

# The Orphans' Friend.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, - 1883.

## COURTESY.

BY MRS. L. C. WHITTEN.

Summer said to the Spring, "What a wonderful thing it is to bring in so much sweetness and grace; I am sure that to you my blossoms are due, And I feel I am taking your place."

"I never can blush, but I think of your flush; And the eyes of the flowers at evening are wet; There was something so fair in your innocent air That your going we can but regret."

"You beautiful comer," said the Spring to the Summer, "I lived out my life but to brighten your way; I heard the buds swelling, and could not help telling, For I knew you would see them some day."

"It was only my duty to bring you the beauty, And to help one another is a lesson for all; And perhaps you'll be willing, your mission fulfilling, To leave something to brighten the Fall."

—Wide-Awake.

## LITTLE SUT.

BY M. QUAD.

Up in Tompkins County, N. Y., lives a well-to-do farmer named Pitkins, with his wife and two daughters. Having no sons he is dependent on hired help, the supply of which is regulated according to the season, a number of farm hands being necessary during planting and harvesting of crops, while one being usually the only assistant needed in the winter. Realizing the need of a boy on the place to do the chores for which it did not justify to hire a man, Pitkins talked the matter over with his wife, and they decided to select a waif from the poor house and raise him up as one of the family, which of course meant food and clothing until he was of age, and three months schooling in the winter.

With Farmer Pitkins to decide was to act; so the next day he and Mrs. Pitkins drove over in the buggy to the County Poor House and made application for an orphan. The Superintendent, always willing to dispose of his charges to farmers, ordered out the boys in a line for review, and Pitkins and his wife eyed the boys closely and talked with them. He, with an eye to service, selected a large, strong boy; but she, with a motherly instinct more akin to sympathy, picked out little Sut, the subject of the sketch.

"Why, Mary," exclaimed Pitkins, "he's too small!"

"But he'll grow, John, and then I like his looks better."

"Looks! Tut, tut! What have looks got to do with it?"

"A great deal. If we are to adopt him and raise him up as a son, and even if he is only to be a farm hand, we do not want a boy to grow up dishonest and vicious. I don't like the big boy's face."

So Farmer Pitkins grumbled a little over her choice, as he lifted Sut into the buggy between them and drove home. The boy was, indeed, small for service on a farm, but he seemed grateful for the home, and was willing to do all the busy tasks his hands were put to do, and would put his little hands on his tired back without a murmur, after a long time sawing wood. Mrs. Pitkins seemed to draw towards him by

his very diminutive size and strength, while Pitkins seemed almost to dislike him, and was always grumbling about the boy's being too small, although the farmer's wife would very sensibly remark that she believed the willingness of a small boy would accomplish more than the unwillingness of one twice his size. As little Sut wasn't large enough to wait on the girls, they rather sided with their father, and made the poor boy's life rather unpleasant by teasing him.

Thus matters went on for a season or so, while one farm hand after another came and went; and, although colts and calves and pigs and chickens all grew and fattened on the place, little Sut seemed at a standstill and failed to come up to Mrs. Pitkins' assertion that he would grow.

"It's no use, Mary, waiting for this boy to grow. I must take him back to the Poor House and get a larger boy. You can go with me and select the boy, but he must be larger."

Mrs. Pitkins, with a feeling of tenderness toward the little homeless waif she had selected, hadn't the heart to go and pick out a boy to supplant him in the home that now seemed as dear to him as if he had been born in it, so Mr. Pitkins drove over alone, while the farm hand took the wagon and drove to the mill for lumber, leaving Mrs. Pitkins, the two girls and little Sut on the farm alone, except a little dog which Sut had been allowed to adopt from the roadside, the cattle on the farm scarcely being counted as company by lone women who had not looked to them for the protection which even a boy or a small dog can attempt.

Tramps, miserable, dangerous out-casts, seem to be the constant menace of unprotected farmers, especially the women who are so often left alone. Little Sut was in the barn, with his dog, sorting potatoes, when his attention was called by hearing one of the girls scream, and looking out, to his surprise and horror, he saw a man rush out at the kitchen door in pursuit of one of the girls. With a boyish impulse Sut ran out with a small basket of potatoes in his hand, followed by the dog, which he urged to a fierce attack on the man. The little dog went gallantly into the fight and set his teeth so vigorously into the legs of the tramp that the girl was enabled to escape from him and run to a neighbor's for assistance. Little Sut realized that there was work for him to do. The screams that came from the house plainly indicated that one man was not the only enemy on the place, and with a shout little Sut rushed in to find another tramp on the point of overcoming Mrs. Pitkins and the other daughter in a fierce struggle, in which he had almost torn their clothing off.

The noise that little Sut made and the vigorous fusillade of potatoes that he hurled at the tramp so disconcerted him that it allowed the two women a chance to escape and lock themselves in a room upstairs.

Poor little Sut and his dog were left alone to contend with the two enraged tramps. The fight was uneven, and short, the dog was driven from the field, and little Sut stood alone at bay. Suddenly one of the tramps, who had been keeping an eye open for danger, saw approaching the farmer to whose house the other daughter had fled, and giving

the alarm, the two desperadoes rapidly made their escape to the thick woods near by.

