

gum-arabic. I cannot tell you the quantities, for only experience will teach you ; but if the gum is too thick, your hat will be shiny, and so stiff that the straw will break. Fortunately, if you make a mistake, you can wash it off, and remedy matters a little in that way.

Now that lace forms so important an addition to a lady's attire, a few words on the washing of it may not be unacceptable. The colour can be restored to black lace by washing it in very strong tea, and, when dry, sponging it with a solution of ammonia. No lace should be ironed, except with a cloth placed between it

and the smoothing-iron. But it is best to keep an ordinary black bottle, covered with white linen or cotton, to pin your lace on ; letting it remain until dry. Lace should be stiffened with a little sugar and water, and is never starched, as starch pulls it to pieces, and completely ruins it. White lace is best washed by boiling it in soap-suds round a covered bottle ; but a good receipt for doing it is not difficult to be obtained, and will contain full directions, and also the name of the best washing-soap to use; there are so many of them, it is difficult to know which to recommend. D. DE B.



FREE EDUCATION AT CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.

E are all acquainted with Blackfriars and Whitefriars, but where shall we find the Greyfriars? Not at the Charterhouse, although Thackeray calls his old school by that name, but on the northern side of Newgate Street, almost under the shadow of "Old St. Paul's." Their house, however, was seized upon by Henry VIII., who granted it to the City of London, if we may believe Allen's History, "for charitable purposes." But the worthy citizens do not appear to have cared much about the gift, for the site lay unoccupied for about fifteen years, till the last year of the reign of Edward VI., who, at the suggestion of Ridley, founded it as a hospital for the education of poor fatherless children. A few days before his death he endowed his new foundation with sundry lands and tenements belonging to the Savoy, giving to it also the right of holding lands in mortmain to the amount of 4,000 marks yearly, and appointing the Lord Mayor and Corporation of the City as its governors.

These boons seem to have awakened the citizens to a sense of their value, and made them set to work at furnishing the Hospital. The latter was named after the Saviour ; in less than six months, we are told, some 340 boys were admitted to its benefits. Forty more were added by the end of the year, and it may be news, even to some who were themselves reared within its walls, to learn that the first scholars, so far from being called "Blue-coat Boys," or "Blues," were dressed in russet-brown. The fact is, as Mr. Peter Cunningham, himself an "old Blue," reminds us, "blue was a colour originally confined to servant-men and boys, nor was it ever looked upon as a colour to be worn by gentlemen, until its recognition as the uniform of the British Navy. The Whigs," he adds, "next took it up, and now it is a colour for a nobleman to wear, especially when combined with buff or yellow." Private benefactors soon sprang up to increase the funds of the Hospital, and also the number of its inmates ; and we read of Sir William Chester, an Alderman, building a wall between its grounds and those of St. Bartholomew's, and of Master John Calthrop, "citizen and draper," arching over the

City ditch from Aldersgate to Newgate, in order to improve the boys' play-ground.

The Great Fire of London, though it did not destroy the Hospital, did considerable damage to its fabric ; but the Mayor, Aldermen, and citizens of London were soon again "to the fore," and Sir John Frederick, one of the civic magnates, rebuilt their Hall at the cost, it is said, of £5,000—a large sum two centuries ago.

When Charles II. had been just twelve years on the throne, he was gracious enough to make a most valuable addition to the institution, by adding to it a mathematical school for the instruction of forty boys in navigation, endowing it with an income from the Exchequer, for the special maintenance of ten boys who were to enter the naval service. In addition to the well-known costume of the other boys—a long blue coat, or gown, reaching like a tunic nearly to the feet, with yellow stockings, and a red girdle round the waist—these "mathematicians" bear upon the left shoulder a badge, with figures of Arithmetic, Geometry, and Astronomy, and with an inscription in silver letters, *Auspicio Caroli Secundi Regis*. Five of these boys every six months are sent up to be examined by the Elder Brethren of the Trinity House ; and in case the King's foundation should fail, a governor, named Stone, left a sum for the maintenance of twelve boys to form a preliminary mathematical class, out of which they are promoted into the higher school. These last-named boys wear the badge on the right shoulder instead of the left.

