

curtailing of the hard labour incurred by women working in laundries.

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The newly-opened Cripples' Home at Margate is a very beneficent institution, and although it contains only twenty beds, it is making parties of twenty little cripples joyous and glad. Every fortnight a new party of cripples goes down—one time a party of girls, next time a party of boys. It is a wonderful transformation for them from the slums and crowded alleys of the East End of London, to the free sands and the fresh salt air. All who are able join as much as their small strength will allow in the making of wonderful sand-heaps and castles and seapies, and gather in some amount of vitality and strength from their delightful "fortnit at Margit."

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A "Divine Healing Colony" is shortly to be established near Blue Island, just out of Chicago, and like all Western projects, is to be on somewhat large lines. Over 500 acres has been secured as a building site, where various institutions connected with the "Divine Healing Cult" are to be built. There will also be homes for people who are not in present need of physical healing, but who will join in the ministrations to be held in Zion's Temple, which is to be large enough to hold 10,000 people. When the body needs exercise it will be taken in Beulah Gardens, while food will be provided at the Zion Refectory. It will be interesting to hear how this new Arcadia—among so many which have been projected in the States—will turn out.

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The annual Congress of the British Institute of Public Health will be held at Hull from the 8th to the 13th inst. The subjects of papers and discussions include every matter of importance in the way of public health, and, in addition, an inviting social programme has been arranged.

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Dr. Robson Roose was a passenger by the Currie liner, *Garth Castle*, which sailed from Southampton for South Africa on Saturday last. A "voyage to the Cape" is such a favourite prescription of our doctors to-day that it seems fitting that they should take for themselves, after their hard working year, what is found to be of so much benefit to their patients.

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A well-known manufacturer has written to the *Daily Chronicle* stating that, although he has contributed towards the Children's Country Holiday Fund, he wishes also to help the

scheme on in a practical way. To this end he has invited to his house and garden in the suburbs, during the fine Sundays, all the children of his employés, "old and young, to have a run on the turf, tea and refreshments. Their fathers, on coming to fetch them home, get a glass of beer and a pipe of tobacco. Thus, for seven hours the little ones can have a breath of fresh air and change." This is an admirable plan to be recommended to all employers of labour with suburban or country houses.

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In his recent book on Japan, Mr. Finck, who is an American, says: "Japan has no Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. It does not need one. New York has one, and needs it badly. During the first twenty years of its existence it received and investigated 86,969 complaints, involving 260,907 cases. Yet we have sent six hundred missionaries to civilise the Japanese!"

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He dreads the introduction into Japan of many of our modern inventions. He says: "There is great danger ahead for Japan, danger that she will introduce our factory chimneys and whistles and soot, and division of labour, and thus destroy the artistic joy in work which is the highest product of her civilisation."

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The Melbourne Hospital Self-Denial Fund has reached the sum of £5,038.

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Great discussion and correspondence has been going on in the papers as to whether churches should or should not be open on week days. The religious part of the controversy must be left to others to discuss. But from the health point of view there is no question that churches should be open every day for several hours for ventilation. The evil custom of immediately closing churches after the last Sunday service, and leaving them practically un-opened till the next Sunday, is one which cannot be sufficiently condemned from the hygienic point of view. And there is no question that much of the nausea, faintness and fatigue experienced at the Sunday morning service by so many people who are not strong, and the "church headache," almost proverbial, arises almost entirely from the absence of fresh air, and the breathing of an atmosphere that has been practically stagnant for six days.

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And when is added to the closing up of doors and apertures the fact that often hundreds of bodies are buried beneath the floor of the church, the condition of the air breathed by

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)