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THE SANTA BARBARA FLOWER FESTIVAL.

THE MOTHER OF TWINS TAKES AN OUTING.

H, Lu! if I only could! But how can I? The twins!"

"Leave the twins with Sarah Jane just this once, and go. You need an outing and this outing you must and shall have. It'll be perfectly lovely!"

Lu clasped her hands in an ecstasy and sank down on her knees before John, imploringly.

"Say she shall go, you good old John," she entreated, laughing in spite of her theatrical airs.

"'Go'?—of course she shall!" said John, decisively.
"If Sarah Jane and I are not as capable of tending twins for one day as a little ninety-pound woman is, I'll give up. Hurry into that new gown of yours, Mollie, and start, for that excursion train goes at eight-

forty."

"Oh, Lu! I'm so taken by surprise," I gasped as I flew upstairs.

A whole long holiday for me,—for me!—the mother of twins!

When I came down a few minutes later Lu greeted me with a small lunch-

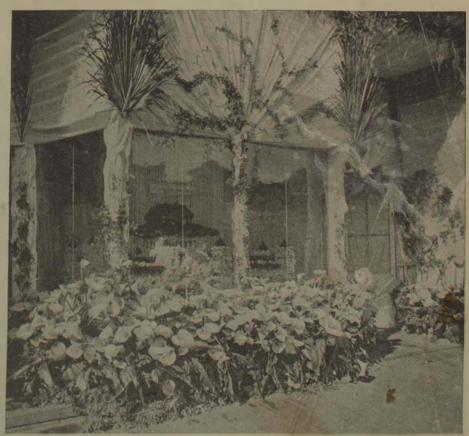
"Sarah Jane and I made up a little lunch," she said. "I've been there every year and I know how it is,—a rush and scramble for anything to eat at the hotels and restaurants, and costly at that. I'll buy the coffee and ice-cream, Mollie, and we'll have a regular picnic."

Well, we kissed the wondering twins good-by, and John, too, incidentally, and off we started. My motherly conscience gave me one or two twinges, but soon subsided and troubled me no more that day. An outing is no outing if care goes along.

What a happy, good-natured crowd of excursionists it was! Our train sped swiftly out of town, and I, leaving, for once, home, husband, and twins behind, settled down luxuriously in my green leather seat to enjoy the beauty and novelty of it all.

It was April. Southern California was at its prettiest. How green the hillsides with their velvety carpeting of young barley! How cloudless and blue the dreamy skies! How bright and glistening the beautiful Pacific close to whose shore our train took its rapid course! Far out we could see a gleaming sail; nearer, a slow-moving freight-steamer pulsing its heavy way northward to San Francisco and leaving its long black plume of smoke behind,—the only shadow that crossed the radiant whiteness and brightness of that morning.

"Don't let's talk, Lu," I said, "let's just enjoy it. It seems so wonderful to just sit still and see the loveliness of



A LILY WINDOW.



A LOAD OF DAISIES.

it all;" and with a sigh of supreme content I turned my eyes from lively Lu, who had spied some friends and was exchanging gay nods and smiles.

"All right, Mollie mine, I won't say a word till we reach Santa Barbara; and you just pitch in and enjoy yourself in your own way. I've seen the grand old Pacific a hundred times before. Yes, even an old maid school-teacher has a few more outings than the mother of twins!"

And the mother of twins turned her face to the open window and drank it all in,—the exquisite beauty of sky and field and ocean. The artist-soul within her, that used to find expression before life's prosaic practicalities came upon her, thrilled anew as the bits of lovely scenery flew by,—here a nook beneath great sycamores where the salt water had crept in from the sea and formed a quiet pool, there a vista of glimmering sea with a white sail in the offing,—any one of which would blossom

into lasting beauty beneath the nature-lover's brush.

But there! It was an April morning in Southern California.—what more need I say in praise of it all!

Lu's bright face glanced gayly back at me as we descended the car-steps at Santa Barbara.

"Dare I speak now, my dear? Da'st I, as the boys say at school?"

We both laughed then, and were swallowed up in the great, good-natured crowd. Perhaps there were five thousand in that crowd of eager, laughing, jostling humanity, perhaps more. Other trains had emptied themselves of their precious freight, and steamers had brought



A BOWER OF ROSES.



A DAISY EQUIPAGE.

a fair proportion. For it was the great day of the Flower Festival,—the day of the Battle of the Roses and the parade.

Quaint old Santa Barbara, nestled down picturesquely by the sea, how gay she looked that day! Such gorgeous colorings and decorations I, at least, had never seen. Every hue imaginable appeared on the streets.the long thoroughfare called Main was one great blaze of flaming color,-nothing too bright or showy to use in decorating the fronts of all buildings, stores, hotels, and private residences. Oranges and lemons in great golden piles gleamed from gay cornucopias and shop windows. Red, yellow, blue, and green, with every shade and tint possible, threw their brilliancy from thousands of yards of gracefully festooned bunting.

From some high balcony,

draped in scarlet and yellow silk and half-buried in masses of flowers, looked down at us dark Spanish faces with soft, dreamy eyes; the Chinese in their picturesque costume were everywhere; Indians and Mexicans showed their swarthy visages among the crowds; and, taken all in all, it was a heterogeneous mass of humanity.

The whole city glowed with color and surged with life.

A SPANISH TURNOUT. POPPIES AND MUSTARD BLOSSOMS.

Bands of music sent forth the liveliest strains, and gay langhter and chatter filled all the air. Gayety, fun, and frolic! One would think that life could never know such things as sickness, death, and sorrow, to look at Santa Barbara on this gala-day!

But the flowers! Oh, would that my pen were equal to

its task! Thousands upon thousands of roses, thousands of garlands and bouquets, great masses of flowers everywhere! One might fancy that all of California had stripped its gardens for the display.

"Oh, Lu!" I said, "am I awake or am I dreaming? Pinch me and see." Which Lu proceeded promptly to do.

"It's not so nice as it was last year," declared she with calm criticism.

I looked at her in silent awe. What could it have been last year!

We were glad to perch ourselves upon a friendly railing in a most undignified position; hundreds were glad to do the same.