They had done their work cruelly and well. Little Sut lay in one corner motionless, where he fell, and the neighbors laid him on the bed, while Mrs. Pitkins and her daughters bent over him and frantically called his name. There was a gurgling sound in his throat, and a little stream of blood trickled down the side of his mouth and stained the white, ruffled slip of the pillow. Just then Sut opened his eyes as Mr. Pitkins returned from selecting another boy to fill his place. A little cut on Sut's breast showed where the knife had penetrated his lungs, and the gurgling sound was the blood that was forcing its life tide inside.

"Did I drive 'em off?" That was all that little Sut ever said, but, with a smile on his face, and blood streaming from his mouth, he died in the arms of farmer Pitkins, who had gone to swap him off because he was too small to do anything.

A little grave down at the village churchyard, kept green by three grateful women, and fragrant with perfumes of flowers is all now left on earth of little Sut, but somewhere we know he has gone, where they do not think him too small.

## NED, THE CHILDREN'S DOG.

Everybody in Midway, Ky., knows old "Ned," the children's dog. He formerly belonged to the late Mrs. Margaret Buford, but as there were no children at her house he came to town. He goes to school with the children every morning and remains there all day. When they go out to play he goes too, and is quite expert at catching a ball; indeed, in a game he takes the place of a child. When the bell rings he is the first to go into the school-house, and when the classes are called up to recite he takes his place in line at the foot. After the child next above him has recited, he answers the next question by an intelligent bark and bow of the head. Should a question be missed by the child at the foot of the class and passed to the next by the teacher, "Ned" will answer it in his peculiar way. Spelling seems to be his favorite branch of study, his answer in that being exceedingly quick and vigorous. Although he turns the children down after his fashion he never goes above them. He will fight for any of the pupils as well as the teachers, and could not be induced to stay where there are no children—*Midway Clipper.*

The politest man in Boston has been discovered. He was hurrying long the street the other night, when another man also in violent haste, rushed out of an alley way, and the two collided with great force. The second man looked mad while the polite man taking off his hat, said, "My dear sir I don't know which is to blame for this violent encounter, but I am in too great a hurry to investigate. If I ran into you I beg your pardon; if you ran into me, don't mention it." And he tore away at a redoubled speed.

To win confidence we must be trustful ourselves. Suspicion breeds the evil it fears.

Let your wit be your friend, your mind your companion, and your tongue your servant.

# THE ORPHAN ASYLUM

IS LOCATED AT OXFORD,

the County-seat of Granville, forty-five miles North of Raleigh; twelve miles from Henderson on the R. & G. R. R.

The Orphan Asylum belongs to (and, of course, is conducted according to the regulations adopted by) the Grand Lodge of Masons.

Its benefits are extended to the most needy orphans, without ever asking whether their fathers were masons or not. Children are received between the ages of eight and twelve, and discharged between the ages of fourteen and sixteen.

The average cash expenses for each orphan is five dollars a month, but the sum required varies according to the seasons, and does not include what is spent for repairs, furniture and improvement of the premises. The Grand Lodge gives the building and grounds, and \$2000 a year. The State gives \$5000 a year. For the remainder of its support, and for enlargement, the Orphan Asylum is dependent on voluntary contributions from subordinate Lodges, churches of all denominations, benevolent societies, and charitable individuals; and their co-operation is earnestly solicited.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASONRY:

The design of the Orphan Asylum shall be to protect, train and educate indigent and promising orphan children, to be received between the ages of 8 and 12 years, who have no parents, nor property, nor near relations able to assist them. They shall not be received for a shorter time than two years. In extraordinary cases the Superintendent may receive children outside the ages specified.

The larger girls shall assist in the ordinary house work, and in making and mending the bed clothes, their own clothes and the clothes of the boys. The larger boys shall assist in the preparation of fuel, the care of the stock, and the cultivation of the soil.

At least four religious denominations shall be represented among the officers of the Asylum, and the representatives of all religious creeds and all political parties shall be treated alike.

The institution shall be conducted on the cash system, and its operations enlarged or curtailed according to the funds received.

Orphan children in the said Asylum shall be fed and clothed, and shall receive such preparatory training and education as will prepare them for useful occupations and for the usual business transactions of life.

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to many benevolent ladies and gentlemen, to the ministers of the Gospel, to churches of various denominations, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Good Templars, Friends of Temperance and other benevolent societies whose hearty co-operation and liberal contributions have rendered timely and valuable assistance in the great work of ameliorating the condition of the orphan children of the State.

Resolved, That all benevolent societies and individuals are hereby cordially invited and requested to co-operate with us in providing funds and supplies for feeding, clothing and educating indigent and promising orphan children at the Asylum in Oxford.

Resolved, That the Master of each subordinate Lodge appoint a Standing Committee upon raising funds for the Orphan Asylum, and require said committee to report in writing each month, and that said reports and the funds received be forwarded monthly to the Superintendent of the Asylum, and that the support of the Orphan Asylum be a regular order of business in each subordinate Lodge at each Communication.

"Should deserted children be admitted?" was decided in the negative.

