

# THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

AND PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER.

VOL. III, NO. 2. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1886. Yearly Subscription 50 Cents. Single Copies 5 Cents.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]  
**THE DOCTOR'S DAUGHTERS.**

BY MARY ABBOTT RAND.  
CHAPTER II.

A big Cunard steamer lay at the wharf and plenty of eager or reluctant travelers were leaving their native land. But one young man could be classed with neither the above. He was leaving his native land, but there was nothing to which he could look forward with eagerness. The sad object of his journey was to make, probably, fruitless inquiries regarding a recent Alpine calamity, hoping against hope that the bodies of his parents might be recovered.

On the other hand, he was not reluctant to leave his native place. It was heart-rending to pass the old parsonage and think that the doors would never open to receive the venerated figure of his father, and that he should never more see his busy mother gathering mignonette and roses in the garden, or flying about the house in her lively way, preparing for company. As he recalled those familiar pictures, forever lost, poor Fred felt more lonely than ever. He was not quite alone, however. A goodly number of friends had come in town to see him off and wish him bon voyage.

Doctor Drexell was among them and wondered why in the world Fanny did not come too.

The Woods' were there and Miss Dollie's eyes were quite wet, and the pink in her cheeks had gone to her nose which was not at all becoming. But Dollie, be it said, was crying from pure sympathy and not because she had, or desired to have, any personal claims on the young man.

And he was not especially grieved on parting with her, or any of that group of kind friends. His heart was with Fanny, giddy, inexplicable but most dear Fanny.

What would he not give or one word or look from her now!

The last warning had sounded and a final rush for the boat was being made when a square-shouldered, red moustached young man made his way through the crowd and reached Fred Garrett as he was just stepping on board.

"Here's a note for you, sir; something Miss Drexell was anxious you should get. I was afraid I shouldn't hit you; ran every step from the station. Good luck and good by!"

Fred had time only for the briefest acknowledgment and crushed the little, violet-scented note in his hand as eagerly as if it was an answered prayer. He felt condemned for ingratitude as he responded to the waving handkerchief on shore, for he was longing to get out of sight of them and be in his state room, reading Fanny's note.

It was a penitent little thing, making amends for all that had gone wrong; telling pathetically, of her stealing alone up to the Woods' to try to comfort him, and how she found that Miss Dollie had taken her place, and how she hoped Miss Dollie would never grieve poor Fred as she had done and prayed they might be happy &c., &c.

The postscript conveyed the not wholly pleasing information that this note was forwarded by young Captain Marston, a new friend of hers who had been very kind and had come to her aid once when she was really afraid of that dreadful Mac Bennett."

Fred read and re-read the first part of the note

and his soul was comforted; but he did not enjoy the postscript.

He wrote Fanny at once, sending an answer by the pilot: an answer that relieved poor Fanny.

He said that his neighbors, the Woods', had been very kind to him, but Miss Dorothy, as perhaps Fanny did not know, was soon to be married to a Chicago merchant, and was simply a friend, while Fanny was dearer than all the world, and

hastened to the office and drew up the easy chair and slippers and adjusted the light of the student lamp to just that subdued, steady glow that his sensitive eyes alone could bear.

It was an increasing care on this little woman's mind, this subject of her father's eyes.

For years he had been troubled with them. He was exceedingly sensitive on the subject and Ella was careful not only to be eyes for him, but to try to disguise the fact that she noticed

smile than the girls had seen for many weeks.

"Well, well!" he said, or sighed rather, as he entered his pleasant office. "I'm glad to have it look hopeful in some quarter."

"Ella!" he called, somewhat fretfully, "Won't you turn down this lamp? You forget I can't bear a glare, coming right out of the soft twilight too; this is unbearable!"

Ella did not reply, as she might in truth, that the lamp was adjusted exactly as usual, and was as low as it could possibly be turned. She touched the screw, however, to satisfy her father, quietly placed a screen between him and the light and then read him the orders that had been left during his absence.

Meanwhile, Beatrice, whose imagination had been much stimulated by the news of the Alpine rescue, was in her room writing a poem in several cantos, entitled "Fear Overtaken by Hope."

Captain Alf. still lingered on the doorsteps and improved an opportunity he had been seeking.

When he left, silly Fanny had promised to marry him on his return from his next voyage. "How could I help it?" she asked herself as her conscience rebuked her. "I couldn't say 'no' to such a downright kind friend as he has shown himself. Perhaps I shall have to write 'no' sometime. Anyhow, a thousand things may happen before the end of the next voyage, and he has promised to keep our engagement quite secret. And I like him almost as well as Fred. Nobody will ever know. Something will happen to help me out,—I am sure there will. I never thought I could get rid of Mac Bennett—though to be sure, I wasn't engaged to him—but, after that dreadful evening when Captain Alf. came to the rescue, Mac took himself off so nicely,—just wrote papa that he had concluded to study elsewhere, and papa, like a dear old stupid as he is, never said or thought anything more about it. No, indeed, I couldn't have said a harsh word to poor Alf. And now, I must write a word to dear Fred and tell him how overjoyed I am to hear that his father and mother are alive



THE DOCTOR'S DAUGHTERS.—"HERE'S A NOTE FOR YOU, SIR; SOMETHING MISS DREXELL WAS ANXIOUS FOR YOU TO GET."

"WHY, SHE ALL BUT SPEAKS!" SAID HE, VERY MUCH AFFECTED."

the hardest thing in all his sorrow was not to have have her sympathy, but now he was assured of that, he could start on his sad journey with something of courage and hope, and nothing must ever come between them again.

Fanny's drooping spirits rose when she received this letter and she was kinder than ever to Captain Alf. for being the means of instituting happy relations between her and Fred.

Meanwhile, the honest young captain, who was ignorant of any special interest that Fanny had in Fred, became daily more and more in love with her, and few were the evenings that did not find him at the doctor's, either singing while Fanny played, or sitting on the door steps with all the sisters. Fanny, of course, took the position of belle. Beatrice looked lovely but took no more pains to speak than if she had been a marble statue. Ella was not prominent in any respect; only, as Fanny said sweetly, "she was a dear, handy little thing to have around."

It was she that answered the kitchen bell when Peggy was out. She was the one to bring wraps if it grew chilly. And nobody but Ella was depended upon to receive the orders which came for the doctor during his absence. Then, when he returned, it was always Ella's quiet step that

his increasing infirmity.

One evening, a few weeks after Fred Garrett had sailed for Europe, the sisters were enjoying the sunset from the front door steps. Beatrice always claimed the privilege of skimming the cream from the daily news. Fanny did not care, and Ella, whatever she might have enjoyed, was not selfish.

"Why,—I—am—astonished!" said Beatrice, in her deliberate tones. "Here is an interesting item: 'Rescue of an Alpine party; shall I read?'"

"Go ahead!" "Hurry up!" rejoined both sisters eagerly.

"A party of American travelers," continued Beatrice, slowly, "supposed to be overwhelmed by an avalanche, have been heard from in a little Swiss village (can't pronounce the name)—"

"No matter!" cried Ella, "Go on!"

"The guide, who alone, was not precipitated, reported the party as crushed, but by a wonderful escape they are all alive and well, barring a few bruises, and, in some cases, a naturally disturbed state of the nerves, resulting from the frightful experience through which they passed. They will, doubtless, soon be able to resume their journey. The Rev. Mr. Garrett and wife are among the rescued party."

"Oh, Fred!" cried Ella, "I wonder if Fred knows it?"

"I hope so, I'm sure!" exclaimed Fanny, warmly. "I wish I could be the one to tell him. Oh, here comes Captain Alf.!"

"Yes, and father, too," said Ella, as she spied the big, awkward figure of the doctor groping uncertainly through the twilight. She hastened to make the usual preparations to welcome him, and then tripped out to tell him the wonderful good news the evening paper had brought.

"Is that so? Thank God!" said the doctor heartily, and his face lighted up with a brighter

after all."

The dainty little love letter was written and sealed with the seal Fred had given Fanny the Christmas before, with double "F" to indicate their mutual initials.

Then, this naughty Fanny laid her pretty head on the pillow, tucked one hand under her rosy cheek and in a few seconds was quietly sleeping.

Beatrice burned the midnight oil over her poetry, while Ella was awake over some stern prose. She was barely fourteen now, and frightfully young to lie awake over worries.

But though Fanny did not confide in her younger sister, Ella knew well enough that Captain Alf. was accepted that night and that Fred was wronged.

"Poor Fred!" said the little girl and hot tears brimmed her tired eyes.

Another worry that had taken definite shape, was in relation to her father. He had said to her very distinctly that evening that there was no use in disguising the fact that he was not much better than a blind man, and he proposed to go to Boston the following week and consult an eminent oculist. "And, if I go, little woman, said her father fondly, 'you must go too. Only, Ella,' he added, refusing a brusque manner, 'don't hover around me too much and draw attention to your poor, blind father. Nothing troubles me so much. I hate to be an object!'"

"I will try, papa dear," said Ella simply, as she kissed him good night.

A few days later found the little woman and her father breakfasting at the Coolidge House. The dreaded examination had take place the day previous. The learned oculist had said, much to

Dr. Drexell's relief that possibly an operation might not be necessary. They would try first if the cataract which obscured the sight, might not be absorbed. They would, at least, try the experiment.

Dr. Drexell was in the brightest spirits, and so sure of having his sight fully restored that he went stumbling about in the most confident manner, making no end of mistakes.

It would have been trying for the sensitive young girl at the best to breakfast for the first time at a public table, but the care of her father greatly increased her uneasiness.

She deftly placed what he wanted before him, buttered his roll and salted his egg. "Let me put on the pepper!" interrupted the doctor in an irritated way, taking it from Ella's hand. "Let be!" he called again roughly, when she would have replaced it. "I hope I can see casters when right before me." Then, with an air of triumph, he popped the pepper cruet right into the cream jug!

Some young girls opposite giggled outright,—a misanthropic fat man tried to change his uncontrollable emotions into a cough. The well-controlled matrons in the vicinity maintained their decorum, much to Ella's relief. But she was especially grateful to a very plain-looking young man next her father who appeared utterly unconscious and who very soon, in an entirely civil and easy way, managed to engage the doctor in conversation.

Ella was far too timid and modest even to look her gratitude, but she felt grateful to the depths of her soul.

The homely stranger somehow made the remainder of the breakfast time pass very pleasantly. He addressed no remark at all to Ella and apparently did not notice her, though, in point of fact he had approvingly observed the graceful little figure daintily dressed in morning gown of white cambric, relieved only by black ribbons and golden hair. He left the table somewhat hurriedly, handing his business card to Dr. Drexell as he bowed his good morning.

The doctor passed it to Ella, who read it out,— "Keyser Claybourne, Commercial Traveler, Boots, Shoes, and Leather."

Ella glanced up as the fine figure of the boots and shoes man disappeared through the doorway. "A good form," she commented, but about the homeliest face I ever saw. "Wasn't he kind, though!" thought she. "He acted just as Fred Garrett would have done, I am sure."

Ella, you see, not being old enough of course to have a hero of her own made a temporary hero out of one of Fanny's old ones, just as she sometimes adapted a dress that Fanny was tired of to her own more slender figure.

Fred Garrett, however, was very far from any intention of being little Ella Drexell's hero. How indignant he would have been at the thought, for he was not a little proud-spirited, this Fred Garrett.

He had the best of reasons for regarding Fanny Drexell as his promised wife. Ardent misses sped back and forth between them on every steamer, and an American friend returning home was commissioned to bear to Miss Fanny a pearl cross which she wore devotedly and privately out of sight.

"The ring," Fred wrote, "I want the pleasure of putting on your dear finger myself."

Meanwhile, Fannie was not ringleas.

Her sailor lover had decorated her engagement finger with an elaborate circlet, blazing with emeralds and diamonds.

Fanny "reckoned without her host" when she flattered herself that Mac Bennett was disposed of without further trouble.

She shrank lunately from him as a person different from the good, respectable people with whom she had been associated.

Yet she did not know how much reason she had to shrink from him. She had not the faintest idea of his wickedness.

Although the young man had left Uplands, he had means of informing himself of Fanny's welfare and he was piqued to learn that she had no regrets to waste on her father's assistant. A thoroughly bad man like Mac Bennett does not need a great deal to inflame his revengeful passions. He thought it "a great deal" though to have the lady of his love despise him and insult him by turning him off in the street and appealing to a comparative stranger to take care of her.

It did not matter to Mac that Fanny had never admitted any special interest in him,—that she had only accepted his attentions to show Fred Garrett that he was not the only young man in the place. Mac felt rebuffed as much as if he had every right to claim Fanny's society and he did not rest till he had planned a brutal scheme of revenge.

It was months before this could be carried out. The white roses and honeysuckles, which were in their sweetest glory when Mac left Uplands, had long since faded and danced as spectres to the music of the September wind.

The autumn leaves had blazed and burned to brown ashes. Now, the garden was overgrown with white; the vines that had been so lovely around the porches had lost their beauty and their usefulness too, and one must look for comfort indoors.

It was pleasant enough, however, in the Drexell's parlor; an old-fashioned room, furnished handsomely and not too recently. It was rich in a good deal of deep, red color, in rugs portieres and lambrequins. All sorts of comfortable chairs tempted you to rest, and there were plenty of good pictures, books, music, a laughing, open fire; last, not least, three delightful young girls. Were not these enough to make a home parlor attractive?

The master of the house could seldom bear the brightness of this cheerful room. He would come in late in the evening perhaps for a little while, when the fire was covered up for the night and the gas turned low. The pleasant wood fire had been banished from his office, and a dark stove that kept the bright spirit within safely imprisoned, took its place.

Yet, the doctor hoped his eyes were better, and his faithful nurse, Ella, thought so too.

One evening in December, the family were all at home, including young Captain Alf, who might almost be reckoned one of the family. Dr. Drexell's mental vision seemed to have a cataract or something else obscuring it, for he had no suspicion of Captain Alf's special interest in Fanny.

The doctor thought he came to see the girls in general and pass a pleasant evening, and he was glad to see his motherless daughters appreciated.

"Nice girls, every one!" the doctor would say to himself. "Couldn't get along without my little Ella, but Fanny's the belle, that's plain; and as for Beatrice,—what a head that girl has—we shall hear from it sometime, depend upon it!"

Perhaps there had not been so pleasant an evening as this since Mrs. Drexell died.

In the office, Ella was reading the evening news to her father.

"Why, child!" he interrupted. "My eyes are certainly better,—no doubt of it! I've been experimenting here with this screen and I find I can bear the light very well. Wouldn't wonder if I could knock this stove away before winter is over, and have my pretty open fire back again. Let's go out in the parlor and see if I can stand the light there."

"I don't know," said Ella, hesitatingly, "I'm afraid you will find it too bright." The doctor was not to be stopped, so Ella, bearing the screen as a defence if necessary, hastened after him. Reaching the hall first, they were surprised to see the old white cat, who had not entered the house since the day of Mrs. Drexell's funeral.

There she stood, or rather, revolved, striving to express by unearthly mew and every means in her power that there was something on her mind.

"Why, kitty!" said the doctor with a startled feeling. He well remembered the last time she had ventured into the house. The kitty rubbed against the doctor's slippers and then would dash wildly down the hall,—then return to the doctor.

"Why, she all but speaks!" said he, very much affected. "Run back, Ella, and get a lamp and that young man, and then come with me."

Ella gave the alarm, and young Captain Alf, Fanny and Beatrice hastened after her.

They had only to open the kitchen door to find out the cause of the cat's distress. Flames were bursting through the floor!

In that first moment of alarm, it was evident that the fire was not the result of accident.

Faithful Peggy had left the stove, the lamp, the matches, the furnace and every possible avenue of danger carefully guarded as usual.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]  
**A MASQUERADE, AND WHAT CAME OF IT.**

BY FANNIE L. FANCHER.

"Well, Lottie, what shall we do about attending the masquerade?" Guess they calculate on a big time. They have sent invitations to all the stations for miles around, and a good many tickets have already been sold, though its nearly two weeks ahead. Schofield has ordered fifty suits, or costumes, from Chicago. Presume they will be fine."

"You seem very enthusiastic, Will, over this prospective party," said his wife, "but I have been thinking it all over, pro and con, and—well it will cost at least ten dollars, won't it, and more too," added she, not waiting for his reply, "if we do anything nice in the way of costumes. Baby needs a cloak, and Freddie an overcoat, so it strikes me 't would be foolish to fritter away the money in such a manner."

"Money! The d—!—, who has asked you anything about spending the money? I asked you, Mrs. Smith, if you wanted to go to this masquerade ball, the event of the sea on, and you throw up in my face, the money question. Pray tell, Mrs. Smith, who earns the money, and who has the better right to spend it how they best please? When you earn the chink, then you can dictate how to spend it, madame," said Mr. Wm. Jacob Smith, in a terrible rage, as he hastily buttoned up his ulster to get out of the, to him, stifling atmosphere, made so by the heat of his passion.

