

THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

And Practical Housekeeper...

VOL. III, NO. 9.

PHILADELPHIA, AUGUST, 1886.

Yearly Subscription 50 Cents.
Single Copies 5 Cents.

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)
HATTIE'S RESOLUTION.

A LESSON FOR GIRLS.

BY ADA E. HAZELL.

CHAPTER I.

"Oh, dear!" exclaimed Hattie Murch, giving her dusting cloth a little, petulant twitch. "Where does all the dirt come from, I wonder? How I do hate to dust, it takes so much time!" and opening the piano, she rattled off first one lively tune, and then another, in quick succession.

Hattie was a born musician, and her talent had received the best cultivation money could afford, for her parents were wealthy, and she was the only and idolized child. She was a fine performer, her touch firm and brilliant, yet melodious.

"Hattie," called a gentle voice, "have you finished dusting?"

"Almost, auntie dear," replied the young girl, a swift blush at her neglect of duty crimsoning the plump cheeks, as she sprang quickly from the stool, and resumed her work.

Presently she cried: "Won't you come and see how nice I've made the parlor look, aunt!"

"Dear me!" said that lady, glancing around with a critical air, "you forgot the whatnot, Hattie."

"Oh no, I didn't!" exclaimed she, eagerly, forgetting politeness in her anxiety to defend herself.

"You certainly do not wish me to think that you have dusted it. Look here," lifting one or two of the ornaments as she spoke. A faint rim showed just where each had stood.

Again Hattie's ready color rose. "I thought —" she stammered.

"You were careless," interrupted Mrs. Larrabee, kindly. "If you wish to do things well, you must put your mind on them, and work swiftly, allowing nothing to interrupt, if possible. It is a poor way to take half an hour for what ought to be done in ten minutes. Economy of time is as important as economy of money."

"Aunt Ellen," said Hattie, who was accustomed to nothing but praise at home, and who therefore felt her aunt's rebuke the more keenly, "if one does not like to do anything, it always takes longer."

"Not necessarily, dear. Is it not far better to strive to do one's duty contentedly, however distasteful, than to make it doubly hard by fretting and repining?"

"I suppose so," assented the young girl. "But, auntie, mamma says you like to work, so you are not an impatient judge."

Mrs. Larrabee smiled as she replied, "At your age I did not like it any better than you do. But now I must go back to the kitchen, or dinner will be late; an unnecessary annoyance to your uncle Daniel."

Hattie followed, musing over their conversation.

"Please see if my cake is done," said Mrs. Larrabee.

"How am I to tell?" inquired her niece.

"Didn't you ever take a loaf of cake?" asked Mrs. Larrabee, in some surprise.

"No ma'am, nor make one," answered Hattie, meekly.

"Yet you are fifteen years old," said her aunt, thoughtfully.

"Who taught you to do so many things?" asked Hattie, watching her aunt's deft motions admiringly. "Besides all kinds of cooking and housework, you can cut and make dresses splendidly, find time to teach music, to read, and even to study. I would give a great deal to be as smart as you."

"I may say I taught myself, Hattie, and hard work it was, too. Your mother's father and my own, was a rich man, and as we had no mother, we were educated at a fashionable boarding school, where we learned nothing practical. My sister married a man whose social station was equal to our father's, and to this day she has never been obliged to learn anything useful. Yet I doubt if Fannie has been as happy as myself."

Hattie involuntarily recalled the picture of her indolent, lazy mamma, filling over a new novel, or an elaborate piece of fancy work, her only employment killing time; and she could not help contrasting her mother's bored, often peevish expression, with the cheery, animated look of her aunt's plainer countenance.

"I married a poor minister," continued Mrs. Larrabee, and had to study the strictest economy, in order to make both ends meet without running in debt, of which my husband had a perfect horror.

"Mother doesn't like me to go into the kitchen, for fear I may bother the cook, and the next I ever have to do is to keep my room tidy, and my bureau drawers in order."

"If you are really desirous of learning to be a good housekeeper, and will be patient and careful, you will never regret the useful knowledge acquired. There is a sense of power in knowing how to do, even if one is not obliged to exercise that ability. The best mistress is she who

thoroughly understands every branch of domestic labor, and is therefore capable of advising and directing judiciously. Moreover, with a loving smile, "I shall enjoy teaching you, for my great sorrow has been the want of just such a bright-faced daughter, to be a companion and comfort."

"I soon found that I was paying away a good many dollars in the course of a year, to hire things done which I could do as well, with a little

daughter's eager request, yet when she did so, she had thought to herself: "Hattie will not care to do when the time really comes."

Both Mrs. Murch, and her elder child, a beautiful young lady about twenty, were busy preparing for a season of gaiety at a noted watering place, and appeared to take it for granted that Hattie would accompany them.

When, therefore, the latter found a good op-

portunity of avowing her intention to spend the summer months with her aunt, her decision was received with extreme disfavor by both her mother and sister.

"I had set my heart, Hattie, upon having you with me," said Mrs. Murch, plaintively. "You are almost a young lady now, and quite passable, and ought, in order to obtain a certain polish of manner, to mingle more with society than you have leisure for, while school is in season. But I suppose you know best where inclination leads you," sighing.

"Better leave that alone, mamma," chimed in Marion, looking up from the pages of a novel. "She'll be tired enough of her rural retreat before the month is out," laughing derisively. "I should feel as if I were buried alive, to be obliged to spend even a week in that country hole."

Hattie's color heightened, but she made no reply to her sister's scornful observation. She had early learned not to banter words with Marion. Laying a gentle hand on her mother's shoulder, she said, softly: "I will do as you desire, dearest, and give up going to auntie's."

"Oh, no," answered Mrs. Murch, "Ellen would probably be offended; do as you have promised, and don't consider my feelings," with an injured air.

Hattie kissed her tenderly, and turned away, to hide the few bright drops that would fall. How could her mamma purposely misunderstand her motive, and make the keeping of her word so hard, depriving her zeal for domestic knowledge of more than half its zest?

Mrs. Murch had not intentionally wounded the sensitive plant, and was unaware how deeply her tone and manner, even more than her words, had pierced. She really considered Hattie's resolution the height of folly, since Mrs. Murch's ample means made any such drudgery, on the part of a child of his, entirely unnecessary.

How many loving mothers make the same deplorable mistake! True, society has claims upon the wealthy which cannot be ignored, and their station has duties of which other classes are ignorant. Still, by a judicious method, space might be obtained for the domestic, as well as social life.

It is an incontrovertible fact, which many girls only learn through bitter experience, that one must be a thorough, practical housekeeper, in order to harmoniously conduct a household. It often happens that an early marriage, the loss of the mother, or some other of the many changes constantly occurring, places one unexpectedly in a position of responsibility. Fortunate that one who has fitted herself for the trust by having economized the spare hours of her care-free girlhood, in learning the common duties of daily life!

Even though there has never been any necessity for her to "lift her finger," though her awakened desire to understand the homely details may have been discouraged, as was Hattie's, she should have had sufficient pride to persevere, and to conquer.

The ability to instruct others, should occasion require, only comes from a personal knowledge of the best, and consequently easiest way of doing things.

Should misfortune deprive a young lady of the luxury of her earlier years, what an inexpressible comfort to understand how wisely to fulfill the pressing duties devolving upon her unaccustomed shoulders, instead of being entirely at sea!

Riches take unto themselves wings, and she who is wealthy to-day, may, by a turn of Fortune's wheel, become one of the laboring class. In what way can a daughter do more to repay the devotion and lavish outlay previously bestowed upon her, than by stepping bravely to the front, and taking upon herself, with the buoyant courage of youth, and its easily renewed strength, the conduct of household affairs, when trouble has darkened the parental horizon, and a severe retrenchment is absolutely necessary?

But, it is not only the mothers among the wealthy, but those of the great middle class, and even of the laboring poor, who neglect their duty to their daughters, and allow them to come up in ignorance of the practical. Many reasons conspire to produce this state of affairs. Perhaps the parents have been hard-working, and desire for their dearest an easier life. Sometimes the mother herself is unfitted to give the necessary instruction—a helpless fine lady, a martyr to her servants, such as was Mrs. Murch. Again, it is easier by far, for the busy to do things for themselves, than to stop to teach others. If girls do not choose to learn,

they can be very heedless, and a constant source of trial to the patient, forbearing mother. Do you ever think of this, my dear girls, fast approaching womanhood?

But little more was said on the subject of Hattie's proposed visit, and a fortnight later she started.

"You dear child!" cried Mrs. Larrabee, giving her niece a cordial embrace. "I had feared you would not be able to fulfill your promise," leading her into the homelike kitchen.

How pleasant it was, with its general air of comfort! The setting sun fell upon a comfortable lounge, which occupied one corner, and Hattie dropped on to the inviting seat, her countenance betraying her thoughts.

"It's so different from ours!" she exclaimed, half apologetically. "Our black cook says Marion sells through the kitchen like a queen—and no wonder! can't bear to stay in it myself. It isn't neat."

"It has many conveniences which I should appreciate," answered Mrs. Larrabee, smilingly, as she proceeded to pump fresh water into the tin tea-kettle, whose shining surface glistened at his establishment was considered so excellent.

"Always use fresh water," she explained, "if you would have a sparkling cup of tea. Delmonico, the famous N. Y. caterer, gave that as one great reason why the tea and coffee served at his establishment was considered so excellent."

"Why, I shouldn't think it would make any difference," said Hattie.

"Water that has been long standing, or kept boiling, undergoes a change. I believe the heavier particles settle to the bottom. At any rate, it is not so good for the purpose of making tea."

"May I not help, Aunt Ellen?" asked Hattie, watching her aunt's swift, quiet movements, as she laid the cloth, and tastefully arranged the table.

"Hadn't you better be company to-night, dear?"

"No, thanks. Besides, it's aisy larn me,"



effort. At first it was rather discouraging. Sometime I will tell you a few of my experiences. I can laugh at them now, though at the time they were sore trials. I was continually saying to myself: "Oh, if I only had somebody to show me how to do this! Why didn't I find out before I was married? It would have been so much easier."

"Aunt Ellen," cried Hattie, impulsively, "if I will spend all the long vacation with you, will you help me grow up useful?"

"Nothing would give me greater pleasure, dear."

Hattie stole up and gave her aunt a sudden hug. "It'll be your daughter every vacation, if you will help me grow up useful."

"If your mother is willing," added Mrs. Larrabee, gently.

"Oh, I can win her over," answered Hattie, laughingly.

So she did, although Mrs. Murch was disposed to make fun of what she termed her daughter's quixotic notion, which she declared would not be lasting.

Whether it proved so, or not, and the experiences Hattie passed through in carrying out her admirable purpose, will be told in succeeding chapters.

CHAPTER II.

The beautiful month of June was fast passing, and the long vacation, which Hattie Murch had promised her aunt Larrabee to spend with her, was drawing near. The young girl's desire to become a capable housekeeper, had not been a mere whim, to be lightly forgotten. She had a steadfast alie to her character, and was not one to be easily turned from a purpose. Still, she now found it somewhat difficult to broach the subject to her mother. Although, months before, that lady had given a languid consent to her

portunity of avowing her intention to spend the summer months with her aunt, her decision was received with extreme disfavor by both her mother and sister.

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as a green girl just over from the 'old country' once told mamma. So, if you please, I'll set to work at once."

"Then you may slice the bread and the cake. So," cutting a thin slice from the handsomely browned loaf of bread, and a thicker one from the latter. "There is little to be done, because I try to have tea an easy meal. It is better for the stomach, and less work for me. I can toil cheerfully until after the dinner dishes are put away, but I feel that I must have the balance of the day for other than housework. A just division of labor, I call it, and it prevents my becoming heart-sick of the routine, as so many weary, worn-out women are."

Hattie laughed. "I knew there was some particular reason why you always managed to be so bright and cheery," she cried, "and now I have discovered it. You are one of the few who appreciate the need of change."

"A fair exchange is no robbery," quoted her aunt, mischievously. "Who steals my time deprives me of my most valuable possession. Shall housework steal from the reading hour, or that for sewing, or for my brisk daily constitutional? Nay. One set of muscles needs to rest while another labors. Certainly after one has worked deftly all the morning long, it ought not to be necessary to allow the labor of the household to encroach far into the afternoon."

"How can it be helped, auntie? I should think there would be so much to do some days, such as washing or sweeping day, that the morning would not be long enough."

"It is so, occasionally, even in the best regulated families. But by so planning the question of food, that the meals can be quickly prepared, much valuable time may be saved. Then, too, if the washing is heavy, I strongly advocate hiring assistance. I question if the money saved is not spent more extravagantly."

"What do you mean?" queried Hattie, with interest.

"If I go beyond my strength, and know that I am doing so, I am drawing in advance upon the capital intended to last me through future years. Strength recklessly expended is worse than money wasted, for it means, perhaps, not so much loss of actual existence, as of vital power. An over-worked woman is a mere drudge, too fatigued to exercise her intellect, or to arouse herself to be a companion to her husband, an interested, loving friend to her sons and daughters. I pity all such, yet often they have only themselves to blame."

Hattie drew a long breath. "I am afraid they wouldn't agree with you, auntie," she said. "They would answer that they could not spare even half a dollar for hired help."

"The closest planning is required in many homes, I am well aware; but something could be done without, rather than prematurely break down the woman upon whom the responsibility of the family rests."

"I agree with you. But here comes uncle," as a mild-spoken individual gave her a simple, sincere greeting. Mr. Larrabee was a quiet man, but a benign air pervaded his being. "Trustworthy" was stamped indelibly upon his high brow. "Affectionate" shone from his clear blue eyes. "Tender," and "charitable," lurked in the corners of his strong, sweet mouth.

"Aunt Ellen made a wise choice," thought Hattie, involuntarily, as she bowed her head while the simple blessing was uttered.

So Hattie's new life began auspiciously. The atmosphere of aunt Larrabee's home was that of peace and love. Discord could find no abiding place there.

Next month we will relate some of Hattie's experiences while under her aunt's roof.

(To be Continued.)

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]
HOPE REYNOLDS.

BY CECIL EARLE.

"If I could only do something," sighed pretty, bright-eyed, sixteen-year-old Hope Reynolds, as she wiped the breakfast cups and saucers.

"What's that you said, daughter?" asked Mrs. Reynolds, a busy, contented-looking woman, with a big heart.

Hope blushed, and looked confused. Then, looking straight into her mother's eyes, she said: "I want to attend the seminary this fall, but there is no way to pay for my tuition, or buy the necessary books; and I was just wishing I could earn the money myself in some way."

"I sincerely wish you could, Hope. It's hard to be poor," and she in her turn sighed. "But then, we're a great deal better off than some of our neighbors," she added, brightening up.

"I know it, mother, and I am thankful every day of my life that we have as many comforts as we do. I am young and strong, and can work, if only I can find something to do."

"If you can, you shall have all the time you need. Keep your eyes open, and maybe they will spy some work for you. But, Hope, we could not spare you to go away from home."

An hour later, Hope was on her way to the south meadow to pick strawberries. She made a pretty picture as she walked across the green fields. There was a bright flush on her cheeks, a thoughtful look in the soft brown eyes, and the fluffy curls of her bang peeped coquettishly from under her wide brimmed sun hat. Her print dress fitted perfectly her slender figure.

She was the oldest of the Reynolds children. Next to her was a crippled brother, Horace, twelve years old. Everything had been done for this boy that could be done, still he was no better. Poor fellow! he felt his helplessness keenly, and often would say:

"If it wasn't for me, father wouldn't have to work so hard, and Hope could go to school. It would be better if I were dead."

"Please don't talk so, Horace. I'd rather have you, than go to the best school that ever was. There'll be a way for me to go, sometime," Hope said.

Carrie was five, and Bernard seven. These, with the father and mother, completed the household band. It was a happy family, despite their poverty. The farm was not large, but under good cultivation, and would have been paid for long ago, had Horace's expense not been so great.

Hope found the berries very plenty that June morning, and her pail was filling rapidly, when her attention was attracted by a carriage coming along the road. When about opposite her it stopped. A big black bonnet was thrust outside the carriage, and a shrill voice called:

"Come here, Hope Reynolds. I want to see your berries."