"Should children having step-fathers be committed?" was also decided in the negative.

"Should deformed children be admitted?" This was left to the discretion of the Superintendent.

When the deformity is of such a character as to require extra attention, it was thought undesirable to admit the parties in the present condition of the Asylum.

"Should boys learn trade, at the Asylum?" Decided in the negative, it being impracticable at this time to employ skilled mechanics in the various trades, erect suitable work-shops and purchase necessary tools.

"Should collecting agents be appointed in different parts of the State; and if so, what wages should they receive?" This was left to the discretion of the Superintendent; but the meeting advised against employing and paying agents.

## THE ADOPTION OF ORPHANS.

We are always glad to accommodate childless couples who wish to adopt children as their own; but greatly prefer that they should come and make their own selections.

## APPLICATION FOR CHILDREN.

Correspondents are requested to read (and regulate applications for children by) the following resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Masons:

Resolved, 1. The Superintendent of the Orphan Asylum shall not consider any application for an orphan until the same has been approved and endorsed by the Orphan Asylum Committee of the Lodge in whose jurisdiction the applicant resides.

2. It shall be the duty of the said committee to make due inquiry into the desirability of the situation offered before endorsing an application; and also to inquire into the circumstances and treatment of children already discharged, and living in their jurisdiction, and use their best efforts to secure

good treatment, or the return of the children.

3. It shall be the duty of every secretary of a Lodge to send the names of the Committee of the Orphan Asylum to the ORPHANS' FRIEND for publication, in order that persons wishing to employ orphans may know the steps to be taken.

## HOW CHILDREN ARE ADMITTED.

Very often the Superintendent hunts up poor and promising orphans, and informs them of the advantages offered at the Orphan House, and induces them to return with him. Generally it is best that he should see them before they start. When this is impracticable, a formal application should be made by a friend. Here is one in proper form:

..... N. C. .... 188.....  
This is to certify that..... is an orphan, without estate, sound in body and mind, and ..... years of age. H..... father died in 18.....; h..... mother in 18..... I being h..... hereby make application for h..... admission into the Asylum at Oxford. I also relinquish and convey to the officers of the Asylum the management and control of the said orphan till 16 years of age, in order that..... may be trained and educated according to the regulations prescribed by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. I also promise not to annoy the Orphan Asylum, and not to encourage the said orphan to leave without the approval of the Superintendent. Approved by..... W. M. of.....

The application should be sent to the Superintendent, and he will either go for the children or provide for their transportation. In no case should a community take up a collection to send a man with the children, nor send the children before the Superintendent has been consulted.

## ACTION OF EPISCOPAL CONVENTION.

Resolution adopted by the last annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, at Winston, May 13, 1880:

"Resolved, That this Convention does heartily approve the efforts of the Oxford Asylum to alleviate the sufferings and to provide for the welfare of the helpless orphans of North Carolina; and that we commend to the imitation of all, the example of this spirit of active charity and beneficence on the part of the Masonic fraternity thus fulfilling the Apostolic injunction to remember the poor."

## ACTION OF THE N. C. CONFERENCE.

On motion of Rev. J. R. Brooks, the following resolutions were adopted at the Annual Conference held at Durham, in 1881:

"The Committee to whom was referred the communication of his Excellency, Gov. Jarvis, bringing to our notice and commending to our favor, the Oxford Orphan Asylum, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That we reiterate our oft-repeated expression of sympathy with this noble charity, and heartily commend it to the liberal support of all our people.

2. That our pastors are hereby requested to take a collection in all their congregations at such time during the ensuing Conference year as they may think most appropriate and best, and to forward the same to the Superintendent of the Asylum.

3. That the Recording Stewards of our several pastoral charges are requested to report to our Annual Conference the amounts collected under the head of "For the Orphan Asylum."

J. NO R. BROOKS,  
E. A. YATES, } Committee.

## ACTION OF PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD.

Resolutions adopted by the Synod of North Carolina in session at Raleigh, N. C., November 13th, 1880: "Whereas the Oxford Orphan Asylum of North Carolina is a purely benevolent institution, and is doing great good for the needy Orphans of our State, therefore,

Resolved, That we approve of its purposes and suggest that the congregations within our bounds take up at their own convenience an annual collection in behalf of that institution, and forward the same collected, in connection with any articles of food and raiment which may be contributed, to the Superintendent.

## ACTION OF BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

At the Baptist State Convention, held in Goldsboro, November 17th, 1880, the following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, We feel a deep interest in the work of the Oxford Orphan Asylum, and believe it is doing an inestimable amount of good; and

WHEREAS, We believe that the Baptist people of the State will feel it to be not only a duty, but a privilege, to contribute regularly to its support; therefore

Resolved, That all our pastors are hereby earnestly requested to take up a collection at each of their churches at least once a year in behalf of this great and important work.

Elder F. H. Ivey submitted the following resolution, which was adopted at the Convention held in Winston in 1881:

"Resolved, That this Convention feels an undiminished interest in the work of the Orphan Asylum; and that we repeat, with earnestness and emphasis, the recommendation to all our pastors to take up at least one collection during the year in aid of the Oxford Orphan Asylum."