Anger, like a pestilence, is contagious, and the hot blood rushed to the face of his wife, as she angrily retorted: "I'll never, never, go to the ball with you, William Smith, a man who is too stingy to clothe his children in comfort, and mean enough to take all of the services of a woman; all of her time, and talents, giving only in return her board, and a few clothes. Then twit her of not earning a penny. I tell you, Mr. Smith," added she, "when I was a girl I went out sewing by the day; was only expected to work from seven o'clock in the morning till seven at night; earning several dollars a week, with which I clothed myself as well, if not better, than you ever clothed me. For, haven't I turned, and returned, and made over, and over—humph! not earned anything? If it wasn't for the love that I bear these children, I'd go this very day. I'd let you see for what amount you could procure a woman to come here and cook, wash, iron, sew, and scrub; taking care of the children nights, in the bargain. I'm up with them night after night, when you are snoring away in your selfish ease. You know that you couldn't for any sum, hire one woman to come and do all that I do for you, and them." Then she relapsed into tears—a woman's safety valve, when overwhelmed with grief, or anger, while he stood, hat in hand, surprised at his wife's unusual independent spirit, she who was generally so docile, and meek. With a very injured air, however, he lit his cigar—a very choice expensive brand—and left the house, not forgetting to slam the hall door, as a parting shot.

The date of the ball drew near, and Mr. Smith sought in vain to heal the injured feelings of his wife. He loved her, in the selfish way that, alas! so many, many selfish men love their wives. She was a faithful wife, and previous to this affair had always yielded to his stronger will. But it stung her to the quick, when he accused her of not bringing in any money value, knowing that her time had in years ago been worth something. She felt that her services were not adequately appreciated. Indeed, this event led her to do a considerable amount of thinking. A little sum in arithmetic was the result of her cogitations. She remembered that they had been married about ten years. He had on the start, perhaps, a thousand dollars. She, Lottie Grover, had supported a widowed mother—who died soon after their union—hence she had nothing i. e. no money to bring into the firm of Smith and Glover. But, during these ten years, she had labored early and late, in fact, had even worked harder in proportion to their relative strength than had he, her husband. The accumulation of these years were, in the aggregate, some six thousand dollars. Surely, her thrift and economy had, in great measure, brought about this result; and yet, not a dollar of it could she claim. Were she to die that very day, not a penny could she will away. Her children were beggars, as far as she was concerned, since she could leave them nothing. For ten long years then, she had only earned her board, and clothing. As she had formerly supported her mother, as well as herself, with her earnings, she reasoned that alone, she could have laid by, at least, two dollars a week. That being the case, a thousand dollars would have accrued, say nothing about interest money, which would have increased the amount to a much larger sum. But now, everything was grudgingly, even condescendingly, given her. What the children really needed, she had to beg for. Though Mr. William Jacob Smith provided lavishly for his table—for there he enjoyed himself—cloth, and clothing, he deemed an unnecessary expense. Lottie felt that she, perhaps, was in a great measure to blame for this state of things, since from the start she had, being so apt with her needle, fashioned new garments from old ones, thereby saving many dollars every year. Surely, thought she, "a penny saved is a penny earned," and Will would appreciate my efforts, had he for a wife one of those extravagant, poor calculating women of my acquaintance.

We observe, as she sits there in her angry, excited meditations, traces of the beauty which attracted her husband in former days. Her waving hair, clear complexion, and warm brown eyes, shaded by long drooping lashes. To be sure the color from her cheek has gone; gone into the faces of her children, who have taken so much, so very much, of her life and care. Her somewhat voluptuous form is now arrayed in an old taded wrapper. Since its make, she has evidently shrank from its ample folds, hence it is anything but a good fit. Her hair has received no attention, and her neck is devoid of all adorning. Her husband being in a hurry for his morning meal, and her increasing cares, since the advent of the children, have brought about her slovenly habits in regard to her personal appearance. Ah, what wonder that so many, many, men turn from their marriage vows, to women whom they never see in other than becoming array! It does not alter the solemn fact that they have nothing to do but to adorn, and render themselves attractive.

To return. The day of the masquerade came, and again her husband urged her to make ready, saying that he had engaged a magnificent costume. He was going to personate a Spanish cavalier. Then, to arouse her enthusiasm, he described many of the beautiful suits hired for the occasion. She was inexcusable, however. She would not go to this ball with him. She told him so on the start and she had not changed her mind. It would be useless for him to press the matter, and if he chose, he could allow her the five dollars or more that her self-denial would save. This of course he refused to do; since, as he said, he wished her to go with him.

Mr. Smith was fond of gaiety, and something of a petit-maitre, hence he decided to go, and have a good time if his wife, silly woman! carried her spite so far, as to relinquish the party. So he donned his costume, viewing his fine proportions with unconcealed satisfaction. He had scarcely left the premises, ere a friend, and neighbor, came in at the back door. Her arms were full of a diaphanous material of a sea green tint. Mrs. Smith chanced to have, among her mothers belongings, a green tissue, which would be just the thing for a costume, to personate the character of Undine. In its construction, she covered the front with small sea shells which she had saved when on a jaunt to the seashore. Not having a sufficient supply, she remembered a quantity of beautiful fish scales she had been hoarding, thinking some day they might be utilized. We have not time to describe, in detail, her lovely costume. Suffice it to say, her deft fingers, and exquisite taste, had, without much expense, wrought something at once unique, and beautiful; and after arraying her petite form in its shimmering d. aperies, she looked indeed the sea nymph that she personated. Then she, with mischief in her eye, hid herself away to the masquerade (her friend kindly remaining with the sleeping children). For, when she found that her husband was bent on going without her, she resolved to go unbeknown to him. Never did devotee of terpsichors, exert themselves more than did she; and her lithe graceful form, and unique costume, became the centre of attraction. Mr. William Jacob Smith became, of course, her most devoted admirer, and her apparent preference for him flattered not a little, his excessive vanity. In vain he sought to hear her voice, or get some clue to her personality. At length, driven to desperation, and somewhat under the influence of the exhilarating bowl, he grasped her hand, saying: "I beg of you to tell me when I can see you again? Surely, you are not a resident here, as there is but one woman in the place who dances as gracefully as do you. She, I believe, is not present. My business often calls me to K.—perhaps I can find you there."

A negative loss of her head was her only reply. They had just been whirling in a waltz, one of those sensuous waltzes of Offenbachs, as the closing strains of the orchestra languished. Undine leaned heavily upon her attendants arm, when suddenly, the call came to unmask.

Words cannot describe the consternation, or chagrin, of Mr. William Jacob Smith, nor the triumphant gleam sparkling in the eyes of his wife. He congratulated himself, however, that the awkward situation in which he found himself, viz.: making love to his own wife, had not been observed by others. Still he feared that she would in some way expose him.

Sure enough, while at the banquet, a ripple of laughter burst from her lips, and one of the gossips of the place, who chanced to be near, said: "Pray tell us, Mrs. Smith, what amuses you so? You have tried, in vain, to suppress your merriment, ever since we came to the table."

"Oh, such a splendid joke! It's too good to keep—"

"Well, let's all have it then," eagerly cried Mrs. Brown.

Lottie's husband hastily trod on her toes beneath the table, and she adroitly said: "Some other time I'll divulge."

But she fully realized her power over him, which she, little woman that she was, meant to turn to her own advantage. She accordingly, that very night,—or more really, when they reached home—gave him to understand, that her silence as to his conduct was to be purchased for a deed on the house and lot; which he, as soon as possible, had drawn and ratified.

Then, she felt that she had a home, to show for her years of toil, saying nothing about sickness and suffering, which dollars and cents cannot remunerate.

Aside from the pecuniary advantage gained, Mrs. Smith felt that she had learned an important lesson. One that, perchance, would benefit many another married woman, viz.: Not to be willing to settle down into mere domestic drudges. Doubtless there are men that fully appreciate such services; but they are rare, and ten chauce to one that their wives in doing this, do not lose all the attractions that they ever possessed. That iron juggernaut, in the shape of a cook stove, is very remorseless, crushing out the life of many a woman that is not over strong. Indeed, it takes delight in ruining the complexion, and health, of its many devotees. With health, and therefore good looks and temper gone, how can a wife compare favorably with those pretty, alluring creatures, that will not drudge, preferring to pose, and bask, in the smiles and flattery of men. In view of this fact, Mrs. William Jacob Smith resolved to take life easier, hiring help in the performance of her household labors. Thus she had more time to devote to her children, her own

good looks, and her mental improvement as well. Mr. Smith became her most devoted admirer. Indeed, she became so interesting and attractive to him that he lost all desire to flirt with other women.

The Cornish Organ and Piano Co., of Washington, New Jersey, whose large advertisement appears in this issue, are doing an enormous business in their line, and in order to meet the requirements of a big rush during the Holiday Season, have added a new addition to their already mammoth factory. The junior member of the firm, Hon. Johnston Cornish, has twice been elected Mayor of the City, which attests their popularity at home. Send for their Catalogues.

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In Cash, to the Young Man sending us the Largest Number of 3 Months' Trial Subscribers at 10 Cents each, up to February 1st, 1886.

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For full description of these goods see premium supplement in our December number. These are the same goods offered for yearly subscriptions.

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The Decorated China Tea Set for 20 3-months subscribers.

The Printing Press, for 30 3-months subscribers.

A Photograph Album for 20 3-months subscribers.

Ladies' Shopping Bag for 20 3-months subscribers.

Any one of our Lace Pins for 10 3-months subscribers.

Any 6 vols. of the Riverdale Story Books for 10 3-months subscribers.

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Now, Boys and Girls, let us hear from you!

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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.] HOW WE AMUSE THE BABIES.

This may not be of the least interest to a great many readers of this paper, but to tired mothers, like myself, anything for a change, that will keep little meddling fingers out of mischief, and little minds, and tongues employed, so they will not wear mamma out, with their ceaseless questions, would be thankfully received by almost anyone, who has two or three little prattlers to work with and amuse.

Of course very young babies cannot be amused, only as they grow to take notice of surrounding objects, and persons, but when they grow old enough to be propped up in a crib with pillows, or to sit up in a high chair, where they can watch operations in kitchen or sitting room, they may be kept quiet for some time. With a piece of strong paper that will not tear easily, but will rustle, they just have heaps of fun; and a few simple toys such as a rattle, a bell, a few glass balls, etc., are about all one can give to such small people. But after they get to running about, one needs something to keep them out of mischief for a certainty; and all the toys, and all the watching in the world can only result in that, for a little while at a time. A soft rubber ball, will often contribute something to their happiness, and of course a doll or two, for where is the baby who does not love a doll? It is laughable to see the way our eighteen-month-old boy will carry his sister's doll around in his arms, stopping now and then, to kiss its little face, and smooth its hair in a grandfatherly sort of way, then clasp it in his arms, and go trudging off with sister, on one of their journeys across the room and back; they have great times going on "journeys."

Another source of pleasure is the bean bag. Take small bags—tobacco sacks answer nicely, when well dusted, or washed, or any little scraps of muslin sewed up and filled loosely with beans or corn and sewed up so they will not spill out, make nice loads for little wagons, or to pitch at each other, as they are soft enough not to hurt. Another thing that has pleased our little ones is a scrap book, composed of gay pictures, funny wood cuts, pictures of birds, animals, and all sorts, pasted on muslin leaves, that can be sewed in any old book back; they seem to enjoy a book of this sort better than those that are bought for them. We like scrap books for the older children, too, they can be illustrated with steel engravings, from worn out magazines, that would otherwise be wasted; and cuts suitable to the pieces that are put in make them quite entertaining. Such books as Patent Office Reports, or those having no especial value do nicely; of course, the ones that are for sale at the book stores are better, but this article is intended to provide cheap amusements only, and I have noticed that costly toys do not add any more to children's pleasure than do home made ones. Another enjoyment that never wears out is the blowing of soap bubbles. Provide the youngsters each with a clean clay pipe, and a bowl of strong soap suds, and then see the fun; it is a never ending "Oh, just look, mamma, do just look, and we look, in time to see a lovely ball as large as one's head, floating around reflecting windows and sky, on its gaily colored surface; or they toss off smaller ones, one after another, that sail lightly down to the floor, and rebound in a manner quite surprising, considering the material of which they are composed. When the weather is fine, and they can be outdoors, a swing, a hammock, wagon or buggy seats placed under shade trees, chickens, when one can keep them, and many other things of a like nature, are all well; but it is in winter, and during the dark rainy days of fall and spring, that indoor amusements are a necessity.

Our children had a rainy day with delight, for they are always allowed to pop corn, make candy, crack nuts, and "cut up jack" generally, so those days will be the bright ones to look back upon in after life; and always keep as many entertaining books and papers within reach as your means will permit, for many boys and girls are kept off the streets, and out of bad company, if a taste for reading has been cultivated from the time they were large enough to be interested in stories.

Another thing, train them to look at the beauties of nature. The trees, the sky, the clouds, the birds, and all such things, are spread out before us in such rich profusion, if we will only open our eyes to behold them. Go with them if you can, to the woods, now and then, and see how much enjoyment can be crowded into a few short hours. Take for instance a lovely autumn day. Can Heaven itself be fairer? The sky so blue, the grass so brilliantly green, the trees have only begun to put on their beautiful coloring of crimson and gold, and even the sun, seems to shine through the clear atmosphere, with an additional brightness that makes this earth so beautiful. Point out these things to the little ones, and teach them, that one of the secrets of true happiness, lies, in being able to enjoy the things that are always within our reach—to look at nature, and from nature up to nature's God.

THORNY POPPY.

The editress will consider it a personal favor, if the mothers who read these columns, will call the attention of their children to the special inducements we offer them this month to introduce the JOURNAL into new homes. Very few women will refuse our young friends so small a sum of money as ten cents for a three months trial. We trust the JOURNAL to work its own way a ter once introduced. Sample copies are free. Will you not help us!

EDITRESS L. H. J.—"Perplexed Mother" in October number of Babyhood tells us of one of her perplexities and that is, ought she, or ought she not, rock and pat and sit by her baby boy while he falls asleep?

She is very fearful that she ought not to do these things. There is something so pathetic in her words that I am not ashamed to say I cried over them.

"The trouble with Master Baby is, not that he does not want to take his nap, but that he doesn't want to go to sleep alone. He will go to sleep readily if I will stay with him. He does not ask for rocking or walking, singing or patting. If I will only sit quietly by the side of his crib, with my hand resting gently on his shoulder, he is satisfied and in a very few minutes is fast asleep."

I cried because I pitied that poor, little baby so much. I am almost sure he is to be denied any more mothering when his sleepy times come. His mother fears she is "humoring" him if she pets him.

How a mother can hesitate to grant so small and innocent a favor as to "only sit quietly by his crib with my hand resting on his shoulder," seems very strange, especially such a good, kind mother as I know by the ring of her letter, she means to be.

It is the cry of these days to tend baby just as little as possible; no margin allowed for loving good-night rocks and sleepy time caresses, and brooding and hushing that the sensitive, dear, little babies love so well and appreciate so fully.

We are not resurrected Spartan mothers, though I judge the press is trying to incorporate some of their steel-blue blood into our veins.

"Perplexed mother," in the name of common sense, common humanity and motherly love, why not brood that baby boy to sleep! Can it now or ever harm him to be warmly snuggled in your arms while he falls asleep with a happy smile on his sweet face, because mamma is holding him close?

Do you grudge the time that it takes not having baby go to sleep alone! Then the dear, little fellow has come to the wrong home, for what task is there that cannot wait till baby is made comfortable! I can think of none.

"Baby, first, always." Pin it over the bread board, the ironing table, the sewing machine, the mending basket, the street door and your hoard of crewels and embroideries.

Baby came, but baby didn't come to be turned off like a cold blooded little frog to whom its slimy, icy backed and belled mother refuses to give suckle.

You and I have seen many pictures of our Lord and Saviour when an infant, with his mother, but I can think of none in which the Holy Baby is represented as slugged one side to go to sleep alone while his mother with empty arms, strolls about the long, low cattle sheds.

No. The Holy Child to which the nations of all ages of all the earth shall bow, is pictured lying in his mother's arms while she lovingly caresses him as is our right and blessed privilege to hold and pet our babies when we can.

"When we can." Ah! there is a dreary note to that. Such a little, little time that these babies of ours will care for our laps and arms, and, maybe, for our kisses. All too soon they will outgrow our loving care, or mind whether we sit by their bedsides or not.

Then while we may, why not make them happy with good-night rocks and lullabys and close clasping to the heart that would die for them and may break for them!

We should not be sorry for the time thus given if some dreary day the sods should be heaped betwixt us and the precious, little form that loved so well to nestle in our arms. Would it not grieve us to remember again and again we had put the cinging, timid, little one off alone to go to sleep, while we thus gained tear-bought time!