After, and perhaps in consequence of, the donation of the "Merry Monarch," the numbers of the school increased so largely that, in 1683, a branch of it was established at Hertford, for the younger boys, and another at the same place for an equal number of girls. It should be mentioned here that in the original foundation King Edward intended his royal bounty to be made available for the rearing of girls as well as of boys ; but that, in this respect, as in many others, the "weaker" sex has been most ungallantly and ungenerously made to "go to the wall." In the reign of William and Mary a writing-school was added, and further benefactions were made during the eighteenth century, for the encouragement of the study of practical mathematics.

The buildings, as they stood during the first century

of the existence of the Hospital, were very extensive, consisting of three courts or quadrangles, but only two of these now remain, and the admixture of modern brickwork with the old stone walls, gateways, and windows, has not improved the appearance of the structure as a whole. Over the western cloister stood formerly the Hall, which, as already stated, was rebuilt by Sir John Frederick, then President. It is described as having been a fine building, 130 feet long by 34 feet

"The Hospital." Suffice it to say that they include the Classical and Mathematical Schoolroom, the Writing School, Laboratory, Bath-room, Treasurer's house, Steward's house, Apothecary's house, Counting-house, and Infirmary, besides the residences of the head master and several of the lower masters.

In the upper part of the buildings are the dormitories of the boys. These occupy sixteen different wards, over each of which a matron presides, her



wide, and 44 feet high, and at the bottom of it was a fine-toned organ. "On the western side," writes Allen, "there was a pulpit, in which one of the scholars, who was intended for the University, stood to read the prayers; and on each side a small choir, in which the boys who were under the tuition of the music master sat during supper time, one of whom, after the prayers and before the grace, set the psalm by singing the first line himself, after which all the rest of the boys joined in, unaccompanied by the organ."

It would be impossible, within the limits of this brief paper, to describe minutely all the various parts of the buildings which, in the aggregate, make up

authority being supported by two or more senior boys, who act as monitors, and also by a "Grecian."

"Although Christ's Hospital is, and has been from its foundation, in the main a commercial seminary," writes Mr. Howard Staunton, "the list of 'Blues' who have acquired celebrity in what are called the 'liberal professions' would confer honour upon a school of much loftier pretensions. Notably among the earliest scholars are the great antiquary, William Camden—though the fact of his admission is not satisfactorily authenticated; Bishop Stillingfleet (according to the testimony of Pepys); David Baker, the ecclesiastical historian; John Vicars, a religious controversialist of considerable learning and indefatigable energy, but

whose fanaticism and intolerance have obtained him an unenviable notoriety from the pen of the author of 'Hudibras;' Joshua Barnes, the Greek scholar; John Jurin, another scholar of great eminence, and who was elected President of the College of Physicians; Jeremiah Markland, a man of distinction, both as scholar and critic; Richardson, the celebrated novelist; Bishop Middleton, of Calcutta; Samuel Taylor Coleridge; and Robert Allen.

"In the present century Christ's Hospital can boast of Thomas Mitchell, the well-known translator of Aristophanes; Leigh Hunt; Charles Lamb; George Dyer; Professor Scholefield; the Rev. George Townsend; and Thomas Barnes, a late editor of the *Times*, 'than whom,' Leigh Hunt tells us, 'no man, if he had cared for it, could have been more certain of distinction.'"

There are many time-honoured customs still observed at Christ's Hospital, or in connection with it; such, for instance, as the public suppers in the Hall on the Thursday evenings during Lent; the visit of about fifty of the younger scholars, on Good Friday, to All Hallows' Church, Lombard Street, where, after the service, each of the children receives a packet of raisins, a bun, and a new penny; and also the preaching of the "Spital Sermons," in Christ Church, Newgate Street, on Easter Monday and Tuesday, before the Lord Mayor and Corporation, and the governors of the five Royal Hospitals; the bishops in turn preaching on Monday, and usually his lordship's chaplain on Tuesday. On Easter Monday, the children, headed by the beadle, proceed to the Mansion House, and return in procession to Christ Church with the Lord Mayor and the City authorities, to hear the sermon. On Easter Tuesday the children again go to the Mansion House, and pass through the Egyptian Hall before the Lord Mayor, each boy receiving a glass of wine, two buns, and a shilling, the monitors half-a-crown each, and the "Grecians" a guinea. They then return to Christ Church as on Monday. In these visits to the Lord Mayor, each lad wears on his breast a badge, bearing the motto, "He is risen."

