

# EDITORIALS

OPINIONS OF GREAT PAPERS ON IMPORTANT SUBJECTS

## SECRET SOCIETIES IN SCHOOLS.

**S**ECRET societies in high schools and other secondary schools are scathingly criticised in a report to the National Educational Association by a committee appointed to investigate their effects. "Factional, and stir up strife and contention," "snobbish," "dissipate energy and proper ambition," "foster a feeling of self-importance," "expensive and foster habits of extravagance," "weaken the efficiency of the school," "detract interest from study," are some of the grave charges made against these organizations.

The indictment is severe, but not too severe. Children from 13 to 14 to 17 or 18 years of age are not mature enough to derive benefit from organizations of any kind which are not supervised by older persons, but are mature enough to receive from them much harm. They are then at the age when they are prone to imitate all that is bad or foolish in the conduct of adults, and the only way they can be kept from following this tendency is by restricting their opportunity. School secret societies enlarge the opportunity. This is the main reason why pupils fight so stoutly to prevent their suppression. The teachers, who should know their effects best, are practically unanimous in condemning secret societies, and there is no reason to doubt that in doing so they aim at the good of the schools.

The National Educational Association will not abolish school "fraternities" by hearing reports or adopting resolutions. Children are persevering. They are especially persevering when wrong. They are most persevering when they think they are spitting the teacher. Nothing gives the average boy so much unqualified satisfaction as to think he is making the schoolmaster sit up nights and rack his brain over the subject of school government. As long as boys' fathers have clubs and college young men have "frats," high school boys will want "frats," and probably they will usually have them, no matter how often they may be put down. If teachers could exact the hearty support of parents in the contest the result might be different. The remedy for secret societies and other follies in secondary schools is for parents to tell children to obey their teachers, and, if they disobey, to punish them.—Chicago Tribune.

## SUGGESTIONS ON LIFE INSURANCE.

**L**IFE insurance in New England has for many years been managed with exceptional efficiency and honesty. In New York that kind of management has too often been lacking. Many persons now far advanced in years can recall the time, some thirty years ago, when a number of New York life insurance companies went to the wall. Some of these had many policies outstanding in all parts of the country, and their failure was so complete that the policy holders did not receive a cent. And the well-founded report that the receivers of the defunct companies fattened on the spoils wrung from widows and orphans did not mitigate the anger with which outsiders looked on that carnival of diabolism in the Empire State. It is because the record of New England is in happy contrast with all this that advice from that quarter on the trouble in the Equitable Life of New York has a special interest. A committee of New England policy holders in the Equitable has spoken words of truth and soberness. This committee declares that no matter what may be the result of the various investigations now in process, the policy of the company should be transformed in the future. It believes—and who will deny?—that the company belongs to the policy holders, and should be managed by them; that the surplus should not accumulate beyond the just needs of the society, but should go to the policy holders in the form of reduced premiums or otherwise; that provision should be made by law, if necessary, to prevent a needless surplus; that the funds of the Equitable should be regarded as those of savings banks, and their investment should be surrounded by the same legal safeguards;

## SKILLFUL HUNTING.

Five minutes of thorough, systematic search for a lost object is often more effective than half an hour of desultory hunting, which, in its excited flurry, often passes in plain sight the article which it seeks. An example of this principle is often seen in the case of the small boy, who, when the family have scrambled vainly about for the dropped thimble, announces that he will look for it "Indian fashion." He lies quietly down on the floor, and bringing his eye on a level with the carpet, soon spies the missing object. In "A Girl in the Karpatis," Miss Dowie gives another instance of letting brains do the work of the muscles.

The party was riding up a steep mountainside when suddenly the author discovered that she had lost her gold watch. It was an heirloom and much valued; there was nothing to do but to turn back on the trail. About two miles before she had made the discovery her horse had slipped, and she had rolled off. It must have been then that her watch was dropped.

The little party returned on the path, wildly searching here and there. When they reached the place of the tumble there was a grand hunt, which lasted a long time.

Then, tired out and heated, the searchers returned to where the horses were tethered and acknowledged themselves beaten. "I've turned up every fern leaf and grass blade," said one.

"It's no use," exclaimed the author; and she declared she would not look again for all the watches in the world.

A young artist in the party had stayed with the horses while the rest were hunting. Now he announced that it was his turn to try. The others laughed, but they willingly sat down to rest while the young man went off down the hillside. It was not long before they heard a "Hurrah!" and the artist appeared, holding up the watch in triumph.