Who that has never seen it can imagine one-half the wonderful beauty of that procession in honor of Flora, queen of flowers! Hundreds of equipages, of every conceivable shape and style, decorated with flowers of every kind: some a mass of a single color, -roses, daisies, poppies; others in vividly contrasting tints, as red roses or poppies with daisies, or mustard blossoms with poppies; and, most beautiful of all,

the symphonies in different shades of the same color, as from deep violet to palest lilac; the dresses of the happy occupants chosen to heighten or complete the effect of their flower-decked vehicles. Scores of horses,—black, gray, bay, and white,—each with its great garland of roses or hyacinths, lilies or heliotrope, mustard blossoms or California poppies, proudly stepping in time to the music, bearing

gay riders whose entire suits, in many instances, were composed of flowers. Riders of both sexes, by hundreds, galloped by like animated bonquets, and tossed flowers to the crowds. Tiny girls in flower costumes rode upon flower-decked horses and burros, and boys by scores sailed by on their bicycles, themselves and their wheels almost covered with blossoms.

The floats were gorgeous! It is impossible to describe even one of all the beautiful devices that appeared in the parade. Mother Goose, George Washington, and Christopher Columbus came in for their share of honor. Up and down the great, wide street the proces-

sion passed for hours, till Lu and I knew everything "by heart," as the children say.

Roses flew merrily among the crowds from the gay revelers, and the wide street was literally carpeted with the brilliant blossoms. But, oh dear! how can I hope to make one see as we saw, that bewildering and lovely sight! Words cannot suffice.

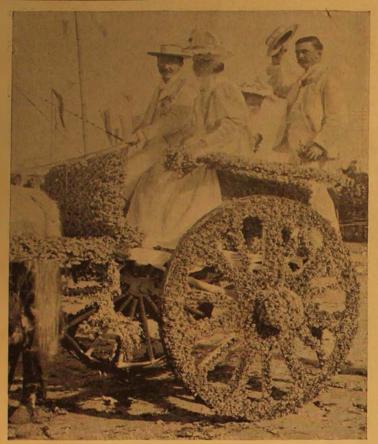


A STUDY IN RED AND WHITE. POPPLES AND DAISIES.

Through all the city at sunset gleamed and glistened beautiful banners of blue and gold, prizes won by the successful contestants, and proudly borne homeward held aloft above the weary horses by their triumphant riders.

"We must see the Old Mission," Lu declared. "You don't get out once in a dog's age, and you shall see it all this time, Mollie." And we did.

The frisky mules that drew our street-car left us stranded some distance from the historic old building, and we with



A SYMPHONY IN WHITE AND LILAC. VIOLETS, HELIOTROPE, AND WISTARIA.

many other pilgrims plodded along in the hot sun to the shrine which thousands visit every year.

The grave and ancient Father told us that the famous building was one hundred and five years old; and indeed it looks it, as Lu observed. It is an immense structure of adobe, long and rambling, with two towers at one end. The chapel remains almost exactly as it has been these hundred years. Much of the original work of the Indians, for whom it was built, remains, and it is all most interesting.

Well, all good times come to an end; and as night drew near our train did likewise, and we joined the waiting throng at the station. Homeward bound, Lu and I disposed of what luncheon remained from our noonday meal, and never, I am sure, did Sarah Jane's cooking taste so good before.

John was at the station. "The twins!" I exclaimed, with motherly anxiety.

"The twins are O. K.," responded John, "safe in the land of Nod; and Sarah Jane's got a beau in the front room. Had a good time, little woman?"

HARRIET FRANCENE CROCKER.

Our Baby Prize.

NCLUDING the two pages of portraits given in this number we have published fifteen hundred and fifteen pictures of the competitors for our prize of \$50 which is to be given to the baby who shall be adjudged the prettiest by the votes of our subscribers. Those which are to follow also include some very charming specimens of baby beauty; and the entire collection is a most unique and remarkable one. After all have been published, each subscriber will be allowed a vote, and the baby receiving the greatest number of votes will receive the prize.

greatest number of votes will receive the prize. Tell your friends that if they wish to have the most remarkable collection of portraits of beautiful babies ever published, they should get the last December and the succeeding numbers of DEMOREST'S MAGAZINE; or, better still, tell them to subscribe for it and they will receive a Magazine that during 1894 will eclipse anything that has been before accomplished in the field of periodicals.

A Remarkable Portrait Album.

HE new feature which we introduce in this number of the Magazine, two pages of handsomely executed 2 portraits of famous men and women, will be of exceptional interest to our readers, besides being peculiarly valuable. We shall continue it as a regular and permanent thing, furnishing every month eight portraits of uniform size reproduced from the very best originals extant, in the highest style of art, and printed upon the finest paper. A collection of portraits of the world's leading celebrities can be made from this source, the value of which it would be difficult to estimate, and which could not be procured in any other way unless at great expense. This unique portraitgallery will include celebrities of all classes and all eras, as well as persons of the present time who are conspicuous or prominent for any special reason, thus making it peculiarly valuable as illustrative of contemporaneous history.

In order that it may not be necessary to mutilate the Magazine to form a collection of these portraits, they will be printed upon pages that will not be numbered, and without reading-matter on the backs, which can be removed from the magazine without injuring it in any way; and to provide for the safe keeping of these portraits in a permanent and convenient form we will furnish handsome albums, especially designed to hold two hundred portraits each, which we will supply to our readers at cost price. The cheaper grade of these albums will cost thirty cents each, and those made from a finer quality of stock and provided with a colored border as a margin for each picture will cost forty cents, transportation paid in both cases. In the back of the albums a space will be provided in which to insert the short biographical sketches that will be printed in a convenient place in the Magazine containing the portraits. The sketches will be numbered to correspond with the portraits, so they can be easily referred to, and being placed by themselves in the album they will not detract from the artistic effect of the pages containing the portraits.

The pictures will be uniform in size, and the album will be a very handsome ornament for the parlor or library, as well as a valuable source of entertainment, information, and reference, interesting to every member of the family.

We urge the immediate commencement of a collection, because those who neglect to take advantage of this opportunity to form an album of such inestimable value will deeply regret it.

The superior quality of these half-tone portraits makes them equally as effective as photographs, which would cost from fifty cents to two dollars each, therefore the portraits we shall give during the year will be worth over one hundred dollars, for they would cost that sum if purchased in the regular way; besides, the photographs would be in different sizes, which would preclude uniformity in arrangement and destroy the artistic effect that ours will present when compactly arranged in the album.