I think "perplexed mother" would lay her cheek, that her baby boy used to reach out his arms to pat, and fold her empty hands over the cold clods and wish, oh so intensely, that she might again have opportunity to clasp her warm, nestling, loving little boy in her arms and rock him to sleep.

HELEN AYRE.

88 BOLTON TERRACE, BALTIMORE, Oct. 11, '85.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—"Many times and oft," dear Mrs. Knapp, have I been on the point of writing you, expressing thorough appreciation of your little gem (the JOURNAL) and gratitude for the many ideas received from it, but my health is wretched in the extreme, and within the few months I have been so fortunate as to make acquaintance with your paper, have not only had repeated spells of illness, but was so unfortunate as to be subjected to a fire in the house in which we boarded, so entirely demolishing our "household gods" and rendering the house so uninhabitable as to necessitate a move, and as we furnished our own apartments, much shopping and many steps followed in the wake of our fitting. This so completely prostrated me as to frustrate my hope of increasing your subscribers by visiting our friends on their return to the city, and by loaning my JOURNALS to each by turns induce them to give it a place amongst their home treasures. This I hope to do later, and in the meantime may I give a few hints to the mother who asks for such in training her little one. As the mother of a large family who when her children were but mites was frequently congratulated upon their courteous bearing, perfect table manners, and unquestioning obedience, I feel that I may do so without vanity, especially as whatever pride may have accrued from repeated felicitations has been purged in waters of affliction so deep that at times it seemed as if they must overwhelm in their course. My little ones, reared in luxury, have borne the "heat and burden of the day" battling with poverty, changed position and transfer to a strange home in a strange land, and the comment to day which causes my heart to pulse with pride is one oft made—"How very rare to see an entire family so devoted to each other." Believe me, I am not writing this in any spirit of egotism, but only that I believe much of this devotio to each other has arisen from their being taught from infancy to respect the rights of others, and that courtesy is a command of Holy Writ. My advice to all mothers is—make fewest possible points with children but a command issued must be obeyed. Teach your babies courtesy to each other; let the brother put on manliness with his first pants; rising to open the door for his mother and sisters, giving them choicest seats, etc., etc. Let sisters repay such attentions by vying with each other in pleasant little surprises etc., for true politeness as a habit soon grows into a principle and affection grows with it. Affection, good measure, pressed down and running over never spoiled any child. Join in your childrens pastimes and occupations, let them see that all that interests them, more than engages your attention, that it occupies your heart as well, and mamma will be their prime

confidant, and thus have a chance to turn aside all that is spurious and cultivate what is good. Don't be a raid to let your darlings feel when they must be punished, that the inflictor suffers (as she must, necessarily) more, than the one inflicted, that while she is firm as a rock where their good is concerned her heart bleeds at the necessity which they have caused. To grieve mamma will soon be the hardest of all hard punishments and the most wayward soon becomes useful.

Of morals and principles I say nothing here save a caution to heed the day of small things, and teach by example that it is necessary to be watchful, to be strictly truthful, and that due regard for others is part of your religion. I can only say that the plan hastily recommended here has carried me and mine so far, over the bridge of life. With faults numerous and evident I trust our principles will stand test and our affection has passed into a by-word.

Very truly, Mrs. V. L. WEST.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.] THE CHILDREN'S HAIR.

"It is actually wicked in you to crop the heads of your little girls so closely when every other child in the place wears her hair in crimp, pretty tresses as long as Mother Nature has granted them to grow since babyhood. Shingled hair is not stylish and your little girls thus disfigured look like bald-headed little monkeys."

Not a very complimentary or fitting remark to have whispered to oneself across intervening pew railings just as church services were about to commence; so I stared straight ahead up to the preacher and pretended not to hear the disparaging morsel that was wholly out of element to digest in the House of God, but I did hear, and what was worse, allowed the train of thoughts thus stirred to partially fill my thoughts through the service, else I should not have taken note of how every little girl's hair was dressed who sat within range of my eyes, and to acknowledge my whispering neighbor in the rear was right, for every little lassie present wore her hair in long, wavy locks, whether they be dark or light, thick or straggling, falling over her shoulders in a pretty, crinkled cloud, that even a very little girl soon learns to arch her neck and toss her head to set flying.

The most beautiful part of childhood is its simplicity, and is there a mother who would not teach her little girls to be and grow unaffected, honest, conscientious and pure?

Can long, switching crimps have anything to do with this? A keen country woman thinks so. She could tell you of little misses, not yet in their teens, who have lost all the artlessness and gracefulness of childhood in posing for effect and tossing their crimped and frizzled heads and shrugging their shoulders in silly attempts to call notice to their waving tresses.

So take a yankee woman's advice and save time by keeping the restless, round heads of your little girls—as well as your little boys—clipped short. Do it for the sake of cleanliness and health if for no other reason.

It is trying for both you and the child to semi-daily comb and thoroughly wash each week a head covered with long tresses, and the little people's scalps must be kept clean else dandruff, scurf and humor may result later in life.

I like cuticura soap best for this purpose, though one of our writer's advises the free use on the head of juniper tar soap, but I have not been able to find it.

As regular as the weekly bath, suds the little ones heads with some safe, healing soap—such as I know cuticura to be—thoroughly washing them clear of dandruff as well as dirt. With short cut hair you can do this and there will be no tears or outcries as must be the case with long, matted locks to brush smooth.

Keep your little girl's head clean and cool which is difficult, unless she wears her hair short, and she will thank you for it when childhood is past.

Constant clipping insures a thick growth of hair. How many ladies, before their toilet is completed, have but a few lonesome wisps of braids to cover the bare broadsides of their cranium!

Had their mothers been wiser and by occasional cutting thickened the growth of their hair when they were little children, no doubt they would be blessed with abundant, beautiful braids.

Through the heated term of the year we must keep the heads of our little people cool, and how can we do this if they are weighted and sweltered by long, thick mats of hair.

Some hot, August day lift the heavy, sweaty braids or curls of a little one thus hampered and note the fierce, furnace-like heat you will find in the back of the head and neck, just where that reason should teach every mother that coolness, especially in the hot months, is imperative.

Many a little one falls an easy victim to diseases of the brain because the mother is not reasonable in this matter.

For the sake of cleanliness, and health and comfort and future beauty, dress your little girls' heads with short hair.

JOHN'S WIFE.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.] THE KING OF BABYLAND

Babyland is a level floor; Its confines end at the nursery door; It is ruled by a monarch one year old, With eyes like blue-bells, hair like gold.

Never was monarch so glad and gay, For he rules by right divine alway; And this is a thing that is very rare, A king devoid of a single care.

His voice is sweeter than one can tell, And a faithful lover is he as well; At the door on the floor he takes his seat, And waits the coming of mamma's feet.

His robe of state is a creeping-dress, His sceptre a jumping-jack, I guess; His throne, a little red rocking-chair, And his crown is his bright and curling hair.

But see his majesty's drooping head,— The song is ended, the story read; The playthings drop from his tired hand— Good-night to the King of Babyland.

ELEANOR W. F. BATES.

Babies are usually "cross" not from a bad disposition or love of crying, but because they are sick, ill cared for, or uncomfortable.

You should read advertisements, even if only from curiosity a one, or you will miss a great deal of valuable information. Those found in these columns can be depended upon as truthful and trustworthy, and we hope our readers will form the habit of looking to our advertisers to supply their wants.

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YOUR BABY. The cause of more trouble in the world, respectfully requests you to subscribe, for his benefit, the only periodical in the world devoted to considering his health, comfort, and well being generally. It is edited by Dr. Leroy M. Yale and Markon Harrison, and may be had for a year by sending \$1.50 to A. H. HOBBS, 15 Prince St., New York. Single numbers, 15 cts. Examine a copy at any newsdealer's.

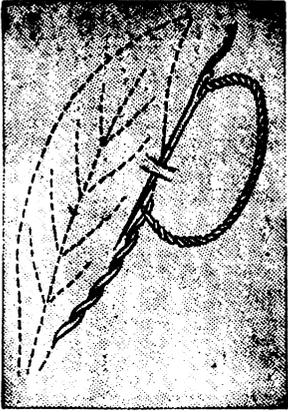
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DEPARTMENT OF ARTISTIC NEEDLEWORK.

THE KENSINGTON OUTLINE STITCH.

This is the fundamental stitch of Kensington needlework, which is most used in the embroidery of the day.



It is used for working designs in outline, either flowers, figures or pictures. This latter is sometimes called sketch embroidery.

KENSINGTON FILLING IN STITCH.

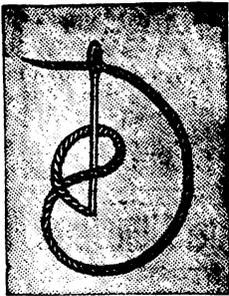
In filling in the leaves or petals of flowers, one or two rows of outline stitches are taken around the outside.



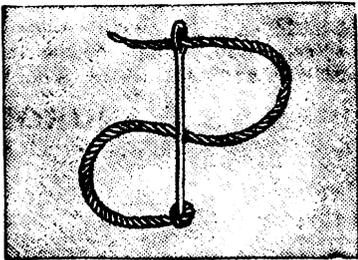
stitches may be taken like these two, but of irregular length; then take a stitch in the direction of the first one taken, but considerably longer, over which shorter stitches may be taken back to the outline, as shown in the accompanying cut.

THE FRENCH KNOT.

Art needlework can hardly be done without the use of the French knot. It is the best stitch that can be found to represent the centre of such flowers as daisies, roses, etc., and the pollen or anthers of many others.



To make the knot bring the needle up through the material at the spot where the knot is to be made, draw the thread tight, and hold it over one finger of the left hand;



PLUSH OR TUFTED STITCH.

This is simply couching fillosette on the material instead of working it through, and although claimed by some to be a new stitch and to have

been discovered by themselves, is really as old as the hills. To embroider with this stitch, first fill the petal with rather coarse French knots, using the proper colors; then take a single or double strand of fillosette, according to the size of the flower, bring the needle up half way through between the French knots; lay the floss at about one-quarter of an inch from the end, against the needle, holding it in position with the thumb, then draw the needle through and pass it down on the opposite side of the floss, at nearly the same place it was brought up; draw the stitch down tightly and clip the floss evenly with the scissors and it will stand up straight and velvety. Repeat these stitches, placing them quite near together, until the design is completed. This stitch is especially adapted for working such flowers as coxcomb, princess' feather, golden rod, love-lies-bleeding, etc. The effect is very striking, and with practice and a little knack the imitation of the flowers can be made very perfect.

HOW TO WORK A WILD ROSE.

The leaves and petals of this flower should be worked in the Kensington stitch, the stems in stem stitch, the centre of the flower and pollen with French knots, and the stamens with straight stitches. The materials with which the best effect is procured is Kensington floss, although very beautiful effects can be obtained by combining floss with English crewels. The rose is also one of the most popular flowers to represent in Rococo or ribbon embroidery, as each petal can be made with one piece of silk. The different shades of rose pink Surah silk make the best rose petals. In working roses in this way the leaves should be worked with araucaria, which will give a very beautiful and artistic effect.

The proper colors are as follows: Petals.—Pale pink 704, shaded down through rose pink 572 to rose 575, using four shades in all.

Stamens.—Light golden olive green 581, with French knots of medium maize 567 and 568, to represent the anthers or pollen.

Sepals and Young Leaves.—Three shades of bright olive green 683 to 688.

Older Leaves.—Three or four shades of bronze olive green 684 to 687, veined with darker shades.

Stems.—Bright olive green, slightly shaded with light pomegranate 680.

The above descriptions are taken from our book "Kensington Embroidery and the Colors of Flowers." Besides the above it gives descriptions of other stitches—Laid Embroidery, Stem Stitch, Bullion Stitch, Seed Stitch, Bird's-Eye Stitch, etc., and a description of seventy or more flowers, telling how to work, what materials to use, and what colors are needed for the petals, leaves, stamens, etc. This book will be sent for four subscribers, or for 35 cents.

Will some one please send directions for making novelty lace and oblige F. J. REHM.

MRS. CHAS. F. DECHNER will find crazy stitch illustrated in December number of L. H. J.

MRS. F. GRAHAM should try the star stitch for in ant sack, which is described in October number of JOURNAL.

MRS. D. H. wants directions for making skeleton leaves, also asks for best cement for sticking shells and metal ore.

DEAR EDITRESS:—Please ask "country girl" in October number what she cleans her perforated stamping pattern with, and oblige MRS. ANNIE CULLYMORE.

E. P. S., N. C.—The two firms you mention we do not recommend for square dealing. Partridge & Richardson, Phila., Pa., can supply you with all kinds of beads for fancy work.

MRS. J. H. BREWER.—If you will address your inquiries to Lida Clarkson, Pleasant Valley, Dutchess Co., N. Y., I think she will help you.—Ed.

H. G. TISDALE.—Our fancy work patterns are all tried and known to be correct, before inserting in our columns. Are you sure you understand the terms for crochet and knitting?—Ed.

EDITRESS L. H. J.—In reply to Eliza J. Curry in the Oct. No., please say that I knit torchon lace of No. 24 Coates' thread, for a white apron. For heavier cloth, No. 16 is about right, knit on rather coarse needles. AUNT RUTH.

ELIZA J. CURRY, LANSINGBURGH:—N. O. in directions for clover leaf edging means narrow, and throw thread over. Each row is finished without any stitches remaining. LILLIAN A. POOR.

SEBAGO, ME.

A SUBSCRIBER will find in our December number, books on knitting and crocheting, by Jennie June, offered for sale or as a premium for club. They will prove a help to you. We cannot recommend any firm offering to supply any work to be done in your home.—Ed.

MRS. H. N. PIERCE, OYSTER BAY, L. I.—If you will send us the patterns you mention we should be glad to give them to our readers. You will find desirable pattern for crocheted bed spread in December number of L. H. J., and several knitted patterns have been given in back numbers.

CHILD'S TABLE BIB.

A decided improvement in the old-fashioned bib for children, is made of a towel. It is better to have the towel all white, and work a fancy border in colored worsteds. Bind the neck with white tape, and cat stitch it with color. Do not get the towel too wide, or the bib will always be over the hands. Hollow out the neck before binding.

SEWING MACHINE COVER.

This design is ornamental as well as useful for protecting the machine from dust. Measure the length of your machine table, and cut your cloth or crash so it can hang over front and back. Line it or not, but it is preferable lined with baize, such as is used for the top of desks. Cut the two ends in deep vandykes, bind them with braid, which cover with a heavy cord, and finish each point, and between each point, with a tassel. Appliqued work on the cover is a pretty addition, and easily done.

TIDY IN RAILROAD KNITTING.

Cast up 23 stitches. 1st row. Knit plain. 2d row. Purl. Repeat these 2 rows twice, making 6 rows in all. 7th row. Purl. 8th row. Plain. Repeat the 7th and 8th rows twice. 12th row. Repeat from the 1st.

Continue in this manner 'til the strip is long enough, and bind off. In binding off, drop every 6th stitch entirely from the needle. When bound off unravel the dropped stitches the length of the strip. 5 strips of 2 colors, and narrow ribbon run through the open spaces formed by the unraveled stitches make a very pretty tidy. Scarlet and olive worsteds look well together. M.

FLUTED LACE WITH EDGE.

Cast on 22 stitches. Use No. 20 thread. 1st row. Knit 16, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2. 2d row. Knit 9, purl 11, leave 3 stitches on needle that you do not knit and turn and go back. 3d row. Knit 14, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2. 4th row. Knit 10, purl 11, knit 3. 5th row. Knit 18, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2. 6th row. Knit 11, purl 11, leave 3, turn and go back same as 2d row. 7th row. Purl 11, knit 5, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2. 8th row. Knit plain across. 9th row. Knit 3, purl 11, knit 6, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2. 10th row. Knit 24, leave 3, turn and go back. 11th row. Purl 11, knit 7, over, narrow, over, narrow, over, knit 2. 12th row. Slip and bind 6 stitches, knit the rest plain. 1st, 5th and 9th rows slip first stitch. EFFIE NORTH.

SHELL EDGE DIAMOND LACE.

32 stitches. 1st row. Slip 1, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 2, narrow, [over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow] repeat directions enclosed in the brackets, over, knit 2, over, knit 1.

2d row. Plain until only 3 remain on the needle, then over, narrow, knit 1. (33 stitches).

3d row. Slip 1, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, [over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow] repeat, over, knit 4, over, knit 1.

4th row. Like 2d.

5th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over, narrow, narrow, [over, knit 7, over, slip 1, narrow, pass the slipped stitch over] repeat, over, knit 6, over, knit 1.

6th row. Like 2d. (35 stitches).

7th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 2, [over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 3, narrow] repeat, over, narrow, knit 5, over, knit 1.

8th row. Like 2d.

9th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 3, [over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 5] repeat, over, narrow, knit 5, over, knit 1.