"I almost always find things," he said. "I search like a dog. I lay down on my face and listened, and I heard the ticking when the watch was a meter away. Then I crawled on my hands and knees until I found it."

that the officials should be prevented from engaging in other business and from using the company's funds to further their private interests.

All of those propositions are manifestly just and undeniably expedient.—Washington Post.

## THE POST CARD NUISANCE.

**A** UNITED STATES Judge at Trenton—let us give his name—Judge William M. Lanning, has charged the United States grand jury to look up the matter of sending "flashy" post cards through the mails.

It is high time that some official took notice of this growing evil. Any Chicagoan who walks State street or other avenues of trade must notice that week by week the mailing cards exposed for sale in shop windows are progressing from mere vulgarity to absolute indecency. Some are of a sort that should promptly bring their seller or the man who sends them through the mails before a criminal court. The matter is one of more than ordinary importance. A society exists for the purpose of stopping the sale of indecent books and pictures. But the purchaser of such articles is usually a degenerate seeking them for the gratification of his own vulgar and depraved taste.

Against the evil of the indecent or vulgar post card there is to-day no defense. The purest-minded maiden, the most refined wife, may at any time have delivered to her by the government of the United States a card carrying an indecent suggestion, or a vulgar innuendo, open to all to read, exposing her to the ridicule of all who see it in passing. The Postoffice Department is now doing something to stop this. Let the censorship be rigid.—Chicago Examiner.

## THE DECADENCE OF THE DANCE.

**D**ANCING, it seems, is not what it once was and even the waltz has deteriorated. People romp and call it dancing, to the disgust of those whose memories recall the grace and stately dignity of the movements of former times. "To-day," says "Professor" Bowen at the convention of the American Professors of Dancing, "dancing consists mainly of jumps and jerks. Grace and dignity have vanished from it and the two-step is responsible." It is proposed to abolish the odious two-step and bring back the minuet; but this we fear, is as impracticable as it is to bring back the "grace and dignity" that characterized the manners of serious people 100 years ago. The present age is averse to many things that pleased the fathers and grandfathers. It takes life in a hurry and takes its amusements in a touch-and-go spirit. The drama, the poem, the novel—all are said to be decadent. Like manners, they have been abbreviated. The two-step may be sad enough, but it has the merit of being in accord with present tendencies.—Baltimore Sun.

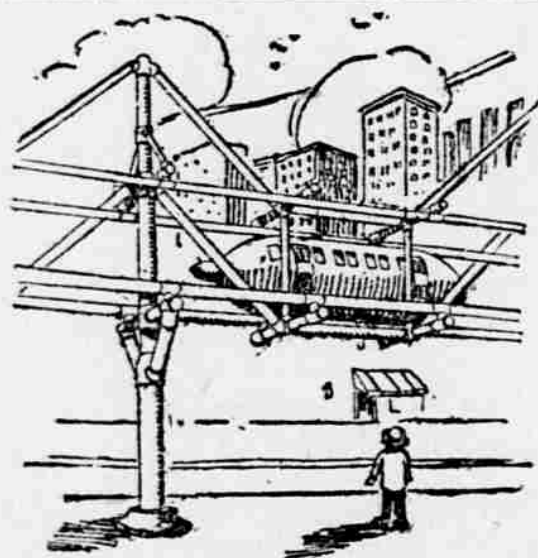
## THE HELLO GIRL.

**W**E have all felt at times that the telephone still lacks a great deal to be a perfect machine, that there is inattention, poor connection, needless delay and sometimes almost impudence in the telephone service, but how few ever feel that it is not an automatic machine that they are using, that the voice they hear answering their impatience is not a part of the machine, that there is a personal equation to be considered, a woman away off somewhere in the unidentified "central," who has feelings and self-respect, just as other women have; a woman who will recognize a cross tone just as quickly as if she were visibly present, and a woman entitled to respectful treatment, just as much as if she were in her own home. The fact that you can stand miles away and talk into her ear does not detract from the right to the kind word and civil treatment.—Jersey City Journal.

## ELEVATED RAILWAY.

Any Rate of Speed Can Be Attained with Perfect Safety.