The idea of furnishing every month a number of authentic portraits, of superior execution, uniform in size, adapted specially for the formation of an album, is entirely new, and original with us; and as these are given in addition to the regular contents of the Magazine, without extra cost, our readers are to be congratulated on having such an exceptional opportunity to obtain material of this character. It is a fad at present to make collections of portraits of noted people, and such a splendid opportunity as we offer our subscribers should not be neglected. Send at once for an album, and start your collection with those given in this number. Everybody of note will be included in the Demorest's Magazine collection; thus at comparatively no cost you will have a collection worth hundreds of dollars.



COMPETITORS FOR OUR BABY PRIZE.

(SEE PAGE 330.)

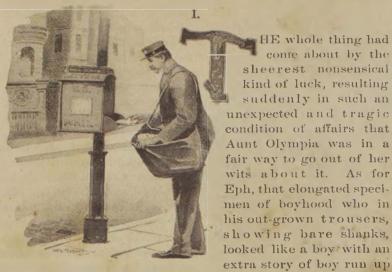


COMPETITORS FOR OUR BABY PRIZE.

(SEE PAGE 330.)

The Story of a Lost Letter.

FACTS ABOUT THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE.



on top of the first, forming six feet of shapeless perpendicular, he merely sighed in a mechanical fashion and was more loutish than ever as he "'spected," and "tho't," and made one tired with his valueless suggestions.

It all seemed like a dream instead of a page out of the real lives of the old lady and the boy; for instead of awakening to find their very own the two hundred thousand dollars Uncle Geoff had, in cold-blooded deliberation, signed over to the old lady at the last minute, the treasure, like Aladdin's, had disappeared, leaving them as disappointed as a vanished magician would have left them.

Indeed, Uncle Geoff's coming to Melonville had been like the sudden descent of one of those fakirish gentlemen into that pleasant scene; and his opportune, or inopportune, decease in the guest-room of Aunt Olympia's modest dwelling had the nature of a premeditated act, ending in such utter disillusion that there certainly seemed to be a grim touch of the unreal about it all. And yet the picture of Uncle Geoff as he sat up in the big four-post bedstead on the night of his death and scribbled, for he could do little more, on a piece of writing-paper the codicil to his will, which was to change the destiny of his Southern relatives so mightily, was engraven on their memories as plainly as ever anything was likely to be; and Eph was quite sure that the signature he had personally affixed to the document had nothing immaterial about it, for he wrote it so seldom that he had to put on his thinking-cap to work out the hieroglyphics that he designated letters.

"I'm thinkin'," said Aunt Olympia to "the boy," as she always alluded to Eph, "of goin' down to that Miss Titus an' accusin' her of havin' purposely lost that letter. The very fact that she says she never saw it is enough, in my mind, to fix the guilt on someone about that office; and the only someone that's there is Helena Titus. And to think that the Gregorys and the Tituses are first cousins! What do you think about it, Eph?"

Eph was sitting cross-legged on one of the heavy mahogany chairs which it was Aunt Olympia's special pride to keep highly polished. His eyes were turned towards the ceiling, and his hands fondled each other in an aimless way. He was so long in replying to the question that Aunt Olympia added, testily:

"That boy is certainly the stupidest critter I ever heard tell of! Did you hear me?"

Then Eph, without moving his eyes from the ceiling, answered, without forgetting his deliberateness or solemnity, "P'r'aps," and immediately turned his eyes in another

direction, without appearing to observe Aunt Olympia's presence at all.

"P'r aps w'at? you great stupid! Didn't you hear what I said to you?" growled the old lady.

"Yes, an' I answered both yer questions," replied Eph, without moving a muscle or looking anything but the profound oracle which he apparently believed himself to be, and without adding anything to the monosyllable "p'r'aps." After the old lady had repeated the substance of her remarks to him again he gave a slight chuckle as he replied, still gazing at the ceiling: "Wal, an' I answered all yer said, didn't I? Fust, it's p'r'aps you will go and accuse Cousin Helena of havin' stole the dockyment; an' next it's p'r'aps she did lose it, fur spite; an' then it's p'r'aps she didn't do anything to it at all. Could I hev answered yer more to the p'int?"

"To think she wouldn't see a letter that passed through that office addressed in my handwritin'!" remonstrated Aunt Olympia. "Why! of course she'd peep and pry all around it for half a day, an' more than likely open it to read the contents. It was just jealousy to think the Gregorys would have more money than the Tituses, and I'm goin' to tell her so before I'm a day older."

"You don't want to wait long, then, fur the sun is goin' to close up store mighty soon, and Cousin Helena 'll hev the place fastened up as tight as wax ef you're not there before the mail goes."

An old hat and wrap, which looked historic enough to be heirlooms, were produced, and Aunt Olympia "made up" in a space of time which would seem incredible to a city belle.

"Come along," she said, seizing Eph by the arm in a manner which put him in the light of a common household chattel, notwithstanding his pretentious style and profound ratiocinative processes, and the couple started off after some instructions had been given to an invisible occupant of the rear regions of the domicile.

Aunt Olympia's "place" was situated less than a quarter of a mile from the railway and post-office to which they were bound; and the portentous bearing of Miss Gregory combined with Eph's unkempt lankiness, made a startling contrast to the somber February landscape flanked by the depressed-looking shanties and frame dwellings, mournfully innocent of paint; which gave Melonville its reputation for picturesqueness.

The story of Aunt Olympia's vanished fortune was common talk since the letter had been lost and complaint sent to Washington about it by Miss Titus, the postmistress, and it would of course be published in the local paper next day that Miss Gregory had insinuated "somebody" had made away with the wisp of paper which had meant to her, for a few hours, incalculable fortune.

Miss Titus was busy over the letters in her little store when Eph and Miss Gregory entered, but she looked up over the rim of her spectacles when they came in, and gave a curt nod to the couple who had caused her so much bother of late. Her habit of wearing her gray hair in small curls at each side of her face gave the postmistress a somewhat antique air; but her sharp gray eyes snapped with the flash of health and vigor, and her spinsterish neatness gave her an appearance of eminent respectability.

