

**THE DYING WAIF.**

By Blance Langdon Ammen.

It was while I was resident physician at the Emergency hospital that the following case came under my notice. There had been brought into the charity ward a boy of about twelve years of age. He was badly mangled, and I knew from the moment I saw him that he could not recover.

"Jimmie," I said one day, "how do you happen to get all broken up this way?"

"Well, yer see, I'm a newsboy on the P. & R. road, and I was a passin' through the train a lappin' all the latest novels. (Yer know how they does in trains). And as I was agoin' from one car to the next with my arms piled high, the train give a lurch and my books took a tumble; next I knowed I was here." After a pause he murmured, "I spose I must have fell overboard tryin' to catch 'em."

"You had better have lost them, Jimmie," I said, stroking his thin little hands.

"Oh, but yer don't know what a time there'd a been with the boss when I checked up." His eyes flashed, and his hand trembled with emotion. "Them's awful times, sir, when yer comes in short." Feeling that he had talked enough, I went on down the ward examining others. As each day passed, he grew steadily worse. In his delirium, he talked incessantly of "checking up." Sometimes he would cry piteously, "Am I short, tell me, tell me, am I short?" Then there would be incoherent words and moans ending, oftentimes, in heart-rending sobs. I concluded that he must be worrying about these books, therefore I decided, the next time his mind was clear, to set him at rest about them.

So I said to him, "Jimmie, you needn't worry any more about those books. I've paid the debt, you won't come in short."

He looked at me blankly for a moment; then he sighed. "I ain't a worryin' about no books."

"Well," I said, sitting down beside him, "what is it? Tell me."

He lay perfectly quiet for a time, and I wondered, as I stroked the long locks back from the oldish face, what burden there could be that could so torture the soul of this dying child. Suddenly he turned his large hollow eyes upon me, and looked piercing into my face. "I'm agoin' to die—I know that straight."

"We are doing the best we can for you, Jimmie."

"Oh, I'm not a-kickin' about you, nor the nurse, neither; you've been real good to me. I wisht I could tell yer, though, all what worries me; but

business. My Heavenly Father had gimme some stock,—such as my health, my right senses, lots of chances fer doin' good, and so on the like o' that, and when I died, I'd have to check up, and He'd ask me what I'd done with all He'd gimme; then if I'd used all them things just for my own pleasure, and not tried to do no good fer Him, I'd be short when I checked up. He told me of a beautiful home prepared for them as was all right in their stock. When he talked about havin' a home, I fell to longin'—I never knowed what that was—to have a home, yer know."

Jimmie paused for a moment, then with the saddest expression I ever saw, he murmured, "but that's not fer the likes o' me, it's too late now; if I'd only a-knowed sooner, I might have had some show, but I've got to check up just as I am, and I never done nothin' with all He gimme."

There was silence—silence which I could not break. Why could I not comfort this dying boy? I was able to relieve his body, but his soul was suffering now. Several times I essayed to speak, but no words came. I knew the old, old story, but my own mispent life reproached me. Should I tell him that that which he had listened to was a mere fable, or should I give up, now and here, the stand which I had taken for so many years, and own to myself that all the doubts I had held to so tenaciously were false? Here in the presence of death, I knew I did believe—there was a God—this child had shown Him to me.

Jimmie was looking to me for comfort; his large eyes fixed on my face, wondering why I did not speak. All at once the words came, and I preached to him Christ—I, the doubter, the atheist, told him of Jesus and His love; how many, many years ago He had died that we, believing on Him, might enter that home and be saved. He had paid all our debt with His life, and set us free. Jimmie listened eagerly, tears trickling down his cheeks—"And I've never done nothin' fer him," he said, slowly.

"Yes, you have, Jimmie, you have been the means of saving my soul."

The next morning the nurse told me that Jimmie had been asking for me. I went over and stood by his bed. He lay very quiet,—just drifting away. I took his hand. "Jimmie," I said, "I am here, do you know me?"

A bright smile overspread his face as he pressed my hand. Then all the life that was left exerted itself, and I bent low to hear the whispered words—"I'll not be short. He'll make it right. I'm—" I could not hear what he would have said, for the spirit, which a moment before had been speaking to me, was now giving an account of the deeds done in the body. Jimmie was "checking up."—Ram's Horn.