Several of the larger cities in the United States are in need of an elevated railway to accommodate the heavy railway traffic in the more densely populated sections which the surface lines are unable to handle. Because of the unsightliness of elevated railways at present in use, their further use has been discontinued in favor of the underground road. An Ohio engineer has invented an elevated railway built on entirely new ideas. This structure is made of a series of individual posts, firmly set



ELEVATED ROAD AND CAR.

in the ground and imbedded in cement to make them permanently rigid. These posts are formed of a number of tubular sections united at the joints by collars, the latter made with sockets which receive the supporting braces. Upper and lower tracks are supported by these braces, the whole being further braced and supported by a span mechanism. All of the braces, arms and other parts are made of tubes or pipes. The rails are carried on the outer extremities of the horizontal crossarms, and are arranged in parallel pairs one above the other, so that an upper and a lower rail constitute a track for a car. All the central posts are equipped with lateral arms for one or more lines of cars at each side. It is claimed that by this construction it is possible to build an elevated structure which will stand perfectly rigid and which needs no special provision for expansion or contraction in its frame work and track and has tight joints in all temperatures. Furthermore, it occupies the minimum of surface room; possible in

an elevated road, and being tubular throughout, obscures light less and is less objectionable to the eye than any other now in use. Any speed can be attained with perfect safety.

## CALLS IT A GOOD LIKENESS.

Faithful Employee Not Forgotten at End of a Quarter Century.

Jacob Riis, the sociologist, in an address to a workmen's club, praised generosity.

"I see a handful of children here," he said. "May they grow up generous. May none of them grow up into such a man as an old banker whom I know."

"He is a millionaire, and he lives in a palace, but his heart is as hard as steel and as cold as ice."

"One of his men completed the other day his twenty-fifth year of service. For twenty-five years this honest man had worked for the banker faithfully. He and his chief were both poor at the beginning, but where, in the quarter century, the banker had accumulated millions, the faithful, middle-aged bookkeeper had only saved a few hundreds. His salary, you see, was only \$25 a week."

"He didn't think the banker would remember the twenty-fifth anniversary of his engagement, but the old man did. That morning he handed the bookkeeper a sealed envelope."

"'George,' he said, 'to-day ends the twenty-fifth year of your work for me, and you have worked steadily and well. In this envelope is a memento of the occasion.'"

"The bookkeeper opened the envelope, trembling and eager. Within lay his employer's photograph. That was all."

"In the face of a disappointment so bitter the poor fellow could say nothing."

"'Well,' asked the banker, 'what do you think of it?'"

"'It's just like you,' said the bookkeeper, simply."—New York Tribune.

## How Earned It.

"What did you get for your mother-in-law joke?"

"A dollar from the editor and a six weeks' visit from my mother-in-law."—Meggendorfer Blaetter.

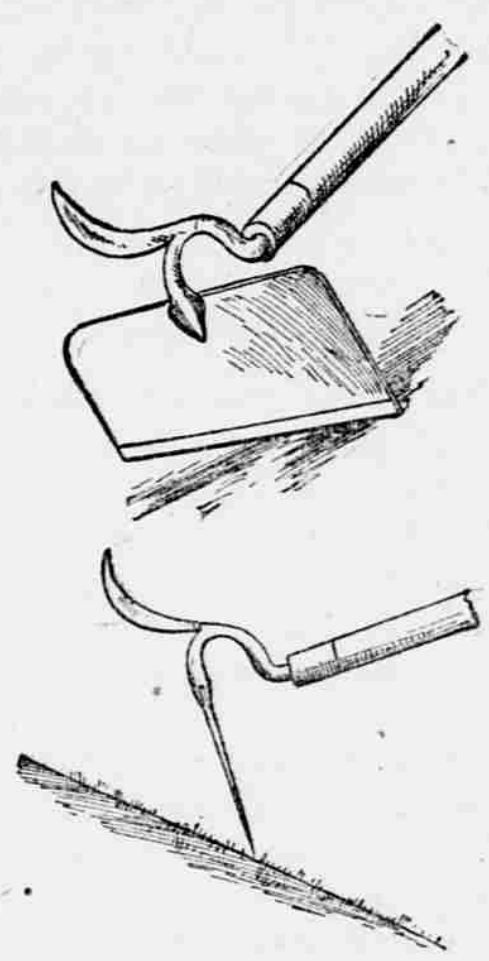
When a woman entertains with an afternoon card party, it is inelegant to call her function a "card party;" the latest is to say she entertained with a "card fight."