10th row. Like 2d. (37 stitches).

11th row. Slip 1, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 4, [over, slip 1, narrow, pass the slipped stitch over, over, knit 7] repeat, over, narrow; now, with the right hand needle pass the second stitch on the left hand needle over the first one; so continue until but one stitch remains on the needle; knit that.

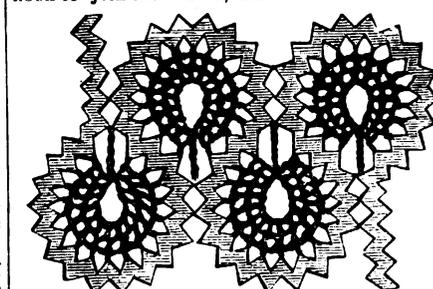
12th row. Like 2d. (32 stitches). MRS. A.

HANDSOME CROCHET RICK-RACK TRIMMING.

Use No. 17 rick-rack braid with a hole in the points, spool cotton No. 2, and a fine steel hook. 1st row. Put the hook in 4th point of braid, draw the thread through, chain 2, and put 1 double crochet in each of the next 16 points, making 17 points in all. Turn.

2d row. Chain 1, 1 double crochet in first loop made by chain 2, chain 1, and put 1 double crochet in each of the loops. Turn.

3d row. 1 double crochet in each loop through the row; then take the hook out of the stitch, put it through the first stitch of the row, draw the stitch you dropped, through the stitch on the hook to join the wheel; make a chain of 9, and

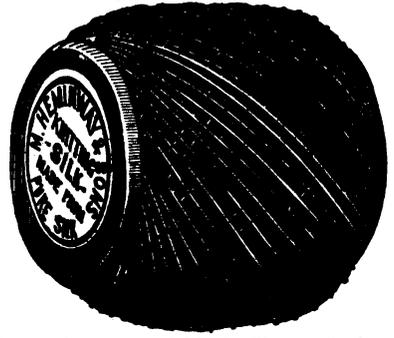


single crochet the 3d point from the end of braid where the work is begun, with the point opposite; chain 2, single crochet the second point with the one opposite, chain 2, single crochet the first point with the one opposite, make a chain of 16, put 1 single crochet in the 5th point on the outside edge of wheel, which comes opposite the 2d loop in first row, chain 2, and put 1 double crochet in the next 16 points of braid, making 17 in all. Turn, and repeat from the 2d row. The chain 9 and 16 must come on the same side of work, for the wrong side. There is no need to turn the work after finishing the 2d wheel. I have worked from these directions and hope others will be able to do the same. M. F. K.

DIRECTIONS FOR SUTRO TRIMMING.

(Feather edge) without thread. I insert the hook in the first loop, and in the ninth loop on the same side of the braid. Draw through the first loop, then insert the hook in the loop directly opposite, on the other side of the braid, and chain three, thus leaving seven loops on the scallop. Turn the scallop, count eight loops, insert the hook in the ninth, and continue as above. In making the edge to sew it by, insert the hook in the third loop, or the first of the three centre loops of the scallops, and draw the thread through. Pass the hook through the fourth loop, and draw the thread through, then draw the thread through both loops thus made. The same with the fifth loop. Chain three and crochet the centre loops of each scallop the same. Having given the directions as plainly as possible, I hope that no one will mistake them. I like your paper very much and wish that young women of my own age, would read such papers rather than the senseless novels they now read. L. F. B.

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FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. BRUSH STUDIES AND HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

NEW SERIES.

An Ebonized Panel with Plaque Design of Snow Scene and Holly—Hints upon Home Decoration—Interesting answers to Inquirers, etc., etc.

BY LIDA AND M. J. CLARESON.

Let us begin the New Year, dear reader, with wishes for your happiness and success, in every good and useful undertaking.

Certainly, to make home attractive and beautiful, is an object well worth our while; for the home exerts an influence over heart, and life, which cannot be overestimated.

Make home so bright, and cheery, that husband or children will love and enjoy it too well to resort to questionable places of amusement, or to seek their happiness outside the family circle.

We present our readers this month with a description of a panel which has been much admired as both novel and beautiful.

It is of ebonized wood, 10x20 inches, with a circle, or disk in the center, 8 inches in diameter, partly surrounded by holly, with its bright berries, which form a striking and pretty contrast to the polished black surface of the panel.

As we have had as yet, no studies in landscape painting, this may seem a difficult subject to some of our readers.

The design selected is, however, so comparatively easy, that few will experience any trouble in following the directions given below.

The simple but pleasing little snow scene may be painted in the following manner:

Lay a tea plate, or large saucer upon the center of your panel, and trace around it a perfect circle, which is then painted a dead white, and allowed to dry thoroughly before proceeding to sketch in the outline, which many can easily do with the brush. Any simple little winter scene may be used for a model. The one given in illustration will serve the purpose, and may be enlarged with very little difficulty.

Having sketched in the outlines with burnt sienna thinned with turpentine, we proceed to lay in the sky at the horizon back of mountain with a sunset tinge made by using silver white, burnt sienna, yellow ochre, and the least trifle ivory black.

Lay this on with bristle brush No. 4 or 5, letting it run more to the right, and fully to the top of circle, taking it over the entire sky save at the left. This will avoid leaving a harsh line where the sky tints meet. Afterwards the darker shade at the left is put in. This is a purplish gray tone, and is painted with white, ivory black, a very little permanent, or Antwerp blue, and madder lake.

The fleecy clouds are painted with the same colors as the horizon tint, adding more white for the high lights, and shading underneath with the gray tone. Lay the paint on heavily and do not smooth down afterward with the brush. For the distant mountain add to this gray tint, more white, and permanent blue, observing that the base of mountain is lighter than at the top. Remember that we are always to make different tints on the palette with the combinations of colors given, in order to produce the different effects necessary, instead of putting them on in one even, uniform tone.

The foliage in the distance, is a shade of cool, rather greenish gray, and is painted with white, a trifle Antwerp blue, yellow ochre, ivory black, and in small quantity madder lake; in the shadows using a little raw umber, with an occasional touch of white, and yellow ochre, to suggest snow.

The hills are lighter in tone than the foliage. Omit the madder lake, and add more white, and a trifle burnt sienna, for the nearer hill using still more white. The fence in the distance, is painted with white, ivory black, raw umber and burnt sienna. The nearer one is darker, for this add more raw umber. The distant fir trees are painted a purplish gray with white, a little permanent blue, madder lake and ivory black, and for the nearer trees which are a dark, dull green, with touches of brown and white, zinniber green, burnt sienna, Antwerp blue, yellow ochre, black and white, with raw umber in the shadows.

The old house, a dark reddish brown, is painted with silver white, ivory black, raw umber, burnt sienna and yellow ochre, with a trifle light red. The snow covered roof, with white, yellow ochre, a trifle each of burnt sienna, permanent blue, and ivory black, in the shadows adding more raw umber, and ivory black. The snow in the distance is darker in tone, shaded with raw umber, yellow ochre, and permanent blue. The lighter, brighter tone of the foreground is made with white, yellow ochre, a trifle black, permanent blue, and burnt sienna. The frozen stream at the right, is very much darker in tone. Paint this with white, Antwerp blue, raw umber, yellow ochre, burnt sienna, and ivory black. For the grasses in the immediate foreground, use white, yellow ochre, raw umber, a trifle ivory black, and burnt sienna. The figure with skirt of red, is painted with vermilion, and madder lake, toned with ivory black. The waist, cobalt, white, and ivory black. The hood, vermilion, ivory black and white. The holly which borders our little landscape, has been already described in a previous study, but I repeat it by special request.

lion and ivory black, shading with madder lake, and ivory black, with a touch of white, trifle vermilion, and madder lake, for the high lights. The stems, and branches with light red, ivory black, and raw umber.

It used to be the prevalent opinion that the decoration of home meant great expense, and that only those having ample means, could afford to gratify a taste in this direction. But of late people are beginning to learn that home may be made very attractive by the infinitesimal things that go to make up tasteful house furnishing.

We have seen homes of quite humble pretensions far pleasanter, than elegantly furnished apartments, where money had been lavishly expended, simply because there was a sense of fitness, and harmony about them.

We begin this series of papers upon household decoration, remembering that a large class of our readers are in humble, or limited circumstances, and with this in mind, we shall endeavor to show how home may be beautified, and improved, in numerous economical ways, while, at the same time, our aim will be to adapt our suggestions to all classes, and conditions of readers. Who does not glance back, almost with a shudder, at the old fashioned times of stiff, uninviting rooms, with cold, dead walls, horse hair furniture, with its stiff back chairs, and bare mantel, unrelieved by drapery, or other tasteful adornment? Who, in reviewing this picture, does not turn with a feeling of relief to the home of to-day, with its tasteful belongings, and pretty decorations? The desire to surround one's self with what is beautiful, is natural to a refined mind, and even the aesthetic craze, has not been without its healthful influences. Anything which has a tendency to make people better natured, and happier, is without doubt a benefit.

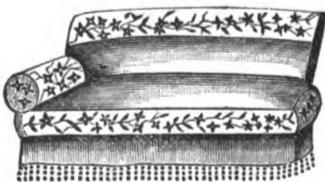


AN EBONIZED PANEL.

Some one has waggishly remarked that it is not at all surprising that our forefathers were guilty of atrocities and cruelties, when they were brought up to endure such tortures as could be inflicted by the furniture of even twenty years ago, as it served to deaden their sensibilities. Oh! the discomfort of those chair backs, and sofas, that might have been invented as instruments of torture. Speaking of the sofa, we would suggest one that is ornamental, and yet thoroughly comfortable, one too that our economical folk, can make at home, at a small cost. Free from curves and angles, it is easily upholstered, and there is scope for decoration, either with the brush, or needle.

Perhaps there may be in the possession of the family, one of those old fashioned heirlooms styled by our grandmothers, "settees." By removing one of the arms, and cutting off the legs, so as to lower it, you have a frame ready made, which will answer the purpose very well provided it is not built strictly upon the perpendicular principle, so dear to our ancestors. Of course the whole thing must be very generously stuffed and padded, until it assumes the appearance and comfort of a Turkish divan. A set of ordinary springs will further this object. It is necessary to cover first with some strong durable material, such as ticking, or coarse linen, before the outside is put on.

For an inexpensive covering there is nothing prettier than the cretonnes, which come in really artistic designs of flowers and foliage. The French manufacture is best for this purpose, the colors being brilliant and durable, and exquisite as to design and arrangement. If a more expensive covering is preferred, with decoration of Kensington painting or embroidery, a silk, or wool serge will be as handsome, and durable a fabric, as could be chosen. It comes double-fold purposely for upholstering purposes. A soft serge, of some deep, rich shade, decorated with bands of satin, or plush, as shown in illustration, gives a most charming effect. The decorative work may be done in either painting or embroidery, although the latter would doubtless prove the most durable of the two for this purpose.



HOME-MADE SOFA.

Have any of our readers in parlor, sitting-room or chamber, an unused fire-place? Where the cheerful grate fire ought to be, an ugly blank spot, which is an eyesore, and an unpleasant feature in an otherwise pretty room. Perhaps they do not know that this very annoyance may be converted into a bit of elegance, as attractive as it once was homely.

A board screen, with an arrangement of autumn leaves as shown in illustration, is very handsome and inexpensive.

Have a light wooden frame made to fit into the fire-place, and cover with cotton cloth for a foundation. Over this any material, to suit the individual taste, or pocket book, may be used: satin, sateen, silk, or worsted, or even silesia will

answer the purpose. Of course if rich material is chosen, the effect will be handsomer, but a cheap fabric looks better than one would naturally suppose. An ingenious friend describes a very handsome screen made in this manner. She first covered her board with rep, and fastened to it, a little to the right, a stuffed blue jay, and a bright red bird, she had once worn as trimming for a hat. Above these a bat, prepared by filling with cotton, previously soaked in alcohol. At the lower left hand corner, was added a bunch of grasses, tied with a bright ribbon. A more simple arrangement is to make a frame of the



DECORATED FIRE BOARD.

grasses, by sewing them all around your board, filling in the center space, with autumn leaves that have been waxed, or varnished, adding here and there a graceful bit of grass or fern. We give here an illustration of still another screen, for which autumn leaves may be used as decoration. For this design it is prettier to full on the covering of satin, or silesia, instead of covering plain as described above. This is done by tacking the material in pleats, at the back of the board, then drawing it over to the front, sewing firmly in place at the center, where the leaves, grasses, and ferns are arranged, with a tasteful bow of satin ribbon. Cat-tails, ferns and grasses can also be used thus in decoration with excellent effect, or instead a bunch of peacock feathers, with a band of same, top and bottom. Numberless are the ways of ornamenting these screens, and many others might be suggested equally pretty, if time and space permitted, but the remainder of our paper must be devoted to

ANSWERS TO INQUIRERS.

Miss K. H., Colorado, queried a long time ago about the Adoff process for painting upon silk, satin, etc. It is simply a medium to be used which it is claimed, renders the fabric so supple that it will not crack when made up into dresses, curtains, etc. It is also asserted that the colors when used with this medium, will not become dull by exposure to the air, but retain their brightness for years, and have the power of refracting the different tints of the material upon which they are painted, producing a novel and beautiful effect. This medium is sold by the bottle, price, \$1.00. We have never tested it personally, but as it is advertised by reliable dealers presume it is as represented.

Miss P. S., Colorado:—An ebru, or if that is too delicate, a sapphire, or old gold ground would be pretty for your screen, worked in lilac ribbosen and fillosette. It is difficult to tell why your painting looks dauby without seeing it. Perhaps with the apple blossoms for instance, you would have done better to let the first painting dry before putting in the shadows, or high lights.

Mrs. M. L., Ohio:—If your walls are hard finish, you will probably not require any preparation for the oil paints.

"East or West, Home's Best," is as good a hearth or home motto as you will find. "Home, Sweet Home" is also good, and "There's No Place like Home." "Sans Souci, Sans Invidia" — Without Care, Without Envy—is perhaps a little more modern, as is the single word "Bonhomie," the French term for human kindness, and warmth of heart. It is bonhomie that should grace every hearthstone, the brightness and warmth of brotherly love and sympathy. There are so many beautiful designs for home decoration that it is difficult to choose from them. If you wished your motto especially unique and striking you might make use of the old Scotch proverb

"O wad some power the giftie gie us, To see ourselves as ithers see us,"

and for decoration, paint above the words, three wise looking owls on a branch. If, however, floral decoration is preferred, the scarlet trumpet creeper is very bright and pretty, as also the Virginia creeper with autumnal tints. Holly, with its bright berries, so suggestive of Christmas cheer, makes an excellent hearth decoration. I trust some one of these hints will prove acceptable.

M. L. R.:—Zinc yellow is not an expensive paint. The cadmiums, Schoenfeld's are 35 cts. per tube. Geranium Lake is an unreliable color, and will fade. Use instead madder lake and vermilion.

M. E. W., Iowa:—"The Principles of Perspective," by George Trowbridge, is a work highly recommended. There is also a handbook of Windsor & Newton's on Elementary Perspective, by A. Penby, which is very good, and contains a great deal of information, for such a low-priced book. There is another handbook called "Guide to Light and Shade Drawing," which might be of service to you. If you send to Frost & Adams, who advertise in this journal, for their catalogue, you will find a list of many useful text books upon the subjects you have mentioned. Probably the French pastel paper, called the double elephant, is what you need for your work.

Mrs. H. R., Illinois:—Lustra painting may be done upon satin, silk, linen, velvet, plush or other material, although velvet is best adapted to the work. The different subjects you mention will all be treated in due season in these columns. It is impossible to go over so much ground in one, or two studies. Instead of pasteboard use academy board for painting in oil. It is inexpensive, and comes prepared for the purpose. For gilt letters, or edges, use what is called gold paint, which comes in the form of a powder, with a medium for mixing. Directions for use accompany each box. Sold by all dealers in artists' materials.

Miss L. T., Virginia, will find her request complied with in this paper.

We will continue to rent studies to subscribers to the JOURNAL, both flowers, or landscapes, and have ready for this month, model for ebonized panel described in this paper—snow scene and holly. Send stamp to address given below, for particulars. Premiums will be given as heretofore. For one full subscription, or club of six, a

handsome piece of iridescent or brocade painting. For club of twelve, piece suitable for a bracket valence, in Kensington and iridescent painting. For club of twenty, piece for good sized wall banner, in Lustra, very elegant.

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**THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL**  
 AND  
**PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER.**  
 A NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED FAMILY JOURNAL.  
 CONDUCTED BY MRS. LOUISA KNAPP.  
 Published Monthly at 441 Chestnut St.,  
 PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
**THE CURTIS PUBLISHING COMP'Y,**  
 Publishers.

