

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BLUSH ROSE.—1. In the upper ranks of life a girl ought not to be out of the schoolroom at seventeen, and in any case she would be far too young to think of marriage. Her growth is not finished, her constitution not settled, her bones not hardened, her judgment very far from being matured; and she has no experience, nor suitable education—in house-keeping and in nursing, for example—to render her eligible as a wife, a mother, or the mistress of a house. Five-and-twenty would be a more suitable age.—2. Certainly you should decline to accompany any man to a place of entertainment unless accompanied by a chaperon, or at least by a female companion.

SAL.—Should a gentleman say, on his introduction, that he is pleased at making your acquaintance, you need only to make a slight bow, and smile politely in recognition of his remark.

SLAC.—Wear shoes broader at the toe, and use indoor shoes of a stuff material instead of leather. It would also be desirable to show your feet to a well-recommended chiropodist.

BERTHA should get a manual on crochet. Such books can be had for a few pence. Work-patterns cannot be given in our correspondence columns.

DUX.—1. The name "Penelope" is pronounced "Pe-nel-o-pe."—2. There is no reason why you should not send a begging letter for any charity to the "richest man"; but we should rather send him a printed report of the charity and the work done, which would not necessitate his having to write in reply. You should not "take people by the throat," as it were—a mistake often made in this connection; and the annoyance occasioned to the persons solicited for money indisposes them to respond to the appeal.

INQUISITIVE.—We must refer you to our indexes.

PRECAUTION.—Yes, there is a society which has branches or courts in many places (some twenty-one) equivalent to an insurance company, in view of sickness and accident, for women. It is the United Sisters' Friendly Society; London Secretary, Miss Edith M. Maskell, 7c, Lower Belgrave Street, London, S.W., from whom the rules may be obtained (6d. each, post free). The objects are threefold—to afford a weekly allowance in sickness; an annuity commencing at the age of sixty-five; and a sum of £6 or upwards, payable at death, to the duly nominated representative of a member. The allowance made in time of sickness ranges from 4s. to 10s. weekly. The Society also comprises a Work and Leisure Court, which affords higher rates of sick relief, with higher subscriptions, the relief rising to the maximum of £1 a week during sickness for a period of six months.

PATIENCE REWARDED should look in a *London Directory* (to be found at any librarian's or post office) for the United Telephone Company.

It employs a large staff of women clerks, who are under the care of a lady-superintendent.

VICTORIA would require ordinary English clothing, with thinner clothes for the summer, which is very hot.

PANSY should write for the catalogue of the Religious Tract Society, 56, Paternoster Row, E.C.

M. J.—You should read the *History of England*.

LADY MACBETH.—1. There is no rule whatever as to the length of time required in answering questions. The space now given to replies is very small, and the letters come in hundreds, and take their chance in the order of reading and replying.—2. Write to the present proprietor of Smedley's Hydropathic Establishment. Someone still carries it on, we believe.

DUNDER KITTEN.—1. Change your diet in some respects. Take lighter food and less of it, and your heaviest meal at one o'clock—before you become fatigued, as you must be by seven o'clock. Masticate well, and drink little during meals. You may do so moderately about an hour after dinner. Very hot water is much recommended by many. Avoid pastry and sweetmeats; also new bread.—2. You will find a recipe for making scones in our *Girl's Own Cookery Book*, p. 153.

LOUISITA.—We doubt your cleaning the velvetene yourself. You had much better have it either dyed or cleaned by a professional, if it be worth the doing.

CONSTANT READER.—Nothing will remove the stain of port wine from a terra-cotta-coloured dress. But you might have it dyed.

KIT.—Charles Kingsley's *Heroes* would give you all the information you desire respecting the ancient Greek mythology.



Miss Edwards in a state of Literary.
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Debtor & Creditor



"Mr. Will you have the goodness
to settle my little bill?"



"And thuddy hangs a tail!"



A Lion.