## Hoe Attachment.

American agricultural implements are known the world over as the best procurable, especially for saving time. This is true both as to the large appliances used on farms and the smaller garden implements. A Texas farmer is the inventor of a hoe attachment applicable to hand weeding or garden hoes of various forms and sizes. The attachment consists of a cutting blade, which is designed to be used in detaching clinging vines and runners from the growing plants. The improved device comprises a weeding blade of the usual form, and connected to the handle by a shank which curves upward. Extending from the shank is a cutting blade, curved away from the handle and shank.

In using the implement the cutting blade is forced forward or away from the operator by a pushing motion, and by its peculiar form and position is very convenient for severing vines, runners, creepers and similar plant life from the stalks of the growing and valuable plants. The implement will also be found very convenient for chopping corn, or thinning cotton and other plants, and will also be found

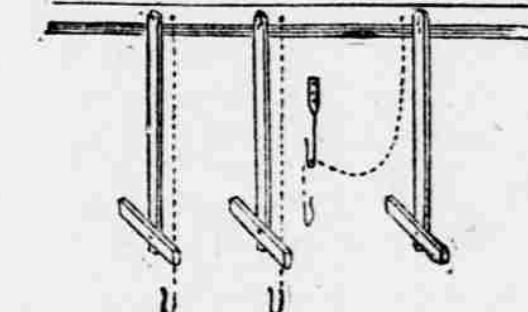


CUTS DOWN THE WEEDS.

very useful in working corn and similar crops, upon which vines and creepers are liable to be found, and whose removal is generally attended with much labor and annoyance. The cutting blade being made integral with the shank will not be a cumbersome or objectionable addition to the hoe.

## Protecting the Harness.

Every farmer appreciates that the expense for harnesses and for harness repairs is considerable during the year, hence should be pleased at the suggestion of some plan which will enable him to keep the harness in good condition. A harness should always be hung up. Here is a simple plan. Make three letter T's of strong but light lumber and especially making the cross bar strong. Fasten these to a joint in a convenient place with the cross bar at the bottom. Simply use the arms on which to hang the different parts of the harness. If this arrangement is not easy to put in operation, then use hooks fastened to the ends of stout ropes, but arranging some way so that the ropes may be looped back over a hook or nail during the time they are not in use, so there will be no danger of any one being



FOR HANGING THE HARNESS.

injured by them. The illustration shows both plans plainly. They are entirely practical and the use of either of them will add greatly to the long life of the harness.—Exchange.

## Care of Poultry.

The domestic fowl is very prolific, and a flock can be made to increase rapidly if care is given. To begin with, 500 or 1,000 hens require large capital at the start, as the fowls must be purchased and suitable buildings prepared, but it is not difficult to secure large flocks on limited capital if the beginning is made with a few and the number gradually increased, as the increase of the flock is also an increase of capital. A flock of hens returns an income daily, thus assisting to provide capital at the start.

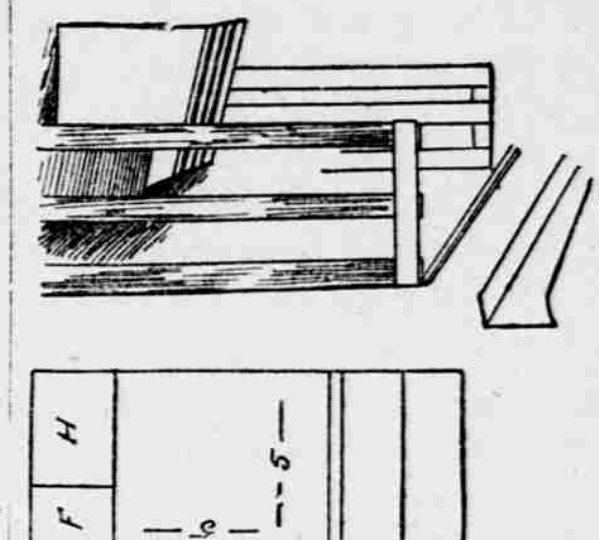
## Boiled Timber.

A new process has been discovered for warring against white ants, the pests of the tropical regions. These termites—as they are called—destroy the woodwork of the finest buildings within six months. Their action is insidious, says the London Mail, inasmuch as the outward appearance of the wood does not betray the rotteness within, and their ravages, if not discovered in time, lead to the total collapse of the buildings. Some time ago it was suggested experiments

should be carried out by a London wood-process syndicate. Specimens were prepared and sent out to a number of tropical countries. After a somewhat protracted trial news has been received from the Madras presidency that the specimens sent there have successfully resisted the attacks of the white ants. The process improves, toughens and strengthens the wood. This is accomplished by boiling the timber in saccharine solution, and afterward drying it at a high temperature. A revolution in the export timber trade to tropical countries is probable, as in places where termites abound soft wood will be used instead of the more expensive varieties.