Terms: 50 cents per year, 25 cents for six months. In clubs of four or more, only 23 cents per year. Advertising rates 50 cents per square line each insertion. Address: LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Renewals can be sent now, no matter when the subscription expires, and the time will be added to that to which the subscription is already entitled.

Notice is always sent of expiration of subscription. If not renewed it is immediately discontinued. No notice is required to stop the paper, and no bill will be sent for extra numbers.

Receipts.—The fact that you receive the paper is a proof that we have received your remittance correctly. If you do not receive the paper promptly, write us that we may see that your address is correct.

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.

Philadelphia, January, 1886.

**CURRENT NOTES.**

We cannot supply back numbers.

Our premium offers in previous issues are acceptable by us at any time.

Premiums advertised by us in Sept., Oct., or Dec. numbers, are available now.

We admire the mother who has the courage to refuse to have her little ones promiscuously kissed.

Do not attempt to bring up a family in a two thousand dollar style on a one thousand dollar income.

Most of the shadows that cross our pathway through life are caused by our standing in our own light.

About as foolish a thing as a person can do who suspects that the gas has been leaking in his room is to strike a match.

Do not speak flippantly before children, as they may meet the neighbor's children unexpectedly, and have a talk about it.

A woman has a right to expect, and demand, if need be, the purchase of labor saving contrivances for lightening her domestic work.

We make no distinction between old and new subscribers in our premium offers, neither does it matter to us how many different addresses there are in your clubs.

Do not quarrel in the presence of the children, but wait till they are gone to bed. Then they will not see you, and perhaps by that time you may not want to quarrel.

The most successful housekeepers are those who can rightly discriminate between the work that must be done to insure the health and happiness of their families, and that which is superfluous.

The following wise counsel was given by an old gentleman to his daughter: "Be sure my dear, you never marry a poor man; but remember, the poorest man in the world is one who has money and nothing else."

**WE ALL KNOW HER.**

Firm mother to boy—"Didn't I tell you that I'd whip you if you played in that water again, say?"

Boy—"Yessum."

Firm mother—"Then why did you do it?"

Boy—"Because I didn't believe you."

Firm mother—"Never mind, you shan't go down town with me when I go; see if you do?"

Shortly a terward the firm, mother and boy, go down town together.

**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 at one cent per pound, monthlies cannot be mailed to city subscribers for less than one cent each, except where the subscribers go the post office for their mail. We are, therefore, obliged to ask Philadelphia subscribers twelve cents extra for postage, unless the paper is addressed at the post-office to be called for, or to any P. O. box.

**HOW SHALL WE GET THAT 200,000?**

We know the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL is worth far more to practical housekeepers than it costs, and that if your neighbors could be INDUCED TO READ IT THREE MONTHS they would never rest content without it.

To get the JOURNAL introduced into thousands of new homes as speedily as possible, we offer to send it on trial three months for only 10 cents, and in other columns we offer some special strong inducements to the young folks to send us large lists of trial subscribers up to Feb. 1st. For the largest list sent in by a young lady we shall give a handsome Silk Dress. For the largest sent in by a young man we offer \$10 in cash. These are extra presents for the largest lists, in addition to the premiums offered for clubs. Premiums will be given to every club of 10 or more.

This month we look to our young friends to help us in bringing the JOURNAL to the personal notice of neighbors and friends, and the small sum of money asked for a trial, will make it an easy task to obtain a subscription from every woman to whom this paper is shown.

**SCRIBBLER'S LETTERS TO GUSTAVUS.**

NO. VI.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.

I am not possessed of untold wealth, Gustavus, but I would cheerfully have sacrificed five cents if you could have seen your own face last Sunday when Julia came in, looking so like a guy when she was ready to go to church. I am glad to see that you can bear a defeat like a man, though, Gustavus, and I promised Julia that I would write you an explanation as soon as I reached home again. I would have explained while I was there, but that I knew I should laugh so unmercifully that you would never forgive me. The way the whole thing happened is this. I received a letter from Julia a few days ago in which she writes: "You remember Miss Jones, Cousin Scribbler? Well, Gustavus said to me the other day, 'Why don't you get a bonnet like Miss Jones, Julia? I do think she dresses in the most exquisite taste I ever saw. I do wish when you get your next bonnet you'd buy one like hers. I wish you would dress like her.' I didn't say anything in reply, Cousin Scribbler, because a wicked idea entered my head that it would be a good notion to do it just once—if I dared, only I know Gustavus won't like it."

But I wrote, telling her to do it by all means and I'd bear her out. So she replied that if I'd be there on a visit when she came out in her new toggery, she would try the experiment. Then she went to Miss Jones, milliner, and ordered a bonnet, a fac simile of Miss Jones'. The milliner looked at her in amazement, and said: "But, my dear madame, you don't consider that Miss Jones is tall, and very dark and slender, while you are short and stout, and fair. It will not be becoming, it will look very, very bizarre." (I presume she chose this word instead of hideous, though hideous is what she meant, undoubtedly, if I am any judge of effect). But Julia stood her ground with a quiet smile, and received her bonnet and her bill. Then she went to the dressmaker, and the same performance was gone through with, including the bill. Then I came to the house, and Sunday morning, when she appeared looking as she knew she would, like a fright, I say your face was a sight. But that wasn't anything to your expression when, in reply to your question as to what on earth she had on now, she meekly answered "Clothes like Miss Jones', and here's the bill like Miss Jones', too." I think, Gustavus, if I were in your place, I'd pay that hundred dollars without a murmur, and consider that I'd bought a hundred dollars worth of experience cheap.

Now there are two things for you to reflect upon in future action. Miss Jones and your wife are very good friends, but they won't be if you are constantly holding Miss Jones up as a pattern, either in conduct or clothes. There is nothing more absolutely aggravating, and affection-destroying to man, woman or child, than to have some one particular person held up as a pattern forer, and if you want your little Bessie to be like any one else don't say to her, "Bessie, I wish you would act like Mary Smith," or, "walk like Susie Brown," unless you want her to learn to despise these two individuals, and resolve that if there are just two girls in the world she will aim not to copy they are the Misses Smith and Brown. This may be an ugly way to act, but is human nature, after all, clear through. Each human being likes to be an individual, and not a copy. Well—to return to the Miss Jones question—there is one thing more to be considered. When you recommend your wife to dress after the pattern of some one else, study the matter sufficiently before you speak to be sure first that your wife's complexion and figure will stand the apparel—and second, that your pocket book will stand the strain. For it is very unreasonable to ask your wife to dress after a certain pattern to please you, and expect her to pay for it out of her allowance. You evidently had not thought before you spoke, Gustavus, that Miss Jones' income was twice yours, and spent entirely on herself. Always think, Gustavus, before you speak. SCRIBBLER.

**HUSBANDS AND LOVERS.**

Many a woman sighs and weeps in secret because the husband of her youth has ceased to pay her the attentions of a lover. He coolly lets her pick up her own handkerchief, stalks stiffly out of the door before her, and lets her risk all sorts of disasters by clambering out of a double wagon unassisted. Now, we don't propose to excuse men for any such unpardonable lapses; but it is a fact that the majority of women cease to grow in attractiveness, or—to speak botanically,—cease to put forth new buds or promised loveliness to challenge their husband's perennial admiration; and the perverse creatures cease to cast admiring glances at the old plant which has dropped its blossoms. Do you see the remedy, neglected wife? Treat yourself as you treat your plants. You give them fresh air and sunshine, fresh soil and more room for the advancing roots to grow in; give yourself more opportunities and room for mental growth and the cultivation of personal graces. Maybe its too bad, but you can't blame a man much for not continuing to smile perpetually at the remembrance of honey tasted long ago. You must yield a present sweetness and a promise of plenty in the future.

Ability to be a perfect housekeeper, says Miss Parloa, is not conferred on every woman, but it is possible to be a good one without sacrificing all the other interests in life. While one is learning, to be sure, it may seem as if there were not many interests beyond the household, but after the art has been mastered there is a freedom and a sense of power worth all the struggles made. The care of the table generally makes itself felt more than anything else; and no matter how well conducted all the other departments may be, if this one be neglected discomfort and unhappiness will ensue. Cooking is a science, and for this reason girls are often more successful than their elders in culinary experiments, because they comply strictly with directions instead of guessing what quantities of ingredients to use in order to produce desired results. Experienced housekeepers might avoid much disappointment if they were always equally careful.

Is your sleeping room thoroughly ventilated? If not, it may be the cause of that tired and listless feeling you complain of every morning.

We have over one hundred thousand paid subscribers and expect to close our third year with two hundred thousand. Shall we have them? We shall, if you will but show the JOURNAL to your neighbors.

**CORRESPONDENCE.**

M. E. W., Box 295, Clay Centre, Kan.:—We have not the space to devote to exchanges.

Cora Woodward, 18th and Jefferson Sts., Phila., wishes directions for making paper pound lilies.

Box 144, Hillsboro Bridge, N. H., will do well to consult Mrs. F. A. Warner, E. Saginaw, Mich.

DEAR EDITRESS:—Will some one tell me how to remove grass stains from white cloth? KATE W.

Will M. H. W., who gives black radish remedy in October number of JOURNAL, please send her address to Addie E. Albee, St. Charles, Ill.

"Seeker After Paving Home Work" can obtain information on preparing pickles and preserves for the market by writing to E. E. Martin, Auburn, N. Y.

"Brownie":—In answer to your question how to mate a young female canary I will say you can not mate young or old in fall. If you want them to mate you must put them in cage together in spring, as all birds mate in the spring.

EDITRESS L. H. J.:—Will you please instruct me how to conduct a Japanese tea, and what kind of refreshment to have, and how to dress. Please tell me how to act out the Gipsy's Warning and what kind of costume to wear, and oblige FRANKIE.

DEAR EDITRESS:—Will you kindly inform me how to repair old rubbers, also to renovate oil paintings, and oblige A SUBSCRIBER.

[Perhaps some of our readers may be able to help a "subscriber," but we would advise an old worn out rubber to be replaced by a new one, as no advertised cement can be relied on for any length of time. Oil paintings defaced by time can be touched up by an artist, but if cracked can never be repaired. Always expose an oil painting to the light and air. It will wear better.—ED.]

"Kit Clover" in HOME JOURNAL, Sept.:—You inquired about bees. My mother and I have had some experience, this being our fourth year. We commenced with four colonies, have sold twenty-five, now have forty-eight. This year sold half a ton of honey—in the comb—one pound sections. We use a patent hive, which stands in one place the year round,—on its stand. Would suggest: Begin in winter, about February or March, with not less than two, nor more than six colonies, as you need experience to manipulate. We can recommend "A B C in Bee Culture," price one dollar, by A. J. Root, Medina, O., also "Gleanings in Bee Culture," by same author, and "American Bee Journal," by Newman, Chicago, Ill., "Apiculturist."

ELLCOTT CITY, Aug. 20th, 1885.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I have lately received the stamping outfit offered by the JOURNAL for 12 subscribers. Am pleased with it, and think it well worth the little trouble, but was disappointed when I tried to stamp a fine piece of dark cloth, it would not do at all, it stamps white goods beautifully; is there no other powder that will do for cloth, except the blue? I am an anxious reader of the L. H. J., and would love to correspond with some of the encouraging writers, through the JOURNAL. I love the correspondence page, I find it a great help. Am a young housekeeper, and have much to learn. Am getting up another club for this month.

**ANXIOUS READER.**

[If "Anxious Reader" will read again the instructions accompanying the stamping outfit she will see white powder is not recommended for dark goods, it is seldom satisfactory. The French indelible stamping should always be used for dark goods, and dark powder for light goods, and the instructions should be read over and over again so as to become familiar with every little detail.—ED.]

DEAR JOURNAL FRIENDS:—As the long winter evenings are approaching, and we are all anxious to amuse the young folks around the sitting-room table, allow me to make a suggestion that has been a source of much merriment in our home. Did you ever make a Pig Album? If not, try one this winter. If you do not "laugh and grow fat" you must be like the

"Wise men who laugh but rarely,  
 The reason I'll state fairly,  
 They think it unbecoming  
 To be found in any funning  
 So their laugh is very low."

Take a small autograph album, or cheaper still, (do as we did) make one yourself, by folding plain paper in the form of a book and fasten together two Christmas cards for a cover. Now pass it around and each draw a pig and write your name with your eyes shut. No peeking, as that spoils the fun. Don't forget to bring it out when the neighbors come in to spend the evening if you want to enjoy a hearty laugh. You will find your best artists are liable to put poor piggy eyes under his feet or on his back somewhere.

I would like to express my gratitude to the JOURNAL sisters—if words would suffice—for the friendly and generous manner in which they have responded to my favor for autumn leaves, in my attempt to collect a wreath, a leaf from each State and Territory. With permission of the editress I will tell you how I have arranged them as soon as I have a full representation. Mrs. W. H. THOMPSON.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—Have all who sent to me for patterns received them? If any one has not they will please drop me a postal and I will send them again, for occasionally a mistake will occur in the mail as well as anything else, and a package will miscarry. I am glad to learn so far every one seems pleased with the patterns. One lady writes me her little 8 year old daughter has pieced the "Road to California and Back," and several have made the Boot albums. It was little or no trouble to send the patterns, and no one need to almost apologize for sending for them, for you are welcome to them, or I would not have made you the offer. Only let me say no one should send to our editor for the patterns, as several have done, but send direct to me, as my address was certainly given plainly. The letters sent to the editor he forwarded to me, and of course it is annoying to him, besides paying another postage on your letters. Let me thank all for kind words, and good wishes, and especially those who gave me really valuable information regarding the various coral reefs in the southern coast of Florida. I have already received some lovely specimens of coral. I think specimen collecting very interesting. A few weeks ago I received from Washington Territory a nice package or box of Indian money, which is indeed a curiosity. The Indian money is a rare

sea shell, an inch or more in length, a little larger around than a large knitting needle, slightly bent, and hollow. The lady who sent me the money, says her husband was once an Indian trader, and he collected the money years ago, when with the Alaska Indians. The value of each piece to them was 4 cents. I have more than I care for of this Indian money, and anyone who wishes a piece, may have it and welcome, by sending a stamp for the postage. Mrs. F. A. WARNER, EAST SAGINAW, MICH.

WYANDOTTE, KAN., Oct. 29, '85.

DEAR EDITRESS:—You are quite right in my opinion in not thinking it advisable to curtail the stories. Ida Belle Discrens forgets that "variety is the spice of life," and what to her may seem "idle stories" is a source of entertainment and profit to others. Many of the subscribers must have growing daughters who are not "particularly interested in babies," neither are they versed in music nor painting, but they can draw wholesome lessons from such stories as "A Lark," "A Railroad Acquaintance," etc. A new subscriber, whose name I send you, is a young girl of sixteen or seventeen, whose first question when I told her of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL was, "Are there any stories in it?" The only fault that I can find with it is that by the time I have read every line—including advertisements, I am obliged to "take it up tenderly, lift it with care" else it will fall to pieces. Would it not be an improvement to have it in book form, such as Babyhood for Instance, or would the expense be such that the subscription would be raised in proportion? We also need more criticisms—taking it for granted that there is occasionally good grounds for such for we are all prone to err. Happily, we find more that is of real benefit to us and can oftener feel like exclaiming "Them's my sentiments" than otherwise.

By the way, I found the hint in regard to putting a little common soap with starch when starching shirts, etc., a most valuable one. The water must be warm as was formerly stated, and the irons will not stick.

Would it not be a good idea for us housekeepers to keep a small blank book and pencil hanging in our kitchen, so that when we have a happy thought, at least a helpful one, we can jot it down while the inspiration lasts, and when we have a batch of them—how else shall I express it, Ida Belle!—we can send them to the editress to be culled from according to her judgment.

Methinks I see her waste-basket now looming up in the distance, so I'll say good night. PENSE.

Oct. 18th, 1885.

Mrs. LOUISA KNAPP:—I see so many things in reading your paper that I would like to answer, and also when I read your paper and note other mothers' experiences I begin to count my faults and mistakes and then I think I am not fit to answer their queries.