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SWEET WILLIAM.—A barrister is a counsellor-at-law. There are two departments in the profession—special pleading in the several courts of justice when he goes "on circuit" attending the judges; and conveyancing, when he gives judgment on legal questions, and documents submitted to him by a client's solicitors. Queen's Counsellors are created from barristers, a distinction dignified by the substitution of a silk gown in lieu of one of stuff worn by barristers; and the wig, which the latter are all privileged to wear. A solicitor holds a position of inferior official rank to a barrister, and takes a seat below the latter in Courts of Justice. He is a legal practitioner, his relative position to a barrister being much like that of a medical general practitioner, with diplomas only, to a doctor of medicine, (M.D.). He draws up wills and all legal documents. Correctly speaking, a practitioner in Courts of Common Law is called an attorney, and in the Courts of Chancery a solicitor. He wears no distinctive uniform, and is under the summary jurisdiction of the judges.

DORA.—George III. crown piece, dates 1819 and 1820, obv., laureated bust, turned to right, rev., St. George and Dragon, from 7s. 6d. to 15s., according to preservation. George IV. half-crown, date 1821, obv., laureated bust, rev., arms in garnished shield, rose, shamrock, and thistle, from 4s. to 6s. There are three types.

JEAN S.A.—A list of the various schools, institutions, and teachers of massage is kept by the Secretary of the Nurses' Club, 12, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C. You had better write there, enclosing a stamp for reply.

F. O. R.—A nursery governess is not generally required to teach more than the rudiments of any subject; certainly not more of Latin, French, and music. The salary ranges from £20 to £30, according to the duties and the number of children.

GISSY.—You will do well to get a more experienced and an older servant, for you ought to spare yourself as much as possible all the heavy work of the house; also, we should endeavour to put out the washing, and save in some other quarter. Be sure to get some exercise each day, and take care of your health.

ZARRA.—Robert Burns died in Dumfries, July 26th, 1796. We do not think that he was in any sense a drunkard, but he appears to have injured his health by imprudent excesses, and his muse was active to the last.

L. R. C. P.—1. Leave one of your husband's cards for each of the grown-up sons; leave two of your husband's cards—one for the gentleman and one for the lady of the house.—2. If you find the bulletin posted at the door in case of illness, put your cards into the letter-box, turning up the corner of the card if there be several daughters. We have read your letter with much interest, and greet you as an old and valued friend.

HARRIETT TILLSON.—A crescent moon is the emblem of Night; and if you were to dress in a tableau as a figure representing Night, you should wear a crescent moon as a tiara, and stars as spangles over a black dress. All the heathen gods and goddesses had distinguishing emblems. Diana likewise wore a crescent moon, but also had a bow and quiver of arrows; and this idea, coming from the ancients, was adopted in our days of chivalry. Our knights' helmets were surmounted by distinctive crests, and devices were depicted on their dress and escutcheons specially appropriate, and granted by royal authority. Badges also were voluntarily adopted for the same purpose. Persons not hereditarily and legally qualified to use armorial bearings and crest may take any fancy device and motto for a seal or decoration of their letter-paper.

VIOLA (Cape Colony).—Many thanks for your interesting letter. You are indeed happy to have such beautiful surroundings, and we envy you the thousand peach trees, and all the fruit you describe. It is pleasant to know we have a girl friend so kind and faithful. The poem is pretty.

SHAMROCK, P. R., C. G. L., CLEMENTINE, GLADYS, AUNT JEANNETTE, KATHLEEN B., HOPEFUL BILL, E. HOLT, HE WOULD, E. M. C., SEIVAD, E. C. E., QUITE FRENCH, A STRANGER, WEED, VAMPIRE, MAUD R., ANDRÉ COMPTON, DADO TREVOR, S. S., all send us compositions, none of which will suit our columns; nor do they possess any merit, originality in every case being lacking.

PERCY needs only to read the address given at the end of every article on dress, which appears every month in the "G. O. P." to see that paper patterns (tacked or untacked) are to be had by directing to "The Lady Dressmaker," care of Mr. H. G. Davis, 73, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

GHISLAINE and BELGIAN.—We think that Sir Walter Scott's Waverley romances would suit you; also the writings of Washington Irving (American).

