

Barraud, 17, Sisters Avenue, Lavender Hill. Class II, for children under fifteen years of age—1st, Miss J. Girling, The Cedars, Wimbledon; 2nd, Miss M. Drummond, Leighton Hall, Welshpool; Extra, for crochet, Miss M. Hunt, Woodbine Villa, Archway Road, Highgate; Honourable mention, Miss Stuart, Prickley Wood, Hayes, Kent; Miss V. Honeywood, Everington Place, Ashford, Kent. EXTRA competition for dolls in fancy dress—1st prize, "Where are you going to, my pretty maid," dressed by Mrs. Bartleet, Topsham Vicarage, Exeter; 2nd and 3rd, equal, Nurse in uniform, dressed by Miss M. J. Graham, Member of the British Nurses' Association, St. Lawrence, Averanche, Jersey; "Five o'clock Tea," dressed by Miss M. Criddle, 21, Park Street, Taunton. Dolls who received honourable mentions—Hospital Nurse, by Mrs. Pope, 14, York Villas, Brighton; Bo-peep, by Miss G. Frere, Garboldisham Hall, East Harling, Norfolk; Foundling, Miss M. Byles, Salt Schools, Shipley, Yorks.

THE next annual report of this exceedingly useful Society will be ready early in the coming year, and will be sent, with particulars as to the competition, &c., to any one sending threepence in stamps upon application to Miss Charles, Hill Side, Southwood Lane, Highgate, N.

If any of my readers, at this season of the year, wish to give away a most useful present to any child who appreciates plenty of instruction and amusement, I should strongly advise them to send to the English Toy Manufacturing Company, Limited, 5, Oxford Street, W., and purchase "Dolly Daisy Dimple," a pretty young lady packed in a box, with quite a trunk full of clothes (no less than seven dresses) to put on and take off, and all for one shilling and threepence, carriage paid. A twelve-page illustrated toy book can be had for a penny stamp. A doll's house, which can be erected and made to look as natural as possible, right down to a real front door and a hen-coop, can also be obtained. For the boys, Romping Rollicking Roderick, a sailor, fitted out with a sea-chest, three suits of clothes, a ship, and all sorts of things, and these only one shilling and threepence, carriage paid. A set of furniture, consisting of thirteen pieces, for the doll's house, may be had for the same money, whilst all sorts of tantalising puzzles can be had at an equally cheap rate. I am not surprised that a train-load of these toys have already been sold; they are simply wonderful.

S. G.

RELIGION has a good influence upon the people to make them obedient to the government and peaceable one towards another.

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

THE PRESS WOMAN.

How our great grandmothers would stare, could they arise and read the above title! To them the word "press" would recall the old time-honoured heavy boxes, wherein lay their beloved household linen, fragrant with sweet-scented lavender. No, no, good dame, the modern press is a very different thing, and the press woman wields not a needle but a pen. The rapid strides journalism has made during the present century have caused the formation of a new profession, even the Fourth Estate. The education of the masses has resulted in a thousand and ten multiplication of readers during the last fifty years, and has caused a demand, for the supply of which a small army of journalists has arisen, an army in whose ranks fights many an Amazon, for ladies also "write for the papers." There are many journals which cater for the "fair sex," and whose columns are mostly from the pen of their literary sisters, whose aid even the daily and weekly press do not disdain, for they do much of the book reviewing and chronicling of social events, whilst the ladies' letters and the fashions are their especial sphere. From the employés' side of the question, the press is much injured by the introduction of reporting agencies, such as the "Central News" and the "Press Association," which send letters, telegrams, reports, and syndicate stories all over England. The pay for journalistic work is five shillings to one guinea a column, or on an average 12s. 6d. per thousand words. The profession is not good as an opening for earning a living, for much patience is needed ere you become known, and also that bugbear of the friendless, interest, keeps the door of the profession barred to many. Most lady writers are either the widows, wives, or daughters of pressmen. Some of these are very highly remunerated. I heard on good authority that the "Amy" of *Truth* fame receives as much as £500 a year for her weekly letters. As a nation we are behindhand with regard to lady editors. In France the famous *La Citoyenne* is edited by Madame Hubertine Auclerc; whilst Madame Renez edits and owns the clever *Revue Scientifique des Femmes*. But America is *par excellence* the Eden of lady journalists, and there editresses are numerous. The most famous is, of course, Mrs. Frank Leslie. The *Woman's Cycle*, an able new American weekly, is edited by Mrs. Cowly. It is told how not long ago an American paper, for some reason, was about to be given up, when two of the lady printers of the establishment seized the opportunity, and as editress and manageress are now running it successfully. The

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