I saw the question asked not long since, what are we going to do for good hired girls, and my answer is, make them. Teach your daughters to do housework well, and if they are obliged to earn their own living, let them go into a nice family where they can be respected and command respect. There are many girls that can't do this that work out, and those are the ones that disgust me; but if girls were more respected I think we would have more respectable servant girls. I am one of a family of six girls, and each one of us has been and are self-supporting. I was a seamstress and shirtmaker, and while going from one family to another for years I saw the trouble they were having with their kitchen help. Some times it was the fault of the girl and as often the fault of the mistress, for people that are brought up in wealth and idleness are very apt not to know when a thing is done right. I often think of a friend of mine whom I saw when I went home on a visit who had just buried her only child, and had very poor health then, and had always done her own work until sickness came. "I can't get well so long as I have to keep a girl, why, I have had eight girls in seven months, and there was only one of them that I would have kept, and she would not stay." I had to laugh to myself, and the more I saw of her, I saw she was particular to a fault, so I think if one has to keep help it is better not to be so particular, and try and save one's patience, for it makes a neat woman irritable to see things going hap-hazard. I am not very well myself just now, and have had two girls in seven months. The first was young and had some very good qualities, and I could have made a good girl of her, but she wanted to go to school this winter, so of course I had nothing to say. I have a sister of hers now, and I'm bound I'll keep her for fear of spoiling my own reputation, but my little girl (aged 11) says, "Oh, mamma, can't we do our own work some way?" So I say to mothers, let painting and fancy work go and teach your daughters to make good bread, sweep a floor clean, and iron your clothes so they are fit to wear, and you need not fear but they can get good husbands. I think that is one reason so many men are driven to dishonesty and drink, they get wives that won't bear up their end of the yoke and growl all the time because their husbands can't make more money and keep them in ease. If I lived in a city where I'd have so many advantages as the city affords, I think housework would be mere play. Where I live now, in a scattered settlement, I can hardly have a few washes done for love or money, girls are scarce and marry young, an over market of school teachers, and the consequence is, we are obliged to hire the horrid Chinamen in the house, so I've quit painting and fancy work and have learned to knit the children's stockings and do my own work. I said I was one of six girls who were self-supporting, and I will now tell you what each does. One is the housekeeper, one cashier in a large dry goods store, one is a burnisher in a silver-plating establishment, one is married and happy, and the youngest, who was ready to graduate, was taken sick and treated for spinal disease a year, and is now book-keeping. We had no brother. When I was married, I am ashamed to say, I could not make bread. I could make "pocketbook" biscuit, and nice lemon pies, and when a young gentleman took dinner or tea with us, I made these things, and I expect fooled many a one to think I could do everything in that line, but I married a man who knew something about cooking, and he was willing to take me as I was and teach me, and now I do pretty well, and the way I am going to make up for it is, teach my girls those necessary things first. My little girl, 11 years old, can make bread as good as I, and I think it tastes better. But don't think for a minute, it was my mother's fault, for it was not. I was proud and wanted something else than a neat calico dress, so went to work to earn it for myself and little sisters, so that is why I did not do housework. Mrs. AMANDA, CALLAHAN'S RANCH, SISKIYOU CO., CAL.

THE PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPER



DOMESTIC JOURNALISMS.

HINTS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS, CONTRIBUTED BY JOURNAL SISTERS.

E. B. F. will find recipe for cream puffs in December number.

Mrs. A. A.:—Better get a new dinner pot, least the old one mended part when you least want it should.

"Young Housekeeper" will find good recipe for cream puffs in December number of LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.—Ed.

DEAR EDITRESS:—If the sister will tightly stretch her stained table cloth over a hollow vessel, and pour boiling water over the spots they will soon disappear.

"Staff of Life."—Stand your bread on its side to dry off. Be sure also to keep it wrapped in a cloth inside the closed tin which holds the bread. Do you use some shortening while mixing your bread? Some brands of flour require more than others.

DEAR EDITRESS:—Please tell the readers of your household column that a nice way to clean a white straw hat, is to rub it with lemon juice. If the straw has become yellow, this restores the white color again, at least for a time.

MRS. IRA S. PATTERSON.

49 WILLOW ST., LOWELL, MASS.

EDITRESS OF LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I saw by the Sept. number that "Frank's Wife" would like to know how to get rid of ants. I have always found the Turkish Remedy successful in driving them away. It is found at either apothecary or grocery stores. It should be used about once a week.

EFFIE.

A HINT FROM "MOSSY."—To clean a burned place from a brass or copper kettle. Take enough lard and spread liberally over the burned spot, then put the kettle over the fire, and let it heat until the lard is well melted into the burn; now remove the kettle, and with a sharp, thin-bladed knife, the burn can all be removed in less time than it takes to tell it. If the first application of lard does not do the work completely give it another trial. Any of the sisters who have made jams and butters in brass or copper kettles, and have had the misfortune to burn them as I have, and then have had to tear their finger ends, and tear their patience and their nerves worse, to get that burnt spot eradicated, will appreciate this knowledge after one trial.

SURANTON, Sept., 1885.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—In the August number of the HOME JOURNAL, Mrs. M. Ella Turner wishes a recipe for taking ink spots out of baby's white dress. They can be removed with oxalic acid. Dissolve the acid in water. Wet the garment before applying it. Fill a small tin pail with boiling water, put the lid on and hold the ink spots tightly on the hot lid and apply the acid with your finger. It will remove the stain instantly. Wash it out immediately or if it should be very strong it will eat the goods. It will also remove rust spots. It will not do for colored goods as it will remove the color as well. I have kept it on hand and found use for it for over thirty years.

Yours respectfully, MRS. R. W. A.

EDITRESS LADIES' HOME JOURNAL:—I have read with much interest the article in your November number entitled "The Art of Good Dining." The chief art in this one article seems to be setting the table and serving. It occurs to me that the way recommended must be designed for those whose time is more unlimited than the time of most of us housekeepers. Why all this array of mats, cruet, and tiny dishes? Why burden the one hard-worked servant with so many trips to and fro between the dining-room and kitchen? For, even the Bridgets, and Gretchens, and Dinahs, are human, and ought to be spared all unnecessary travel over the hard way of servitude. No wonder our American girls disdain to enter our kitchens for a livelihood, when so much useless serving is required of them.

I grant that the table should be as clean as possible always. But scrupulously clean napery cannot be afforded in every family, even where a degree of gentility is aimed at. Clean napkins and a clean cloth at every meal would entail an interminable task on some one, for very few could afford napkins enough for such a custom. For, if the family consist of six persons, there must be, at least, one dozen and a-half used every day, necessitating a large supply, or an everyday washing and ironing; and, it is no small task to wash and iron well, eighteen napkins.

Granting, that all this serving and fastidiousness is done according to the mode furnished by the article referred to, of what practical use would it be? Would paterfamilias enjoy his dinner any better? Whimper: (Paterfamilias taken in the aggregate wouldn't give a snap for all this formality). If the food is well cooked and of good quality, that is about all the average paterfamilias cares about it.

"Its influence is elevating to the children." Certainly, here is a strong argument, and one that cannot be ignored. We all wish our children to have the advantage of refining influence. We would throw around them all the things that are good and true and beautiful. But it would be well to see that their culture is not merely the outward love for these things. We do not want them educated to that degree of refinement that

can see no good or true things except it be gilded and polished, and laid all over with the dross of modern improvement. If we strive, at meal time, to exert a spirit of cheerfulness and harmony, and joyfulness, our children and other members of the family will not notice if the table cloth and napkins are a little soiled, or the silverware tarnished, or the cutlery spotted. In after years when the daily meetings at the family table are recalled, it will not be the immaculate furnishings that will strengthen their young manhood or womanhood, but it will be the cheery talks, the flashes of wit, the joke or the lively conversation about public affairs, that will spring up before them; and they will see where their moral nature as well as their physical, gained its healthfulness and beauty.

I do not wish to be understood as depreciating a faultlessly set table, or the modern mode of serving the food. But, for the sake of tired housekeepers all over the land, for the sake of the mothers who would fain grasp at every idea that has a tendency to elevate and refine their children, I want to say: Have your table spread as neat and clean always as you can; but make it a rule, as unchangeable as the law of the Medes and Persians, that no dissensions, nor disputes, nor any worry whatever, shall be discussed at meal time. But lay by a fund of anecdote with which to entertain your family; or relate some fact or sentiment that you have picked up during the intervening time; or talk of public affairs, and you will have your reward in seeing your children grow up, ignorant in nothing but gossip, and with a keen sense of the good, the true and the beautiful, wherever it is found.

S. M. H.

(FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.)

A PLEA FOR THE WEAK ONES.

Nothing adds more to the sum of human happiness than a well ordered home. Every true woman is ambitious to have her household arrangements as near perfect in their way as her means and strength will permit. Yet how many can tell of various hindrances in their own experience, that prevent the full realization of this ideal completeness.

Limited means; inefficient servants; the constant strain of providing for a large family; but beyond all these, is not the hindrance more often that sense of physical weakness which so large a number of our countrywomen are obliged to confess!

The maid-of-all-work suddenly decides to "find fresh fields and pastures new." Her mistress has no such choice; necessity is laid upon her to make the best of the present surroundings. When the children have been prepared for school, the baby washed and hushed to rest, and the house put in order, the preparations for dinner are no light tax upon her strength.

Is she not entitled to every possible aid in such emergencies?

How many a frail mother has bowed her head in bitter sorrow at the thought of the coal and ashes to be handled, of the dinner to be ready for the return of the weary father and proverbially hungry children!

Where it is possible, let a gas or kerosene stove be in readiness for use on such occasions. The price will often be saved in doctor's bills as well as in personal comfort.

Some housekeepers find these alleviations are beyond their means. I have one other suggestion to make that is within the reach of all. This is an ordinary high stool. Rising from a low chair is itself a strain upon the weary body, while moving from the high seat will be but slightly felt. I know a delicate woman who considers her high stool more precious than her piano. I have seen her sitting at her gas stove preparing an ample dinner, which she was able cheerfully to share, and also to digest it, because the stool had saved her from the utter exhaustion which she would have felt, had she stood at the range.

I have seen her sitting at the ironing board with a smiling face, as the linen passed under her dainty fingers, smoothed and polished so well that "her husband was known in the gates," as one who was well cared for at home.

Never have a closet under the kitchen sink to gather vile odors and associations. Then the stool can be drawn up close, and with a table near, the washing of the dishes will be robbed of half its unpleasant weariness.

These precautions will often prove a valuable aid in preserving the cheerful serenity of the housemother in trying circumstances, adding to her comfort and to the happiness of all the family.

Have the stoves, if you can, sister housekeepers, but fail not to try the high stool.

JENNY WALLIS.

A nice way to serve sardines is to lay them on three-cornered pieces of nicely buttered toast, and garnish the dish with parsley.

To prevent a burn from leaving a scar a subscriber sends the following, to be used after removing the fire from the burn. Grate or scrape flat turnips, fry in fresh lard until quite brown, and strain into bottles or boxes kept air tight. Apply on linen cloths.

Home can be made comfortable and happy without fancy desserts, and it cannot be either comfortable or happy with meals and vegetables that are ill cooked, or with heavy bread and biscuit. Young housekeepers remember this.

Hot alum water is the best insect destroyer known. Put the alum into hot water, and let it boil till it is all dissolved; then apply the solution hot with a brush to all cracks, bedsteads, and other places where insects are found. Ants, bedbugs, roaches, and creeping things are killed by it, while there is no danger of poisoning the family or injuring property.

If your servant is too consequential or too ill-tempered to bear your oversight in the kitchen, and tact and kindness will not win her, dismiss her and try again. It may not be easy to find one who will bear watching and direction, but there are good dispositions among servants as elsewhere, and kindness and consideration will help you to carry your point. Take a share in the cooking yourself, and appear often in the kitchen. When you know certain dishes are to be made, be on the spot and yourself, check the lavish use which is so closely allied to wilful waste that the result is the same. You know that two or three eggs will make your pudding as well as five, that your cake is far more apt to be heavy with a heaped cup of butter than a scant one; you can judge just how much your family will eat, and can see that little is cooked to be left over, and the best of it cold or "hashed up"—that distressing form of bad diet. Only your authority can stop these leaks.—Good Housekeeping.

HOME COOKING.

ORIGINAL RECIPES CONTRIBUTED BY THE JOURNAL SISTERS.

SPONGE CAKE:—Whites of four eggs, 1/2 teaspoonful cream tartar, 1/2 cup of sugar, same of flour, one teaspoonful of lemon. This took the prize also. Mrs. A. E. W.

SALAD EGGS:—Arrange eggs the same way, only omit the chopped meat, and mix the yolk with a little salad dressing, and fill the eggs as before, and serve on lettuce leaves.

ICED APPLES:—Pare and core 12 juicy apples, fill with sugar mixed with a little nutmeg, bake until nearly done, cool, and remove fruit without breaking, into another dish; put icing on top and sides, first pouring off juice.

BANANA CREAM:—Remove skins from 5 large bananas, and pound with 5 oz. sugar. Beat 1/2 pt. cream to a stiff froth, add pounded fruit, and piece of lemon, mix well and add 1/2 oz. gelatine, previously dissolved in a little rich milk; gently whisk and mold; eat with cream.

HOW TO COOK POTATOES:—Wash them and put them in warm water to boil, when at the boiling point, turn off the water and pour in cold, and you will find even old potatoes mealy. I have tried this in the spring, and found the same potatoes nicer done this way. LOUISA.

ENGLISH PLUM PUDDING:—One pound of suet chopped fine, one pound of sugar, one pound of dry bread, grated, one pound of raisins, two currants, two teaspoonfuls of ginger, two nutmegs, half a pint of sweet milk, a pinch of salt. Beat well together, and steam five or six hours. Serve with rich sauce. Mrs. R. H. K.

FIRST PREMIUM WALNUT CAKE:—One cup of sugar, 1/2 cup of butter, 2 cups of flour, yolks of 3 eggs, white of 1 egg, 1 teaspoonful of soda dissolved in half a cup of milk, 2 teaspoonfuls of cream tartar. Bake in layers of three cakes. Beat the whites of the 2 eggs, 1 cup of sugar, 1 cup of chopped walnuts. Put the cake together with this. Mrs. A. E. W.

CROQUETS:—To one pt. chopped beef or veal, add 1/2 pt. cream, and 1 tablespoonful butter, (creamed) roll in about tablespoonful flour. Put all save meat into saucepan, season to taste and place over fire to thicken, when this is done pour over meat, mix thoroughly, and form into shape, roll in cracker dust and fry a nice brown, or if preferred, bake. Mrs. V. L. W.

MACAROONS:—Skin 1/2 lb. of almonds, pound them to a smooth paste, and add a teaspoonful of essence of lemon. Then add an equal weight of powdered sugar, and the whites of 2 eggs. Work the paste well together with the back of a spoon. Dip your hands in water and roll them in balls the size of a nutmeg, and lay on paper an inch apart. Then wet your hands and press them gently. Bake in cool oven 1/2 of an hour.

COFFEE JELLY:—Make a pint of clear strong coffee, dissolve half an ounce of gelatine in cold water enough to cover, then add to coffee and sweeten to taste. Pour the jelly through a strainer into a mold, which has been wet in cold water. Set in a cool place to harden, then turn from the mold and heap whipped cream around it, or eat with plain cream. It is best to make it a day before you wish to use it. This is very good. Mrs. R. H. K.

EGG BASKETS:—Boil eggs hard, cut neatly in half and extract the yolk, rub these to a paste with some melted butter, pepper and salt, and set aside. Chop very fine the meat of cold fowl ham or veal, and mix with the egg paste. Cut off a slice from the bottoms of the hollow whites of the eggs, to make them stand. Fill with the paste, arrange close together on a flat dish, and pour over them gravy heated boiling hot. For serving with cold meat omit the hot gravy, and serve on lettuce leaves.

GINGER POUND CAKE:—3 lbs. flour, 1 lb. butter, 1 pt. molasses, 1 1/2 lbs. sugar, 1 doz. eggs, 2 teaspoonfuls cream tartar, 1 of soda, 1/2 cup ground ginger. Cream butter and froth eggs lightly, to yolks of eggs add sugar, then butter and molasses, alternately add flour and white of eggs; having put cream tartar in flour, finally pour cup boiling water to dissolve soda, and add it; give a final beating, and bake at once in a moderate oven. Cream instead of milk is a great improvement, but the latter answers. V. L. W.

MOCK ROAST:—Take a round of beef, (cost from 15 to 25 cents) and sprinkle salt and pepper on it, after which roll it up and wind enough twine or coarse thread around to keep it in shape. Put a lump of butter or beef fat in a hot stew pan with one or two sliced onions. When the onions turn brown put in the meat, and turn from side to side until it has changed color, then pour on enough cold water to cover, but not to drown. When the water boils down add a little hot water, and thicken and season the gravy to taste. If put on to cook soon after breakfast, it will melt in your mouth by dinner time, and be equal in every respect to a half-dollar roast. Try, and report.

PRINCESS PUDDING:—One box of gelatine. Soak until dissolved in one pint of cold water, then add one pint boiling water, and one pint of wine, the juice of four lemons, and three large cups of sugar. Beat the whites of four eggs to a stiff froth, and stir in the jelly when it thickens. Pour in a large mould, (first wet with cold water) and set in a cool place. When hard turn from the mould, and serve with sauce made with the yolks of 4 eggs, 1 cup of sugar, and 1 teaspoonful of corn starch rubbed smooth with a small piece of butter. Rub well together, and add 1 pint of milk. Set in a basin of water and let boil, stirring all the time. When done, flavor with vanilla. Mrs. R. H. K.