"Miss Titus," said Aunt Olympia, rather sharply, as she prepared for the skirmish, "it seems mighty strange to me. Eph's as sure he mailed that letter as I am that there is nobody else in Melonville so many feet high of crassignorance and laziness as himself, and I want to know why it was you never saw that letter. It isn't like you to have any letters go out of this place without knowin' they're goin', and whose handwritin' was on them. It seems to me suspicious



THE COUNTRY POST-OFFICE. "NOW, EPH, WHAT DID YOU DO WITH THAT LETTER ?"

like that you never saw that letter. Now, Eph, what did you do with that letter?" she asked, for at least the fiftieth time.

- "Mailed it," responded Eph, looking up at a miscellaneous assortment of house-furnishing goods on the ceiling of the store.
 - "Where?" demanded Aunt Olympia.
 - "Right here."
 - "Sure you pushed it straight into the letter-box?"
 - "No daoubt at all abaout that."
 - "Now, Miss Titus, isn't that strange?"

By this time several of the neighbors had come in to see what was in progress.

- "Then you accuse me of having stolen the letter or having done something with it, I understand?" replied Miss Titus, bridling up without more ado and growing as red in the face as a cock's comb.
- "I say that you must have seen it!" replied Miss Gregory, threateningly.
- "You won't get your fortune any the quicker for believing that," retorted Miss Titus, with a sneer.
- "Now I know who has got that letter, or has gone and sent it somewhere else out of spite; and it's a case of pure jealousy, as I tho't," chimed back Aunt Olympia, in rising tones.
- "Why don't you go to Washington about it? I should. That's your remedy;" and Miss Titus tossed her head, drew up her skirt, and continued, "It's time to close this office, and no one has any right here any longer."
- "I will go to Washington," snapped Aunt Olympia. "It's more than likely you've sent that paper to the Dead Letter Office, because you tho't the man who wrote it was dead and couldn't do it over again. I'll go to New York, if necessary, to find my letter; and I'll know about the person who was responsible for losing it, too!"

Aunt Olympia, rather a corpulent woman and well into her sixties, drew her reserves, in the shape of Eph, away at this juncture; and without waiting for any further fire from the enemy dragged her inert-looking escort out into the street, and plunged into the gloom of the falling shadows with a remark that probably Nebuchadnezzar, who was dubbed "Neb," for short, the African gentleman who had been left

at home, had failed to keep a satisfactory lookout after things generally, to the mortal ruination of somebody, something, or other, about which there were hidden dangers lurking.

"We start for Washington tomorrow," remarked Miss Gregory, decidedly, as they trudged off towards home.

"P'r'aps," echoed Eph, in a far-away tone which sounded ominous of doubt. "Take some hustlin'," he added, reflectively, at the thought of the necessary preparations for the trip, "an' I've got to git store clothes ag'in, because ther' won't be no time to hev 'em made, an' I kain't go in these things to call on such nobs as Cleveland an' them folks who run the post-office at Washington."

"We'll have to have an extry pair of pants and join the two legs together for you," replied Miss Gregory; "an' I want you to put on your best behavior, fur before the war the Gregorys was where the Clevelands would have never tho't of bein', an' I want ter have some credit reflected on the family name when we get in with the elite. I reckon it'll cost a pretty penny to find that letter; but find it I've got to, or else my old bones won't rest in their grave. You had better look in the almanac tonight an' see how long this weather will last, also where the post-office is at Washington, and who keeps store there, and whatever things it is necessary to know for this trip; for I never was any further North than Birmingham in my life, and shall have to rely on you to see that we do things in proper style and don't get lost like the letter."

"I'm thinkin' it's mighty lucky fer us that Hoke Smith was born in the next State to our own; he ain't a-goin' to go back on us, I reckon," replied Eph, with a political wink that would have done credit to a Tammany chief's faith in his own acumen, as he brought his long legs to anchor at the front door of the Gregory homestead.

II.

It was a cold, raw morning, two days after Aunt Olympia's visit to Miss Titus, that Eph and herself emerged from the Gregory domicile and started down the road for the railway station. On the countenance of Aunt Olympia there were serious signs of uneasiness, notwithstanding the solacing hope that Hoke Smith would do his part bravely, and the somewhat jaunty air of Eph, who swung a large leather satchel in his right hand, and kept his chin high in the air in the same way he always kept it when he walked into meeting on a Sunday. Aunt Olympia, acquainted by long experience with the cussedness of "niggers," as she always unhesitatingly called them, had left Nebuchadnezzar in charge of the homestead with serious misgivings as to the results; but she had not omitted to leave instructions with several of the neighbors to keep an eye on the gentleman, and Neb was under stricter supervision from the moment of her departure than he would have been with a Pinkerton detective watching his movements.

The railroad which ran from Melonville to Birmingham was not so bad as some which have the reputation of running on a time schedule to suit the convenience of local patrons, and as the morning train was a "mail," with special cars for the postal service, it was in on time. Aunt Olympia and her companion were soon comfortably seated, after some discussion about the disposition of the leather satchel; Eph wanted to sit with it between them, to avoid having it stolen, and Aunt Olympia insisted otherwise.

As soon as the train, which Aunt Ophelia "tho't" was going at a fearful pace, was fairly started on its way, Eph, who was of an inquisitive turn of mind, left his aunt and walked over to the conductor, with whom he had a slight acquaintance, having once or twice met him at the station.

"Goin' any further than Birmingham?" asked the conductor, as Eph sidled up to him and nodded familiarly.

Eph nodded and looked out of the window in a brown study, presently adding, as a clincher, "Guess so," and looking still more solemnly important.

"Takin' the old lady out for a racket, eh?" continued the conductor, winking his eye, for no particular reason except it might have been to encourage Eph's confidence.

"These cyars don't go to Washington, do they?" inquired Eph, after a few seconds' silence.

"No; we catch the fast mail at Birmingham," replied the conductor. "This is only a small road, you know. Curious, the way these mail-trains are run. They are arranged just like regular post-offices. Did you ever see inside one?"

"Naw," answered Eph, nonchalantly; but a moment later, reflecting that anything connected with postal matters was of the highest interest, he said: "Shouldn't mind if I did, though. It would help time along nicely. I didn't think they 'lowed anyone in thar 'ceptin' the clerks."

The conductor winked again, this time at his own sagacity, and said, in an authoritative manner, "Come this way, I guess it's all right for me and you. The boys ain't busy on this route, an' they are pretty decent sort of fellows."