**NOTES IN A SUNBEAM.**

**They May Now Be Counted and Classified.**

Counting the dancing notes in a bar of sunlight sounds like one of those hopeless, never-ending tasks with which malignant fairies delight to break the spirits of little heroines in the German folk stories. Something more than this, however, has been achieved by modern science, which is now able to count the particles floating in any given portion of the atmosphere, says Pearson's Weekly, and determine what proportion of these are dangerous germs and what are mere dust. Dr. Frankland's experiments have shown us how to count the micro-organisms, and now a Scotch scientist, by a totally different method, has been enabled to take stock of the more harmless but hardly less interesting dust notes. Thirty thousand such particles have been detected by him in the thousandth of a cubic inch of the air in a room. In the outside atmosphere in dry weather the same measurement of air yielded 2,119, whereas after a heavy rainfall the number was only 521. That this power of prying into atmospheric secrets will eventually yield very important results must be obvious to all. Among the most curious discoveries already made is the direct and constant relation which exists between dust particles and fogs mist and rain.

**Dress Fronts.**

On most of the redingote dresses and many of the princess gowns for dressy afternoon functions the familiar straight fronts are avoided, and the edges cut in long curving scallops—thus, when the length of an ordinary coat is reached a curve is made and the material cut away in the space of three-eighths of a yard or more. When two-thirds of a yard of the skirt-length is traversed another backward scallop is made as before, terminating at the skirt edge. The bodice portion is usually open-fronted and low cut, above a gimp of shirred silk muslin over silk or satin, gathered into a beaded band around the neck. At a public entertainment of a fashionable hotel recently a gown exactly after the style described was worn. A narrow line of otter fur finished the edges of skirt and waist, the gown was of gray, repped silk and wool, and the gimp of pink, crimson and green matisse on a deep cream ground.

**Business Pressures.**

"Are you much rushed now, Fozzer?"

"Rushed? If I were to die to-night my employer would expect me to come down town to-morrow and work until the hour set for the funeral."—Chicago Record.

Women are naturally tender hearted. No woman ever willfully steps on a mouse.

**Society Women**

and, in fact, nearly all women who undergo a nervous strain, are compelled to regretfully watch the growing pallor of their cheeks, the coming wrinkles and thinness that become more distressing every day.

Every woman knows that ill-health is a fatal enemy to beauty and that good health gives to the plainest face an enduring attractiveness. Pure blood and strong nerves—these are the secret of health and beauty.

**Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People build up and purify the blood and strengthen the nerves. To the young girl they are invaluable, to the mother they are a necessity, to the woman approaching fifty they are the best remedy that science has devised for this crisis of her life.**

Mrs. Jacob Weaver, of Bushnell, Ill., is fifty-six years old. She says: "I suffered for five or six years with the trouble that comes to women at this time of life. I was much weakened, was unable, much of the time, to do my own work, and suffered beyond my power to describe. I was down-hearted and melancholy. Nothing seemed to do me any good. Then I made up my mind to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I bought the first box in March, 1897, and was benefited from the start. A box and a half cured me completely, and I am now rugged and strong."—Bushnell (Ill.) Record.

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**ALABASTINE**

**WHAT ALABASTINE IS.**

Alabastine is the original and only durable wall coating on the market. It is entirely different from all wall paper preparations. Alabastine is made ready for use in white or tawny. It is a rock-like substance which sets, and it hardens with age. It can be re-coated and re-painted without having to wash and scrape off its old coat. Beware of a large four-pound package of light-colored, soft putty for four pounds and offered to customers as a five-pound package.

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Kalosmines are cheap and temporary preparations, manufactured from whitening, chalks, clays, etc. They are stuck on the walls with decaying animal glue. Alabastine is not a kalosmine. It is a rock-like substance which sets, and it hardens with age. It can be re-coated and re-painted without having to wash and scrape off its old coat. Beware of a large four-pound package of light-colored, soft putty for four pounds and offered to customers as a five-pound package.

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The interior walls of churches, schools, houses and all public halls should never be coated with anything but the durable and pure Alabastine. So evident has this fact become that hundreds of tons are used annually for this work. The genuine Alabastine does not rub or scale off. It is clearly shown the long period of its usefulness. Every owner of a building should use it. Ask your paint dealer or druggist for card of this, and write for free copy of our paper, Alabastine, 125 to Alabastine Co., Grand Rapids, Mich.

**REJECT THE "JUST AS GOOD."**

The dealer who tells you that he can sell you the "same thing" as Alabastine or "something just as good" either is not coated or is trying to deceive you. In suffering something he has bought cheap and is trying to sell on Alabastine's demands, he may not realize the danger to himself as well as to you. Beware of all new substitutes. Dealers risk a suit for damages by selling and consuming by using an infringement. Alabastine Co. own the right to make and sell wall coatings adapted to mix with cold water.

Just as sure as a woman is left alone in a house, and gets into a bath tub the door bell rings.

**How's This!**

We offer One Hundred Dollars reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

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