WHAT SMALL WE HAVE FOR DESSERT?

is a question daily asked in thousands of homes. Messrs. Burnett & Co., 27 Central Street, Boston, Mass., will send you, on receipt of your address and five two-cent stamps, their book of "Household Receipts"—72 pages of choice receipts. It is a most satisfactory answer. Be sure you mention the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. This is important.

Put under the damask cloth upon the table a sub-cover of thick Canton flannel, if you cannot afford the heavier table felt sold for this purpose. Or an old blanket, darned, washed, and kept for this use only will answer the purpose. The upper cover will lie more smoothly, look like a much better quality of napery, and keep clean a third longer than spread over the bare table top.

If you have a good plain cook in your kitchen, value her at her just worth. Do not deny her an occasional compliment. Three times a day she comes to your aid, and helps to make you healthy and wise; and if, by chance, it is one of the family who does that plain cooking, as in our wholesome, homely land it is quite likely to be, honor her and admire her.

The Cheapest and the Best.



WHEAT BAKING POWDER.

PURE and WHOLESOME.

It contains no injurious ingredients. It leaves no deleterious substances in the bread as all pure grape Cream of Tartar and Alum powders do. It restores to the flour the highly important constituents rejected in the bran of the wheat. It makes a better and lighter biscuit than any other baking powder.

MARTIN KALBFLEISCH'S SONS, NEW YORK.

Advertisement for RIDGE'S FOOD FOR INFANTS AND INVALIDS, featuring a large stylized logo and descriptive text.

Dyspeptics and others not sick enough to be in bed, but just in that condition when nothing can be fully enjoyed, should adopt Ridge's Food as a daily diet. It will accomplish the desired result; namely, strength without taxing the digestive organs. In sickness Ridge's Food is invaluable. For table use, it is delicious for puddings, Custards, Blanc Mange, etc. No. 4 size cheapest for family use. Recipes accompany each can for table use. WOOLRICH & CO. on label.

Advertisement for CLUB ORDERS, featuring a logo with a crown and the text 'CLUB ORDERS'.

We have made a Specialty since 1877 of giving as Premiums to those who get up Clubs or purchase Tea and Coffee in large quantities, Dinner and Tea Sets, Gold Band Sets, Silverware, etc. Sets of all kinds from 30 to 75 cents per pound. We do a very large Tea and Coffee business, besides sending out from 50 to 50 CLUB ORDERS each day. SILVER-PLATED CASTORS as Premiums with 4, 5 and 10 orders. WHITE TEA SETS with 10 orders. DECORATED TEA SETS with 12. GOLD-BAND or MOSS-ROSE SETS of 44 pieces, or DINNER SETS of 112 pieces with 20 orders, and a HOST of other premiums. Send us postal and mention this publication, and we will send you 10 extra PINEAPPLE PREMIUM LIST. Freight charges average 75 cents per 100 lbs. GREAT LONDON TEA CO., 501 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

GRANULA

An incomparable Food. Ready for immediate use. Unequaled for children and invalids. A delicious diet. Unsurpassed for constipation and dyspepsia. Sold by Grocers. Box by mail, 45c. Our Home-Granula Co., DANVILLE, N. Y., Manufacturers.

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Used by the best manufacturers and mechanics in the world. Pullman Palace Car Co., Mason & Hamlin, Organ & Piano Co., &c. for all kinds of fine work. At the New Orleans Exposition, joints made with it endured a testing strain of over 1600 POUNDS TO A SQUARE INCH. "Strongest glue known." Rec'd TWO GOLD MEDALS. London, 1883. New Orleans, 1885. If your dealer does not keep it send his card and 10c. postage for sample can. FREE. RUSSIA CEMENT CO., Gloucester, Mass.

Advertisement for THE GREAT CHINA TEA CO, featuring a logo with a teapot and the text 'THE GREAT CHINA TEA CO'.

Give away as premiums to those forming clubs for the sale of their TEAS and COFFEES, Dinner, Tea and Toilet Sets, Silverware, Watches, etc. WHITE TEA SETS of 46 and 68 pieces with \$10 and \$12 orders. Decorated TEA SETS of 44 & 56 pieces with \$12 and \$15 orders. STEM-WINDING SWISS WATCHES with \$15 orders. GOLD BAND or Moss Rose Tea Sets of 44 pieces, or White Dinner Sets of 112 pieces, with \$20 orders. Send us your address and mention this paper; we will mail you our Club Book containing a complete Premium & Price List. THE GREAT CHINA TEA CO, 210 STATE ST., BOSTON, MASS.

Warranted Perfect.

Advertisement for The "Dunlap" Can Opener, featuring a logo of a can opener and the text 'The "Dunlap" Can Opener'.

[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.] MID-WINTER FASHIONS.

Comfortable Outside Garments—Skating Costumes—Walking Suits—Evening Toilettes—New Year's Robes—Odds and Ends for the Festival Season.

BY MRS. JAS. H. LAMBERT.

The most expensive and elegant wrap for the season of ice and snow is that of costly fur. In the past, fur wraps were in circular and sacque shape; then cloaks of fur were introduced, and now coverings of fur can be found in all the varied shapes and styles of the outside garments, made of other materials, in dolmans, coats, pelerines and jackets. Seal, sable, mink, beaver and astrachan, with long hair furs for trimmings, are popular; often two kinds of fur being used to construct a wrap. Seal plush is also much in demand, the rich garment finished with band of fur.

Young girls are wearing outside long coats or ulsters of heavy cloth, made in the same style as their brother's swell ulsters; then they are seen in all kinds of jackets in the most jaunty shapes imaginable, supplementing the suit of cloth, boucle, or of velveteen.

For ladies there are numbers of elegant shapes in wraps, such as dolmans, visites, cloaks and mantles, of plush, brocade, ottoman and cloth, exquisitely made, and finished with passementeries, embroideries, fringes, or on cloth, curious appliques, and borders in needlework.

Skating costumes are made very much as walking suits, with an additional wrap to put on after finishing skating, which is apt to make one rather warm. An inexpensive suit is made of Arcadia velveteen in seal brown, trimmed on lower edge of skirt with band of imitation seal plush. The basque is secured with bronze edged wooden buttons, and the outside jacket is bordered with band of seal plush, and closed with very large buttons matching those fastening the basque, only ten times larger. Such buttons cost 85 cts. a dozen small sizes, and \$3.00 for the large buttons per dozen.

Perhaps one of the most elegant skating costumes of this season is one of oak green velvet trimmed with leather trimming. The hat is also of velvet, with upstanding cluster of feathers placed high in front. Another skating hat, has the trimming placed at the back, the front coming down rather over the face, while the brim at the back is turned up, and secured to the crown under the elaborate trimming.

The winter walking suit is very stylish, and what is better it is decidedly comfortable. As it is generally made in rough cloth, the drapery is allowed to hang in folds, often than it is looped, such folds commencing at the waist line, instead of being the result of plaits at the sides. While some skirts are alike on both sides, the most stylish are entirely different, the one side being arranged in plaited fan, the other showing the long apron of the front drawn up, and secured under a clasp of bronze, wood, or silver. In such skirts the back drapery is gracefully and elaborately looped. The corsage is in basque shape, often pointed in front, cut square, or cut away, while the back is susceptible of two or three methods of arrangement, in coat tabs, folds, or in deep points. The great attraction in the walking suit, consists of the comfortable jacket, which is generally fitted to the form in the back, with rather deep basque or plaited skirt. The front is almost always loose, and secured with large ornamental buttons and buttonholes. Sometimes the front is fastened diagonally, with the large buttons put on close together, and again it is strapped across, two buttons being on either side, holding over piece in place.

A very stylish and inexpensive costume for visiting or church wear is made of Afghan Honespun in brown, shot with copper, and Arcadia velveteen. The underskirt of homespun is trimmed at the lower edge with a plaiting of the cloth, and the front width is of velveteen. Corsage of cloth, with velveteen vest. The outside garment of cloth is a shapely redingote, looped in the back, with half-fitting front pieces, finished on either side with revers decorated with wooden buttons.

A most convenient fashion for those who have partly worn or outgrown dresses, is that of using a distinct material for the basque, which should however be in some color that will not clash with the hue of the skirt. Contrasts are considered most popular, cardinal, or garnet waists being used with skirts of blue, or old gold. These basques may be of plush, velvet, or of velveteen, and as they require no trimming but the buttons, which should be handsome if the material is, they are really inexpensive, and are much in favor for both day and evening wear.

Many ladies who are not in mourning, wear black in preference to colors, knowing that handsome black material forms the most elegant dress, which can be worn appropriately upon a greater variety of occasions than can a costume in colors, no matter what its material may be. Such a costume in reliable goods will last a long time. The most noteworthy silk warp fabrics, in jet and blue black, are Priestley's dress goods, made of the best Australian wool, and fine fibre silk, each thread being perfect, and the weaving so carefully executed that the finer grades of Henrietta cloths and drap d'Almas are now included in the list of art fabrics. In Priestley's black goods, there are various grades and kinds in silk warp materials, and all wool goods, so that the demand for any kind, at any price, can be supplied by our leading merchants.

A rich dress of Priestley's Henrietta in blue black, is made with large plaits and intersects of fans around the lower portion of skirt. The front is of velvet bordered with revers of the Henrietta in superb satin lustre, embroidered with steel beads. Back drapery of Henrietta. Corsage with velvet vest, and revers of cloth embroidered with steel beads as on the skirt.

The evening dresses for this season are very pretty, although most of them are really inexpensive. Some of the most charming robes for New Year's receptions, and Christmas parties are made of very cheap materials. For instance, a lovely dress in p.e. blue, has skirt and corsage of satin which cost, at Sharpless Brothers, only 61 cents a yard, trimmed profusely with lace which cost only 25 cents a yard, the whole being finished with knots of velvet which cost \$1.00 a yard, and is in a rich shade of dark blue.

Elegant robes of velveteen are made with trained skirt, and the front, is often a perfect mass of some silk lace, put on generally over a foundation of satin. Cord de La Rienc is a corded velveteen which is now much used for suits, and evening dresses, either entire or for combinations. Neat and very pretty is a dress for a handsome

brunette, in a rich red surah, trimmed with velvet revers, cuffs, collar, and plastron of velvet in the same shade. The neck and sleeves are finished with frills of real point lace, and the ornaments worn with the toilette are of gold, set with pearls and rubies.

A most important consideration in perfect dressmaking is the fit of the corset, a support being required by most ladies, but that support should not in any sense detract from the comfort of the wearer, or should it retard perfect freedom and hence grace of action. In Ball's corsets special features have been introduced by which they are rendered entirely flexible, easy and well fitting. Coiled elastic wire springs in each side of a pair of corsets, cause the parts to adapt themselves to the figure of the wearer, and to gracefully respond to each movement of the body.

With the fashionable dress skirt the tournure or bustle becomes a necessity, to uphold the fullness that would otherwise drag and make the back incomplete. Some of the new bustles are of coiled wire, formed into sections, the one above another. Others consist of the cushion or pad of hair, made square, and put on under the wired portion of the dress skirt. Very fashionable ladies wear these bustles of hair, but they are decidedly uncomfortable and unhealthy.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Mrs. Thomas" and others.—The plainer you make up a dress of rich velvet the more elegant will be the result. Some superb dresses of black velvet are trimmed with handsome embroidered flounce, others have skirts with plaiting on lower edge, gracefully arranged back drapery and sash apron in front. Corsage pointed in front, coat back, neck and sleeves finished with frills of handsome lace.

"Careful Housekeeper."—Have sent price list of table linen. Thank you for calling attention to the error. Our copy read E. Bradford Clarke's prepared food would keep an indefinite length of time, in any climate. The word indifferent gives quite another meaning from that intended. As all such confections and choice foods cost one cent an ounce postage, it is cheaper to have a box sent, by express if you want over two pounds of the goods. Yes, you will like E. Bradford Clarke & Co.'s tea; it is very good. 66 cents will buy a pound, and pay postage, and you will find their tea at that price, really much better than you can buy elsewhere for \$1.00 a pound. Send money with order for tea, and also write for Festival Fancies in Food to E. Bradford Clarke & Co., Broad and Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.

"Country Customer."—Doubtless you can procure everything you want in dress for the bride as well as housefurnishing goods, by writing direct to Sharpless Brothers, Chestnut and Eighth Sts., Philadelphia, Pa., for they keep every article in fabrics, or ready-made garments a lady can possibly require. During the months of December and January goods are very much cheaper than they were in the fall, and even if you do not wish holiday gifts, it will be well for you to post yourself as to their prices, for any article or goods, purchased through the mail order department of Sharpless Brothers will be sent free of cost for transportation.

"Anxious Mother."—Velveteen will make a stylish suit for your young daughter, or a combination of plain serge and boucle will be pleasing. Get a felt hat, put a few folds of velvet around the crown and trim it high in front with knots and loops of velvet and ribbon intermixed with bright hued wings, or a tropical bird.

John Medina, of Boston, Mass., is fully prepared to send wigs, switches, and human hair goods of any description, to all parts of the U. S. upon receipt of order. We have personal knowledge of Mr. Medina, and can vouch for the integrity of all his business dealings, as well as the superior quality of his goods. This is the only house of the kind, coming to our notice, where the goods are sent for approval before being paid for. This is a great advantage, and one that should be made use of by all who may need anything in this line. Artificial hair made up in all the latest styles kept constantly on hand. All mail orders receive prompt and particular attention. See advertisement.

The abdominal supporter advertised by G. W. Flavell & Bro., of Phila., in another department of the JOURNAL, is one of the most perfect arrangements ever invented for the purpose. Made of fine silk elastic, and fitting the body perfectly, these supporters can be worn with ease by the weakest of persons, and great benefit will be derived from them. Persons of a corpulent tendency will find great comfort in their use. Sent by mail on receipt of price, and satisfaction guaranteed to the purchaser in every instance, when ordered directly from the manufacturers.

SHARPLESS BROTHERS, NOW OFFER

SPECIALTIES IN HOLIDAY PRESENTS. Choice Dress Fabrics in Silk, Woolen, Linen, and Cotton. Ready-made Garments, Wraps, Costumes, Dresses and Underwear, for Ladies, Misses, and Children. Furs, Shawls, Millinery and Shoes. Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods. Fancy Needlework materials,—Fancy Goods,—Toilette Accessories and Stationery,—Upholstery and House-Furnishing Goods.

Attractive Articles in all the Departments marked at Lowest Prices for the Holiday Trade. All goods purchased through the Mail Order Department of this House, during the Festival Season, and the year 1885, will be delivered in any part of the U. S., free of cost for transportation. Samples sent, estimates given, letters answered, and orders promptly executed. Correspondence solicited.

SHARPLESS BROTHERS, CHESTNUT AND EIGHTH STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA. Read article on "Mid-Winter Fashions" in this number of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.

WRITE FOR SAMPLES OF DRY GOODS GEO. H. C. NEAL & SON, Baltimore & Holiday Streets, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

RIBBONS BY THE POUND. New Lot, being manufacturer's remnants of every width and style in various lengths, suitable for patchwork, in packages of 1/4 and 1/2 pound at 25¢ a pound. Send Postal Note or P. O. Order, adding 10¢ for postage on each 1/2 pound. Money refunded if not satisfactory. R. & J. GILCHRIST, Winter St., Boston.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTEREST TO LOVERS OF ART NEEDLEWORK!

The BRAINERD & ARMSTRONG CO. wish to announce having made most remarkable discoveries in the Art of Dyeing, enabling us to dye Etching or Outline Silk (also Knitting Silk), so it will stand severe washing in hot water with any soap. Heretofore, a few colors could be produced with old fashioned dyes that would stand rinsing in lukewarm water with Castile soap, and one manufacturer in Europe, has produced some colors that would stand a mild washing with similar care. Our NEW WASH SILK will stand boiling water from 3 to 5 minutes, without injury, while no other line of colors, either imported or domestic, can stand this test without the color being destroyed or the fabric ruined. Pinks are the only tints we cannot fully guarantee; but even these will stand mild washing.

This discovery will enable ladies to embroider wash tidies, napkins, and linens of all kinds. The secret of these Asiatic Dyes is known only to ourselves, and is so recent a discovery that comparatively few stores yet have the goods, and we would like to correspond with some one in each place, relative to the Agency of this silk. Meantime, ladies who cannot get our silk at the stores, may send us a Postal Note or Stamps, for such colors as they wish, and we will have the order filled promptly by some responsible house. Each skein is large, double-sized, tagged with our name, and warranted to STAND WASHING IN ANY WATER WITH ANY SOAP! Price, 5 cents per skein.

THE BRAINERD & ARMSTRONG CO., 621 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

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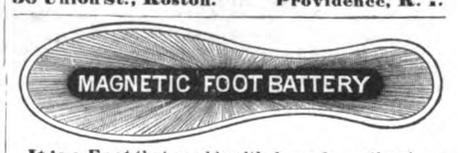
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[FOR THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL.]  
MUSICAL STUDIES.