## An Ideal Stall.

When one is financially able to have the stalls which combine all the con-

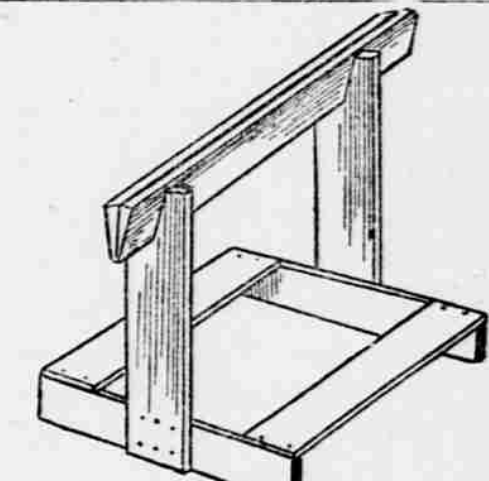


STALL AND FEED RACK.

veniences they are very desirable, but the average farmer must put up with much less. The ideal stall has a space between feed rack and gutter of eight feet and is five feet wide. A feed rack is arranged so that the animal may get at the hay or roughage easily, yet not waste a great deal of it. At one end of the feed rack is a feed box sufficiently large so that the cow can get her mouth to it without striking her horns. The sides of this stall consist of a fence with three wide boards and runs up four or five feet high, according to the ideas of the owner. At the rear there is stapled to the floor a piece of 2x4 material to keep the bedding in place and the animal from stepping back into the gutter. The idea of the fence-like sides is to insure ventilation, and if any two animals are inclined to quarrel they can be separated by having an empty stall between or by building up higher the dividing fence. The illustration shows the idea perfectly.

## A Simple Saw Clamp.

This simple saw clamp can be made by anyone, and does not need any bolts or screws. The two clamps are made of 1-inch boards, 5 or 6 inches wide, beveled on top and then dressed down to nearly an edge at the bottom. The saw is placed in the clamps in your hands, and then inserted in the beveled slot, and the hammer makes it perfectly firm and rigid. The frame can be made to stand on the ground



SIMPLE SAW CLAMP.

or floor, or can be made low to place on work bench.

## Care of Farm Machinery.

Many farmers are very careless of their farm machinery. It is a common thing to see plows, harrows, cultivators, mowing machines and even binders standing in the field for months without any protection from the elements. The direct loss from such exposure is very great. It amounts to more than the use in almost every instance.

The greatest item perhaps is in loss of time when the machine is required for use next time. Farmers who are careless enough to leave implements in the field are almost invariably careless about the belongings of such implements. Furthermore, such men are surrounded with help that pattern after the master in this respect. There are always shiftless characters in the neighborhood, and they seldom hesitate to appropriate any loose article belonging to these neglected machines, and it is only natural that they should neglect to return these things.

The loss from rust and decay, although considerable, is less than the annoyance and time required to get the different implements back into condition the following season.—Farm and Fireside.

## Fighting Weeds.

There is nothing which holds to the soil with such pertinacity as weeds. It is probable that the Egyptians are to-day fighting the same weeds which they were trying to exterminate by the aid of the Israelites when they were in bondage. We must always bear this in mind, that we manure and cultivate all the weeds we do not destroy. Eternal vigilance is the price we pay for the extermination of weeds.

## Things to Remember.

Poor roads are the unhappy type of extravagance.

When a wagon is worn out from use on a good road its owner usually has money enough to buy a new one.

Good roads suggest action, and mud means sloth and laziness.

Some of the winter resorts of the South are advertising good roads as a special attraction.

## A Lesson in the Art.

The Complete Angler—Yes, the bass is the wildest of the finny tribe, all right, as this little incident will show. One day while engaged in my favorite pursuit, I dropped a valuable diamond ring in the water. The following day I cast my line near the spot where the ring disappeared and soon landed a five-pound bass. Now, what do you suppose the camp cook found inside that fish?

The Chorus of Novices—Haw! Haw! Haw! The missing jewelry, of course!

The Complete Angler—Ah, boys, you seem to forget about the willness of the bass. What the cook really found was a pawn ticket for the ring!—Puck.