WILD ROSE.—The Children's Hospital, Shadwell, London, E.; the North-Eastern Hospital for Children, 327, Hackney Road; and Convalescent Home, Freemasons' Road, Croydon; and Dr. Barnardo's Infirmary for Sick Children, 19, Stepney Causeway; the Memorial Cottage Hospital, Mildmay Park; the Paddington Green Children's Hospital, N.W.; the Evelina Hospital for Sick Children, Southwark Bridge Road, are all places where toys, books, and pictures will be gratefully received. But there are very many more.

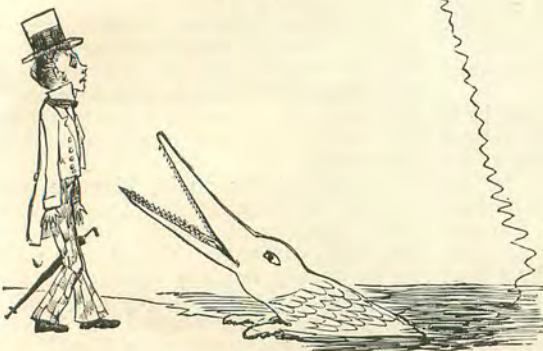
L. S. D.—The first Mayor of London (they were not entitled Lord Mayor until the year 1354) was Henry FitzAlwyn, appointed by the Crown in 1188. Previously to him the office was held by a so-called "Portreeve." There have been 513 Lord Mayors up to the present year, but we speak under correction.



Miss Edwards riding.

Preparations for Har.
Ball practice

An opening for a nice young man.



A Lucifer Match.



A Duck of a young man



A Solicitor.

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D—K's letter is another little miserable effusion which shows that the blessing of sympathy is absent from the daily life of the writer. How lovely life would be if we each possessed a ready gift of sympathy! "Again" might be pronounced as "a-gen"—at least, the "a" should not be accentuated very strongly.—2. After being introduced to anyone who says, "So happy to make your acquaintance," you should smile and look friendly and pleased. If possible, you should make some pertinent remark such as, "I have seen you so often, and I am glad we have met at last;" but we prefer to make the first-mentioned remark ourselves whenever possible. The best rule for everyone is, to try to be as natural and simple as possible in their manners, and to remember as little about yourself as need be in an intelligent and sympathetic thought for others.



Samy Portrait
By Crotch - etc



Darby & Joan.

BLUE-EYED FAIRY AND SHAMROCK.—1. The marriage of cousins is not illegal.—2. Reading at meals is not a good plan for anyone in any rank of life. We can only do one thing well at a time, and it is foolish to try to give our attention in two perfectly dissimilar ways at once. It is bad for our digestions also, for the brain should be resting, if possible, when digestion is going on.

EXPLICITUS (Sydney).—1. January 4th, 1877, was a Thursday.—2. First, you ask a question respecting the Divine plans and will concerning His creatures of a lower grade which the all-wise Creator has not seen fit to reveal to us. Secondly, you prejudge the case, taking certain supposed facts as undoubtedly existing, and then inquire why they should have been so ordained. This is illogical. We can only say that He who made all things is as infinitely good and merciful as He is wise and all-powerful. We are not His judges. We are indebted to Him for every mercy we enjoy in this world, and for every hope of a happy immortality. What is our love and our gratitude if we cannot trust Him, and believe absolutely that "He doeth all things well?" We thank you for your kind letter.

NORA should send the tweed to be dyed, and the dyer will say what is likely to be the best colour for it.

SHEILA.—If the sash be really of good quality send it to a proper cleaner.

TURQUOISE.—Mount Ceta is a mountain in Greece, nine miles west of Thermopylae. It consists of a chain, the chief elevations of which are Katabothra and Aninos, 7,061 feet above the sea level commanding magnificent views of Hellas and Thessaly. See *Paradise Lost*, book ii., line 545.

MAB.—"Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast," is a line from William Congreve's "Mourning Bride." He was born 1670; died, 1729.

BOVVER.—An Early-Rising Association is conducted by Miss Clift, Fernbank, Cheltenham; another, by Miss C. Hacking, Seymour Grove, Old Trafford, Manchester; and several others. Those of our girls who wish to avail themselves of correspondence clubs had better get the little *Directory* (published by Griffith & Farran) and write for themselves. Some of the clubs exist no longer, and some addresses have been changed, and they must be prepared to spend a few postage stamps in finding what they require.