NO. XI.

BY MARGARET B. HARVEY.

Am I going too fast for you? I hope not. If you expect to become a good performer, you must look forward and see the target at which to aim. And, to be a good performer, you must stick steadily at scales and exercises.

Following is the fingering for the common chord of C, in three positions, C, E, G, thumb, first and second, in treble; E, G, C, thumb, first and third; G, C, E, thumb, first and third; C, with fourth finger in base. If the common chord be struck in the base, the fingering for the left hand, of course, is as follows: C, E, G, fourth, second, first; G, C, E, fourth, second, first. From the foregoing may be deduced the fingering for chords in all keys—of which more hereafter.

Arpeggios are simply broken chords, or the notes of a chord following each other in order, like the notes of a scale. The fingering for any arpeggio is the same as for the chord. An arpeggio is sometimes written out, a running series of notes, or it is sometimes in the form of a chord, with an upright wavy line beside it. Arpeggios should be faithfully practiced, as they are among the most brilliant ornaments of advanced playing, giving what is known as a scintillant, or sparkling effect. Those puzzling, meteoric showers of notes, spread before you in black and white, will soon lose their repulsiveness, if you recognize in them simply disguised chords, with familiar fingering.

The never-to-be-neglected scales—for scales, unlike embroidery, when once done, do not "stay done," but are if ever "done" at all, as evanescent as watery vapor—the little exercises, the common chords and arpeggios, will still continue to tax your powers, for weeks. But, sooner or later, you must have a set of Piano Studies, and again I recommend the first book of Kohler's, which comes in the form of sheet-music. This will give you modifications of scale-practice, arpeggios and chords. The little preface should be carefully read and obeyed.

Suppose you have the set of Exercises mentioned—Etudes, they are sometimes called, which is only the French word for Studies. Open the book at the first study, and try and follow me while I take up any point which may need explanation. Probably the first question that you would ask is, "What does Op. 50, after the author's name mean?" That is a more important question than you probably think for. Op. is an abbreviation of the Latin word opus, meaning, a work; Op. 50, then, denotes Kohler's 50th production. It is customary to order valuable or foreign, in fact, any meritorious compositions, by the number of the opus rather than the name, for the reason that one work may have several names, some of which are scarcely known by English equivalents, or it may have no distinct title. You are already aware that we have a very beautiful, popular composition, called Heimweh, but perhaps you do not know that this German word means, Homesick, or, still better, Longing for Home; you have heard, possibly, of Mozart's Fifth Sonata, or Twelfth Mass. If you knew the number of the opus of any of these works, you need never be confused by names or numerals in the titles. Sometimes an opus includes one or more parts—in the present case, Kohler's Op. 50 comprises Book 1 and 2, of Etudes. It is well to remember this, as very often one part of an opus depends upon, or interprets another.

The copy of Kohler's first book, now lying before me, is marked according to the American system of fingering, "the thumb denoted by a cross, the other fingers by the figures 1, 2, 3, 4. But there is another system, known as the German, or foreign. In this, the thumb is denoted by the figure 1, the other fingers in order, the little finger being marked 5. It is best to familiarize yourself with both, as soon as possible, for you will continually meet with both throughout your practice; if you are not careful you will often find yourself hopelessly confused over your third and fourth fingers.

Immediately under the first note is the italic letter p. This is called a mark of expression; and if you glance through the following pages, you will find other letters, or abbreviated words, which are classed under the same head. They are all initials, or abbreviations, of certain foreign words, denoting the manner of playing, and are intended to suggest to the performer much that cannot strictly be represented by notes.

The abbreviations in the Studies in hand are as follows: p, cres, f, dim, mf, pp, and smorz. These, except the last, are in very common use.

The first means piano, soft; cres, or crescendo, is, increase in loudness, or power; f, or forte, loud; dim, or diminuendo, diminish in loudness,—for this is sometimes substituted decrescendo, the opposite of crescendo; mf, or mezzo-forte, medium loud; pp, pianissimo, very soft; smorz, or smorzando, diminish in tone. A few others, as ff, fortissimo, very loud; mp, mezzo-piano, medium soft; allegro, quick; allegretto, less quick; andante, slow; dolce, sweet; presto, very fast; adagio, very slow; and legato, smooth, are also constantly employed. But the great majority of such terms, any one of which you may not meet with for months at a time, had better be learned from a musical vocabulary, such as may be found at the end of any ordinary instruction book. You may guess very closely at the meaning of some of the French and Italian words, from their resemblance to English ones.

From the foregoing, you see that with all their care, with all their attempts to express their ideas in musical characters, composers, after all, cannot tell you just how to play—you must find that out for yourself. They can give you notes and rests; they can arrange chords, arpeggios, and passages more or less beautiful or complicated; they can even approximately tell you, by figures denoting the tempo, or time, whether to play rapidly or slowly—but, in music, as everywhere else, every one must bear his own burden, spite of all aids. See whether, in learning these simple exercises, you can increase and diminish at will, and alternate soft with loud, and so give expression—that is, make these preliminary studies sound as different from mere mechanical performances as the tones of the human voice do from the ridiculous squeaks of a talking machine. If you can do this, in rendering studies, probably you can do the same when you play sonatas. Perhaps you remember that in my tenth article, I advised you to stick closely to the notes of a composition—now, perhaps you begin to see that you have quite enough to do in your performance, and quite sufficient opportunity to express your individuality, without taking a single liberty with a written note.

Expression is still further indicated by characters, some of which however, correspond to words among those given above. Thus, the two lines, forming an acute angle, as seen in the second bar

of the first study, denotes diminuendo; when the acute angle is turned toward the left, or beginning of a composition, it becomes crescendo; a curved line connecting two or more notes on different degrees, is sometimes called a slur, and corresponds to the term legato, denoting a smooth, connected style of playing. When the curved line connects notes on the same degree, it is called a tie, and denotes a continuous sound, as one note. All of these are found in Kohler's studies.

Is expression possible in exercises, which are merely technical? I hear some one ask in surprise. That reminds me—a correspondent criticizes me, in the November number, saying that I waste time in noticing what critics (musical) say. I will notice this critic (literary), and answer that, in my experience, I have found it to be the very hardest thing in the world, not to notice critics (of all kinds, particularly, musical.) I know all the difficulties of beginners—I know, also, that "the books" do not show the easiest ways out of the difficulties—and as adverse criticism does more to discourage than anything else could, I want to warn my pupils what to expect, and fortify them against it. The word expression prepares us for another stumbling-block ahead. You will hear a great deal about it,—people will tell you that they don't care to hear amateurs play, for amateurs play without expression, and they want expression, or nothing,—Miss So-and-So played correctly, but with no expression, and the like. Now, suppose you turn around, and bluntly ask the ubiquitous critic, What is expression? Can he tell you? If he does, let me know what he says—but I am scarce afraid to say he's "stuck," like the man who always liked his mother's pies better than his wife's, and was eating his wife's, all the time.

Do I know what expression is? No, I don't,—for the simple reason that I do not know what a human soul is. I should as soon attempt to paint the wind, as express all the wonderful, mysterious phases of the human soul. But music does attempt this daring, almost impious task,—and never succeeds. Simply because a human soul is its Creator's own secret, in which not even the soul itself can share. Some define music as an imperfect language—but it is not. We, who attempt to interpret it, are imperfect—it is a language which deals with our half-veiled, scarce-awakened, spiritual natures, and we never can fully understand it, until our higher capacities are opened, which will never be, in this world. Nobody knows what expression is, except in a very limited sense. But, as we use the term, it means, something expressed. And, just so far as any musical composition expresses something to you, just so far as it is played with expression. If it expresses nothing, that may mean, either that the player feels nothing of what he is trying to play, or that the listener may be compared to a sight-seer who vision is obscured by colored glasses, transmitting only one ray, red or green. The difficulty is generally in the glasses, which are often so darkened with dust and smoke as to shut out the light altogether.

Expression is not a thing of itself, any more than color is. Color is nothing without light—it dwells in light, it is the offspring of light, it dies with the light. But color is as real in a single ray as it is in the whole splendor of sunset. So, I think expression just as possible in a scale, as in a sublime mass. You may run your simple exercises, as if you loved to listen to their clear tones; as if you were glad to feel that you were daily making progress in your fascinating pursuit—and some sympathetic listener may hear and understand your pleasure just as instinctively as he would that of the birds. Just how your fingers can carry your joy from your heart and brain, and make the inanimate ivory and wire speak it out, we do not know,—but, after all, we know nothing. Keep your heart pure, your aims high, your sympathies warm, your instincts true—you can so train your soul, even if you do not know what your soul is—and you can, sooner or later, play with expression. But the test of that state of felicity is not, Did somebody think it perfect!—for, if somebody did, somebody ought to have known that nobody ever does play to perfection—but, Did it do another human soul any good?

Could I get all that out of Kohler's first book? Yes, and you can get fifty times more than that. Two more points, and I am done. Near the bottom of the page, in exercise 8, you see two little notes, before a larger note. These are called grace notes, or ornamental notes, thrown in for variety. They are played with the first and second notes of the base, and the large note is shortened in consequence. You will often meet with grace notes, in several forms. These are generally played quick, and sometimes not in strict time. Groups of grace notes need not frighten you, as they are generally arpeggios, or trills, of the same order as some of the exercises that you have already learned. In the 10th exercise, in the next to the last bar, you see a note marked with both first finger and thumb. It means, strike with the first finger, then slip the thumb on it, without raising the key. This is a device often resorted to, in fingering, to enable one to make long stretches.

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C. F. ORBEN, NORCATUR, KAN.—You are altogether in error, as even a superficial reading of my past letters will convince you. Do you not remember when I spoke of long leaps and short leaps, from one note to another, the long leaps being whole tones, the short, half-tones, or semitones? Tone, in popular language, means sound; but, in musical language, it means, distance between sounds. From mi to fa, or from si to do, in a major scale, is a short leap, or the distance of one semi-tone; between the other notes are long leaps, or the distances of one tone. The quality of sound in any note, has nothing to do with the position of the leaps, or tones.

The scale of C is called by all musicians, high or low, the natural scale, not because it is unnatural to sing in any other scale, but because other scales are formed artificially from it, by the use of sharps or flats. C is written without sharps or flats, because the half tones come naturally between the third and fourth and seven and eighth notes of the scale. The scale of C is generally considered to represent the 7 (or 8) sounds of the human voice, as they would naturally be uttered, with no other guide than musical instinct; and other scales are imitations of this.

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MILDRED'S CLASS IN ENGLISH CONVERSATION.

NO. III.

BY MRS. EMMA C. HEWITT.



ACCORDING to Philippa Roland's elegant method of expression, it was "Sara Tasker's turn to catch it, this week."

There was upon Sara's face an expression hardly comprehended by the girls, so indefinite was it. There was a certain lack of anxiety that hardly seemed in accordance with the fact that she was the one "to be reduced to shreds."

"My dear Miss Tasker," read Sara, "Your little note, though it contained nothing but three questions couched in the fewest possible words" (an enlightened 'O-o-oh' in a chorus from the girls here interrupted the reading, with an "O Sara! Sly Sara!" from Philippa) "gives me" went on Sara with a crimson face, as soon as she could collect sufficient nerve to proceed, "nevertheless, sub-

ject matter for quite a long sermon, longer perhaps than you will care to hear.

"First then, my dear child, your question in regard to the newspapers made me laugh. Let me tell you for your own enlightenment, that for poor grammar and still worse rhetoric, newspapers are proverbial. This is due to many causes perhaps, but the chief one is hurry—hurry to get the latest news—hurry to put out the earliest paper—mistakes are made and there is no time to correct them or to even notice them. To weekly or monthly publications it is possible to devote more time, making them much more dependable. It is not well however to pin one's faith to any of them, as errors are always liable to occur, if only those which are typographical.

Second, "Is slang permissible?—newspapers use it."

"That is a rather hard question to answer. I will take your argument first. Yes, newspapers do use it, but perhaps those who write for the newspapers do not always mean it so. Perhaps some of them were abused as I was once myself. My sentence read 'to grow old gracefully is a great art;' when published it read 'to grow old gracefully is a great act' which is decidedly slang. I did not blame the paper, for no doubt my writing was hard to read, but, still, it is an argument against using slang because some of the best papers put it forth. In these days when slang seems almost universal it is almost impossible to avoid it, and often that, which is the most innocent expression in one section of the country, may have, in another section, developed into slang, from frequent and over use. Very often, too, there are expressions which may perhaps be called slang, if strictly classed, that, being perfectly innocent in themselves and containing no suggestion of coarseness, are perfectly admissible as expressing, in a word or two, that which it would take many to express in any other way. But I would advise you to be extremely careful in your use of this poison, so dangerous to good conversation. Like many another poison, in infinitesimal quantities it is harmless, but woe be unto the one who uses a shade too much. Being a dangerous ingredient I would advise you not to use it, if there be any possibility of your becoming intoxicated with its use.

Third, "Has pronunciation anything to do with good conversation?"

"Ah, now you have hit me on a topic that I have rather wanted to ask you about before but have not found a fitting occasion. Yes, it has a great deal to do with it. And as I cannot hope to go into an exhaustive treatise upon the subject just here, I am going to ask you a question or two which you can answer among yourselves, (you need not account to me) and then I shall give you a list of a few of the words most commonly mispronounced. If these be among your faults you can then correct them more easily, having thus had them brought to your notice. Are you, then, careful not to run your words together, speak rapidly, and protrude your tongue at every available pause, drawing your breath audibly; with an 'and-a' inserted every few words? This is one of the worst and most frequent bad habits to which young girls are subject." Philippa blushed and laughed, remarking, "She hit me square that time."

"Girls," asked Mildred in a purely argumentative tone, "would you think 'hit mesquare' was to be classed with slang or not?"

Fourth, "Do you pronounce all your 'ow's' as if they were 'wh's'. Do you say winduh, and sorruh, and to-morrh, etc., instead of window, sorrow, and to-morrow? Because if you do, though you are wrong, you do that which many another does, much to the detriment of her conversation."

The girls concluded they were none of them free of this fault.

Fifth, "Do you say 'me' for 'my?' 'me hat,' 'meseif,' 'me fathar,' instead of 'my hat,' 'myself,' 'my father?"

It was Georgia Garrett's turn to blush, as she had announced a few moments before, "My father is going to have the third floor front room papered and give me a room to myself."

"Some girls vary this a little and say 'muh' instead of 'me' but the ones who say a clear, unadulterated 'my' when they use it are few.

"It would take too much of your time to mention all these little peculiarities, but I will give you a few rules for your guidance.

"Speak clearly and distinctly, not too slowly, not too quickly, pronouncing your vowels fully but not with a labored action. There is nothing that gives to ordinary conversation a greater element of elegance than the proper and distinct enunciation of the vowels, being careful to pronounce with equal distinctness the final 'd's' and 't's' etc., as kept, not kep', swept not swep', (I have heard some people say 'dremp' for dreamed or dreamt), and not an', etc. Sometimes letters are left out in the middle of words, as 'goverment' it is pronounced 'goverment.' But I might multiply instances all night.

"Now, again, and lastly; which one among you says clearly and distinctly 'seven' and 'eleven'? Do not look disgusted. Try it and see if you do not say 'seben' and 'eleben.'"

The girls did look disgusted nevertheless, and all the more when the effort to pronounce the words correctly proved to their enlightened minds how long they had been pronouncing them incorrectly.

"Now, Miss Tasker, there is one little thing in your letter, to which I must take exception. It seems ungracious to find fault with thanks so kindly expressed, but that was the bargain in the beginning, and if I were to let this opportunity go by, I might never have just the same one again. You say 'we thought we talked good enough.'

Mildred and Sara both looked guilty at this point for they recollected only too well their first conversation, in which they had both given expression to that especial sentiment.

"Among the genteel errors is the one of using adverbs for adjectives.

"Among the vulgar errors is the one of using adjectives for adverbs.

"Dealing first with genteel errors; it is quite customary to say, 'The rose smells sweetly,' 'She looks badly.'

"What's the matter there do you suppose?" said Edith Stocker, "everybody says that."

"The rose performs no action. When you smell the rose it is sweet. She, if she looks in a cross-eyed manner, looks badly, but otherwise, bad or what is a better expression, sick or delicate. When speaking of an attribute which belongs absolutely to the object spoken of use an adjective invariably, and if the word you wish does not suit you, reverse the sentence and arrange it some other way. But talking is a different thing—that is a verb which is distinctly described and therefore an adverb must be used. One talks, writes, reads or recites 'well,' not 'good.' Well is used in two senses, therefore to say one 'looks well' in a becoming bonnet is a perfectly legitimate expression, but never does one see good, write bad, talk quick, or read slow; one sees, writes, talks or reads well, badly, quickly, or slowly.

"Trusting to your good nature to receive my admonition without ill feeling, I remain sincerely  
"AMANDA WILSON."

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