Eph followed him into the mail-car, and when the clerks looked up they opened their eyes wide at sight of the queer caricature.

"My friend, Mr. Stilts from Melonville," said the conductor, gravely.

"Where is he going to exhibit?" asked one of the clerks.

"At the White House, I expect," replied the conductor.

Eph looked up at the ceiling, unconscious of these remarks, and finally began asking questions about the postal service, of an old, gray-haired man who looked like a veteran in the service, while the conductor went off and left him.

"Yes," said the clerk, reflectively, "I've been at this work since '46. Old enough to have retired years ago. But what's seventy-five dollars a month with a family to support? Do you know, young man, I was one of the first clerks in the service to work at this railway business."

"Maybe you know something about lost letters, then?" questioned Eph.

"Know everything from A to Z in the Yewnited States postal layout, young man."

"Why don't they make you boss?" asked Eph, gravely. "Too useful where I am, I s'pose," answered the old fel-

low, philosophically.

The answer satisfied Eph, and he asked his companion to explain all about the system of the mails to him.

"Right here," commenced the old man, "is the nucleus of the whole business."

Eph did not know the difference between a nucleus and an equator, but he bowed his head acquiescently.

"Why, those show buildings they put up in Washington and New York," continued the old man, "are just for handsome headquarters for the fellows who sit and draw fat salaries while we poor ones hustle for the coin. The principal part of the postal work today is done on the mail-trains, which are simply traveling post-offices. Before the war there wa'n't half a dozen of them; now they cover the entire country. The great routes are from New York to Baltimore, Washington, and all through the South and Southwest, over the Pennsylvania and Baltimore & Ohio systems; from New York to Chicago, connecting at Albany for Canada, and running straight through to the Pacific slope with connections to British Columbia and Manitoba; while the Eastern route, starting from the Grand Central Depot, New York, sweeps New England clear through to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. There are minor routes, such as that dubbed



INTERIOR OF A MAIL-CAR.

the 'New York and Dunkirk,' which takes in Southern New York and Northern Pennsylvania, but the three great trunkroutes are those just mentioned. Special fast mail-trains follow all the great railroad routes in the country."

At this moment the train went rolling past a country station, and while one of the clerks threw off a mail-pouch, another drew in a hook attached to the outside of the car, which had caught up the mail-bag from the town they were passing. This feature of the mail system was not new to Eph, as he had seen the same scheme worked at other local offices. It is done to save time, as every minute counts in mail service.

"We don't consider it hard work on this route," said the old man, as he left his companions to attend to the pouch they had just received, "but you get it lively on some of the main lines,—from Atlanta, say, to Washington, or from Washington to Charleston. Clerks work on some of the heavy routes thirty-six hours at a stretch. We relieve each other, and take things pretty easy. I presume you never saw the interior of a mail-car before. Come here! I'll show you how the system works, and you'll know more than half the people do who think themselves clever."

The mail-car was about sixty feet long and fitted up very much after the style of a regular post-office. One end of it was devoted to the receiving department, and package after package of mail-matter was piled up in it. Cases of pigeon-holes lined the walls of the other end of the car, a space being reserved for the sacks for newspapers and heavy mail, which hung on iron frames. Long tables for sorting the mail extended along in front of the pigeon-holes, and down the center of the car stacks of leather pouches to receive the mail were packed.

"We'll be in Birmingham in an hour, and all our mail is about sorted except what we'll pick up now on the way, which will be very light, and won't keep more than one man busy," added the mail-clerk.

"You see, this pouch of mail which we took in below has to be sorted, so they have dumped it on the distributing-table. If there is anything in it for the stations between here and Birmingham it will be put into the proper pouches and dropped at the stations; and that for places beyond for which we have pouches to make up will be put in pigeonholes, so that when we reach Birmingham and turn our

matter over to the transfer agent at that point, all of it will be sorted and put into pouches marked and ready for delivery up to that point.

"Before we left Atlanta we went aboard the car and sorted all the mail shipped there to start with, so as to be ready to handle all that we took in at intermediate places. You see the pigeon-holes are all labeled with the names of stations on the route; but there are hundreds of other places to which matter that came in the pouches is addressed. These are country post-offices off the routes of the railways, whose mail has to be delivered at the nearest way-stations to them and goes into the pouches dropped at those points. have to be familiar with the names and locations of all these places, so that in sorting no time is lost. Those who have been in the service a long time are pretty familiar with this part of the business; but there are new offices being started all the time, and changes in routes occurring, which make it necessary always to have our wits about us. There is also a

good deal of confusion caused by the receipt of heavy quantities of mail at points where we take on the output of another railway system which we happen to cross.

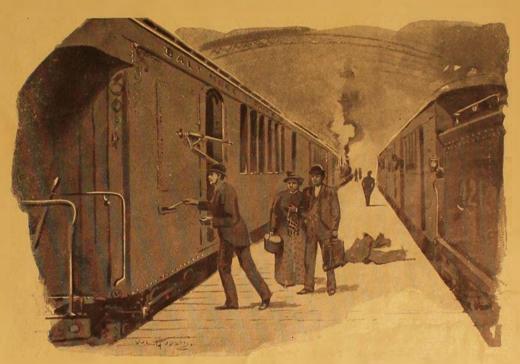
"Here we are going into Woodstock, see?" and the old man pointed out a town in the distance which they were approaching. "The letters for Woodstock have already been transferred from the pigeon-holes to the pouch, which is closed up and ready to be dropped off," he continued. "There are several bags of newspapers and fourth-class matter piled up against the door, ready to be put off at the same place. The only remaining town to pass before Birmingham is reached is Bessemer. Bessemer mail-matter is still in the pigeon-holes, because there may be more from the pouch taken in at Woodstock to add to it before it can be closed. System! I should say it was! Look at that man tying up a package for some backwoods settlement, to go into the Woodstock pouch. He puts a label in with his name signed to it, and if there is one letter in there that should have gone to another place, his name goes on the list for another bull at Washington."

"You don't lose many letters in handlin' them, I s'pose, do you?" queried Eph, who had been a model listener

to the old gentleman's exposition of the railway mail-system.