## Words of Wisdom.

Westfield, Ill., Dec. 18th (Special)—All who are suffering with Bright's Disease, should read carefully the following letter from the Rev. G. L. Good of this place. He says:

"I feel it is my duty to tell you of the wonderful benefit I have received from the use of Dodd's Kidney Pills. I am a Minister of the Gospel, and in my work, I am frequently exposed to all weathers. Six years ago, I was laid up sick. I doctored with a number of physicians, and finally consulted a specialist, but without success. They all told me I had Bright's Disease. I was in a bad way and almost helpless when, thank God, I heard of Dodd's Kidney Pills. They saved my life. I took sixteen boxes and now I am cured. The first day I took them I felt relief. When I began I weighed only one hundred and five pounds, now I weigh one hundred and sixty-five and I am the picture of health. I recommend Dodd's Kidney Pills to all my friends who have Kidney Trouble and pray to God that other sufferers will read these words and be helped by them."

## Those Girls.

"I hate him!"  
"Gracious, Jeanette."  
"And when he calls on me I never fail to let him know it."  
"Really?"  
"Yes, and I tell him a dozen times I could never love him."  
"Goodness! When is the wedding going to be, dear?"

Have used Piso's Cure for Consumption nearly two years, and find nothing to compare with it.—Mrs. Morgan, Berkeley, Cal., Sept. 2, 1901.

## What's in a Name?

Gaussip—That's Skinner's wife. They say she didn't have a very good name when he married her.

Wise—Well, he seems to think it's very good now.

Gaussip—Yes?

Wise—Yes, he's put all his property in it.—Philadelphia Press.

## YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO SUFFER

From Constipation, Bowel and Stomach Trouble.

Q. What is the beginning of sickness?

A. Constipation.

Q. What is Constipation?

A. Failure of the bowels to carry off the waste matter which lies in the alimentary canal where it decays and poisons the entire system. Eventually the results are death under the name of some other disease. Note the deaths from typhoid fever and appendicitis, stomach and bowel trouble at the present time.

Q. What causes Constipation?

A. Neglect to respond to the call of nature promptly. Lack of exercise. Excessive brain work. Mental emotion and improper diet.

Q. What are the results of neglected Constipation?

A. Constipation causes more suffering than any other disease. It causes rheumatism, colds, fevers, stomach, bowel, kidney, lung and heart troubles, etc. It is the one disease that starts all others. Indigestion, dyspepsia, diarrhoea, loss of sleep and strength are its symptoms; piles, appendicitis and fistula, are caused by Constipation. Its consequences are known to all physicians, but few sufferers realize their condition until it is too late. Women become confirmed invalids as a result of Constipation.

Q. Do physicians recognize this?

A. Yes. The first question your doctor asks you is "Are you constipated?"

Q. Can it be cured?

A. Yes, with proper treatment. The common error is to resort to physics, such as pills, salts, mineral water, castor oil, injections, etc., every one of which is injurious. They weaken and increase the malady. You know this by your own experience.

Q. What, then, should be done to cure it?

A. Get a bottle of Mull's Grape Tonic at once. Mull's Grape Tonic will positively cure Constipation and Stomach Trouble in the shortest space of time. No other remedy has before been known to cure Constipation positively and permanently.

Q. What is Mull's Grape Tonic?

A. It is a Compound with 40 per cent of the juice of Concord Grapes. It exerts a peculiar strengthening, healing influence upon the intestines, so that they can do their work unaided. The process is gradual, but sure. It is not a physic, but it cures Constipation, Dysentery, Stomach and Bowel Trouble. Having a rich, fruity grape flavor, it is pleasant to take. As a tonic it is unequalled, insuring the system against disease. It strengthens and builds up waste tissue.

Q. Where can Mull's Grape Tonic be had?

A. Your druggist sells it. The dollar bottle contains nearly three times the 50-cent size.

Gods for ailing children and nursing mothers.

A free bottle to all who have never used it because we know it will cure you.

125 FREE BOTTLE 1223-5  
FREE. Send this coupon with your name and address, your druggist's name and list to pay postage back we will supply you a sample free, if you have never used Mull's Grape Tonic, and will also send you a certain amount of free drug. It is a great saving in buying the \$1.00 bottle.  
MULL'S GRAPE TONIC CO., 21 Third Ave., Rock Island, Ill.  
Give Full Address and Write Plainly  
25 cent, 50 cent and \$1.00 bottles at all druggists. The great bottle and about three times as much as the 50 cent bottle. There is a great saving in buying the \$1.00 bottle.  
The genuine has a date and number stamped on the label—take no other from your druggist.