DAUGHTER OF ENGLAND.—1. There is no law, either Divine or of your country, forbidding the marriage of first cousins. Its prudence is another and somewhat weighty consideration.—2. Study all our Answers respecting the "unpardonable sin."

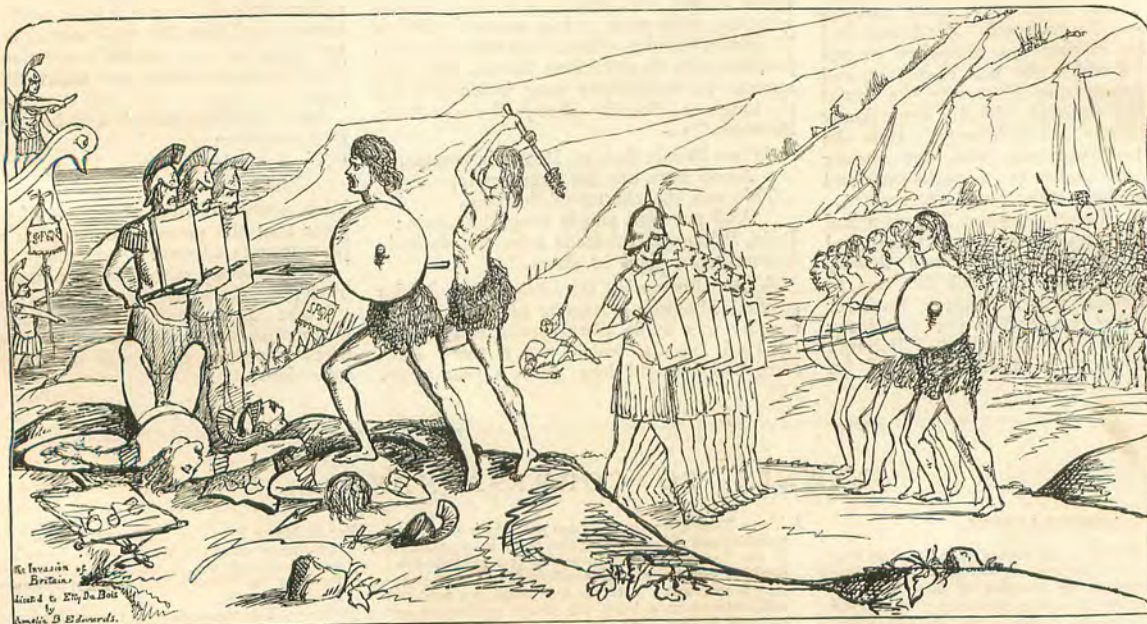
ETTA F.—December 21st, 1875, was a Tuesday.

IRISHWOMAN.—There are many old-world traditions attached to precious stones of all kinds. But it is a mistake to say that the opal was reputed, in ancient times, to be one of ill-omen. Quite the contrary, although in modern times the superstition respecting it has been of a sinister character. It was said that the onyx was an unlucky stone, or, at least, brought misfortune on the wearer, and that this evil could be neutralised by wearing a sard at the same time. The only other stone of ill-repute was the malachite. But why trouble yourself with such fables?

SIRRIE.—If the lady be at home it would be a rudeness to leave a card only. You should go in. A man should call and enquire for his hostess the day after a dinner, and leave his card; but the rule is not the same for women as men.



Master Wolfbus's Road Bill.
The original Aunt-cater.



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The French Army.



A Corporal.

LEYTONSTONIAN.—St. Swithin, or Swithun, Confessor and Bishop, Patron of Winchester, was born in that neighbourhood about the year A.D. 800. Egbert, King of Wessex, committed to him the education of his son, and successor, Ethelwulf. You may remember that Alfred the Great was the son of the latter king, whose counsellor in religion and all the peaceful arts he was. Several churches were built by him (St. Swithin), and a fine stone bridge over the river Itchen. He died about the year 862. The popular idea respecting the weather, in connection with his "day," was (according to his biographer, the Rev. John Earle, Professor of Anglo-Saxon of the University of Oxford) "probably derived from some primeval pagan belief, regarding the meteorologically prophetic character of some day at about the same period of the year as St. Swithin's."