"Can't say we do; but of course accidents will happen. Sometimes there's a love-letter of some poor critter goes astray, and he writes to Washington an' kicks up a rumpus about it, an' sometimes he gets it back again,—finds it at the Dead Letter Office, or at the very place he posted it, laid away on some dusty shelf or stuck in a corner where it was forgotten by everybody. Of course there's a hundred things can happen to a letter; but there's mighty few of them goes astray without a pretty good reason, unless they don't happen to have the right address on them."

Eph was not looking up at the ceiling now, but was staring with mouth agape and bulging eyes at the man before him, who he had already decided was a very remarkable being. These last words of his were sinking into the soul of the Alabama boy, who intended to weigh them as he would chunks of gold, and treasure them as a probable means of finding Aunt Olympia's precious "dockyment." At the thought of that personage Eph suddenly remembered how long he had been absent from her; and fearing to wait longer



MAIL-CARS AT WASHINGTON.

for more information he hastily left the postal-car, after bidding the old veteran adieu, and found Aunt Olympia in turbulent discussion with the conductor concerning his absence.

From this point to Birmingham Eph sat quietly by the side of his aunt, and listened to her rebuke for his absence without making any response. He was memorizing the old clerk's words about the things that could happen to a letter. At Birmingham the pair were to take the limited train for Washington, after passing a night at the hotel and replenishing the wardrobe of Eph, a highly necessary proceeding.

III.

THE experiences that Aunt Olympia and Eph encountered during their trip from Birmingham to Washington, while seeming to them a romance of the most wonderful type, could be easily imagined by the average traveler. Aunt Olympia was unfortunate enough to get an upper berth in the sleeping-car, and declared that she would never go to bed on a sleeping-car again if she had to die up North instead of going back home. Eph managed to get some clothes to fit him after a fashion, without putting two pair of legs together, the extra length being obtained by some mysterious process

known as "letting down." Aunt Olympia had learned from a fellow traveler of more experience than herself where to find a hotel in Washington suited to her tastes, and when she emerged with Eph from the cars in the station at Washington had recovered somewhat from the jolting she had suffered the night before.

Eph could not help staring with admiration at two huge mail-cars which stood in the depot ready for service, one on the Southern and another on the Northern route. A man was mailing a letter at a box in one of the cars, and Aunt Olympia remarked.

"I suppose you think, boy, you know a mighty lot about the letter business by this time?"

"P'r'aps," answered Eph, with a knowing smile, as they started off for the cab-stand, where they yielded themselves up to one of the importunate Jehus, who almost seized them bodily and hastened them into a hack.

"Guess we'd better eat before we call on Hoke Smith," suggested Eph, as they sat opposite each other in the vehicle after giving the necessary instructions to the driver.

"'Eat'!" exclaimed Aunt Olympia, with disgust in her tones, as she tried to feel comfortable in her novel situation.

"Plenty of fine silverware and napkins and French names to the trash they give you, but I haven't seen anything to 'eat' since I left Melonville!"

Eph shook his head sadly, and said he'd like a bit of the cold punkin-pie they left at home; and Aunt Olympia muttered something about the perdition to which people were going who spoilt good victuals the way those foreign cooks were doing.

The hotel to which they had been referred was one of modest pretensions, and after some useless expostulation with the hackman over his exorbitant charges, in the course of which he threatened Aunt Olympia with the lock-up and pretended to look around for a police officer, Aunt Olympia paid him and went into the hotel to make arrangements for her stay.

"I'd like to see a coachman threaten a POSTMASTER-GENERAL BISSELL. Gregory with the station-house down in Alabama," she said, indignantly, to the clerk, when she reached

the hotel office.

"What kind of rooms would you like, ma'am?" asked the clerk, without paying any attention to her remark.

"I said I'd like to see a coachman threaten the Gregorys down in Melonville with takin' the law on them!" repeated Aunt Olympia.

"Will you sign your names to the register?" asked the clerk, putting a pen into Eph's hand and pushing the book before him.

"We hain't made no bargain yet. Don't you sign it!" exclaimed Aunt Olympia, not at all pleased by the clerk's supercilious manner.

"The cheapest rooms are three and four dollars each a day, with board, ma'am," replied the clerk, without changing his tone or manner.

Aunt Olympia put up her hands in horror.

"I've heard," she said, "that Congress was full of thieves, and so I suppose they're all alike here. I might just as well give you the farm and done with it. Come, Eph! sign your name and we'll get some dinner. If we stay long in Washington it'll cost us more than the money is worth."

"Adjoining rooms, I suppose, ma'am," said the clerk, touching a gong.

Eph nodded his head, and a bell-boy came up and seized

hold of the grip. "Rooms two hundred and one and two hundred and two," called the clerk.

"This way," said the boy to Eph; and a minute later the trio were in the elevator.

"Top floor," called the boy as the elevator commenced to

Aunt Olympia stared around, and a look of terror came into her face. The elevator increased its pace, and she seized hold of Eph, who was trying to look stoical, but trembling all over. Presently the elevator stopped and someone got off. Aunt Olympia started forward and was pulled back just in time to save her from being crushed in the doorway.

"Look out!" cried the colored elevator-boy, sharply.

"Don't speak to me like that, you uneducated nigger!" snapped Aunt Olympia.

Finally the couple and the bell-boy reached the top, and Aunt Olympia sighed gratefully as she stood on the solid floor again. The bell-boy whisked out his keys.

"Two hundred and one," he called out, flinging open the

Aunt Olympia advanced into the room. Her eyes blazed with chagrin as soon as she saw its dimensions and scanty furniture.

"You call this a room in Washington, do you?" she



POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON.

shouted to the bell-boy. "We call it a cupboard, at home." The bell-boy smiled and ushered Eph into his apartment.

"Dinner is six to eight. I'll bring you up some ice-water right away," said the boy, with a twinkle in his eyes, and then left the worthy couple to settle themselves in their temporary quarters.

"Four dollars a day and no dinner till six o'clock! I never heard such uncivilized notions in my life!" exclaimed Aunt Olympia. "I'd like to know what folks see in Washington to be so anxious to come here for! For my part I wouldn't give my place at Melonville for all the houses here put together."

"P'r'aps," echoed Eph, with his customary terseness.

"P'r'aps what, boy?" snapped the old lady, sharply.

"P'r'aps you wouldn't get the chance," replied the oracle, rolling his tongue against the side of his mouth, and leaving Aunt Olympia to settle the matter by herself as he disappeared into his own quarters to evade further argument.

