the room he was so nearly suffocated that he had to go to the window and get fresh air.

When he awoke he found himself in an elegant furnished room surrounded by a group of people with anxious expressions on their faces.

My dear boy, he still you have been so long in the hospital, but you are true when you went to change his position. He had to lie still for a few days, but as soon as he felt better, the parents of the child he had rescued did not insist on letting him go unrequited.

When he was asked he found himself in an elegant furnished room surrounded by a group of people with anxious expressions on their faces.

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THE KEELEY LEAGUE.

M. M. Williams was elected president Tuesday, being the 19th. He is a worker and a good man for the place.

The executive board of the National Keeley League met in New York last week, all being present. The meeting was an enthusiastic one and will be productive of much good.

Keeley League, No. 40, in Chicago, is getting there in good shape. Last week they had an enthusiastic public meeting at which Col. Will Vissler, Captain Jack Crawford, Albert E. Hyde and others spoke and gave readings.

Wm. Armitage, of 3226 Cottage Grove avenue, is the president, and there is no better Keeley man in Chicago. M. J. Grogan is secretary, and doing excellent work.

Next Friday evening there will be another large meeting and all graduates and their interested friends are invited to attend.

Willard S. Brown was two years old last Monday, and has been married several months. He had, however, lived quite a while before he really commenced life.

It was two years ago on that date that he graduated from the Dwight Keeley institute, and he felt so good over it that he made a speech to the boys, and it was an excellent one, and expressed his thanks for deliverance in words and manner that showed distinctly that they came from his heart.

The League gave him a hearty vote of thanks for his speech and for his faithful and accommodating work as secretary, and Willard was so broke up he could not say a word. It seems that everyone had it in for him on that day—even his wife.

Mrs. Brown prepared a most agreeable and pleasant surprise for Mr. Brown, in the shape of a 6 o'clock tea, composed of a few gentlemen friends of her husband, including the Keeley institute staff and a few others.

The spread was elegant and highly appreciated by all present. Congratulations were showered upon the happy couple and all expressed best wishes for many happy returns of the occasion. Everything was "done up Brown" Monday, sure.

From the Daughter of the League. MY DEAR EDITOR: I am getting along nicely, and am going to play a waltz Christmas at the League meeting.

It is just one year since I got my organ and have earned all my music lessons so far myself since I have been in Keeley League. I earned my organ and a term and a half music lessons and all my clothes and school supplies, and did not have any money only what I honestly earned.

Wishing you and lady a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, I remain your little friend, (and daughter of Keeley League). HATTIE MAY MORRIS.

"The Irish Doctor" The entertainment given in the opera house under the auspices of Keeley League No. 1, on Thursday evening of last week, was a decided success in every respect, and the performers were greeted with an appreciative audience, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather.

The entertainment opened with a piano-forte duet by Mrs. J. C. Lewis and Miss Cora Adams, which was rendered in a very pleasing manner. The principal feature of the first part, however, was the singing of Miss Annie Hazelhurst, the charming young prima donna, who came down from South Chicago, especially to take part in this entertainment.

Miss Hazelhurst fairly captivated her audience by her beautiful voice and she was compelled to respond to several hearty and enthusiastic encores. The piano-forte selection given by W. Herbert Langon, of Chicago, were well received, but he spoiled it all on his second re-appearance, by attempting to get off some would be funny remarks, and drinking something on the side from a pint bottle, this action on his part, disgusted the entire audience who received, very coldly thereafter.

Sacred song, Calvary, by Miss Cora Adams and a vocal solo by Miss Lizzie Winkler were appreciated. Hattie May Morris gave one of her pleasing recitations. The entertainment concluded with the delightful comedy in two acts, "The Irish Doctor," in which John D. O'Hara as Felix O'Callahan, Fortunes O'Football, took the leading part and kept his audience in a continual roar of laughter.

All those taking part in the comedy acquitted themselves in a creditable manner, but our limited space prevents us from mentioning each performer separately. All in all it was as creditable a performance as has ever been given by this League, and too much praise cannot be given Messrs. J. D. O'Hara and M. M. Williams for their untiring efforts to make this entertainment the success it proved to be. About thirty dollars was netted by the League from the entertainment.

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SCIENTIFIC OPTICIAN.

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