

Victims of Vice.

HOW GIRLS IN THEIR TEENS ARE TRAINED FOR A LIFE OF SHAME.

Some shocking phases of vagrant life were brought to light in the trial of Lucy Phillips, 16 years of age, before Justice Scully, on yesterday. She was arraigned at the instigation of the mother of a young girl, claiming that the former had enticed her girl into bad ways and corrupted her morals. The charge was simply that of vagrancy, but as the case progressed some of the hardest phases of the undercurrent of life in the city came to the surface. The young girl on trial is exceedingly handsome and interesting, despite her bedraggled dress, and she relates a sad story to cover her misdemeanors and depraved condition.

A year ago she resided with her mother and step-father at her home in Iowa. She took a trip to Harvard Junction, a station on the Northwestern Railroad, about that time, and found a position at a railway eating-house at that place.

Here she fell in company with a conductor on that road, who, under a promise of marriage, betrayed her, and she fled to the city to hide her shame. She was followed here by her mother, who took her home, but she ran away, and returned to the city.

She states that she endeavored to obtain an honest living, and worked in the dry goods house of Mandel Brothers, on State street, for from six to eight weeks, and from there went to a jewelry store, then on the Academy of Music stage as a ballet-girl, and latterly worked in a cigar store.

During this period she again met the conductor on the Northwestern road, and made frequent trips with him to the town of Harvard.

About four months ago she joined a dramatic school on West Madison street, which has a bad reputation, and there made the acquaintance of the girl for whose alleged corruption she was arrested.

She was the latter's companion on the stage, and in a number of frolics, the last of which led to her arrest.

The two girls were continually together, and the mother of the younger, fearful of the result of the elder's tutelage, forbade her daughter to associate with her. On the strength of this, Lucy Phillips urged the young girl to run away or to go upon the street as a boot-black, in the disguise of boy's clothes. The project was mooted, and a baker on Union street helped perfect the scheme by donating a suit of boy's clothes to the young girl. This baker, the elder girl claims, is the seducer of the young girl, a child of about 14 years.

The cigar dealer whom Lucy Phillips was working for at the time donated a cap, and cut the hair of the young girl, and also considerably urged the child on every possible occasion to leave her home and accept the life of a boot-black.

On Friday evening of last week, Lucy Phillips, in company with the female "shine 'em up," and a brakeman on the Northwestern road, boarded a freight train with the intention, as the young girl claims, of going a distance of eight miles; instead, they went on to Harvard, some 56 miles from the city, and stayed at the latter place until Saturday evening, when they returned to Chicago. On arriving in the city, Lucy Phillips urged her companion to go to St. Louis with her, and promised her all the bright phases of a free life if she would do so.

A better feeling came to the younger, it appears, for she went home, and Lucy Phillips was then arrested as stated.

A reporter of the Times called on the elder girl, Lucy Phillips, at the Union street Station on last evening. She was comfortably situated in one of the sleeping-rooms on the first floor, and did not appear in the least "put out" by her condition. She spoke of her home in Iowa, and of working in the railroad eating-house at Harvard, and then told of her life in the city. She had worked in a dry-goods store, as related, and, in the meantime, joined the dramatic school, to which allusion has been made. Here, in company with twenty or twenty-five other girls, they plied themselves for histrionic honors, under the tutelage of a vile thing whose principal aim appears to be to graduate his pupils for the bawdy house and other vile dens of sin. This wretch made indecent over-

tures to herself, as well as her companions; and she claims that one of the girls under his tutelage he now supports, and lives with, in a state of adultery.

This same girl, she states, was the "stool-pigeon" of Dr. Earll during the Hill inquest, in which he figured so disreputably, attending the meetings of the Coroner's jury, and reporting its proceedings.

After leaving the dry goods store, Lucy went into the employ of a jeweler, on North Canal street, and then went on the stage at the Academy of Music, taking a part in the performances of Lydia Thompson during her engagement. She then entered a cigar store on Halsted street, which she left last week.

The reporter also called on the younger girl, and found her in apartments similar to those of her companion, being retained as a witness.

On asking for information, she commenced to shed tears at the mere mention. On being informed that she was not on trial, and that it would be unnecessary to mention her name, she grew quiet, and commenced to talk glibly.

She is a bright intelligent little creature. Her eyes showed signs of hard weeping. Her hair is cut short, in verification of the statement of her becoming a boot-black, and the first question asked was with reference thereto. She stated that it had been her intention to enter the gamin life, as it would amount to the same as running away from home, which she had made up her mind to do, through the influence of Lucy. She said that her disguise was complete, and completely baffled recognition. She attended the dramatic school for a long period, and had been on the stage for six years, playing "legitimate" parts. She had been advised by her best friends to keep away from Lucy, but her longing for "fun" had kept them together. She said that she was always "in" for anything exciting, such as the ringing of door-bells, and, though she had been in many bad places, she had done nothing totally wrong until she took the trip to Harvard. She owned that she did not really know she was going until she got on the train with her companion and was on the way.