The following morning, Eph, who had catechised the clerk to some purpose, started off with Aunt Olympia for the Interior Department, and after a long delay the couple were ushered into the presence of the distinguished Georgian statesman, Secretary Hoke Smith, who, upon learning the object of their visit to the Capitol, kindly gave them a letter to Mr. Bissell, the Postmaster-General, dispatching them with warm wishes for the success of their mission.

Mr. Bissell was found; he patiently listened to Aunt Olympia's account of the lost letter, carefully noting her suspicions concerning Miss Titus, and cheerfully furnished letters to the Chief of the Postal Department in Washington and to the Postmaster of New York requesting that every facility the rules of the service permitted might be given them to aid in the recovery of the missing letter.

* Eph declared, when armed with these two documents, that he would take good care before his return to know more about the postal service of the country than Miss Titus, and come mighty near finding that letter if no one had destroyed it; and the couple promptly started for the Inquiry Office of the Postal Department, to test the magical power of the Postmaster-General's letter.

There is probably less delay through red tape in getting at the chief persons in the postal service and obtaining their attention and assistance, than can be found in any other department of the Government. This is due largely, perhaps, to the fact that the advantage of expedition is so forcibly impressed upon them by the character of the business they conduct, that it makes them more alert and anxious to clear up matters quickly than are those in other branches where more leisurely habits are possible.

The letters which the travelers presented to the Post Office Department secured them immediate attention; and after the nature of their business had been elicited by a few well-placed questions they were referred to Mrs. Collins, the hand-writing expert, who, it was surmised, might discover from their story something which might lead to an elucidation of the mystery, it being inferred that the missive in question had found its way to the Dead Letter Office through that most common of causes, an illegible and incorrect address.

Mrs. Collins, who is considered the leading expert in her line upon this continent, or, more technically speaking, the greatest "blind reader" in the postal service, received her callers with her customary courtesy, and was soon plying them both with questions concerning the precise character of the address written upon the letter.

"The letter," said Aunt Olympia, "was addressed all right, for I addressed it myself. I should think no one would put a letter in the mails without the proper address upon it."

"You would think so," replied Mrs. Collins, pleasantly, "but if you were in my place for twenty-four hours you would think the people of this country the most thoughtless and careless beings imaginable. Yes, over four hundred thousand letters come here every year because they are improperly addressed, and over ninety-five per cent of them we eventually deliver to the persons for whom they were intended. It is very difficult to ascertain the correct addresses in many instances, and three of us are kept constantly busy trying to find out to whom the senders of the letters meant to address them. Here is a batch, for instance, which we have just been fixing up to return to New York;" and Mrs. Collins picked up a pile of letters. "The first, you see," she said, "is addressed to '20 Quincy Steep, N. Y.' It is intended for '20 Coenties Slip, New York City.' Here is a much simpler mistake,—'Mr. Payne, Dakota City.' That is intended for someone at the 'Dakota Flats, New York City.' Here is one more puzzling, from abroad. 'Sotriver, Kontri, New York.' This the intelligent foreigner intended for 'South River, New Jersey,' 'Kontri' standing for 'country,' as he had probably heard someone allude to South River being in the 'country,' while visiting New York. Here is rather a puzzling Chinese letter intended for 'Sing Wah, 41 Church Street, New Britain, Connecticut.' Here is another from an Italian source, and rather difficult so far as the name of the city is concerned, but that is easily surmised from the street being in Baltimore."

Aunt Olympia, who had been listening quite attentively to Mrs. Collins, here interposed by remarking, "It may be all very well for Chinese and Italians to make such mistakes, but I hope you don't think an intelligent American would do it?"

"Oh, certainly!" said Mrs. Collins; "they even go so far as to put letters in the mail without any address at all on them. Those we are compelled to open; but when possible to avoid doing so, we do not open letters. It is not long since, upon opening an envelope sent here without any address on it, or name of the sender, I found a certified check for forty thousand dollars, which a prominent business man had put in the mail, imagining that he had addressed it. Something suddenly occurs to distract a person's attention for a moment while they are preparing mail-matter, and the mistake is made unconsciously. In many cases we find it necessary to use the microscope in deciphering illegible addresses. Among the amusing and sometimes pathetic missives which reach us are letters from little children to Santa Claus, begging him to remember them at Christmas, and offering all sorts of arguments why he should do what they ask. After all, however, there is but one-half of one per cent of the matter sent by mail which fails to reach its proper destination promptly, and much of this subsequently does so. Now I have tried to explain to you how it is possible for a mistake to occur; and as I really want to help you find your valuable letter, please address an envelope as exactly as possible like the one you mailed containing the codicil."

Mrs. Collins furnished Aunt Olympia with envelope and pen, and she promptly wrote, in a fairly legible hand, "Lawyer Sance, Equitable Building, New York."

"That," said she, "is the address Cousin Geoff gave me on his dying bed, and I have since addressed letters to Mr. Sance, from which I have had replies."

Mrs. Collins examined the address critically for a few moments; it was so simple that a mistake in connection with it seemed impossible. She shook her head as she laid it down, saying:

"I am afraid if that is so your letter has never come here. I do not remember all, of course, that we get; but there seems to have been no possibility of an error in such a case, and I see but one way to account for its loss, providing you are sure it was mailed."

"We're sure of that; but Miss Titus, the postmistress, says it was not," interposed Eph, briefly.

"That is strange. How should she know it was not mailed?" asked Mrs. Collins.

"Oh, you see," answered Eph, "she knows Aunt 'Lympia's writin' quick enough, and says she never saw a letter mailed at that time from her."

"Miss Titus must be very observing, I should think." said Mrs. Collins, "but she may have overlooked it, nevertheless. Who mailed it?"

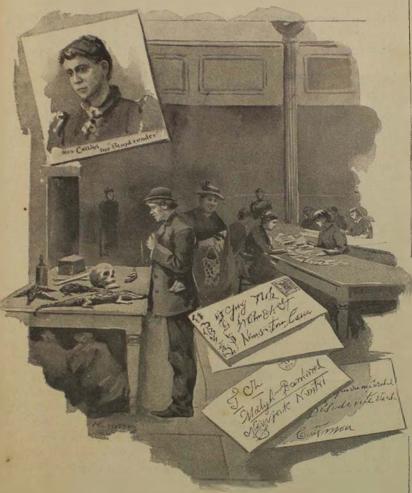
"I did," replied Eph, promptly.

