

# THE SILVER LINING OF THE CLOUD.

Generous "World" Readers Come Promptly to the Relief of Poor Joe Clark and His Evicted Family.

There's Plenty of Bread for the Children Now. They Have a Neat New Home and, Best of All, Joe Has Got Work—Acknowledgment of Kind Contributions and Offers of Work—The Happy Sequel to a Sad Story.

High in the tenement-house at No. 484 East Sixteenth street there is a very happy little family. You wouldn't suppose that they are the same Clarks who were evicted from their home this week and whose pathetic story was told in Wednesday's *WORLD*, but they are.

Only now there is happiness in place of misery, peace in place of anxiety, food for all in place of starvation and hearts so full of gratitude that tears come in place of words when they try to thank their unknown friends.

The great sympathetic heart of the New York public never responded more promptly to affliction than in the case of the Clarks. In less than twenty-four hours from the publication of their story dozens of sympathizers had written to *THE WORLD*, sending money, encouragement and offers of work.

A portion of the money was used at once,

and with the assistance of *THE WORLD* woman, the family was located in its new home—two bright, sunny rooms in a much better neighborhood and house than the old. A supply of food was laid in, which seemed princely to the little family; clothes were redeemed from pawn, and Joe was able to make a "gentle acquaintance," as the ancient novelists say, which he called upon those who had offered him employment.

"READ ALL 'N TIME, NOW," SAYS JOHNNIE. The hope which has come into their lives has lent a cheerfulness and home comfort to their tiny rooms which even the shabby furniture cannot banish. The stove and the floor have been polished until they shine. The little *ke-tle* on the hearth sings merrily and two-year-old Johnnie expressed the sentiments of the family when he rubbed his cheek against the writers and said, drowsily: "All so pity, and bread (bread) all 'e time."

He soon fell asleep, with the same cheek pillowed on a bun which he was hardly hungry enough to eat, but with which he could not be compelled to part. Perhaps there was in his baby head some recollection of recent days when he had awakened hungry to find no bread, no fire and no hope awaiting him.



MRS. CLARK.

Although money was no tasked, and although the boyish father had said again and again that all he wanted was a chance to help himself, \$35 have been sent in for the family at present writing. Eighteen of this was used to pay the rent, buy provisions and fuel and redeem the clothing from pawn. The remainder will be expended for the benefit of the children, but, as Joe said feelingly: "Thank God I am placed in a

way to help myself, and it rests with me now to care for my family. I appreciate all this more than I can tell. I am not good at speech-making, but I hope to show you what a fellow can do when he finds himself once more on his feet, with friendly hands extended to him."

JOE GETS WORK.

For Joe has found work. Among the first communications to come in was the following:

New York, March 18, 1891.

To the Editor of *The World*: Please send Joe Clark to No. 17 Delancey street, between the Bowery and Christie street, and I will try to put him to work if he understands roofing and plumbing.

H. WENDLING.

Joe read this with a kindling face. "That's what I want," he said quickly. "That's the work I can do," and he started for No. 17 Delancey street like an arrow from the bow.

The writer was not surprised to see him return an hour later flushed and out of breath, for he had run half the way back, but triumphant. He is to begin work Monday morning with a steady job, he says, a fine salary to start with and the promise of an increase if he gives satisfaction. And he is to have an employer who treated him like a man and was so cordial and kindly in his reception that the susceptible young fellow came away ready to work for him day and night if necessary.

THANKS TO ALL KIND FRIENDS.

"I want you to thank all the others," he said, with a slight quiver in the boyish voice, after he had stopped talking of *Lizzie* and the babies and Mr. Wendling, and how he meant to work and what a relief it was to feel that there was a future before the wife and children.



THE THREE LITTLE CLARKS.

"Thank them all for me. I did not know there was so much kindness in the world. It is a great thing to feel that there are so many men who would give a fellow a lift if they knew that he was on his back."

Some of the letters received deserve a place here. It is a singular fact that many of them are from people who have been in Joe's position, and who know what it means to walk the streets looking for work while a

starving wife and children wait at home. Here is one:

To the Editor of *The World*: I will run kindly give the enclosed \$1 to Joe Clark, whose story is told in Wednesday's *WORLD*. I know what it is to be evicted with a young family. H. A. D. New York, March 18, 1891.

And here is another:

To the Editor of *The World*: The \$1 which I inclose is intended for honest Joe Clark, whose sad story was so graphically depicted in *THE WOMAN* of Wednesday. Please

say that it is from one who has known adversity and who trusts that many happy days are in store for the Clark family. Perhaps this cheering letter will prove to be Joe's salvation. Let us hope so. G. M. S. New York, March 18, 1891.

Here's a practical suggestion, which proves that the writer has "been there." The entire \$5 was applied to the relief of the family: To the Editor of *The World*: Inclosed please find \$5 to help Joe Clark while he is looking for work. Also \$1 to advertise in *THE WORLD* for a place for him. J. New York, March 18, 1891.

The women are sympathetic, too. To the Editor of *The World*: Inclosed you will find \$1 for Mrs. Joseph Clark from the mother of a large family. A. R. New York, March 18, 1891.

Other contributions received were from "WORLD Readers," \$1; L. E., \$1; E. E. D., \$1, and M. J. D., \$2. None of the contributors sent names or addresses. Then there was \$1 from G. F. H., Rochester; \$1 from W., in Syracuse, and another dollar from M. M. P., away down in Newport News.

On Wednesday morning a gentleman came to the office with \$15 cash, which he deposited for the Clark family. He said the money had been collected in a large plumbing establishment, where the workmen sympathized with a comrade in hard luck, but he refused to leave the address and evidently did not care to be thanked.

OTHER OFFERS OF WORK. Among the offers of work which came to Joe were the following: To the Editor of *The World*: If Joseph Clark, whose case you published in Wednesday's *WORLD*, is still open for work send him to me to-morrow morning with a line certifying who he is. Geo. H. Flagg, Gen. Foreman Harlem River Shops, N. Y., N. H. and N. R. Co. New York, March 18, 1891.

To the Editor of *The World*: If Clark is so represented in your article, and a good plumber, I can give him work for at least eight months, and more than likely it will be permanent. Please let me know that has been done. ARTHUR A. STERN, William street.

East Orange, N. J., March 18.

J. B. Morrison, of Shelter Island Heights, N. Y., generously offered to send Clark work, good wages and money in advance to pay rent for the coming month. Two New York ladies, who do not wish their names published, have sent offers of employment, and Mr. Walter E. Scott, of No. 180 Broadway, was one of the first to extend a helping hand.

HE'S ALL RIGHT NOW. But Joe says gratefully that he can get along without further assistance now, as *THE WORLD* women, who he watched his during his "trial by fire," were with him



MR. CLARK.

With the sincerest thanks to all, he has gladly braced his own shoulders to bear the care of his family, and with the energy and determination he will fit into his work his success is assured.

The pictures of the family were sketched from life by *THE WOMAN* artist, and are very truthful portraits of the Clarks and their really beautiful children.