At the Queen's first "drawing-room" of the year, forty "mathematical boys" are presented to the Sovereign, who gives £8 8s. between them as a gratuity. To this sum: other members of the Royal Family formerly added smaller sums, and the whole was divided among the ten boys who left the school in the year. On the illness of King George III., these presentations were discontinued; but the governors of the Hospital continued to pay £1 3s., the amount ordinarily received by each, to every boy on quitting. The practice of receiving the children was revived by William IV. Each of the "mathematical boys," having passed his Trinity House examination, and received testimonials of his good conduct, is presented with a watch worth from £9 to £13, in addition to an outfit of clothes, books, mathematical instruments, a Gunter's scale, a quadrant, and a sea-chest.

On St. Matthew's Day (September 21st), the "Grecians" deliver orations before the Lord Mayor, Corporation, governors, and their friends; "this," as

we learn from John Timbs, "is a relic of the scholars' disputations in the cloisters."

Down to about ten years ago, the education given to the boys at Christ's Hospital was of a purely classical and commercial character, such as would be necessary to fit a few for collegiate training, and the rest for city desks or a seafaring life. Since that time, however, the whole system of education has been remodelled and enlarged. There is now a fairly efficient modern department, in which German, French, chemistry, and natural philosophy are taught. For chemistry, the pupils have the great advantage of using the laboratory of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, under the care of Dr. Russell. French is taught to every boy in the London school; and English language and literature have replaced Greek in all the forms except those of the "Upper Grammar School," into which the more promising boys are drafted, and trained for the Universities and for professional life. This department is fairly successful, as will be seen when we state that last year it produced a Second Wrangler and First Smith's Prizeman, and this year the Ireland Scholarship, for the second time in three years. The six or seven "Grecians" who go up annually to Oxford and Cambridge rarely fail to win an open scholarship each, in addition to their "exhibitions." This year the school has already gained six scholarships. The majority of the boys leave the Hospital between fifteen and sixteen, mostly for commercial life; but some of the more promising ones are kept for a year or so longer. Apart from the very considerable educational reforms which have been carried out, the main features of the school—namely, its constitution, the privileges of the governors, &c.—remain unchanged. It may be mentioned, however, that since 1868 the head master has had supreme control over all the departments of the school, and has a seat on the sub-committee of governors, which deals with all educational questions.

The school possesses a capital choir, and a band of thirty-five performers, which is considered very excellent; and all the boys learn drilling. Then there is a capacious bath—a "Peerless Pool," in its way—where the boys can learn and practise the art of swimming. I learn, too, on good authority that the school is on the eve of starting a museum of its own, for which one of the governors has given a sum of money; and Mr. Ruskin, also a governor, has promised a collection of stones and fossils.

The boys' school at Hertford is little changed, except that the teaching has been improved; but the girls' school has been reorganised under a new and efficient head mistress, and now numbers some sixty pupils. The governors, I understand, propose to increase the number still further, as funds and other circumstances allow.

From what has been said above, it will be seen that every effort is honestly made by the governors to keep unchanged the character of the Hospital, as really a place set apart for the education, not of *paupers* in the popular sense of the word, but of that great middle class of parents with narrow means, who answer to the *pauperes et indigentes* of ancient Rome and of mediæval

England. For instance, as soon as any inquiry is made by a parent on behalf of his son, he receives from the clerk of the governors a printed notice "reminding him that no application ought to be made to them by persons except those in real need of the aid of a charitable foundation, on account of slender means or reverses of fortune, and telling him that he must accompany any application with an account of his family, his circumstances, his income, &c. This statement should be brief, and free from needless detail, and be strictly confined to facts. Along with this must be sent certificates of the parents' marriage, and of the child's birth and baptism; and when these papers are all sent in for the consideration of the court of governors, it is to be understood that the latter have the right of rejecting, without stating their reasons, any case which they may not deem a proper one. The governors present, not collectively, but individually, in turn. The form of presentation, in event of the application being successful, is to be obtained from the governor who actually presents, and the child's name is to be inscribed on it by such governor, together with a statement of his 'conscientious belief' that the child so presented is a proper object for admission into the Hospital."

