

The Lost Bracelet.

In an old town in England lived a poor family named Hall. The father, who had been dead for some time, left a wife and two children—Charley, aged twelve, and Elsie, aged seven.

One day Mrs. Hall called the children to her and told them that as she was not well they would have to go to a farm two miles distant for some milk and butter. The children went off in high spirits, and when they had got the milk and butter they were told of a shorter way home across the common.

When they were nearing home, Charley suddenly stopped, with a cry of delight, for just in front of him lay a glittering jewelled bracelet. He brought it home, and next day a reward of £5 was offered for its recovery. Of course, Charley got the £5.

Neither he nor Elsie had ever seen a play, and as one was shortly coming to the town, he asked his mother if she would take Elsie and himself to see it. His mother readily consented. For a long time the children thought of nothing but the play; but at last the night arrived. The scenery was beautiful, and the play was in full swing when the cry of "Fire! Fire!" was heard.

The people were terrified and rushed to the open door like hunted animals. Poor little Elsie was knocked down and trampled on, and was very badly hurt, but the theatre was soon cleared and a doctor, who was soon on the scene, had Elsie taken home and attended to; but

for a long time she hung between life and death. At last she was able to get up out of bed and talk over the stirring events through which she had just passed.

When she was nearly well she was visited many times by the little girl whose bracelet Charley had found. In the meantime, while Elsie had been ill, Charley had been running errands for different people to earn money enough for Elsie to go for a trip to the seaside.

When the day for going away came she was all excitement. She had never seen the sea before, so, of course, was very anxious to arrive at the place where she was going to stay. She stayed at the seaside resort for a month, and had a most enjoyable time. Mrs. Hall and Charley found the home very quiet without Elsie, and were very pleased when they went to meet her next day to find that she had grown quite well and strong.

Years afterwards Elsie was one of the leading actresses of the day, but she never forgot that it was the finding of the little bracelet that was the means of her going on the stage. And Charley, who had started a banking account, kept adding and adding more until at last he had quite a large sum to his credit at the bank. When he came of age he had money enough to start a business of his own. So both Charley and Elsie got their start in life through the finding of a bracelet.

DORIS SIMPSON, aged 12.

How to Bring Up Baby.

(By HYGEIA.)

Published under the auspices of the Society for the Health of Women and Children.

"It is wiser to put up a fence at the top of a precipice than to maintain an ambulance at the bottom."

THE ACCURSED DUMMY.

WHEN I have to denounce the "dummy" or "comforter," it is always with a sense of humiliation and indignation—humiliation to think that any of us women can be unwomanly enough to continue to use a filthy abomination which has proved itself so deforming and damaging to children—humiliation to think that some of us will continue doing this wrong until the policeman won't let us; in other words, until we are prevented by the passing of an Act of Parliament; and indignation to think that ignorant and foolish women should still be subjected to the temptation of specious advertisements, lauding the "dummy," which confront them whenever they enter a chemist's shop.

What John Burns Says About the Dummy.

Four years ago, in his opening address at the tuberculosis exhibition in London, John Burns said:—

"Now I come to another practical remedy for consumption—that is the abolition of the 'comforter' and the 'soother.' This is a very serious thing. The bomb, the pistol, and dynamite have killed their scores, but I believe the 'comforter' or 'dummy' that have killed more little children. What is more, doctors tell me that it subjects the baby's mouth and throat to malformations that disclose themselves in subsequent years. I am told this—and I believe it is—a special cause of bad teeth. Later on it means impaired digestion, and the relationship of impaired digestion and consumption is a very serious one. I express it as my opinion as a layman that to a great extent the 'comforter' or 'soother' is responsible, in many cases, for adenoids. . . . I would endure the charge of being a bureaucrat with pleasure and with equanimity if with one order I could make the 'comforter' a public nuisance and schedule it as a dangerous instrument."

What an F.R.C.S. of England Says.

In a book just published, written by an M.D. of London and F.R.C.S. of England, I find the following under the heading "The Crying of Children":—

"Closely associated with the question of crying that of the use of the 'comforter' or 'dummy' teat. No more iniquitous or dangerous appliance was ever invented than the 'dummy' teat. It has been the cause of physical defect, or even death, to many children. The 'dummy' is thrust into the mouth of a child, who may be crying, at all times, without the least regard to the cause of its complaint, so that it becomes a habit to allow the infant to suck at the instrument whether he cries or not.

"Its use is merely a subterfuge by which the responsible evade the proper investigation of the cause of the crying. Children may be wrongly fed for weeks, the crying from the pain of indigestion being checked and suppressed by a 'comforter' pushed into the mouth. Many people seem to imagine that crying, in season and out, is the natural heritage of infancy, and that children are unreasonable creatures, who cry simply because they are babies. This is not so, the natural lot of a child is to be happy and contented, his cry merely being his sole means of demonstrating his hunger or discomfort. The use of the 'dummy' is a confession that a child's attention will not bother to seek a cause for his distress.

"Apart from these ethical objections to its use, it is itself harmful.

"No matter how good the intentions or how good the care taken, 'dummies' are bound to fall about, become soiled, and pick up all kinds of noxious germs. They become saturated with saliva and milk, they are inevitably become sour and unwholesome. Nevertheless, the wretched infant is taught to suck this dangerous and nasty object at all times.

"Apart from this introduction of germs and poisons into the system of the baby, the pressure of the teat in the

mouth causes deformity and defects which will affect the health for many years. The constant sucking and pressure tend to cause a highly arched palate, and a narrow jaw which will be too small for the teeth, so that they will be crowded irregularly together and rapidly decay. The shape of the lips and mouth are altered, the space of the nose encroached upon, and that most frequent trouble, 'adenoids' set up. There is no need for 'dummy' teats, for if a child is unhappy there is something amiss which should be sought for and corrected.

"The writer has two young children who have never seen a comforter, and he can safely say that in the two years that have elapsed since the arrival of the first the number of disturbed nights could be counted on the fingers."

Patagonia.

(Continued from Page 37.)

soon and thick. Our guide, driving in the cart ahead, stopped and held up his hand in warning. There was no further road; the waters had washed a deep and impassable gully across the track; we must go back.

"Pero, en donde, nor?" I asked. "A Choele-Choele viejo," he replied, or to the old village of Choele-Choele. We were near this place, it seemed.

"¿Hay algun hotel?" I asked, with deep feeling.

"Si, señor, Si, hay un hotel muy lind," he replied.

A Primitive Pub.

We were well drenched, our arms and shoulders soaked, and we were blue with cold. "I will have a fire at this hotel if it costs £2," I promised myself. We drove through shallow rivers of water, cleaning the streets of the town for the first time in three years at least. When we drew up at the old fonda, a man took our horses, and we entered. Hanging up our dripping outer coats we begged for a fire, but incredible as it may seem, the inn had neither stove, fireplace, nor chimney. The most of Argentina is without fuel, but here we were surrounded by it.

Dinner was announced, and we huddled ourselves with delicious hot soup and were cheered. Then followed a very good Italian dinner, for nearly all inn-keepers are Italians in that land. Our companions at table were young army officers, very courteous and handsome Spaniards. Dinner over, we promptly went to bed; there was nothing else to do if we would be warm. Patagonian beds are sometimes good; these were good. We soon fell into delicious slumber, warm and dry; meanwhile the waters roared outside.

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