As Hope was only a short distance off she soon stood beside the carriage.

"I haven't tasted a strawberry this year," said Miss Graham.

"Help yourself to mine," said Hope, politely. "Thank you. You're a good girl, Hope. These

berries are very nice." And she did help herself. Hope looked on in dismay. The sun was hot, and it was very tiresome picking the berries.

"How many did you have?" abruptly inquired the old lady.

"The pail holds four quarts, and it was more than half full."

"Call it three quarts. That would be forty-five cents, at fifteen cents a quart. I'll take them. I'll return the pail when you bring me five quarts more to-morrow morning."

Putting the money into the astonished girl's hand, Miss Graham drove off before Hope could find her tongue. A sudden thought came to her. She hurried home and upstairs to her room. On a shelf stood a small tin savings-bank, with a slit in the top just large enough to admit a silver dollar. She put the forty-five cents into the bank, and then ran gaily down stairs.

"Mother," she cried, going into the kitchen, where her mother was preparing dinner, "I picked three quarts of berries, and sold them to old Miss Graham for forty-five cents. The money I've put away towards my school fund."

Mrs. Reynolds paused from her work a moment. "The very thing, Hope. Queer we never thought of it before. You are sure of going to the seminary this fall?" And then she went quietly on with her work, while Hope ran to Horace's sofa in the sitting room to tell him about it.

"If I do get money enough so I can go, I'll teach you everything I learn," she said enthusiastically.

Hope and Horace were both very fond of study. Horace had never attended school a day in his life. Indeed, most of his days were passed on the sofa, and many of them were filled with so much pain that study was impossible. People were very kind to him, and loaned him books and papers to amuse himself with.

"Oh Hope! Wouldn't it be lovely!" and his eyes shone with delight. "I believe you can. How much would it cost?"

"Ten dollars for tuition and five for books for one term."

"Fifteen dollars. It seems a lot, but I almost know you'll get it. I'll help you."

"And then, Horace, maybe I could teach next summer, and earn enough to take two terms. I tell you, I'm determined to go till I graduate. Then won't I earn the money! I'll give it every bit to father."

That afternoon, Hope went again to the berry field, and staid till the five quarts were picked. Five times fifteen are seventy-five. Seventy-five and forty-five are one-hundred-and-twenty. One dollar and twenty cents. Enough to pay my way one week," she repeated, over and over to herself that afternoon.

When Hope carried the berries to Miss Graham, that lady said: "I will take twelve quarts more at the same price."

While in the village, Hope thought it best to call at Dr. Bell's and Judge Mayhew's, and several other places, to see if they would buy any of her strawberries. Mrs. Bell and Mrs. Mayhew each engaged ten quarts, another lady two, another four, and so on, making in all thirty-six quarts that she must deliver by Saturday night.

She did some reckoning on the way from the village to her home, a mile distant, that day, I can tell you. This was Tuesday. Hope spent a good many hours in the south meadow, that week, and at seven o'clock Saturday night she started for the village with the last five quarts of berries. It was a lovely evening, and Hope felt very happy as she walked along. Certainly the pail of berries was rather heavy, and made her arms ache, but they were worth fifteen cents a quart, and when they were paid for she would have six dollars and sixty cents.

"Pretty good, Hope Reynolds, for the first week," she said. "But, of course, I cannot expect fifteen cents a quart much longer—maybe not any. Then I will sell them for ten. Anyway I will sell all I can."

As hope prophesied, strawberries did not bring fifteen cents a quart any more. Monday she got twelve cents a quart for them, for the next two days, and at the end of the week only seven. By Saturday night there was ten dollars in the little tin bank. At the end of the next week there were two dollars more; almost enough for one term.

When the strawberries were gone, raspberries were ripe, and hop-d picked them for sale. She found a ready sale for all she could pick, at first getting eight cents a quart, but at the last only four. When the berry season was over, Hope, in the presence of the whole family, opened the bank, and counted the contents. It was just twenty-one dollars and fourteen cents.

There was joy in the Reynolds' house that night. Hope was so delighted she could hardly sleep.

When the seminary opened, the first week in September, Hope Reynolds occupied one seat. She studied hard, improving every minute.

"You will attend the winter term, Miss Reynolds?" asked the principal, just before the close of the fall term.

"I am afraid it will be impossible," answered Hope.

"We have talked the matter over, and had concluded to try to persuade you to take a few of the younger classes, but if you are not coming, it cannot be."

Now, this was a thing which had never entered Hope's wise little head. It was some time before she could manage to say a word.

"Thank you," she said. "In that case I could come. That is if I could earn enough to pay for my books and tuition."

"That was the offer I was about to make. Shall we consider the matter settled?"

"Yes sir, if my parents do not object."

They did not. And that was the way Hope Reynolds paid her way for the next two years, until she graduated. Then she returned to the seminary as a teacher, at a good salary. It wasn't long before Horace was sent away to a hospital, where he could receive skillful treatment. In two years he returned, not entirely cured, but improved so much that he could walk, with the aid of a cane.

This is what one girl did. There are a great many who could do the same as she did—perhaps not in the same way, but in some way. Try it, girls.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]
THE SUMMER EXODUS.

The wise Portia has said: "I can easier tell twenty what were good to be done, than be one of the twenty to follow my own teaching." and perhaps an old maid like myself has no right to dictate to a married woman on the subject of her wifely duties.

But, I do think my wedded sisters make a great mistake, when, leaving their lords and masters to their own devices, for a longer or shorter period, they flit away to drink in new life

from the air of some mountain resort, or to disport themselves in the surf which breaks along the shore of some fashionable watering-place. For, in my opinion, the seeds of conjugal infidelity, are, in many cases, first sown in this abandonment of home.

Oftentimes, it is the children's need of health-giving air which serves as an excuse for the summer flitting; and I know that many a little one drags out a puny existence in the vitiated atmosphere of the town. Still, think of the thousands of children who grow to be healthy men and women, in our close city streets, without any more idea of the country than is afforded by our municipal parks; and to whom the polluted water about the ferry slips, stands for their only knowledge of the grand, the free, the glorious, old ocean!

I love babies—none better—but let no mother assail me with maternal wrath, when I say that the lives of two of them are not worth the price of one husband's fidelity; for I again assert, that many a man who would otherwise have remained true to his wife in thought and deed, has swerved from his allegiance, solely through this "summer exodus;" and my spinster heart beats with sympathy, for the husband, who turns from the traveling carriage, with its crew of happy faces, and enters the deserted house, to sit down in the dull rooms, with their furniture swathed in brown linen, and to look forward to solitary meals, served by some Bridget, or Dinah, in hap-hazard style.

What wonder, then, that when evening comes, he strays to the next door-step, where laughing girl voices tempt his melancholy; or hangs entranced over the skillful fingers of the lady in the next street, as she weaves melody after melody to charm his senses; and, siren-like, casts a spell over him by the witchery of her voice; or drifts down town to meet "the boys" in some seductive beer-garden, or other haunt of pleasure.

Perchance you ask: "Are there, then, no men who can be trusted?" I sorrowfully answer: "Very few, when temptation in some alluring form assails them."

"And must we married women hold all pleasure, all freedom, subservient to the one purpose of retaining the fidelity of our husbands?" "Yes, for so I interpret the solemn marriage vows. Devote yourselves to your chosen partners; make their homes pleasant. If they cannot get away in the summer, do not you. Stay by their sides; refresh them with cooling drinks and tempting viands, when at the close of day, they return, weary with the toil which gives you so many luxuries. Try what simple dressing, the comfort of bath tubs, the reliable family doctor, and plain diet, will do for the ailing little ones; for country board often means, a glaring, unblinded house, and the most primitive bathing facilities. Then when John or Tom can get away for a week or two, with what pleasure you will set off in his company! Every delight will be enhanced, and every joy doubled."

I have in my mind, a husband and wife, whose wedded years' lack but two of reaching a quarter of a century. Together they have passed through sunshine and storm, and have seen their children grow to fair manhood and womanhood around them. Their income has been small, and they have practiced much self-denial in the way of summer outings, and kindred luxuries. This year they are to take a trip together; and to see the glow on their faces, as they mention it, and the evident delight they take in anticipating this, their second wedding-tour, would make the most cynical mind believe that there is such a thing as a real union of souls, in this unregenerate age.

If I had ever taken to myself that useful appendage—a husband—be sure that I would stick by him closer than a brother. His home should be a pleasant one in summer as well as in winter. If he could not get away, neither would I. My place should be at his side, to bind him to domestic life by all the arts a woman's love and devotion could devise, believing that an attractive, peaceful fireside, is a safeguard from much that is evil, and the bulwark of morality and conjugal felicity. SPINSTER.

Living Wonders.

The wife of a clergyman at Fulton, New York, writes:—"Within the past seven years my husband has had two shocks of paralysis. His pulse was fast as I could count—his breath twice to my once. His body seemed a burden to him."

A month later came this report:—"His hands, which were bloodless and cold, are now natural, and the veins stand out, showing a renewed circulation."

Four months later was this further report:—"My husband continues to improve. About the last of July his left leg, which had a paralytic limp, straightened out, so that he now steps evenly on both legs. The paralytic condition of the right hand and the left side of his face, which were affected by the last shock, has also disappeared."

The wife of a clergyman in Sandersville, Georgia writes:—"Was paralyzed in body and brain. . . I am now the happiest being you ever beheld. Compound Oxygen wrought wonders for me. I am a marvel and a wonder to the whole county."

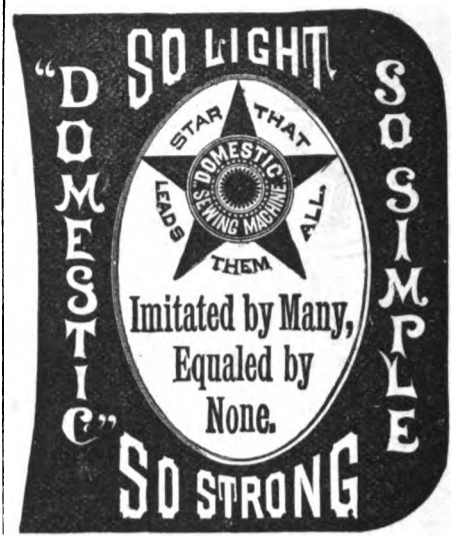
A daughter of Colonel Hornbrook, of Wheeling, West Virginia, a wreck from paralysis, was completely restored to health by the use of the Compound Oxygen Treatment.

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WILL "John's Wife" please tell how that lady kept children's hair clean without soap and water? M. A. M.

"A Hawkeye Sister" sends her hearty approval of the method of weaning recommended by John's Wife. She has tried it with great success and hopes that her experience may encourage some other young mother. We cannot very well publish her letter in full just here.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., May 21, 1886. "INQUISITIVE" would like to ask the editor of the HOME JOURNAL, what she thinks of never wetting the hair, mentioned by "John's Wife" in the May number. Does not the head require washing, and is there such a thing as washing the hair too frequently? I refer to children's hair.

[It has been the result of my own experience that baby's head needs almost as much washing as his face. As a rule, a child's head, unprotected from the heat by a thick growth of hair, perspires almost as freely as its face, and requires the same cleansing processes to keep it sweet and clean. Children, too, (especially the very small ones) go into all sorts of dusty places, all of which will get into the hair, and on the scalp. Except in cases of a certain disease of the scalp, I have, personally, never seen any but good effects from the everyday washing of baby's head.—Ed.]

PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, June 2, '86. EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—For some time, the JOURNAL has been a welcome visitor in our little home. Sometimes I hear mothers ask the question, "What can we do with our little girls to keep them busy and at the same time afford them pleasure?" I don't know as I've solved the question, but I thought of something the other day.

We have a flower garden in front of our house, and I sometimes sit at the window and watch the children coming along the street. Some will stop and admire the pretty flowers. Others will slip their little hands in between the fence railings and help themselves to the nearest flower within their reach. Children love flowers; even the baby will stretch out its little hands for some bright "posy." Years ago, when sister and I were little girls, mother told us one day, that we might have a little garden of our own. She furnished us with a few plants and several kinds of flower seeds, and showed us how to plant them. Four o'clocks, petunias, zinnias, touch-me-nots, and one bright scarlet geranium, budded and blossomed all summer long. How well I remember the picture of two little girls in sun-bonnets and aprons, holding aloft the great, heavy watering can, from whose spout poured down refreshing showers.

Who were more delighted than we, and how we enjoyed to tackle that four-o'clock bush and rob it of all the fragrant blossoms. Good old bush that it was. It never seemed to care in the least, and every evening was decked out in red and white again as gay as ever. Years have passed by since those happy childhood days. Sister and I no longer wear the sun-bonnets and aprons, and the watering can does not seem so heavy as of yore. The duties of life have called our attention to other things, and the little garden is no more, but the memory of it will remain forever. What has given pleasure to two little girls years ago, will do the same for some little girl to-day. It will not only keep her busy, but will afford her much pleasure and happiness for the long summer months that are to come. TANSY GREEN.

CLEONE, MENDOCINO CO., CAL., April 23, 1886.

DEAR EDITOR:—I have been taking your paper six months. I have just received the February and March numbers from you; my April and May numbers were sent on to me from Santa Rosa, so I have them all now, for which I am so thankful. I do not want to lose one.

I have been trying for a long time to write to the sisters of the JOURNAL, but I have so much to say. I do so enjoy your letters; it reminds me of the class meetings I used to attend. I have three babies now, so I must content myself with reading.

The mother's corner is so interesting. In the January number I was very much touched with the answer given "Perplexed Mother,"—how her heart must have ached when she read it. I have been through the same perplexities, and am not through with them yet. My oldest (little May) is not four till next month, and my baby is seven months old. How she would love to have mamma rock her and pet her; but no, instead, she has to be little mother to brothers Willie and Addie, while mamma washes, irons, gets papa's dinner, etc. How the mother's heart aches when she hears baby coaxing for her, but a certain thing must be done. We would all like to have the motto "Baby first, always," pinned over everything, but there are a certain class of mothers that cannot; but do you infer it is because we do not want to? Think you, that the woman who has to be Biddy, chambermaid, and nurse, all in one, does not love the jewels God has lent her, as well as the one who has nothing to do but fondle her babies? God forbid! I believe the most ignorant negro on the globe loves their offspring as tenderly as the most cultured Anglo-Saxon.

I wonder how you warm baby's feet when they get cold. My first two I used to hold to the fire and toast them, but I always felt it was more of a torture than a pleasure; so, with my third, I tried holding them in nice warm water. Oh! how quiet he will lay and let me splash the water on his little legs. I have found, with my last one, if you keep babies warm and quiet, (the quieter the better) colic will not stay around. My first two had it every day, the first six months, but the last one has never had a severe attack.

I am wondering where "John's Wife" lives. I see she is a Yankee—God bless her. I was born

on the outskirts of "yankeedom," and how I love it. I am but a stranger here; lacks seven days of being a year since we reached California; and to eastern sisters I would say: be content with the East. There are a great many wonderful and beautiful things here. Yes, it is nice to gather shells, stand on the beach and let the waves lash at your feet, gather calla lilies, roses, etc., all winter, but California is not perfection; when you get here you will find as many drawbacks as beauties. MAC'S WIFE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.] THE CHILD SOVEREIGN.