BAHIANA (South Africa).—1. The quotation you make is from Tennyson's *Locksley Hall*.—2. April 26th, 1874, was a Sunday. We were interested in your kind letter and account of all the lovely flowers. —3. Certainly we shall be pleased to hear from you again.

S. UTILITY.—October 6th, 1881, fell on a Thursday. Your handwriting is scarcely formed, but fairly good, and very legible.

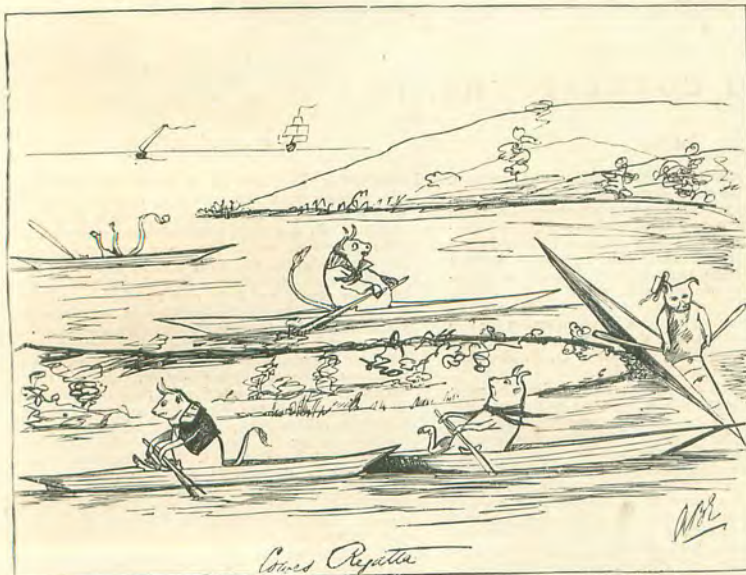
IRENE and ELSIE.—Derby is pronounced "Darby," and Bay-a-net, as now divided, and just as spelt.

A. M.—1. The French word *femme* is pronounced as if written (in English letters) "famm."—2. You should write more copies. Your spelling is correct.

ANNA GUMSUCKER.—1. November 10th, 1876, was a Friday.—2. We think the duties of the daughters in the house are appointed by their mother. They are usually, in families of small means, the dusting of the drawing-room, care of the flowers, and the arrangement of the table in the dining-room. But these things differ in all homes respectively. Thank you for your nice letter.



Self-gratification.



Cared Regatta

KATHLEEN.—The case of the governess you name is certainly a hard one. She has not been treated in an honourable way. At the same time we could not give you advice, as you need that of a lawyer. At least, we may recommend your friend not to give up her situation, excepting on the terms of the agreement made with the Principal, which we hope was made in black and white. Let her give the full notice before leaving, and take care to secure another place before she leaves her present shelter; more especially, as we suppose, she will require some testimonial or recommendation from her present employer.

TROUBLED TABBY.—Confirmation in the Church of England is a public confession of the faith of Christ, when come to an age of responsibility. Therefore, to be confirmed "in private" would be to set aside the great and sacred object in view, and the privilege afforded you of confessing your Saviour in the way appointed by your own Church. In any case the Bishop would not consent to it. The preparation required will teach you much, if you be anxious to learn. Your clergyman will give you notice in church of the time when the classes will be held in your own parish.

G. O. P.—The early loss of colour in the hair may be the result of malnutrition of the roots of the hair, of exceptionally bad headaches, of mental trouble, or violent shock to the nervous system, or it may be hereditary. Only a good hair or skin doctor could decide on the cause and put you under suitable treatment, if the cause do not preclude any chance of cure. In any case you had better take steps about the matter without further delay.

A READER OF THE "G. O. P."—We are unable to give promises to our many young friends who make suggestions about competitions. Perhaps some of those we inaugurate in the future may come within the reach of your capabilities. We hope they will.



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