

Sal shivered; and huddling her thin shawl about her head, glanced up at the golden windows and turned away towards that dim and dangerous region near the river; her little feet raw with chilblains slithered along the pavement in her slatternly shoes; the icy wind pinched blue her ugly face, and stung her sore eyes. But she eled in and out of the noisy crowd, and by and bye darted up a dirty stairway to the top storey of a tenement house, and paused before a door, peeping into the room beyond; no description of the disorderly garret is of interest beyond the fact that in the corner a woman lay huddled in a drunken sleep. A sigh of relief escaped the wide awake Sal.

On the threshold she paused a moment, speered round, and spied a rusty knife on the make-shift table. The child put out her eager hand, clutched it, and coolly ran her dirty thumb along its jagged edge. Her face darkened. The edge was dull. Then, going as quietly as she came, she passed out on to the stone staircase and sharpened the blade on the edge of a step, and setting her jaw in the darkness brought the knife down with a sharp flash across her outstretched wrist. Startled by the pain Sal gave a sharp yell, and wrapping her wounded hand in her soiled "pinny" clattered hurriedly down the stairs.

An hour later a ragged child, hugging an aching hand wrapped about with a bloody shawl, stood awaiting her turn for treatment in the busy receiving room at the "Great Eastern." A gentle Sister handled her injured hand with care, and a pale-faced young man peered keenly through glistening spectacles into the jagged cut, and curtly asked questions.

"Who did it?"

"Me'sen."

"How?"

"Wi' a knife."

Then the surgeon, remarked, "Merely superficial, dress it, please, Sister," and turned to wash his hands.

The Sister did her work deftly, bandaging a beautiful criss-cross pattern from thumb to wrist, and Sal stood her ground.

"Aint yer gyng to tike me in?" she questioned sharply.

"No, I'm not, the surgeon replied, "every cot is full, and there is not much wrong with your hand, you run home, and mind that no dirt gets into the wound, and if you come up again in the morning I'll have a look at it."

"What sort o' dut?" demanded Sal.

"Sort o' dirt," the surgeon repeated vaguely. "Oh! 'er any sort of dirt, now trot away home there's a good little girl."

Sal's face purpled with rage, and in an instant she brought her clenched fist down with a whack on to the surgery table clattering the tins and bottles with a rare rattle.

"Yah!" she yelled, in spluttering fury, "so yer won't tike me in, won't yer; I'll be even with yer; don't I know yer; aint I 'eard of yer crool treatment of the pore—a bandaging of 'em up and turning 'em into the street to die; I knows yer; I'll be even with yer; 'ere goes;" and in a twinkling of an eye she wrenched off the dainty dressing and beautiful bandage, and danced on them in demoniacal frenzy; "Dut d'yer sai; is it dut yer want, then yer shall hev dut;" and kicking the bowl over in her hasty flight, she dashed out of the receiving-room—into the night.

(To be continued).

WOMEN.

THE Queen has addressed to Prince George of Greece a private letter written throughout by her own hand, congratulating his Royal Highness on his nomination to the post of Governor of Crete.

Prince George left Athens for Crete, on Monday last, amidst the cheers of the populace. The Royal Family accompanied the Prince as far as the Piræus. The parting scene between Queen Olga and her sailor son was particularly affecting. The Queen could not conceal her tears.

Lord Strathcona has given an endowment of 1,000,000 dols. to the Royal Victoria College for Women at Montreal. The institution was built by him.

The Women's Local Government Society has decided to place in the hands of Members of Parliament a full statement of the case of Miss Magill, whose appointment as rate collector by the Clogher Board of Guardians was overruled by Dublin Castle, the lady's dismissal by the board, who stood upon their rights, and by the appointment of a committee of official guardians, provided with salaries out of the rates. Miss Leigh Browne, hon. secretary of the Women's Local Government Society, appeals to all who value the rights of local government, and of maintaining the eligibility of women for public posts, for support. Miss Magill, as a rate collector, was an official of proved capacity, and acceptable to the ratepayers.

A reception was lately given at the Lady Warwick Hostel, at Reading, of which Miss Edith Bradley is Principal, and which has been opened as a residential college for women students in connection with the Agriculture Department of Reading College. Miss Bradley, warden of the College, in giving a short account of the first term's work, mentioned that the college was in connection with the London and Liverpool Employment Bureaus for Women's Labour, and added that any interested in the scheme could, without actually joining the college, evince their interest by becoming "members" on the payment of five shillings a year, and thus provide funds for the elaboration and continuance of the undertaking.

After the meeting tea was served in the Lady Warwick Hostel, which was open to inspection of the visitors, and which is a well-built and charmingly-furnished home for the students, of whom there are already twelve in residence, although the college was only opened in October. In the grounds are garden plots allotted to each student, and each has a share of the greenhouse, while beehives, and glass-houses for forced fruit are also provided.

Next term important additions are to be made in the shape of a model poultry farm and a mushroom forcing ground.

The Sunday issue of the *New York World* is a mighty magazine, full of a pictorial display of beauty, rank and fashion, and in reading it, one realises the power for good and evil which is wielded by the American press. In front of us is a first sheet of the paper, in which "Father Leiter's" daughter "Lady Curzon" is graphically presented to an admiring American crowd in half-a-dozen of her "gorgeous dress creations," which, as "The New American Queen o.

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