When we now view the pitiable sight of parents that are governed wholly by their children, we would fain go back to old Puritanical days when parents held full sway. Surely that were better, unless we can strike a happy medium. Not long since I heard a poor distracted mother lament her inability to hold her sixteen year old daughter within bounds. "She just will go to every dance, or show, that comes along, said she, to the neglect of her school and music lessons. I can now see, continued she sorrowfully, where I made my mistake. Had I not let her go at all till now or until she is older, it would have been so much better." And wiser, thought I. Alas! she's not the only mother that has made the same lamentable mistake. Another misguided mother has allowed her fourteen year old girl—at her own solicitation of course—to neglect her music, and school, for a time, because said she: "Carrie's so delicate, I must not crowd her, in her studies." In the meantime, this same delicate child is allowed to go out night after night, seldom getting to bed till midnight, and she a growing child needing much sleep. Humph! Who would not be delicate under such a regimen? I call to mind another mother who was over-persuaded, by her sixteen year old miss, to let her remain from school during the entire winter to pursue, the better, her musical studies. But of course her music was neglected the more; since, being out of school, she had more leisure to run about. Another foolish mother, eye! criminally so, allowed her seventeen year old daughter to drive a distance of twenty miles to a Circus, with a young man devoid of principle, and she well knew that the return trip was to be made in the night. When we see such a sorry lack of judgment among mothers, the wonder is that there are not many more "Jennie Cramer" cases. Surely the strict English surveillance over our daughters with a necessary chaperon or companion, were far better than such license! Many of us who hail from the past generation can perchance, recall a time when we over-persuaded mother to grant some privilege, that now, in our mature, and wiser years, we see the folly, eye! and the danger of it. To day, if boys are held the least in check, i. e. if full license to roam the streets at pleasure be not granted them; they'll say: "I won't stand it, I'll skip." But fortunately, some do try the 'skipping' process, and are as glad as the 'Prodigal Son' of old to return to father's roof-tree. This condition of things begins in infancy and babyhood. I have often called when a child of three, or four, years was allowed to scream, and cry at some fancied grievance, during the extent of my stay, to the spoiling of my visit. But of course the mother and family, had become accustomed to the howling of the young autocrat; hence they did not mind it.

I now call to mind a little five year old miss standing in the middle of the room angrily screaming, and dancing, because her mother had to leave home for a short time. Other mothers, however, fortify themselves beforehand against such tarantula demonstrations, by the purchasing of quantities of confectionary with which their offspring are coaxed into good behavior. I have seen a little child scarce four years of age that has "tantrums"—that are well nigh hysterical convulsions—if every whim is not gratified. Pray what can her parents do with her in years to come? But I might—if I had time, and space—mention such cases ad infinitum. We are told in the good Book: "Woe to thee, O land, when thy king is a child!" FANNY FANSHAW.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.] TREATING.

BY MRS. E. C. HEWITT.

Mothers, let me tell you what a mother said to me once and see if you do not find much truth in her argument.

She had growing boys and one of them, about fifteen, wanted some money. "I gave you some money yesterday, where is it?" "I treated Harry to soda water at the drug store, and bought some candy for Nettie and Mary Wil." "My son, I have told you that I objected to your treating your boy and girl friends to anything. Soda water and candy are harmless in themselves to a degree, and if you had felt the necessity of two glasses of soda water and had brought the candy home to your sisters I would not have had one word to say but I do not like it."

It seemed to me at the time counsel that was likely to do the boy harm by teaching him to be selfish, but my talk with her, and sober reflection showed me that the harm the sons were likely to receive in that way was not nearly so likely to be lasting as the evil which she dreaded for them.

"No," said she in continuance to me afterward "I am convinced that the habit of treating even ice-cream, soda water, peanuts or candy is a bad one. It leads to extravagance, and very often, instead of arising from a desire to be generous, it is the outgrowth of a desire to "look big" and outdo some fellow creature. I believe that most of the harm done in liquor drinking is done by the "treaters." One treats and another treats and by the time five have treated the whole five are intoxicated.

A boy falls into the habit of spending his money on his companions, and soon the time comes when soda water and peanuts are no longer cared for by those companions, and candy is childish. Then what? The habit of treating is strong upon him. "What will they have?" "What must he do?" Mentally canvassing the tastes of his companions, he thinks cigars or cigarettes will be about the thing though he doesn't smoke himself perhaps because "Mother has been able to guard him from that vice. So it goes. Then some one else 'treats' to cigars and so he takes one because he 'don't like to look queer.' Don't you see how it works up step by step?"

I did see, and I thought it was a question which called for careful thought on the part of all mothers who wish to do their "very best" for the darlings of their hearts, their growing sons.

"Reflect" she added after a few moments' pause.

I did "reflect" and to this point have my reflections brought me.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.] BABY'S NAP.

"When baby's nap hour comes, don't let it be spoiled with noise and glaring light and flies, but carry the sleepy little one into some still, darkened, cool chamber, even if it be the housetop, and there, with no fear of annoying or startling sounds and broken slumber, let the baby have opportunity to sweetly sleep out his sleep." So a writer in a late article tells us, but unless there is a trusty watcher to sit with baby while he sleeps in this remote room, I would not dare put him there.

Baby's nap hour is apt to come at eleven o'clock, an hour in our country homes which is crowded with the work of dinner getting, and with but one pair of hands at our command, who is there in the household that can be spared from the work to sit with baby in the "housetop," or where the sound of slamming oven doors and dinging dinner pots cannot reach him? No one; and a down stairs nap with its possible disturbances are preferable to one out of sight and sound of mother's watchful eye and ear.

"Why do you take baby up from her rightful sleep and carry her down stairs with you when you go to prepare breakfast? Why not leave her here alone in this still chamber to sleep and amuse herself as long as she will?" the mother of an eight months old baby, was asked not long ago. "Because, I dare not," was the quick answer. "She may wake at any moment, and I dare not leave her here alone while I am down in the kitchen."

"Why, what possible harm could befall her?" "A thousand things!" was the cautious mother's decided answer.

Hardly a thousand, but very many sad accidents are possible to baby if he is left without a watcher.

Asleep or awake, I never dare leave my babies alone, only for the moment, and if I cannot plan baby's nap to come when I have leisure to sit by her in a "still, darkened, cool room," she must bear with noise, and possibly with "heat, and light and flies," in a room adjoining the kitchen, whose door stands ajar, rather than run any risk of finding her smothered or choked or burned or stunned, in a remote room beyond my sight and hearing.

I do know a young, weak infant can so turn her face upon a pillow as to suffocate herself in it, unless a watchful eye is there to prevent the dreadful accident.

When baby grows stronger, the restless, active turnings of the little head may tumble the pillows so that they fall over the little face and suffocation be the result. I think I never shall forget the moment when I found my six weeks old boy gasping for breath under a heavy feather bolster that had fallen across his face. His crib was in the family sitting room. What if he had been put away for a long nap!

A friend could tell you a heart-aching story, of a day when she put her active, beautiful, ten months old little daughter to sleep in her quiet bedroom. She was unusually busy that morning preparing for expected company, and did not look in on baby every half hour, as was her custom.

"What a long nap the dear child is having!" she thought as she hurried from pantry to cook stove. "If she will only sleep a little longer I can finish my work."

That day's work was finished and the mother has had opportunity, for all of that little baby's hindering, to do the work that has come with all the years since, for when she did softly unlatch the door to see if baby had waked, she found her in the sleep that knows no waking. Her bed was an old-fashioned, high-posted one, and the little girl, in trying to get down from it to trot to mamma, had slipped into the narrow space between the bedstead and wall, and since the little feet could not reach the floor and her head was too large to slip through the aperture, she there hung until choked to death.

Another mother, whose heart will never cease to ache with torturing regret, rocked her nine months old baby to sleep in his swinging crib, and then went about her work congratulating herself that her little hinderer was off her hands for one good, long hour. He was, and he has been in all the long, sad years that have since followed, for when she went to him, she found him cold in death. He had attempted to creep from the crib, and slipping between its bar and the wall, had caught his chin over the sharp edge and there hung until choked.

One August afternoon when our eldest girl was a year old baby, I got her to sleep and laid her on a comforter on the floor in the coolest corner of our coolest chamber. I darkened the room and then turned to leave it for a moment on some errand. I stood with my hand on the latch, wondering why I could not seize the hour to do necessary work down stairs. "What could befall baby?" I asked, "even if she should wake. No bed from which to fall; no tumbling pillows to cut off her breath; wire screens in all the open windows; nothing in the room with which she could wound herself or climb to fall, and the match safe nailed high. Surely, nothing can happen to baby if I leave her alone one little hour," and down stairs I went with the intention of remaining there till I heard her wide awake call, but hardly a half hour had passed, before the blessed angel who never yet has failed to warn me when one of my little ones has been in danger, whispered, "go to baby," and I went, quickly. I found her cooling gleefully over an apronful of matches which the wind had blown from the safe. Baby had picked them up, scratched them on her little boots or the floor until they had ignited, as tiny holes burned in her apron testified.

Quiet and coolness are delightful and desirable for baby's nap, but if we must choose between them and a faithful watcher over the little sleeper, let us choose the latter.

There is a great stir in these days that it is wisdom to accustom baby to sleep by himself; that warm, loving, mother arms are not comfortable or advisable for the soft, little bundles that love so well to nestle in them; that mother and baby are both better off without any blessed, sleepy time rocks or wide awake trots; in fact, that baby must not be allowed to "take time" or "make trouble." But the dear babies are tame, timid, cuddling, little things, expecting and demanding so much love and tending and watching, that she who cheats herself into believing that lonesome naps or wakes—away from mother's arms and sight in that "quiet upper room" are best for baby, may find a twisted blanket or tumbled bolster, or a sunken pillow or a pit-fall space between crib and wall, caused baby choking cries and gasps for breath which no one was by to hear, and so the precious little life went out, when one quick out-reaching of the yearning arms that were being schooled to put and keep baby out of them whenever possible, could have saved all this misery and remorse.

CLARISSA POTTER.

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BRUSH STUDIES



[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]
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NEW SERIES—NO. VIII.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARKSON.

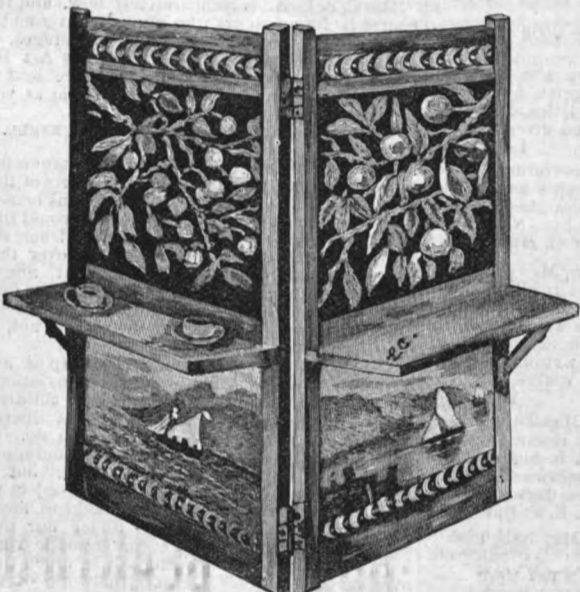
Long Panel "Flamingoes." How to Paint it in Oil and in Pastel—Dining-room Screen—Home-made Jardiniere, etc.

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The flamingo design illustrated in last number, shows an excellent subject for the decoration of long panels, so fashionable now, and so well adapted to certain purposes of household furnishing.

For narrow sections of wall between windows, for door panels, or screens, it is a novel and charming design.

The best materials, where the work is to be done in oils, is undoubtedly a good quality of canvas, which should be mounted upon a stretcher of at least 37x13 inches.



[Engraved expressly for THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]
SUGGESTION FOR DINING-ROOM SCREEN.

Begin the work first by laying in the sky, the palette for which is silver white, cobalt, a trifle each of madder lake, ivory black, and light cadmium. This tint gradually merges into a yet more delicate pinkish tone, which extends down to the distant foliage, and is painted with white, madder lake, a little light red, light cadmium and ivory black.

Lay the paint on broadly in these sky tints, using a large bristle brush, No. 5 or 6, with a strong enough touch to work it well into the canvas. Paint may be broadly spread, and yet the tones kept light and delicate, especially when merging from one to another. Take the strokes in every direction which is an easy way of completely covering the threads of canvas.

The palette for distant foliage, which is very bluish in tone, is white, cobalt, or Antwerp blue, and light cadmium, qualified by madder lake, and a trifle ivory black. For the middle distance add more cadmium, to produce a greener tint. For the palm trees in middle distance add a trifle light red and ivory black. The feathery grass heads at the top of panel, are painted with white, cadmium, and a trifle ivory black, with shading of a purplish cast. For this use Antwerp blue, madder lake and white.

For the tall brakes, or tropical ferns, the best colors are light zincbor green, terre vert, white and black, with Antwerp blue in the shadows. The palette for grasses is the same, varying the tone from dark to light.

The nearer bank is always painted with same colors.

The water repeats the sky in the lighter tones. In the dark shadows use terre vert and black with Antwerp blue, and a trifle cadmium. For the lily pads use the same palette given for ferns. The birds will doubtless prove the most difficult feature of this study to the amateur. They should be of a most delicate pink, with the exception of the tip of the wings, which are a bright scarlet shaded with black. For the local color use simply white, vermilion, a trifle light cadmium and ivory black. In shading, add more vermilion and a trifle madder lake, cobalt and black.

For the high light add more white to the same colors used for the local tone. The upper part of mandible is painted white, with a trifle cadmium and black in the shading. The very tip of bill black, with a little cadmium. The scarlet with which wings are tipped, is vermilion, shaded with a little madder lake and black. The color of the smaller bird is reflected in the water. The local color mingling with the blue of the water, is more subdued and purplish in tone. For this effect a trifle more cobalt, or Antwerp blue is added to the local color. The greens of the immediate foreground are the same as already given, with the addition of a little burnt sienna.

When the panel is thoroughly dry finish with Sohier's French retouching varnish. This is applied with a large flat bristle brush.

Pastel is so similar in detail to charcoal and crayon drawing, that it will be quite unnecessary to repeat what was given under that heading last month. To paint the "flamingoes" in pastel an assortment of colored crayons will be needed. Colors corresponding to the oil paints may be had. These are put up in boxes, for either landscape or portrait painting, in beautiful gradation of tints, from the deepest, down to the most delicate of shades.

Each color is thus graduated, so that it is very easy to match the tints as required. Pastel paper is sold at twenty cents a sheet. The best velvet paper may be had at that price. This should be mounted as described in last number. To paint the flamingoes, sketch, or pounce the design lightly, in either charcoal, or brown crayon.

After a general outline is had in this way, the shadows may be laid in, in simple masses, using a medium tone of color. Then the local tint of the sky; in the same way the water, and the foreground, until the whole effect is had in simple masses of color, which are now united by rubbing lightly, either with the finger, or a bit of chamois twisted to a point. If the finger is used, care must be had not to dull the color, or to lose its transparency and freshness. After a little practice a few skillful touches will serve to blend the tones, the finger, or chamois being used to remove any hardness of line, and to harmonize the colors sufficiently. In this same way tints may be worked one into another, modifying them as is necessary. The sky of the panel is a most delicate shade of blue, gradually blending into the creamy pink tint, which is carried down to the distant foliage. A luminous, atmospheric effect may be had by a correct handling of the subject.

It should be borne in mind that only the more delicate colors should be used in the sky tints, as it is much easier to deepen them afterward than it is to lighten, or give them transparency.

The details, such as the brakes, grasses, and surface marks in foreground, are drawn lastly with the point, that is, hard crayons are used wherever careful drawing is necessary, although for fine lines, the sharp edge of the crayon may be employed. In laying in the masses of color, the crayon may be applied flat, holding it between the thumb and fore finger. The paper stump may be used instead of the finger, though with practice the latter gives perhaps better results.

The hard crayons for details and finishing, come in small paper boxes, from 25c. to 50c. per box. The large soft crayons come in flat wooden boxes at different prices, according to quality, and number of colors. A very good quality of crayons, assorted colors, for landscape or flower painting, can be bought for \$4.00. Lower priced boxes may be had, but in these many of the desirable colors are wanting. In the execution of the above subjects either in oil or pastel, it should be observed that the scene is a tropical one, and to be painted accordingly.

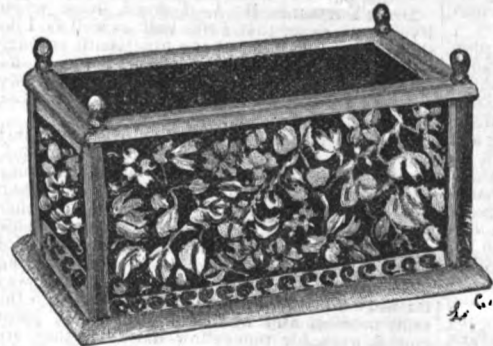
The tones are mellow and luminous. The brilliant light of a southern clime, the rosette plumage of the birds, with their tapering forms and gracefully curved necks, form an enchanting color piece, with effects not to be had in pictures of our northern regions. This will doubtless prove a favorite with those fond of the novel in art, who have been searching for something different from the ordinary run of subjects.