She remarked that Lucy knew everybody on the road, and that they were a miserable class of people throughout. Lucy made her keep still, and would not allow her to tell her story, as it "would give her away." But she told the conductor her tale, and he advised her to go back home immediately. She said that Lucy always had money, and everybody kept asking her where she got it, and that they began to look upon her in the same light. She supposed she had lost her good name by associating with her, but it was a comfort to possess a clear conscience, and hers was as clear as a bell.

She presumed they could send her to the Reform School for two years, but she considered in that case she would have to finish her education, and it was a much better prospect than going to the Bridewell.

Justice Scully held the case over until to day, as the charge of vagrancy cannot be sustained, but it is his opinion that there are a number of bad characters at the back of the affair, and with the police at their heels he hopes to have some of them presented at the continuation of the examination this morning. —Chicago Times, Jan. 29.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Persons sending communications to the offices of the DESERET NEWS and *Juvenile Instructor*, are requested to write to the offices separately, to avoid confusion and insure attention to their orders. All letters to the latter office should be directed "*Editor Juvenile Instructor.*" w 3 tf

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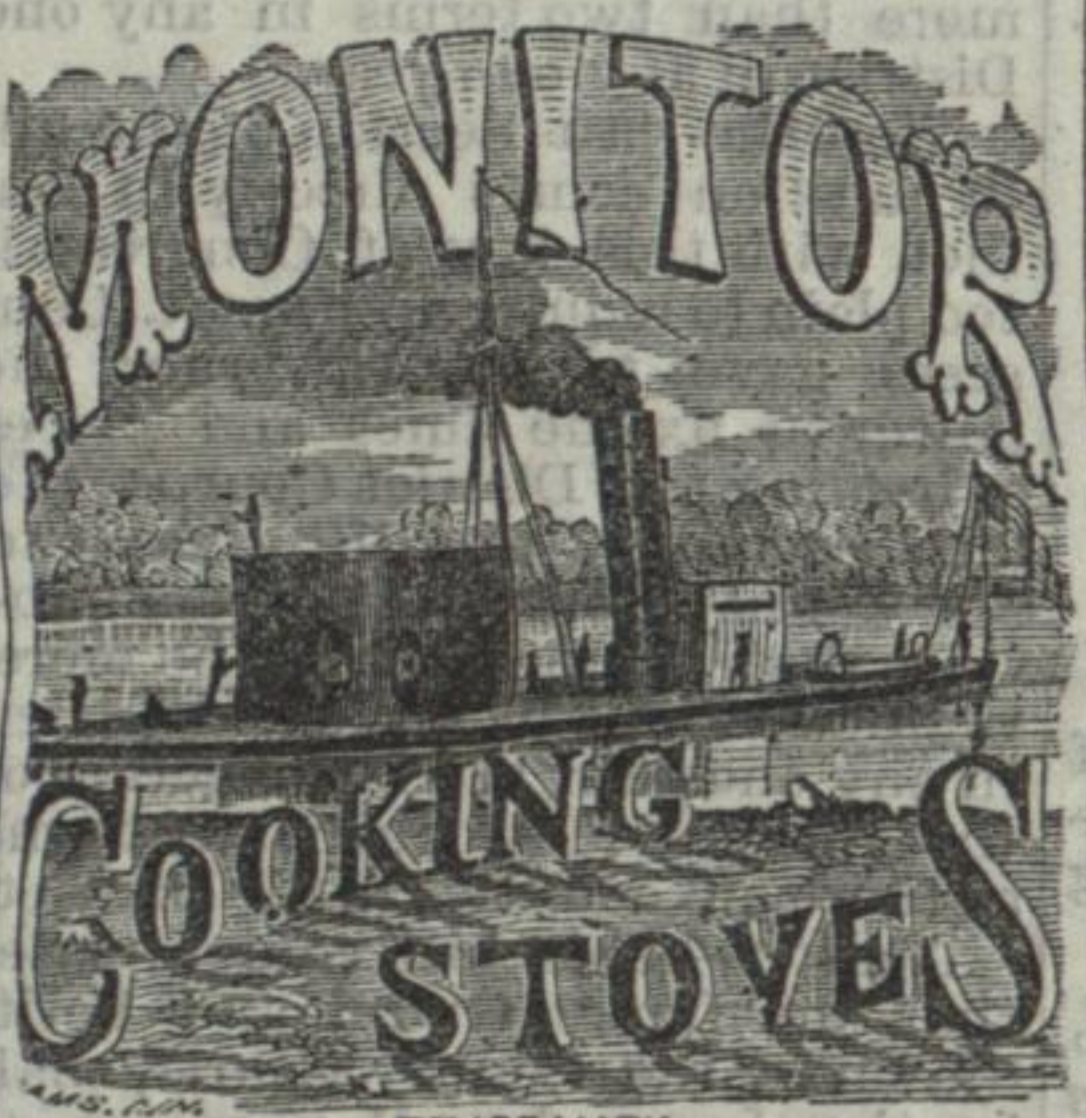
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APPLICATION FOR A PATENT.

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Salt Lake City, Dec. 1, 1873.