It should be added here that the child, at the time of its admission, must be between the ages of eight and ten, and free from disease or physical infirmity or defect which would render it unable to take care of itself, and that the child, as well as the parents, must have no means of its own.

Assuming, therefore, all thus far is correct, and the applicant's "papers" are all in proper shape and form, in due course the parent will receive a notice as to the period at which the child may present himself for examination, for no child is admitted without passing an elementary examination suitable to his years. If they pass this examination, the children are formally admitted at the meetings of the governors' court, held in February, March, April, May, June, September, October, and November; and when the child is admitted, the presence of one of its parents (if living) is required, in order to answer any inquiry which the court or committee may think fit to make as to his or her circumstances.

The examination, as may be supposed, is not a very hard one, being graduated according to the age of the child, and in no case does it amount to more than what the child's mother ought to have taught him in the nursery by the time he was seven. For if he is between eight and nine he will be called upon to "read with facility any elementary book, to write legibly, and to say the multiplication table;" and if he is between nine and ten he will be required, in addition to the above, "to spell fairly from dictation, and to work the four simple rules of arithmetic." But even this standard is capable of a slight modification in particular instances, for in event of a presentation or nomination being obtained or deposited at the office when the child so nominated is close upon ten years of age, or if a child fails to pass the above examination before that age, the governors usually allow it one

more chance, or (to use their own phrase) "one more opportunity will be given of attending for examination or for re-examination, as the case may be, at the next admission of children."

Children are sent, immediately on admission, to the preparatory school of the Hospital at Hertford, from which they are drafted periodically, according to their progress, to the London establishment.

It may be well for parents who are thinking of making an application for admission on behalf of a child, to take notice of the following order of the court, which bears date 1858, and is rigidly observed: "That no person shall, under any pretext whatever, pay, give, or receive any sum of money, or other consideration, for a presentation to this Hospital, or agree or negotiate to pay, give, or receive, or offer by advertisement, by letter, or orally, any sum of money or other consideration for the same; and that, in case of any violation of this order, the child named or proposed to be named in such presentation shall be disqualified for admission into the Hospital, and, if admitted, shall be removed therefrom. That any governor who shall be guilty of a breach of any part of this order, or who shall be in any manner, directly or indirectly, implicated in any breach thereof, shall for ever after lose all title to receive, and be disqualified from receiving, a presentation under any circumstances whatever. That any governor who shall entrust the disposition of his patronage in respect of any presentation to any other person, shall be liable for all acts done by such other person, in relation to such presentation, as if such acts had been done by such governor himself, or with his express direction and authority; unless the court shall, on consideration of any special circumstances in the case, otherwise order."

The governors of the Hospital are the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London, together with some four or five hundred wealthy merchants, noblemen, and country gentlemen, who have each contributed in a lump sum £500 towards the funds of the Hospital. The Lord Mayor has two nominations yearly, and each of the Aldermen one; the rest of the governors nominate or present in turn according to a rota; and each governor has a "turn" about once in three years. A printed list of all the governors is to be obtained by purchase at the "Counting-house" of the Hospital, and also a shorter list that informs the applicant which of the Governors enjoy the privilege of a nomination during the current year.

Considering the value of a site so central as Newgate Street, and the great increase in the population of the metropolis, it is a matter of surprise that the governors of Christ's Hospital have not ere this followed the example of the sister "Hospital" of the Charterhouse, and removed the boys under their charge into "fresh woods and pastures new." The question has been mooted more than once, but has been always negatived. And yet no valid reason can be given for thus adhering to the existing site, at the loss of all the advantages which country air and country scenes would afford. I fear it must be owned that all corporate bodies are conservative to a fault, though we should think that

each governor individually would prefer that his own little nominee or *protégé* should be enjoying the pure air of the Surrey Hills, or of Hendon, or Barnet, or Shooter's Hill at the least. The Charterhouse School, since its removal to the neighbourhood of Godalming, has more than doubled its numbers; and, unlike the Charterhouse, Christ's Hospital has

no day-scholars, or day-boys, to consult. There can be little doubt that, if the Hospital were to be removed to-morrow from Newgate Street to a site from five to fifty miles away from St. Martin's-le-Grand, the sale of its present site would enable the worthy court of governors to raise the total of the scholars from eight to twelve hundred. E. WALFORD, M.A.

ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETIES.



THE Acclimatisation Societies of Australia have been a great success. No wonder, for they had almost virgin land to deal with as far as wild eatable quadrupeds were concerned, on land. In the water they had neither trout nor salmon.

In romantic Tasmania—"land of the mountain and the flood"—every wild animal of the temperate zones flourishes; and as it is a colony where few make any money, it promises to be in future time the "happy hunting grounds" of rich colonists from Victoria and New South Wales, who will leave their prosperous settlements and burning climate for the fresh air and capital fishing of Tasmania, shooting in wild woods where covert game, winged and ground, are certain to flourish. Brown trout already abound in the Tasmanian pools and torrents, and the salmon ova, so repeatedly forwarded by the indefatigable Mr. Youl, are reported to have at length produced a plentiful haul of grilse. It yet remains to be seen whether these grilse will find their way to the sea and back again in the enlarged form of fresh-river salmon.

In Victoria rabbits have already become a nuisance, and when shot are not thought worth picking up; while hares grow to ten and twelve pounds weight, and are so swift that in a straight run, without dodging to right or left, they not unfrequently leave the greyhounds from the "old country" hopelessly beaten—make them lie down, as coursers say.

In New Zealand, where tame pigs run wild, assuming the airs of wild boars, were once the only representatives of game, it is said that deer, red and fallow, are flourishing, and that pheasants are so multiplying in the bush that they will soon be as common in the poulterers' shops of Wellington and Canterbury as at home. These are pleasant prospects for old colonists and future emigrants of sporting blood from the mother country.

When the Australian colonies were first discovered, no eatable animal larger than a kangaroo existed on those great islands. The natives sometimes ate their dogs; but opossum and kangaroo, large lizards, and fish of a stolid character were their principal animal food, supplemented by caterpillars and other insects.

They took very kindly to beef and mutton—too kindly for the owners of these meat-making colonists. Many a shepherd, and many a tribe of blacks, fell victims to the preference the latter displayed for tame sheep over wild kangaroo!

In the New Zealand Islands, until Captain Cook introduced the pig, man killed in warfare or taken prisoner was the only warm-blooded animal that ever smoked upon the hospitable board of the warlike chieftains. "Long pig," baked with potatoes, has formed the feast of wild New Zealanders within recent times; and runaway sailors are reported to have looked on, and partaken of the potatoes!

A few years ago there was a British Acclimatisation Society founded by enthusiastic naturalists and fishermen, who were going to do wonderful things in the way of introducing new succulent food to this country; but their zeal seems to have exhaled after holding for two or three years a sort of zoological dinner, prepared by eminent French cooks. The British public, content with beef, mutton, and pork, with occasional variety in the way of venison and other game, did not take kindly to kangaroo, either roasted or in soup. Even the Civil Service Stores have struck kangaroo-tail in tins from the list of preserved meats. The Australian badger did not become a rival to the native animal; and the great African antelope, the eland, although propagated freely in the parks of Lord Hill and the Marquis of Breadalbane, could not be made to show a profit, even if it had been possible to keep it in an enclosure with palings less than twelve feet high.

A curious example of the way strange fictions get printed as facts, quoted, and repeated, is to be found in Mr. Macdonald's thick volume on "Cattle, Sheep, and Deer." He says: "Lord Hill exhibited a specimen of the eland at the Smithfield Club Show in 1867. It weighed 1,764 lbs. live weight. *He was slaughtered and eaten. A sirloin of the animal was placed on the table at the Farmers' Club; and those who partook of it, and were not in the secret of its being eland, pronounced it 'capital beef.' The flesh is fine in the grain, dark in colour, and carries a fair layer of fat; but it has not so fine a flavour as venison.*"

Mr. Macdonald probably copied this circumstantial story from the agricultural paper edited by the secretary of the Farmers' Club. The only part of it true is that Lord Hill's eland was exhibited at the Smithfield Club Show. The beast, having been refused by Mr. Grove and venison dealers, eventually found its way into the hands of a dealer in wild beasts, and was exported alive to the Hamburg Zoological Gardens. The sirloin put before the Farmers' Club was beef! The mistake arose from the Cockney pronunciation of a waiter who called Highland "Eeland"!