It is also well calculated to please either landscape or decorative painters, and as such, pleasure is taken in presenting it in these columns.

Two original designs for household decoration are given this month, which will be found attractive and desirable to those requiring economical devices, as they can both be made at home at a moderate cost. Almost any one at all familiar with carpenters' tools, can furnish the frame for screen, while the *jardiniere*, or window box for plants, is constructed from a simple wooden box. This can stand upon a small table, the window shelf, or a light bamboo framework, as preferred. The latter when draped with some rich material contributes still more to its beauty. For parlor or drawing-room decoration this is in excellent taste.

The dining-room screen will be found as useful as it is ornamental, especially for housekeepers in close quarters, where the kitchen must serve as general sitting or dining-room. The screen may effectually conceal a cook stove, while it also intercepts the heat so unpleasant to the devotees of the tea table.

Although in appearance an elaborate affair, it is quite simple in construction. A strong clothes horse may be made to answer for the framework, or a similar piece of furniture put together by carpenter or amateur workman. It should be well made, and joined, so as not to become rickety



[Engraved expressly for THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]
DESIGN FOR A HOME-MADE JARDINIÈRE.

with use. A poorly constructed screen frame is a nuisance, and an aggravation.

In some screens the canvas is tacked directly upon the frame, and then painted. A better way is to mount it upon stretchers made to fit into the frame. These can be handled much more conveniently, and if the canvas gives in painting, it can easily be tightened, as it cannot be, if tacked directly upon the screen frame itself.

Those unfamiliar with the brush may accomplish the decoration with what is known as *Lincrusta* Walton. This is a fabric so easy to paint upon, that little, if any instruction is necessary, as the designs come already stamped in clear outlines, which need only to be followed with the brush. *Lincrusta* is made to imitate metal, wood,

and other substances, and may be either painted, or beautifully bronzed in metallic colors. Fruit or flower subjects are effective painted in their natural colors, and our design shows the two upper panels decorated with fruit branches. The two lower sections are simple marine views, although landscapes or flowers may be substituted with good effect. Fruit designs are always attractive for panel painting or screen decoration, when rendered truthfully as to color, and delicate bloom, with graceful arrangement of branches and foliage.

The contrast between the bright-colored fruit and the glossy leafage, is not only effective, but restful and pleasing to the eye. Various subjects of this kind may be had in *Lincrusta*, in what is called filling, or wall hanging, and can be bought by the yard at reasonable cost.

Directions for painting fruit in colors will be given in another number by special request. The *jardiniere*, or flower box, here illustrated, is an ordinary wooden box, neatly covered with *Lincrusta* filling, and finished with a bronze molding such as is used for picture rails, and which may be purchased by the foot at any wall paper establishment. The corners are finished with ornamental knobs, at a trifling cost; in fact the article is very inexpensive, yet handsome enough to justify quite an outlay. The decoration is a design of dogwood painted in silver and green gold and bronzes. The effect is novel and elegant.

SUGGESTIVE HINTS.

Our correspondents furnish many useful hints from time to time, which we shall always be happy to use under this heading when of general interest to readers.

"L. H. P." sends the following:—"I have made a handsome picture frame by giving a plain board frame a coat of hot glue, and immediately sprinkling thickly with smooth sawdust, and gilding when dry—quite a success. Another of door molding covered with a coat of varnish and three coats of gilt, is also very pretty. In our place they are decorating beer schooners with a solid color inside, and a spray of flowers or a small landscape, on the outside, using them as vases."

"Mrs. H. C. Field," Andover, Kans., sends us some suggestions for which we regret not having space. We shall hope to give them as opportunity allows, and thank her very kindly for the favor. We append one which we doubt not will be welcomed by readers.

"Let me tell our sisters how to ebonize the panel for Miss Clarkson's lesson for January. Procure either extract or chips of logwood. If first, simply dissolve in water, but latter must be steeped until strong; then apply to board, which must be nicely dressed to begin with; then give a good application of tincture of iron, or vinegar in which rusty iron has been steeped, and let dry. Give one or two coats of copal varnish, which is one of the polishes, and should be applied with a soft cloth instead of brush."

This will be found useful also for Queen Anne table given in a former number. "Mrs. George Brown," Rochester, N. Y., gives a helpful suggestion to economical readers as follows:

"In all grocery and cigar stores they have signs, advertisements of soaps, etc., which have plain wood frames with a glass. I got one where I trade, for nothing, as the sign was faded; then I took my package of bird gravel, and took all that would not go through a flour sieve; brushed over the frame with good glue, then sprinkled on the coarse gravel all that would stay on, and when dry I gilded it, and had a very pretty frame for Millias' "Northwest Passage," that came with the Christmas number of *The London News*."

A four panel screen may have fleur de lis, peonies, hollyhocks and dogwood, upon the different sections. For a small screen white mole skin velvet may be used with a pretty effect.

The sewing machine, when not in use, is much more presentable when decorated with a handsome scarf, either painted or embroidered.

A pretty use for colored silk handkerchiefs is to tie the chair tidies with them. Gather the tidy up in the hand, and pass the handkerchief around it, spreading the ends of tidy out fan shape, and tying the handkerchief in a tasteful knot.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

"A. R." To tell how to paint trees would require more space than is to be had in this column. In painting foliage, try to copy the actual shape of each space, large or small, and your trees will not look flat. Each has its peculiar form, and is made of irregular curves, semi-circles, angles, or points, according to the character of the foliage, which seldom appears distinct unless in the immediate foreground. The general character only is had by carefully studying the forms given by the light as it falls upon the foliage, and a little different handling may be necessary to indicate certain peculiarities of form.

Thank you kindly for your warm expressions relative to "Brush Studies."

"F. P. G.," Mass.—To ebonize the Queen Anne table, buy a bottle of ready mixed ebonizing black. This costs but 25c. After it is applied brisk rubbing will give a fine polish.

"H. S. L. Wyo." will find the "flamingoes" a good subject for landscape practice.

Some soft fabric would be pretty for drapery over valence. India silk, sarah, rhadame, any of these make very graceful drapings, as they hang in soft, lustrous folds. They come in all the new shades, at reasonable prices.

"Sadie" can make her own transparent paper by waxing strong tissue paper with paraffine. Buy a cake of the wax, lay several thicknesses of the paper upon a smooth ironing board, rub the wax across the flat of the iron, which should be moderately hot, then upon the paper, until all is evenly waxed. If the transparent paper is wished for copying, lard oil should be used instead of the wax.

"J. M. D."—A simple and inexpensive fringe may be made of felling cut in fine strips. Several colors can be combined with excellent effect. A fringe resembling soft chenille may be had by raveling turcoman, knotting it at intervals, or leaving plain, as preferred.

"Edith."—If you have a fancy for painting spiders, a black one with yellow spots would be the most effective on your satin cushion. Ivory black, with cadmium and orange for the markings will answer. The web may be painted a light grey with white, black, and a trifle yellow ochre, in order to show upon your white satin. A moth, or butterfly, caught in the spider's meshes, would be a pretty fancy, and will give you a chance to introduce some bright color into your design.

"Mrs. H. L. S."—Chinese white is quite indispensable to a water color outfit. You will find Payne's gray also very useful. The moist colors are by far the best. Those in pans will dry up after a while, and on this account many prefer the cylinder cakes. These are convenient to handle, do not chip off on the edges, and work

almost as easily as the half moist colors. Each cylinder is wrapped in tin-foil, to protect the color from air and dust.

"Elida D."—Kensington painting has been already fully described in these columns. Cat-tails are painted with ivory black, white, yellow ochre and burnt sienna. The leaves are rather bluish in tone, and are painted with Antwerp blue, white, ivory black, a trifle rose madder and light cadmium.

Our premium this month for one full subscription, is, either a copy of "Brush Studies" neatly bound and illustrated, or a piece of decorated velvet for fancy work. The same given for six names at club rates. We will continue to rent hand painted studies to subscribers to JOURNAL. Flowers, fruit, landscapes, still life studies in Kensington and Lustra, for fabric painting. We have ready now panel of "flamingoes" described above, 37x13 inches, suitable for oil, water color, or pastel painting. Send stamp for list and particulars.

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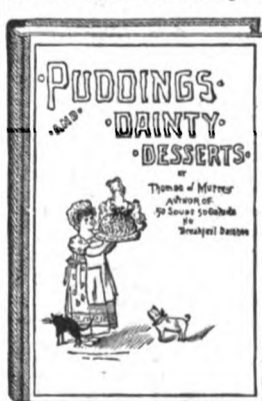
Finely Illustrated. Contains full directions for this beautiful and popular work. KENSINGTON PAINTING is done with Pens and Paints, instead of brushes. This book tells what Pens and Paints to use; gives a Description of the Terms and Materials used; tells how to mix paints in the Preparation of Tints and Shades; also has an illustrated description of colors to use in painting Roses, Pond Lilies, Golden-Rod, Pansies, Cat-Tails, Clematis, Azaleas, Fuschia, Sumac, Wheat, Japan Lily, Forget-me-nots, Thistles, Leaves, Birds, Owls, Storks, etc. The Instructions for LUSTRA PAINTING were written by the well-known artist, LIDA CLARKSON, and it is needless for us to add that the directions given are full and complete, and so plain that it will be readily understood how to do this fascinating work. The Instructions for HAND PAINTING gives Directions for Painting on Silk, Satin, Plush Velvet, Fez, Bolting, etc. This book is FULLY ILLUSTRATED with artistic designs.

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Errors—We make them; so does every one, and we will cheerfully correct them if you will write to us. Try to write us good-naturedly, but if you cannot, then write to us any way. Do not complain to any one else or let it pass. We want an early opportunity to make right any injustice that we may do.

NEW YORK OFFICE, 180 BROADWAY;
W. S. NILES, MANAGER.

Our New York Office is for the transaction of business with New York advertisers. Subscribers should address any letters to that office.

Philadelphia, August, 1886.

Attention is called to our change in subscription price, September 1st. Now is the time to take advantage of our present exceedingly low rates for clubs.

Some one has wisely said of late: "So many people pray that two and two won't make four, and then cry out against Heaven because God has refused to answer their prayers."

We wish to thank the many correspondents who have accepted the hints published in one or two former JOURNALS, in regard to the most satisfactory method of conducting correspondence with this office. They have saved themselves and us much trouble and unnecessary writing.

Do you ever have occasion to erase a written word with a penknife and afterwards write over the place? And does it not nearly always blot or look much blacker than the rest of the document? Try another way. Write the second word over the first, and then scratch out all such lines as are unnecessary. You will thus have a clear word, which has not run, and very few will detect the fact that anything has been erased.

Whatever occasion you may have for mental distress, try, at this season of the year, to put all worry as far away from you as possible. Mental distress causes predisposition to physical ailments. And as the warm weather increases, and the system is depleted by profuse perspiration, and the body taken possession of by the languor and lassitude caused by the heat, if to it is added worry of mind, the strain upon the physical organization becomes too great, and fevers and like ailments follow. Hence, during the heated term, keep as cool as possible, both mentally and physically.

Since our December issue we have received several letters of expostulation from various sections of the United States, in regard to two or three recipes published in that number. The recipes mentioned contained among other ingredients, liquor of some kind. Being just at Christmas time, and the recipes having been sent to us, (our recipe column being one that has always been open to our subscribers) we published them. Nevertheless, had we given the matter sufficient thought, we would have excluded those particular recipes from our pages, even under the circumstances mentioned, as, personally, we are opposed to using liquors in cooking, believing the practice to be one conducive to creating and fostering an appetite for such things. Hereafter, all such recipes will be carefully excluded from our columns.

Every day or two we receive a letter from some reader inquiring as to the reliability of some particular firm advertising with us. If such writers could realize it, they are taking much unnecessary trouble, as, the fact that the advertisement in question was seen in our columns, answers the inquiry at once. It is one of those things which proves itself, and requires no further explanation. If therefore one of our readers notices among our advertisements an article which she desires (which she is pretty sure to do as our columns contain advertisements of nearly everything necessary or ornamental) let her send to the firm so advertising. It is not necessary to write to us first in regard to the reliability of that particular firm. In answering her letter we cannot say more than we are saying now, or than we have said heretofore. So we say to all the sisters, scan our advertising columns closely, feeling perfectly safe to trust your money with firms who advertise any article that you want.

POSTAGE TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

A discrimination in the rates of postage to city subscribers is made between weekly and monthly periodicals, to the great disadvantage of the latter; for, while the weeklies can be mailed to city subscribers for one cent per pound, monthlies can not be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent for each two ounces, except where the subscribers go to the post-office for their mail. And, as the JOURNAL in its present form weighs over two ounces, we are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twenty-four cents extra for postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS.
Friends and readers of the JOURNAL should remember that UNTIL SEPT. 1ST ONLY, subscriptions will be received at 25 cents a year. This is the last month in which to raise clubs at so low a price, and JOURNAL sisters can easily help us start the autumn with that 300,000 list, by simply calling the attention of friends and neighbors to this notice and showing a copy of the JOURNAL. For a full list of premiums consult back numbers. It will pay you to send us four or more new subscribers, and select a premium for your trouble, that probably could not be bought in the stores for less than the cost of the whole club.

Tell your friends the JOURNAL is to be made still better, and can be had a whole year for so small a sum as 25 cents, if subscribed for before September 1st. After that date no subscriptions will be received for less than 50 cents per year.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.
On and after September 1st, 1886, the rates for advertising in the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL will be one dollar per agate line (14 lines to the inch) each insertion. The circulation of the JOURNAL is over two hundred thousand (200,000) to paid yearly subscribers, independent, and exclusive of any short term trial subscribers, or sample copies. Proof of circulation is given by sworn statements of our paper manufacturer, Mr. Alex. Balfour, our printers, Ferguson Bros. & Co., who run four presses nearly a month to print our large edition, and John F. Busch & Son, our binders, all of Philadelphia; also post-office receipts for papers mailed, and open subscription books to any one who will call upon us, or send a representative to our office.

"HANDSOME IS AS HANDSOME DOES."
One of the axioms impressed upon us from infancy (and perhaps to the youthful mind the most aggravating of all trite sayings) is the above quoted proverb. That it is to a degree true, is beyond question, but that it is *absolutely* true, as children are intended to believe it, is a matter admitting of very strong doubt.

That a patient, pleasing spirit—a desire to please for the sake of principle, and not for the sake of attracting temporary admiration—does beautify the expression of the face till it takes on newer and lovelier curves, no one will deny. But one may do and effect all this and not be handsome, either; *lovable*, certainly, but not handsome.

"What! is it not better to be lovable than handsome?" Certainly, my dear madam, better, far better, if one cannot be both; but why not be both, if it lies in one's power? The most lady-like child in the world never was handsome in a purple dress and blue hat, or in a dark blue hat, by itself, if she was afflicted with a sallow complexion; nor should she be taught to feel that she was a harmonious whole, even if draped in inharmonious colors, providing her behavior was all it should be; nor should she be allowed or taught to think that if her behavior was perfect, no one would notice her appearance. Teach her to bear patiently an incongruous combination (if such a combination be unavoidable) just as you would teach her to bear any other affliction, but do not permit her to sustain such an injury (for injury it is to a sensitive eye and mind) for one moment after it is avoidable. It is not true that it makes no difference. People will notice her dress, and she will become an eye-sore and source of annoyance to all who may be compelled by circumstances to look at her.

Everyone has some good point or points, and it should be the duty of each one to make as much of that particular beauty as possible—to do otherwise is an insult to society at large. That many spend too much time upon themselves, and that a goodly portion of these only succeed in making themselves elaborately hideous, is no argument against the principle. Napoleon is recorded as having been first attracted towards Madame de Beauharnais by the pleasing effect produced in the contrasting colors of her drapery and that of a crimson chair upon which she was sitting.

How often have we ourselves been personally attracted by the appearance of some man, woman or child, when we knew nothing of them at all—an attraction that led to a desire for nearer acquaintance—a desire which culminated in a life-long pleasant friendship. If a child have pretty, curling hair, don't plait it in tight braids on the plea that it is less trouble, or that you do not wish to encourage vanity. The innocent pleasure that the child may take in her curls will be far less harmful in its effects upon her general character, than the chafing and fretting against the injustice will be. She is intuitively conscious of the fact, and "Don't think so much about yourself," "Handsome is as handsome does," will not alter her opinion of herself, indeed it will only tend to increase the evil you are trying to guard against by making her think about herself; whereas, the chances are ten to one that if some little attention is paid to her personal appearance, she will be a better, because a more contented child. We all know the feeling of satisfaction, the content with all the world and its doings, that pervades every fibre of our being when we look at that same world, and ourselves in the glass, through the medium of an especially becoming bounet, or dress that we know to be well fitting.

Above all things never permit a child to acquire the notion that he or she is possessed of a homeliness so hopeless that nothing can modify it but perfection of behavior. Perfection of behavior is unattainable, and the sense of defeat in having lost one chance of being passably good-looking, by some lapse, is absolute torture to an over-sensitive mind. On the contrary, teach a child that everyone has some good points in appearance, and that to note and make the most of these without being vain of them, is not only a commendable thing but an absolute duty; that the reverse is an insult to society at large, and that no woman has a moral right to neglect *this* gift of God, any more than she would have to neglect a talent for painting, music, or any of the thousand and one other things she is expected to cultivate if she has the slightest turn for them.

CORRESPONDENCE.
"T. O."—Peruvian Syrup may be obtained at any drug store.—ED.
CAN any one tell "M. A. C." where to buy patterns to form rose leaves in ribbon work?—ED.
"MRS. A. A. SHERWOOD."—In our estimation pink sateen is absolutely beyond help when soiled or faded.—ED.
"M. J. K." ROBERTSDALE, PA.—Send to any reliable dealer for the catalogue of kindergarten materials.—ED.
EDITOR L. H. J.—Will some one please tell how to take ink out of carpet without destroying the color of the carpet? PINKIE.
CAN any of the readers of the L. H. J. inform me, through the columns of this paper, where I can get carpet reeds? A SUBSCRIBER.

WILL "Betsey" kindly send her full address to the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL office. The associate editor desires to communicate with her personally.
"CARRIE BUTLER."—You sent us directions of Wide Lace—44 stitches. There is a mistake in the first row. Will you please correct it and send to 441 Chestnut St., Phila.—ED.

WILL some one of your many readers tell me what is good for Ivy or Dogwood poison? and oblige the mother of four boys.
HIGHLANDVILLE, MASS.
DEAR EDITOR:—Will some of the correspondents tell me how to keep bright a swinging lamp of copper and brass? and how and where to get prisms, to replace those lost?

WILL you inform me, through the columns of the JOURNAL, where, and for what price, Marion Harland's Calendar can be bought?
MISS VIOLA ARTIS.
SANTA ROSA, CAL.
[It can be bought at any large book store for one dollar.—ED.]
"SUBSCRIBER" asks me where she can get "Blush of Roses." Of any druggist, I suppose. It is made by Miss Flora Jones, Utica, N. Y. It removes pimples and freckles, and gives a lovely complexion.
LAUREL.

ANSWER:—Any article in the Gorham plate which cannot be obtained through a local silver merchant, may be procured from the Gorham Silver Co., Broadway and 17th Sts., New York City.
CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.
HARMAR, O., May 18, 1886

DEAR MADAME:—While I was reading in the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, some one wanted to know if any one could suggest a way of keeping gold fish alive. I have had them nearly a year; change the water every other day; running spring water is best; feed them rice wafers, not too much.
L. M. S.
KEENE, May 28th, 1886.

Will some of the ladies of the HOME JOURNAL please give a recipe for the old fashioned bean porridge, such as our grandmothers used to make, that was best when it was nine days old? and oblige a subscriber.
MRS. E. F. BROWN.
GOODLAND, IND., May 14th, 1886.

EDITOR LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.—Could you, or some of the ladies, tell me how to remove sour apple stains from white and cotton goods? and oblige a subscriber very much, as I have a white dress ruined with stains of sour apples. I think the L. H. J. is the very best paper ever printed.
MRS. J. H.
[I think "Mrs. J. H." will find oxalic acid effectual in removing sour apple stains. Stretch the stained part tight over a bowl, pour on the acid, and immediately pour boiling water over the same place. The stains will then be removed without injury to the cloth.—ED.]

HOTTON, JACKSON CO., KAN., May 28th, '86.
EDITOR L. H. J.—Will some of the sisters tell me where I can get the old fashioned steel clasp for a bead bag, and the purse silk?
And oblige,
MRS. S. W. HAMM.
[Write to Partridge & Richardson, 17 and 19 N. Eighth St., Phila., Pa.—ED.]

"A READER" says to her sisters in the country: "As so many are troubled with potato bugs, I have found an unfailing remedy, which I would like them to know of. Sprinkle the vines every evening with the water in which potatoes have been boiled. If the bugs are not very bad, once or twice a week will do."

"M. A. C." St. Louis.—You can obtain English crochet cotton, Geary's make, for 6 cents per spool, numbers run from 2 to 20; also, Ice wool, done up in balls; it comes in colors, and is used double; price, 16 cents per ball. These you will find at Partridge & Richardson's, Eighth St. above Market, Phila Pa.

BANGOR, ME., March 5, 1886.
DEAR EDITOR L. H. J.—I don't know when I've seen a paper that I like half as well as I do this one. Everything that a nineteenth century individual could possibly want is found in its columns. I have a few ideas that may possibly help others, and as each one seems to add her mite I will venture again. Have any of the ladies tried painting on glass? Get a panel, have it cut the required dimensions, (for example one 18x8) paint one side a fancy background, (a clouded sky is very pretty) then after that has thoroughly dried, put on another coat, then turn the glass, and on the smooth side put a design of roses, field daisies, or spray of apple blossoms with butterflies or bees hovering near, and the effect is charming. Another way is: use common black paint, and go through the same process, and when sufficiently dry, paint cone flowers, (or the yellow daisies as they are called) grasses and ferns: the yellow of the flowers against the black is very rich and effective. I have had pupils who have done very artistic painting, with cost of not more than thirty-five or forty cents.

Get your carpenter to make you a panel or a plaque from a piece of fine board, but be sure to have the lumber well seasoned before hand, on account of warping. Have the surface on which you paint perfectly smooth, (and free from any little imperfections that may happen to occur in the wood) with a beveled edge of two or three inches as your taste may decide. The one I am thinking of is 28x12, the background is sky, in the left hand corner shaded down to an indistinct green (terre verte) which gives distance and an aerial look. The panel goes lengthwise, and springing from the bottom are different varieties of tulips, with the leaves; the beveled edges are gilded. For the plaque, mark a circle of an inch or two, put the scene (a winter view is very striking with diamond dust sprinkled in the snow) in the inclosure, and after painting scrape up the

bits of paint and put them around the circle until you have an edge that is heavy and rough; use the palette knife for this, and be sure you cover the board; after the paint is dry enough, gild. Some make a glue cover, put on rice or oat meal, and gild that; but either when finished make an unique picture frame. Something "useful as well ornamental" is always acceptable. A very handsome mirror may be made by using one of those old fashioned ones with mahogany frames. Get a bottle of gilt powder and the medium for making, paint the entire frame with the preparation, be sure and put on enough to give it a rich appearance, then take a piece of charcoal or chalk, draw the design, clematis would be beautiful, the white petals of the flower blending harmoniously with the gilt. In this way many an old fashioned piece of furniture can be made very artistic with but little cost. I am shocked at the length of this letter but will stop only to add this bit. I have half-a-dozen cup and saucer designs, with written directions for painting, which I will let or sell very reasonably, if they will write to my address; also some simple studies for butter plates. I am in receipt of quite a number of letters asking information about amber enamel, the poppy design, and the C. S. F. A. The most I have answered individually, but for the benefit of "Mrs. H. C. H." Cambridgeport, Mass., and others that did not fully understand, I will, by the kind permission of the editor, answer through the JOURNAL. Amber enamel is used chiefly for decorative purposes, and where there will be little or no water used. The comode set which I spoke of, the design was put where there would be no need of water touching it, and in that way will last for a long time; for directions see page 5 of the February No. of the JOURNAL. I have not the design of either the rose or poppies, as I arranged to suit myself when I was painting, and did mostly from memory; but I could easily make a design for any one. The C. S. F. A. is comparatively new, and the course is for amateurs who cannot conveniently study art at home, as there are no advantages. Mr. Frank Fowler, of New York, is Art Director, and criticises all studies that are sent to him. You are classed accordingly as far as you are advanced. Very truly,
MAUD H. BUZZELL.

DEAR EDITOR:—I would like to correct some impressions made on the minds of the readers of this dear little paper, by some one who signs herself "Bell," in the July number; at least I would like to set her mind at rest. Poor woman! has she been studying all these long months over that poor little letter printed so long ago? She is evidently spoiling for a "racket" with some one, but why not pick out a "foe worthy of her steel," or, if she simply wishes to criticise, why not, at least, use truth, and fairness.

I did not think of setting myself up as any authority whatever, only giving my convictions, based on an experience of 15 years with children, which I supposed any mother was at liberty, through the kindness of the editor, to do. Of course any of us could go to our books and quote the words of our "best modern authors," but, it never occurred to me, that that was the object we had in view, so much as an interchange of ideas, concerning things that came under our own actual observation; and, let me remark right over here, that if "Bell" had spent half as much time over her Bible, as she has over the works of the celebrated O. S. Fowler, she would have known, that the author of the words she so flippantly quoted, was not Gen. Grant, but our Savior.

I do not know whether she intended to convey the impression that she was the mother of those five children, or whether it is the title of a book; the latter, I presume; for, between you and I, dear JOURNAL, I don't believe she ever had the care of a child in her life. I think she is an old maid, for if she had had any children of her own, she would have known that they could not exist on fruit from their birth, as she must think, the way she condemns cream and butter, and sugar, all of which is contained in mothers' milk; nor at the age when mothers are giving their babies catnip, and other "teas," would anyone think of giving them coffee.

The welfare of my children has ever been my highest aim; denying myself of all pleasure, that I might thereby take the better care of them, and watching carefully for the first symptoms of disease. We have had as little trouble with diarrhoea, in our family, as any one, I presume, and constipated bowels are unknown; nor have they ever had any "prevailing disorders," so their diet cannot be so wonderfully out of the way. It was of teaching babies I was speaking, when I said they would never eat "fixed-up dishes," but always wanted stronger food, but I never thought of giving them "grease, grease," as she frantically exclaims, or bacon. I spoke of their liking baked beans, but I never cook them in hot weather. Pies, cakes, puddings, etc., they never care for. I said, if she had read rightly, that they would eat "toast prepared with cream, and a little butter and sugar, or a little coffee and bread, with a good deal of cream and sugar;" meaning, of course, only enough sugar to make it palatable, and it did not hurt their bowels. Because, forsooth, she knows one person who cannot use coffee, must it be banished from the face of the earth? Saints forbid! We use coffee, like all other christians, but with the stuff that causes "horrors," and "hilarious sprees," we have no acquaintance whatever. Our children's diet consists mostly of milk, that has not been skimmed on both sides, (or one either) from cows who have all the blue grass and pure spring water they want; this, with fresh eggs, fruit of some sort, and good bread and butter, which of itself contains all that is necessary for the nutrition of the human body. If these things, taken with everything else that can be obtained from a farm, do not constitute a diet both good and wholesome, then I am no judge, even there. All I said against fruit, was, using apples raw in the sickly season; and, by the way, if "Bell" has a good remedy for bilious colic, would like her to send it on, as apple season is rapidly rolling around, and the "gude mon" might indulge too freely again.

The condition of bowels I mentioned in little children, has been of very rare occurrence with us; but as I had been warned against it, as an almost certain symptom of the dreaded cholera infantum, I thought some other mother might be glad to know it, also, so as to be able to check the disease in time. And now, dear mothers all, if you can find children with roster cheeks, or more exuberant spirits, or who sleep more soundly, or wake with better appetites, than do our own unfortunate little ones, and then decide that we are so far "out of line" with our "pet notions," as to have proved our entire failure in our efforts to raise a family of children, I will solemnly promise to intrude on this circle no more.
THORNY POPPY.



THE PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER.
[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]
POTATO BALL BREAD AND SCIENTIFIC BREAD-MAKING.

In the February number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL "Mary" asks how to start bread with what is called "potato ball," how the potato ball is made and what it starts from in the first place.

As bread making, both practically and scientifically, is something of an experiment to many housekeepers, a few remarks on both points may be acceptable.

The process of fermentation is so clearly explained at the present time, and its product, as applied to bread making, occupies so important a place that every housekeeper should understand it thoroughly.

Cooking schools and the progressive, scientific movements of the times are accomplishing wonders towards the development of a more comprehensive knowledge of cause and effect in food preparation.

Liebig's theory, that fermentation is caused by the action of oxygen on fermentable substances, was long accepted, but M. Pasteur, that greatest French investigator, settled this point by conclusively proving to scientists that oxygen deprived of its germs is incapable of producing fermentation, and that this process is caused by minute organisms floating in the air. These he divided into two classes: *anaerobes*, beings which live and develop without air, and *aerobes*, those which require air for their development. To the former belongs the yeast plant, of which Pasteur said: "Whether plant or animal, it is no matter; it is a living being endowed with motion, that lives without air and is ferment." To the latter class belongs the *Mycoderma aceti* or acetic acid, which and vinegar are the same. These two are intimately connected in bread making and are all with which we have anything to do in this connection.

Albuminous substances are the only ones capable of fermentation. In bread making a certain amount of heat, moisture and sugar is necessary. The most suitable temperature is from 65 to 77 degrees, though fermentation will take place at a much lower temperature, but is destroyed at 212 degrees.

The gluten of the flour supplies the necessary albuminoid, and upon the addition of yeast and water, and exposure in a warm atmosphere, part of the starch of the flour is converted into sugar, which is supposed to be assimilated by the developing yeast plant. At this point the sugar is converted into alcohol, and carbonic acid gas is evolved throughout the mass. As this gas possesses great expansive power it makes the bread what we term light. Just here lies the relation between the yeast plant and *Mycoderma aceti*; the next step after alcoholic fermentation is acetic; and, if the dough is allowed to remain in a warm atmosphere after it is thoroughly light, the alcohol is soon converted into acetic acid or vinegar and, unlike alcohol, does not escape in baking, and sour bread is the result.

Chemists distinguish two kinds of yeast—viz.: the *ober-hefe* or surface yeast, which is the foam that rises to the top, and is the yeast buds, and is quick and spasmodic in action. The *unter-hefe* or sediment—yeast which settles to the bottom and is the spores, and is slow and regular in action.

There are different methods of preparing yeast, and which is best each housekeeper must decide for herself.

I will first speak of "potato ball."

When in Ohio last September I ate delicious potato bread, and, as no one knew how or where the first ball started, each having obtained hers from a neighbor, I proceeded to originate one by boiling and mashing through a sieve two cups of potatoes, add one cup of sugar, and four cups of warm water, and put in a warm place for twenty-four hours, when it ought to be very foamy and lively, and should not taste of the sugar, as it has been converted into alcohol if fermentation has gone far enough. This thin yeast is now ready to be converted into dough by adding flour and proceeding in the usual manner of making bread. But first a potato ball must be provided for next time. To about one cup of potato add one tablespoonful of sugar, mix with this a little of the foam and a little (one tablespoonful perhaps) of the sediment if any has been formed; cover this closely and let it stand for a few hours in a warm place; then put it, still covered, in a cool place. A dessert spoonful of salt must be added the last thing. This will keep for a week or two. When ready to bake again, prepare two cups of potato and one cup of sugar; thoroughly mix the reserved potato ball with this and allow it to stand one hour or more, then take out a cupful, add salt and set away. Into the remaining potato, stir four cups of water and let it remain overnight. Be sure that the sugar is converted into alcohol before adding the flour, if not, sweetened bread will be the result. I had this happen twice but now always taste the ferment, and also mix the potato ball with the potato at noon and allow it to stand till night, when a cupful is taken out and warm water mixed with the remaining potato.

When one makes one's own yeast this seems the easiest way, as fresh is prepared at every baking without extra trouble, and bread made in this way raises quickly.

A simpler way to prepare the potato ball would be to add half a cup of baker's or distillery yeast to the proportion of potato and sugar given, and, when lively, take out a cupful for the potato ball, and add water to the remaining potato for the sponge. Two cups of water and half a cup of sugar to one cup of potato are the proportions, but if the bread is desired more moist more potato may be added.

In these directions I have explained the exact method which I followed in making my first potato ball, and which process produces what is called artificial yeast. It is well for those living

in remote districts, who cannot obtain yeast, to know that it can be made in this way. Flour, either cooked or raw, answers the same purpose as the potato.

We have seen that potato ball yeast may be produced either artificially or by adding any form of yeast made.

Distillery yeast is the purest and most natural form, and when the surface and sediment yeast are collected from this and dried under pressure, the result is the most powerful and concentrated form known. It is quick in its action, thereby giving the greatest amount of nourishment from a given amount of flour; as the faster bread dough is fermented, the sweeter and more nutritious will be the bread. Those who can obtain it, waste time and material by fussing with anything else.

When, however, compressed yeast cannot be obtained, there remains potato, both raw and cooked, flour and hop yeast; all of which I have used and found satisfactory.

According to "Mrs. Lincoln's Boston Cook Book," (which is the most excellent work of the kind that has come under my observation) chemists consider potatoes the best yeast medium. They contain sufficient albuminous matter and starch, and do not sour easily.

It is probable that cooked potatoes produce quicker results than raw, as in the process of cooking the starch grains are partially broken, and dissolved, and present a greater surface to be acted upon.

When fermentation has ceased in yeast it must be excluded from the air, which contains the *Mycoderma aceti* which would soon convert it into vinegar; but experience teaches that this must not be done until the yeast becomes quiet, otherwise carbonic acid continued to be evolved until there is sufficient force to blow the cork out or burst the bottle.

From the foregoing explanation of the development of the yeast plant and the conditions necessary to this development, we may conclude that the more closely we comply with these conditions the better results we may expect to obtain in yeast and bread.

The first condition to be observed, is that the yeast is sweet and free from acetic fermentation. It is said that to whatever degree of fermentation the yeast has attained, to that same degree the resulting bread will reach. It is probable that as soon as the slightest alcohol is produced by the yeast fermentation, it is immediately acted upon by the *Mycoderma aceti* present in the sour yeast, and converted into vinegar; thus yeast and acetic fermentation proceed side by side almost simultaneously.

This acidity may be overcome by the addition of more or less soda, but this practice is strongly and wisely condemned in the "Boston Cook Book." Nearly every one knows the pernicious effects of taking pure soda into the stomach, and, if more than enough is added to the dough to neutralize the acid, the result is bad; and, if just enough is added, the acetate of soda formed by this combination, is a questionable article of wholesomeness.

It is said that, in Germany, a large quantity of sour bread is consumed, and is not considered unwholesome; whether it is or not, depends upon the question whether vinegar is or not. At any rate sour bread is less nutritious than sweet because of the starch and gluten destroyed to produce the acidity.

Some have an idea that the oftener bread is kneaded and fermented the better. This is quite erroneous. The more homogenous becomes the mass, the better the bread; but, as we have just stated, each successive fermentation destroys a little more of the nutritious starch and gluten giving place to the innutritious yeast and acetic acid. The quicker dough ferments the sweeter and more nutritious the bread. Consequently, it is a wasteful practice to frequently cut or knead bread down, when it becomes light, and postpone baking it after it is ready. One thorough kneading, after which it may rise and then be formed into loaves, is all that is necessary.

The French, it is said, always have sweet bread; one reason for which being that they always make their bread into shallow loaves, which are soon penetrated by the heat of the oven, thereby arresting fermentation, whereas, if the loaf is large, fermentation continues for a considerable time in the interior, and the bread may even become sour.

Add all of the flour and knead thoroughly at first, using only sufficient flour to keep from sticking, after the dough is of the right consistency. Cutting frequently with a knife liberates the large gas bubbles. Some chop the dough. As fine and good bread as I ever ate was made by a lady who always beat the sponge twenty minutes. In her cook book, Marion Harland says something to the effect that large holes in bread indicate a careless housekeeper.

Some use shortening in bread, but faithful kneading, which liberates the gas bubbles and presents all parts of the starch and gluten to be equally acted upon, produces a fine tenderness more to be desired than that which shortening gives. When it is used it should be added late in the process, as it hinders fermentation by forming an impenetrable coating around the starch and gluten grains.

The yeast plant works to the best advantage in a thin batter. This and the succeeding dough should be kept covered, not merely on the ground of cleanliness, but, as we have seen, the yeast is an *anaerobe* and develops better when not exposed to pure air. Besides, heat is generated in the fermentive process, and a close cover assists in partially retaining this, which is desirable. It is a good idea to turn a warm plate over the dough, as it gives and retains the heat, and excludes the air.

Bread mixed with milk is whiter and more tender than when water is used. According to "Notes and Queries," the genuine Viennese bread, which is considered so very nice, is mixed with milk.

Potatoes are used to make bread moist, and also by bakers sometimes to increase the bulk. A part of the flour is sometimes scalded and used for the sponge to produce the same moisture. Too much of either will make the bread stick.

There are several foreign, patent methods of increasing the bulk and nourishing qualities of bread; the principle being, to steep grain and use the water, thus obtained, in mixing the bread. It is said: "No matter what the quality of the flour, the water prepared in this manner facilitates the separation of the sugar and dextrine, while it imparts more body to the gluten and the starch, which explains the increased amount of bread obtained." It is evident that, unless the steeped grain is utilized, a waste must occur which more than balances the gain in the bread.

New Process, or whole-wheat flour, which later is the most nourishing and wholesome of any made, produce bread sufficiently nourishing without employing any unusual means for enhancing the food value.

At what period salt should be added, I have never seen discussed. One yeast recipe directs to add the salt after the fermentation has ceased. This seems correct, as the yeast and salt seem to have no affinity except that an effervescence occurs when they are brought together, due, no doubt, to the action of the alkaline salt upon the acid of the yeast, when the salt settles and is not easily dissolved. Moreover, salt, having a cooling tendency, probably does not assist in the fermentive process, but should be added as a preservative.

Hops and ginger are both used in yeast and bread. One lady, who unflatteringly had delicious bread, always mixed her sponge with hop water. In yeast, both these articles are supposed to have a preservative tendency.

Alum is the most pernicious article ever used in bread, and should never be tolerated. It produces white bread from an inferior quality of flour, and according to W. Mattien Williams, whose excellent articles on "The Chemistry of Cookery" have been running through the *Popular Science Monthly* for several years, it imparts a silky appearance to the bread and causes it to break apart smoothly. It gives a toughness to the bread, and by these characteristics its use may be suspected and condemned, even if the ideal, though wrong, is realized, and the popular taste seems satisfied. LILLIAN S. WELLS.

HOME COOKING.

ORIGINAL RECIPES CONTRIBUTED BY THE JOURNAL SISTERS.

LIGHT CORN BREAD:—(by request.) One cup corn meal, one cup flour, one cup sweet milk, one egg, two teaspoonfuls cream of tartar, one teaspoonful of baking soda, a little salt and sugar.

POOR MAN'S PLUM PUDDING:—One cup beef suet, shredded fine, one cup raisins, seeded, one cup currants, washed thoroughly, one cup molasses, one cup sweet milk, one teaspoonful baking soda, a good pinch of salt, enough flour to make a medium stiff batter, about two and a-half cups; sometimes it takes a little more, and sometimes a little less, according to the flour; steam in a mould two and a-half hours. To be eaten with hard or liquid sauce, as preferred. I use both, as some like one, and some the other.

"SUBSCRIBER," in the December No., wants to know how to make a lemon pie without cooking the custard first. Here is a recipe that I got at the cooking school: Put one cup of granulated sugar, and two tablespoonfuls of flour, into a bowl; stir together; break in two eggs, add the juice and grate the rind of a lemon, and one-half pint of milk; beat all together with a Dover egg beater; bake in a slow oven in a deep plate. I sometimes leave out one of the whites, and frost the pie. Allow two tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar to the white of one egg, beat, spread on the pie when done, return to the oven to brown.

Here is another cooking school recipe, perhaps you would like to try:

ORANGE SHORT CAKE:—One quart of flour, one-half cup of butter, one egg, well beaten, one tablespoonful of sugar, three teaspoonfuls of Royal baking powder, milk enough to make a soft dough. The baking powder must be sifted into the flour the first thing. Roll out half an inch thick, bake in round tins in a quick oven, split and butter when done, and fill with the following: Roll, and squeeze the juice into a bowl from three good sized oranges and one lemon; take off the peel, chop the pulp fine, add it to the juice, stir in one cup of granulated sugar. This is a nice recipe for strawberry or blackberry shortcake.

NORWOOD, May 20, 1886.

DEAR SISTERS:—May I add a word or two? I want to plead, here in the cook's corner, for a little more graham bread. I know the subject is not a new one, but it is really surprising, in view of all that has been said, how many people there are, who never, from year's end to year's end, have a loaf of graham bread in the house. Many people have said in my hearing: "I cannot make graham bread," or, "I never have success with it," and so have given it up on that account, and the husband or son who asked for it, have had to make up their minds to go without. Then there are a few (at least I hope so) foolish sisters, who think it is not as genteel as white bread, and labor under an idea that it is a coarse food. I am almost ashamed to write such a ridiculous idea, but it is really so. Another reason, also, why graham bread is banished from some tables, especially where there are children, is, that it is more phsyising than flour bread. I think if mothers who are troubled in this way, will sweeten their graham bread with sugar instead of molasses, (as is so common) they will find no trouble. Graham bread should be given to growing children, if for no other reason than on account of their teeth; for any dentist will admit that graham is better to make bone than rye, buckwheat or Indian meal.

To those who have not had success with graham meal, I would say, please try once more, the following recipe, and I am sure if followed carefully, they will come out all right, and you will have a wholesome, nutritious loaf of graham bread to set before the "gude mon;" for it is wonderful how much better it is liked by the "men folks."

CREAM OF TARTAR GRAHAM BREAD:—One qt. of sifted meal, (the bran mixed with water is good for the hens) a pinch of salt, two teaspoonfuls of cream tartar sifted with meal, two tablespoonfuls granulated sugar; mix with milk to a stiff batter, adding, of course, one teaspoonful of soda in a little water. An egg improves it greatly. Bake in a moderate oven. Molasses can be used for sweetening, instead of sugar, but I prefer the sugar. The above recipe is the one I use for making graham gems, only mixing thinner. These are very nice, especially warm, and are almost the only kind of warm cakes which a dyspeptic member of our family can eat without injury.

Graham meal is also excellent made into gruel, for the sick, and is much more nutritious than the ordinary flour and Indian gruel. But I have talked long enough, and will step one side and let some one else talk.

MAYONNAISE DRESSING:—(by request.) One teaspoonful mustard, one teaspoonful powdered sugar, one-half teaspoonful salt, one-quarter salt spoonful cayenne, yolks of two raw eggs, one pint olive oil, two tablespoonfuls vinegar, two tablespoonfuls lemon juice. Mix the first of your

ingredients in a small bowl. Add the eggs; stir well with a small wooden spoon. Add the oil, a few drops at a time, stirring until it thickens. If by chance you add too much oil, do not attempt to stir it all in at once, but take it up gradually. When the dressing is thick, thin it with a little lemon, then add oil and lemon alternately, and lastly the vinegar. When ready to serve, add half a cup of whipped cream, if you like. The cream makes it whiter and thinner. The oil should thicken the egg almost immediately, and the mixture should be thick enough to be taken up in a ball on the spoon, before adding the vinegar. Should the egg not thicken quickly, and have a curdled appearance, half a teaspoonful of the unbeaten white of egg, or a few drops of vinegar, will often restore the smooth consistency. Be careful not too use too much, or it will make the dressing thin. The dressing liquifies as soon as mixed with vegetables or meat; therefore it should be made stiff enough to keep in shape until used. Many prefer to use a Dover egg beater, and others succeed best with a fork. Never mix the dressing with the meat or fish until ready to serve, and then only part of it, and spread the remainder over the top.—Mrs. Lincoln's Cook Book.

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Lately Introduced Points of Style—Sensible and Tasteful Costumes and Dresses—Materials Worth Buying—Convenient Wraps—Becoming Hats and Bonnets.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

The great advantage resulting from the variety of styles now in favor, is that every lady can be most becomingly attired; this result, however, depends greatly upon the taste or judgment of the maker of a garment, and its wearer; for a magnificent silken robe, if trying in color, or badly cut and put together, is not half so desirable as a neat dress of lawn, or satine, well chosen, perfect fitting and stylishly fashioned.

In utilizing the numerous popular materials, but little difference is noticeable in the methods of constructing suits and dresses, for woolen, cotton, and even silken fabrics are made up after one and the same model, deciding first, that the original garment selected to copy from, is in a shape adapted to the figure of the prospective wearer.

Thus, at leading dry goods houses here and in New York, handsome dresses are made in the various camel's hair, and woolen goods, and copies of them are daily constructed in some one of the lawns, zephyrs, corded suitings, tufted crapes, and batistes, as these stuffs are now woven so like woolens and silks, that they can hardly be distinguished from their more costly cousins, hence the less expensive materials can be adopted for country and seaside wear, where more delicate textures are apt to be ruined by exposure, or at least seriously injured.

SERVICEABLE COSTUMES

To be worn out of doors without any other wrap, are suits with plastrons, showing under the straight fronts of the open jackets; and in many cases such a dress is accompanied by a plain bodice for indoor wear, over which may be worn a light jacket for walking or riding.

Fabrics with wide printed borders, or those richly embroidered, are made with deep flounces, over plaited skirts of plain material to correspond. The tunic is usually formed of one long, straight breadth, each end of which is caught up with plaits to the waist on the right side, and very simply draped with a few plaits on the left. If costly fabrics are used it will not be found necessary to cut them recklessly, as they can be arranged when whole just as gracefully.

Cool and pretty is a promenade costume with full skirt of striped surah, in Oriental colors, mounted with fullness and falling in natural plaits. The tunic of self-colored cashmere is plaited, and arranged to conceal the skirt on that side, while at the left side it is carried up in plaits so as to form a graceful rounded sweep, which leaves quite a large portion of the striped skirt exposed. The corsage fastens in the center half-way down beneath a plaited plastron of surah, and then closes diagonally to the left hip with four large silver buttons.

All materials with pile, such as plush and velvet, will be much worn during the fall and winter; and just here a hint may be of advantage to our readers. Very fashionable ladies, in place of using Lyons velvet for summer costumes, have selected Arcadia velveteen, because it is not injured by salt or damp atmospheres, and will wear to advantage, while it has every appearance of silk velvet, at a far less cost. A combination of this costume with lace striped etamine, is worthy of description, as it can be copied in silk and La Preciosa, or any of the fashionable fabrics.

In this neat suit the skirt of Arcadia velveteen is in a peculiar copper color, it is plaited in the back and at the sides, but is plain in front. The tunic of the figured etamine, is plaited diagonally from the left side of the waist, is draped with plaits on the right side, and falls in a draped puff at the back. The corsage of etamine opens over a narrow plastron of velveteen, and is filled in at the neck with a draped fichu of crepe de Chine. The hat worn with this costume is of fancy straw, and is trimmed with gauze ribbon the rich cream shade of the etamine, and lovely wild flowers.

LACE AND EVENING TOILETTES.

Over foundations of silk, satin, and velvet or velveteen, so many pretty dresses are formed of lace, which one authority divides into three classes: the always useful and lady-like black lace dresses, which are now generally made in the very best Chantilly and hand-run laces, for in the long run, dresses of good lace, are more economical than those which are made of inferior qualities. Then there are the heavy dark ecru laces, which are made up with velvets or velveteens in dark colors, and trimmed with pendants made of varnished acorns, beach nuts, and other natural tassels, or wooden beads; while the third class includes the fine woolen laces, made in white, black, and colors. Some of these woolen lace flounces are as fine and light as thread and silk laces, and finish colored toilettes most effectively.

A most exquisite dress is of lace, that is, fine black Chantilly over a foundation of rich garnet rhadamers. The lace skirt is draped in vague folds on the right, and on the left is a panel of black net, bearing a brilliant mass of gem-like blocks and pendants, forming part of a design worked on the net with smaller but equally brilliant beads. The center of the back is draped, on each side of it is a lace panel gauged at the top over four or five narrow bands of ribbon. Two long pointed pieces of violet velvet, lined with satin, are arranged to fall with long ends on the center of the back drapery, and with shorter ends on each side of it. Lace corsage on satin, trimmed with velvet, and draperies of jeweled net.

An exquisite evening dress for a young lady just going into society, has the skirt of killed white satin draped with a long tablier of lace muslin, falling in plaits on the left, and draped on the right. A large panel of the skirt on the left is visible to the waist, except where the long

ends of a bow fall over it. The corsage of satin closes diagonally beneath a drapery of muslin, which enters the satin waist belt on the left. The neck is cut away a little at the back, and is open in a point in front. The sleeves just reach the elbow, and are trimmed with a drapery of muslin at the edge, finished with a small bow. No jewelry is to be worn with this dress, but a band of white satin ribbon encircles the neck, and is finished in a bow, and a spray of white lilac trims the front of the corsage.

DESIRABLE DRESS GOODS.

About the middle of July is the best time to buy fabrics suitable for the cool days of early Autumn; of course it is not expected that novelties will be in then, but all spring dress goods left over, are marked down, to be sold out, to make room for incoming lines of Fall and Winter materials; hence, July and August may be termed bargain months, especially in regard to silk and woolen goods.

Some of the cotton goods hold their own in styles and prices all through the summer; for instance, French satines, which are marked at 31, 37½ and 45c. a yard. So do the linon's, which are all cotton, although termed linon's, and Egyptian lawns, half cotton and half linen, both marked at 15c. a yard. Most fashionable just now are the skirtings for lawn tennis, seaside and mountain wear, which are 27 inches wide, and cost only 16 and 19c. a yard, but are worth fully 40 and 45c. a yard; they come in five color combinations, in three styles of stripes, narrow, medium and wide, and are to be made up in plaited skirts with tunics and sashes, and worn with jerseys or jersey bodices made of self-colored light or dark fabrics; elastic goods are best for this purpose. Other marked down goods are seersuckers, best American make, in five or six colors and styles, which were 15c. a yard, but now sell at \$1.00 for a dress pattern of 13 yards.

La Preciosa in cream is in great demand at 40c. a yard, and is really worth double that money, for seaside and home wear, and dentelle etamines, 46 inches wide, give splendid value for 55c. a yard.

Among the reduced black goods may be seen a new 44 inch wide canvas boucle, in two designs, at 50c. a yard, which is really worth \$1.25, and a 55c. camel's hair canvas cloth, which is like boucle, suitable for mountain, seaside or traveling wear, is 56 inches wide. All-wool grenadine can now be bought for 40 and 65c. a yard, and a good black batiste is sold at 65c. a yard.

In silken fabrics, surahs in lovely shades are 85c. a yard; rhadamers in the same colors are \$1.00 a yard; while China and Japanese silks and pongees are very generally reduced. To combine with these silks there is a trimming velvet at only \$1.00 a yard; at that price it is an actual bargain; but still cheaper, because more durable and wider, are the Arcadia velveteens at \$1.00 and \$1.25 a yard, which come in all desirable colors for full dresses for day or evening wear, as well as in trimming colors.

The novelties in cotton specialties are the tufted batistes and tufted crepes; while in camel's hair, the art fabrics, may be seen choice specimens showing pin stripes, like the cloth seen in gentlemen's pantaloons.

PRETTY MANTLES AND BONNETS.

Exquisite little mantillas of gauze are covered with shaded bead embroidery; one of these is plomb and steel beads, which, on the black ground, gives a most lovely shaded effect. Another model, embroidered with plomb, jet and ruby beads on black gauze lined with ruby, is more brilliant, and equally beautiful; while a vestment or wrap is of jetted grenadine, with wing sleeve of Chantilly. Some models of jetted grenadine are lined with Orphee, suede, or red silk, but the dress should be of black silk or lace. Plain and fancy straw hats matching the costumes are very much worn; these are trimmed with double bows of ribbon in two colors, one ribbon forming a lining and wide border on one side of the other ribbon; or else they are draped with lace, and trimmed on one side with bows of ribbon or velvet, and a bunch of flowers.

Light shape bonnets are made of fine white willow shavings, interlaced and plaited together with white cotton, the whole forming a species of network of the most airy description. These are unlined, or lined with colored silk, which shows through the network, and are trimmed with a fanciful arrangement of bows or loops of striped gauze ribbon, in white or some delicate shade, and sometimes a few flowers are added.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Anxiety:"—Black, dark brown and navy blue stockings or socks are worn by small boys, with white dresses. At two years of age he can wear one of the large leghorn or straw hats, trimmed with long ostrich plume and loops of ribbon. Lace face finish inside of crown.

"Mrs. S. J. Gilbert," Mechanicstown, Ohio:—You can procure the magazine premium book, Dictionary of Stitches, by sending the 50c. for a year's subscription to editor of Fashion Magazine, 804 Market St., Phila., Pa. This journal of styles and domestic economy, is the best of its kind published.

Sharpless Brothers.

During the months of July and August, SHARPLESS BROTHERS will offer the remainder of their Spring and Summer novelties in Dress Fabrics, and other lines of goods, at far below value, in order to clear out stock, and make room for incoming specialties for Fall and Winter.

Bargain sales every day during the Summer. All articles purchased by mail, sent free of cost for transportation.

Write for Samples and Prices of desired goods. Address,

Mail Order Department,
SHARPLESS BROTHERS
CHESTNUT AND EIGHTH STREETS,
Philadelphia, Pa.

For information about Bargains in Dress Fabrics, read Fashion article in this number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, and please mention date of paper in letter of advice to Sharpless Brothers.

"Mrs. Dameron," St. Louis, Mo.—Very few of the pin stripes in cloth are to be found. By writing to McCreery & Co., corner 11th St. and Broadway, N. Y., you can get later novelties, the pin striped camel's hair goods, which are the most stylish fabrics in the market.

"Bereaved:"—To trim your mourning costume, of black silk-warp Henrietta, by all means use Courtauld's crape, and your dress will be very elegant, for the sample shows you have selected handsome material for the toilette.

"Mrs. Lester," "Ripon," and "Mrs. E. H." We do not publish a catalogue, but have sent you one from a dry goods house.

Summer Dress Goods

JAMES MCCREERY & CO. Call attention to their very complete stock of Summer Dress Goods and the following special lines:

40-inch French Foule, all colors, 45c. per yard. A large variety of plain and figured Albatross at 50c. per yard. 48-inch Diagonal Serge at 75c. per yard. 42-inch striped and plain Camelette Suitings at 75c. per yard.

The above goods are all wool, and are remarkable value for the prices named.

ORDERS BY MAIL from any part of the country will receive careful and prompt attention.

JAMES MCCREERY & CO., BROADWAY AND 11TH STREET, NEW YORK.

The Flynt Waist or True Corset

Is universally indorsed by eminent physicians as the most SCIENTIFIC WAIST or CORSET known. Pat. Jan. 6, 1874.



No. 1 represents a high-necked garment. No. 2, a low necked one, which admits of being high in the back and low in front. No. 3 is to illustrate our mode of adjusting the "Flynt Hose Support" each side of the hip, also, the most correct way to apply the waistbands for the drawers under and outside petticoats and dress skirt. No. 4 shows the Flynt Extension and Nursing Waist, appreciated by mothers. No. 5, the Misses' Waist, with Hose Supports attached. No. 6, how we dress very little people. No. 7 illustrates how the warp threads of the fabric cross at right angles in the back, thereby insuring in every waist, THE MOST SUCCESSFUL SHOULDER-BRACE EVER CONSTRUCTED.

Our "Manual," containing 46 pages of reading matter, relating to the subject of Hygienic Modes of Underdressing, sent free to any physician or lady, on application to MRS. O. P. FLYNT, 319 Columbus ave., Boston, Mass. Columbus ave. cars pass all Depots.

CUT PAPER PATTERN FREE of Spring Style to every lady sending 15 cents for colored Fashion Plate to B. SUBERS, box H. H., Philadelphia, Pa.

LADIES' BOOTS ONLY \$2.00. Best on Earth for the Money. Retail everywhere for \$3.00.



On receipt of Two Dollars we will send you by mail, POSTAGE PAID, a pair of these Elegant Button Boots, worked button holes, in either kid or goat, and any size you want. Give us a trial. Address CONSUMERS' BOOT AND SHOE CO. Box 3305, Boston, Mass. Please mention this paper.

PRIESTLEY'S SILK-WARP HENRIETTAS

Are the most thoroughly reliable goods in the market. They are made of the finest silk and best Australian wool. You can easily distinguish them by their softness and beauty, and regularity of finish. They are always the same in quality, weight, width and shade, thus enabling you to match any piece. None genuine unless rolled on a yellow "Varnished Board," showing the grain of the wood, which is the Priestley Trade-Mark. They are dyed in two standard shades of black.

SOMETHING NEW! Corticelli Pure Floss

(ON SPOOLS.)



A Wash Silk for Etching and Embroidery. Permanent Dyes. Superior Lustre, prepared for Art Dealers in Outline. Manufactured from the best quality of stock, by the

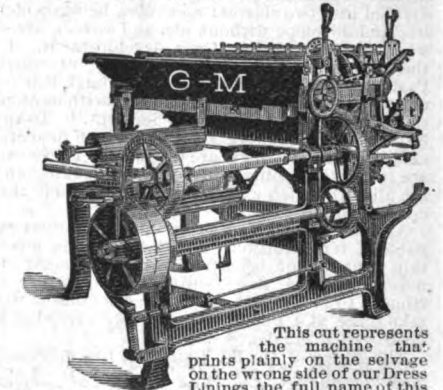
NONOTUCK SILK CO., Florence, Mass. SALESROOMS: 23 & 25 Greene St. N. Y. 18 Summer St. Boston. Send 6 cents for Sample Spool to Boston Office.



50 CENTS Per Doz.

ASK FOR THE BEST THREAD FOR MACHINE OR HAND SEWING. EXPERIENCED OPERATORS ON ALL SEWING MACHINES RECOMMEND IT.

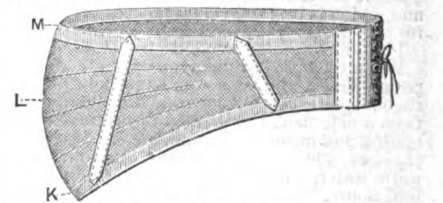
Gilbert Mfg. Co., 346-348 Broadway, N. Y.



This cut represents the machine that prints plainly on the selvage on the wrong side of our Dress Linings the full name of this Company for the benefit of the dressmakers and ladies of this country, an expense of thirteen thousand dollars (\$13,000) for this machine, that they may know how to tell genuine goods from the imitation. We have run in the busy season, night and day, five of these machines, and each of these machines can print 58 yards per minute. Now, we should like to know how many school girls and boys there are in the U. S. and Canada, under 17 years of age, who can tell us exactly how many yards these five machines can print in the 313 working days in a year. For every boy or girl who will send us the correct answer, with 4 cents in stamps to pay postage and packing, we will mail gratis one elegant imperial size Photograph, worth 25c., of the "Three Little Maids from School." We will also mail free to any address, on receipt of 12c., a HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES, containing 254 pages, by Emery E. Childs, giving all important events from 1492 to 1885, and well worth many times the price. This book should be the text book for school and in the hands of all teachers and in every library in the land. Please show this to your school mates and friends.

ABDOMINAL SUPPORTERS,

For Corpulency, Weakness, and support after Continence. (To buckle at side or lace at back).



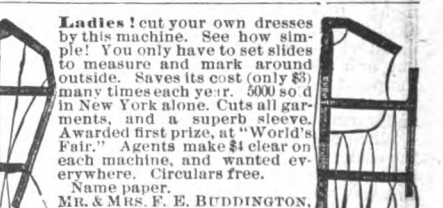
DIRECTIONS FOR SELF-MEASUREMENT:—Give exact circumference at K L M. Price, Silk Elastic, \$5.00. Sent by mail upon receipt of price; or, O. C. D. Satisfaction guaranteed.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, ETC., for Va loose Veins, Weak and Swollen Limbs. Send for directions for measurement. G. W. FLAVELL & BRO., Manuf'rs, 248 N. 8th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

SEND NAME QUICK for Prof. Moody's New Illustrated Book on Dress Making, New System and Manie Cutting, etc. Agents sell 10 a day. Prof. MOODY, Cincinnati, O.



Ladies! cut your own dresses by this machine. See how simple! You only have to set slides to measure and mark around outside. Saves its cost (only \$3) many times each year. 5000 sold in New York alone. Cuts all garments, and a superb sleeve. Awarded first prize, at "World's Fair." Agents make \$1 clear on each machine, and wanted everywhere. Circulars free. Name paper. MR. & MRS. F. E. BUDDINGTON, 2108 Wabash Ave., Chicago.



Special Summer Offer.

GOOD ONLY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1ST.

Our New and Enlarged Stamping Outfit, which we have never before offered for less than 12 subscribers, we have decided to offer until **SEPTEMBER 1st**, for **ONLY 8 SUBSCRIBERS** and 25 cts. extra in cash or stamps.

OUR LATEST AND NEWEST

EMBROIDERY STAMPING OUTFIT!



100 CHOICE PATTERNS.  **\$1.00 PREPAID BY MAIL.**

GIVEN AS PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 8 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR AND 25 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH.

This Complete Outfit and One Year's Subscription to the Journal, Both for only \$1.00.

Season after season the dealers in cheap novelties, have endeavored to injure the reputation of our outfits, by offering a larger number of patterns, or a wonderful lot of articles of a fabulous value. Their advertisements and descriptions are written in such a manner as to lead people to expect something great, and it is needless to say they are always disappointed. The patterns our competitors offer are a lot of worthless little things, so crowded together on a single sheet that they cannot be used, while the VALUE OF OUR OUTFIT IS IN GOOD, USEFUL STAMPING PATTERNS.

We have had literally thousands of ladies complain of these cheap outfits, who throw them away after buying ours.

We have also received thousands of letters from ladies who have secured one of our outfits, expressing the greatest delight and satisfaction.

What is the reason for this?
1st, because we never misrepresent anything.
2d, because the patterns in our outfit are what they are described to be.
3d, because we know what ladies interested in fancy work want, and try to please them.

WE WILL CHEERFULLY REFUND THE MONEY AND GIVE OUR PAPER ONE YEAR FREE! TO ANY ONE WHO IS IN THE LEAST DISSATISFIED WITH ONE OF OUR OUTFITS.



Description of a Few of the Patterns.
One set of initials for towels, hat ribbons, etc., worth 50c.
Two outlines for tidies, 25c. each.
One design for tinsel embroidery, 5 inches wide, for end of table scarf, 25c.
One tidy design for ribbon work, 20c.
One large clover design, 7x11, 25c.
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One elegant spray of golden rod, 6x11, 25c.
One Martha Washington geranium for plush petals, 6x10, 25c.
One half wreath for hat crown, 15c.
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One spider's web, and one new disk pattern, 25c.
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One vine of daisies and ferns, for end of table scarf, 15c.
One wide braiding pattern, 25c.



One large bunch of daisies, 25c.
75 more other designs of roses, clematis, autumn leaves, outline designs, etc. Besides the patterns the outfit contains: One box black and one box white powder, two distributors, illustrated instruction book, teaching stamping all the stitches, etc., one tidy, all stamped and ready to be worked, with silk to work it.

Besides all the above, we shall continue to give away with each outfit, our book on **KNITTING AND CROCHETING**, giving instructions for knitting all the latest novelties. Our book on **FANCY BRAID AND CROCHET**, giving directions for making edgings of feather-edge and other braids.

Remember this is our Special Summer Offer. Now is your time to easily raise clubs at 25 cts. per year; for so small a sum of money large clubs can be raised everywhere. No subscriptions will be received after September 1st, for less than Fifty Cents per year. **Now is Your Time!**



TIDIES STAMPED READY TO BE WORKED.

GIVEN AS A PRESENT FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS, AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.



These Elegant Tidies are 14x18 inches in size, are made of the very best quality of Felt, and the same as are sold in the stores at from 40c. to 50c. each. You can select the color of felt you like, and have it stamped with any design you wish, either for Kensington or Outline, or Ribbon embroidery, all ready to be embroidered.

With these Tidies we give also, a book, which teaches the stitches used in art embroidery,—giving such clear and explicit descriptions as to be easily understood; and also a lesson in Kensington and Lustra painting.

We will send one of these Tidies and the book of stitches, for a club of only 4 new subscribers or 85 cents.

KENSINGTON PAINTING OUTFIT.

GIVEN FOR 16 SUBSCRIBERS, OR 12 SUBSCRIBERS AND 25 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH, OR FOR 8 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA IN CASH.

This delightful new branch of fancy work is very fascinating. By this process ladies can do the most elegant painting on plush, velvet, or other materials. No previous knowledge of painting is necessary. The book accompanying the outfit teaches the exact method of doing the work so plainly that a child can understand it. No other teacher is needed.

The outfit contains ten Stamping Patterns, of elegant designs, suitable for painting, as follows: 1 elegant bunch of Clover, 7x10 inches; 1 branch of Thistle, 6x10. These are two of the handsomest flowers for Kensington painting. 1 Moss Rose; 1 Daisy design, 1 Poppy design, with two large full blown flowers, with buds, leaves, etc.; 1 spray of Forget-me-not; 1 bunch of Pansies; 1 branch of Apple-blossoms; Fuchsias, Rosebuds, etc. These patterns, together with Powder Pad, Instruction Book, etc., make a complete Stamping Outfit of Large Patterns, worth at least \$2.00.

Besides the patterns this outfit contains all the implements with which to do the work, and Patent Collapsible Tube Paints, sufficient to paint all the designs in the outfit. The book teaches how to mix these paints to procure the shades and tints needed for all kinds of flowers, and all other needed information.

The outfit is put up in a nice box, and will be sent by Express, prepaid, for a club of 16 subscribers, provided 25c. extra is sent to pay the express charges.



TISSUE PAPER FLOWER OUTFIT.

Given for only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents each per year.



The latest craze, and a very pleasant occupation. Our outfit consists of Book of Instructions for making paper flowers, our 60 samples of imported tissue and flower papers, samples of flowers made up patterns and materials. Everything complete. Book of instructions gives every possible and minute detail, so clearly that any person can, with a little practice, become an expert in this fascinating and beautiful art.



Secure 4 subscribers and we will send this outfit postpaid.

A Special Summer Offer! Kensington Embroidery

And The Colors of Flowers.

Given as a Premium for a Club of Only 4 Subscribers at 25 Cents Each per Year.

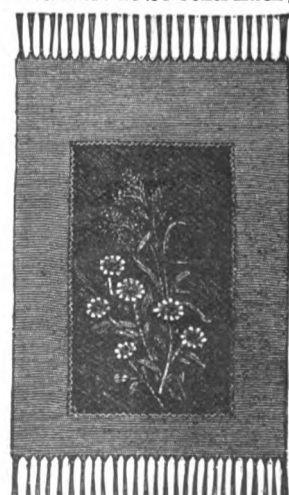
Until September 1st only, we offer one of these Bureau or Sideboard Scarfs and the Ladies' Home Journal one year for only \$1.00.

Bureau or Sideboard Scarf.

Given for a Club of only 20 Subscribers at 25 Cents per Year; or for only 8 subscribers, and 75 cents extra.



This is a very popular, useful and pretty piece of fancy work to throw over the side-board or a dressing case or bureau. It is made of the finest quality of crepe linen, 16 inches wide and 65 inches long, with fancy woven border all round, and fringed ends. We send this scarf stamped on each end similar to the illustration, for a club of only 20 subscribers.



A new book just published! It contains illustrations and clear descriptions of the stitches used in Kensington embroidery; also the Plush stitch, Bird's-eye stitch, Ribbon embroidery, etc. Tells how to work Golden Rod, Coxcomb, Snow Ball, Pussie Willow, Clover, Sumac, and sixty-three other flowers. Gives the proper colors to use in working the Petals, Stamens, Leaves, Stems, etc., of each flower; contains also a chapter on finishing fancy work, with numerous illustrations; tells what colors look best together, how to press embroidery, how to wash silk, etc.

It is the best book ever published on embroidery. A color card containing 168 samples of silks showing the exact shades indicated in the book and card by numbers, is sent with each copy when desired.

We send the book for 4 subscribers, or 35 cents; and book and card for six subscribers, or 50 cents.

A copy of the JOURNAL will be given for a club of 4, instead of a premium, if so desired.

OTHER PREMIUMS WILL BE FOUND DESCRIBED IN BACK NUMBERS OF THE JOURNAL. SEE APRIL AND MAY NUMBERS PARTICULARLY.

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GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR.



LADIES! Save Your Rags

DELIGHTFUL AND PROFITABLE EMPLOYMENT. FASCINATING AND EASY TO LEARN.

MATERIAL COSTS YOU NOTHING! USE YOUR RAGS, YARN AND SCRAPS, AND MAKE THEM INTO HANDSOME RUGS. BEAUTIFY YOUR HOMES.

The easiest and most economical process ever invented for making Rag and Turkish Rugs, Ottoman and Furniture Covers, Cloak Trimmings, etc. Every lady has enough material in her rag-bag to make several handsome, durable rugs.

THE PEARL RUG MAKER

is the only invention that will utilize them without being obliged to go to further expense than a Spool of Thread. You are not obliged to buy Stamped Patterns, Frames, Hooks and Expensive Yarns, costing from Sixty Cents to a Dollar and a Half a Pound. Of course, for Expensive Rugs, this material is very nice—but with scraps of cloth, odds and ends that accumulate in every home, you can make Rugs that will adorn any parlor. LADIES, DON'T BUY A CARPET. If you wish to be economical you can cover those worn places with Home-made Rugs. If you do not have enough Bright Colored Pieces in your rag bag, you can color them at a trivial expense. With the PEARL RUG MAKER many ladies make an entire carpet.

RUGS CAN BE MADE BY HAND

just as well as on a sewing machine, but any sewing machine can be used. From Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing Co. "We find it to be a practical attachment to the Sewing Machine. The Rugs are handsome and durable. It is a decided success."

White Sewing Machine Co., Cleveland, writes: "Our opening was a great success. Sold a quantity of Rug Makers and shall do well with them."

We consider the "Pearl Rug Maker" the only practical device for making Rugs on the Sewing Machine. From the work it produces, we commend it as a most useful labor-saving invention.

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THE PEARL RUG MAKER is made of Bessemer Steel, Silver Finish. It is put up in a handsome case, with explicit "Directions for making Rag and Tufted Rugs," containing illustrations, which will enable anyone to do the work.

Given as a premium for 12 subscribers to the LADIES' HOME



SPECIAL SUMMER OFFER!

Remember, August is the last month we offer these handsome Silver Forks, at Special Club Rates.

SILVER PLATED FORKS

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 20 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS EACH PER YEAR; OR FOR ONLY 12 SUBSCRIBERS AND 50 CENTS EXTRA.



We give a set of six table Forks for only 20 subscribers. They are heavily plated with pure coin silver on white steel, and will wear for years. They are new and handsome patterns. Price \$2.00. We use only the very best quality of silver-plated goods, on the finest English white steel. We will give these forks for only 12 subscribers and 50 cents extra in cash, if you cannot secure 20 subscribers, or for 6 subscribers and \$1.00 extra in cash.

Silver Plated Butter Knife,

GIVEN FOR A CLUB OF ONLY 4 SUBSCRIBERS AT 25 CENTS PER YEAR EACH



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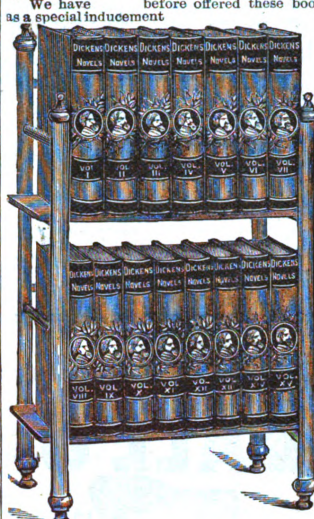
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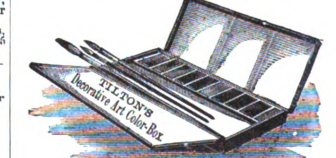
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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]
MILDRED'S CONVERSATION CLASS.

NO. X.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

O no, Miss Gleason, I do not believe, I cannot believe, that you "have been having horrid weather." "Horrid," though a word much abused by extravagant talkers, refers to something only really, "a horrid murder," "a horrid crime," etc., but not horrid weather. The terms "horrid," "awful," "sweet," "lovely," "splendid," "dreadful," "grand," and a variety of others which I will not name, (but with which, no doubt, you are as well acquainted as I) are used, especially by the young, with a frequency that entirely deprives them of their true meaning. Listen to the conversation of a lively, careless girl, and what do you hear:

"An awfully splendid time."
"The flowers smelt just grand."
"He was perfectly horrid," (because perhaps he did not speak with enthusiasm upon a subject upon which she was specially interested.)
"She looked a perfect fright, my dear," (because perhaps the "fright" happened to wear her hair high when low hair was in vogue, or the reverse.) Another case of extravagant expression in which the youthful indulge, is in regard to food.

One girl "loves pie," another "adores gravy," a third is "very fond of lobster salad." One cannot help hoping that some day these same young ladies may find something more worthy on which to place their affections. One young lady whom I know of, used habitually, "wrapped up," when she desired to express any especial liking.

One day, in reply to a schoolmate's question, she answered enthusiastically: "Jelly cake! why I'm just wrapped up in jelly cake!"

Extravagant expressions of dislike are equally common. One "hates that color." Another "despises a sweet apple." A third "detests a dress made that way," etc. It is not necessary for me to multiply instances.

All these expressions cannot be too carefully avoided by her who desires to make her conversation attractive to all. You tell me that you "dislike large parties and never attend them any more than I can help."

"That sounds innocent enough, I'm sure," remarked Phillippa. "Who would regard that as an incendiary sentiment I should like to know."

"If you could help it," proceeded the reader, "you would not go." Evidently you cannot help it. Therefore, you do not attend parties oftener than you "cannot help."

I dislike to take exception to your next sentence because of the kindly sentiment expressed. But "duty calls."

You say you cannot be grateful enough for my letters. "Enough" is properly an adjective, "grateful enough" makes "enough" an adverb qualifying the adjective "grateful."

What shall you say?

The true definition of "enough" is "sufficient." As you cannot say "enoughly" it naturally follows that you should say "sufficiently," transposing the words and bringing the adverb first. "You cannot be sufficiently grateful," etc. Thank you for the kindly sentiment. I am sorry that I felt the necessity of objecting to your method of expression.

You say a little further on in your letter: "I cannot but feel," etc. You should say "I can but feel," etc. "But" is here used in the sense of "only." "I can only feel," etc. "I cannot but feel" would mean the reverse of what you intend to say. It would imply "I cannot only feel that but I feel something else as well."

Classed with this error (a "genteel error") is another incorrect usage of the word "but." It is not but five miles.

Again, in speaking of drawing, you say: "You don't know how untrue an eye I have."

You have by this method of expression separated the adjective "untrue" from the noun "eye." This should not be done even by an article. Your sentence should read: "You know how untrue my eye is," or, "You know what an untrue eye mine is (or I have)."

Again, the expression "It is better than the giving offence." This is a very common error. But if you use "the" you must introduce the preposition "of." Otherwise your sentence is incomplete. If you say "the giving," "giving" becomes a participial noun, and as a noun, ceases to govern the noun "offence." There must, therefore, be introduced into the sentence some word whereby "offence" may be governed or it stands alone, without any connection with any other word or words. You may either say "It is better than giving offence," or, "It is better than the giving of offence." In the first instance "giving" is a participle and governs offence as any other form of the verb would do.

In speaking of the word "beau" I also should have warned you against the use of the word "friend" in this connection. Do not speak of your friend's intended husband, (or of your own) as her or your "friend." A "friend" is one thing, an intended husband is another. One may have many "friends," true friends, of the opposite sex, at one time, but one has but one fiance, or intended husband, it is to be hoped. There is a species of vulgarity in using this expression which detracts much from the dignity of the position of the engaged couple. It, and all similar perversions of the true terms, have arisen from a false, frivolous, undignified view of matrimonial engagements and subsequent matrimony.

"I don't know, somehow I kind of hate to use any definite word," said Phillippa Rowland, thoughtfully, with a blush.

"Why, Phillippa Rowland, have you got, I mean have you, a 'friend'?" exclaimed the other five in a chorus of varied phraseology.

"Well, he was a 'friend' till last evening, and now I don't care to call him that any more in the face of Miss Wilson's solemn warning. But please don't say anything about it just yet. Let's go on with the reading."

"I thought Phillippa looked uncommon solemn," said Georgia Garrett.

"Georgia Garrett, that's one thing you always will say, and it sets my teeth on edge every time."

"What?" asked Georgia, her eyes opened wide in wonder.

"Why you always say 'uncommon' this or 'uncommon' that. I don't believe that Miss Wilson would call that a genteel error. You know better or perhaps it would not annoy me so much."

"Well, uncommonly then. I know I say it. It would be hardly worth while for me to deny it."

"Well, let's go on."

You say again: "I shall try and get some photo's taken," etc. Now, my dear child, there are two serious faults in that sentence.

What are you going to try? To do something

is it not? Therefore, "I shall try to get" (only, if I were you, I should expunge the word "get" altogether, and use in its place) "I shall try to have some," etc. If you say try and get "get" is left entirely without any dependence upon the rest of the sentence; it certainly is not in the infinitive mood, and still more certainly is not in the indicative, because there is no nominative visible or understood.

We now come to your next mistake. It is a decided vulgarism to speak of anything in terms of abbreviation. Do not say "photo" for photograph, "loco" for locomotive. Do not write "Sat," "Sund," "Wed," etc., for the days of the week, or address a lady or gentleman as "Mr. T," "Mrs. S." There are men and women who speak of their husbands or wives (as the case may be) as "Mrs. A," "Mr. B," etc. This is decidedly ill-bred.

One thing more and I am done "at this sitting." Do not introduce a "why" into your conversation at every available point. And above all do not start a sentence with a lack of ideas and fill in the interstices with a long drawn "why-a" while you are waiting for something to say.

I think this is all for this letter.
Sincerely your friend,
AMANDA WILSON.

"Now tell us about 'him,'" demanded the five. But Phillippa shook her head and escaped, leaving them to "talk matters over." It is safe to suppose that the conversation contained but little of Miss Wilson and her corrections.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

My reply (sent at once upon receipt of her letter) to Miss Lizzie Wheat was returned to my hands in a day or two. Can she tell me why? It was addressed according to her letter, Salem, Mass.

I hope that the letter sent to Miss Marion has not missed its destination as well.

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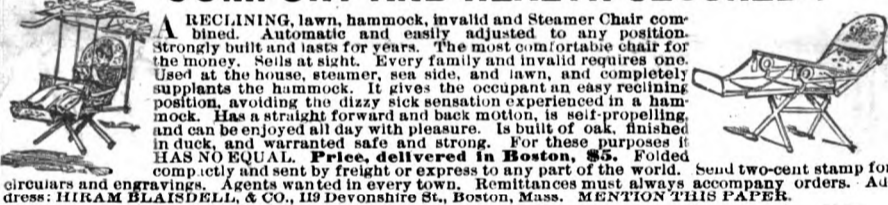
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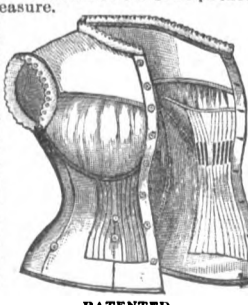
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