Mrs. Collins was thoughtful for a minute. "You would better go to New York and make inquiries in the City Delivery Department. Letters occasionally get astray there, although seldom, and it would have to be owing to some peculiar accident; but by going yourself and presenting the letter from Mr. Bissell to Postmaster Dayton, you may be sure that an extraordinary search will be made. In my opinion the trouble lies either at one end of the line or the other, and in this business guessing accomplishes nothing. They will do all they can for you at New York; and if it is not there, perhaps it is on some out-of-the-way shelf in your own post-office, misplaced by error and forgotten. Rather lax systems prevail in some country post-offices, as I am well aware. I will, of course, keep a close watch for it here; but if you addressed it as you say, I do not think I shall ever be able to be of any service to you."

Mrs. Collins was on the point of bidding her callers adieu and God speed, when Eph, who had been listening admiringly to Mrs. Collins' businesslike talk, and making a mental digest of all she had been saying about lost letters, asked if they might not be allowed, before taking their departure, to have a glimpse of the Dead Letter Department.

"Oh, certainly," replied Mrs. Collins, "with pleasure. Come! I will take you down. But be prepared to see some very remarkable sights when you get there."

The Dead Letter Office is situated under the basement of the Post Office Department, and as the trio descended to the vaults Eph looked suspiciously around as if he were not



IN THE DEAD LETTER OFFICE.

sure about venturing into such a queer place. The gloomy corridors and vaults were, however, as he found, well lighted by electricity, and his apprehensions soon gave place to curiosity as he saw the odd character of some of the articles which were scattered around the office. He was brought up in his investigation with a round turn at the table where Mrs. Collins had stopped, as he beheld the skull of a defunct biped like himself staring at him, and a still more uncanny object in the shape of an Indian's scalp close by it, while a few feet behind these interesting relics reposed a small alligator which looked about ready to make a spring at someone, probably Aunt Olympia, who would have furnished a plentiful meal for it. The skull proved to have been sent to a physician, who failed to get it because he would not pay the excessive mail-charges. The scalp was accompanied by a letter breathing heroics and gore, from a young man on the frontier who was beginning to make his collection of scalps. It is not very probable that the scalp was a fresh one, but it was an impressive memento to send home to younger brothers, if it had ever reached them. The alligator was dead; but Mrs. Collins alarmed Aunt Olympia (who immediately proceeded to draw her skirts closer around

her) by stating that reptiles such as adders, and even rattlers, sometimes reached the department in packages and had to be looked after, while centipedes, tarantulas, and young alligators were not at all uncommon.

"The other day," added Mrs. Collins, "an adder escaped from its box. It was in a torpid condition and considered dead, so its box was left open. Next day it was found under one of the young ladies' desks, but it was finally captured again."

"Who gets these things that never find any owners?" asked Eph.

"In the first place," replied Mrs. Collins, "we make every effort to discover to whom they belong, and, as in the case of letters, a 'tracer' is sent out, which is simply a line of inquiry extending as far as the evidence furnished by the address or contents goes. The postmarks are the final clue for the tracer to take up; and as it is easily seen which is the starting-place, or mailing-point, inquiries are made there, and a notice posted up notifying the sender that his package is not delivered. In cases where the address of the sender is given, either outside or inside of the package, the work is much simplified, as it can be returned at once upon receipt of instructions, or mailed correctly if he gives the proper address and supplies necessary postage. Some of the missent packages never reach here at all, but are held at the office to which they are addressed, until corrections can be made by communicating with the sender. Often enough, contents and wrapper arrive separately, the package having been broken in transit. The wrapper, if it contains any clue as to where it was mailed and by whom, is traced, and the following inscription placed upon it: 'Received without contents. Search for the contents will be made if description is sent to the Inquiry Department.' It is then returned to the sender. The contents are apt to be found at the post-office to which the wrapper was addressed, having been in the bottom of one of the mail-sacks. They are promptly restored on identification. Eventually, in cases where all efforts to discover owners for lost articles have failed, they are finally disposed of at auction. This in no case occurs before at least two years have elapsed, and the discovery of the owner is practically impossible. The sale of these articles does not, of course, begin to pay for all the expense of the department; and a final precaution is taken by publishing a catalogue of the articles to be auctioned at the annual sale, which often brings the owners. forward after all efforts to find them have been in vain.

"Down there," and the speaker pointed to some shadowy crypts which did not look unlike catacombs, "are the dead letters, a constantly increasing pile, which probably have been the causes of more heart-breakings, romances, and tragedies, than anything else in the world. Many a dying pillow would have been softened if 'that letter,' one of those which 'never came,' had been delivered as it would have been if properly addressed. There are faded lines accompanying pictures, locks of hair, and all the little mementos of affection and love which humanity clings to even in this practical age. It seems hard to think that no friendly hand guided those anxiously awaited messages to their destination; but there they are, waiting their turn to be burnt up when there is no longer room for them here and no chance of their ever being restored to the writers."

Mrs. Collins here intimated that she must return to her duties; and after wishing Eph and Aunt Olympia the best of luck, they separated, the latter to make arrangements for an early departure for New York.

IV.

It is not to be supposed that Eph had listened to the remarks of Mrs. Collins concerning the probable fate of the momentous letter without following the same course which he had done with regard to the information furnished by the old clerk on board the mail-train. That he was more serious than ever he had been in his whole life before, and must necessarily be doing a powerful lot of "thinkin"," was obvious even to such a dispassionate critic of his as Aunt Olympia, who remarked several times that the boy seemed to have "growed all of a sudden into a man." She even trusted him with a "quarter," occasionally, to spend for something they needed, and listened with respect to what he had to say about tracing up a letter.

Aunt Olympia's surprise at the turmoil of the Washington streets was double discounted when, one morning, the day after leaving Washington, she found herself in the bustle and din of New York, on one of the new Broadway cable-cars, in which she finally obtained a seat, after bumping back and forth between a passenger and the conductor before getting

hold of one of the straps. Escape was finally made into the precincts of the Post Office, and the couple climbed to the second floor and were politely shown into the Postmaster's presence, to whom they presented their letter. The Postmaster invited his callers to take seats, and listened to Aunt Olympia's statements about the letter with much interest and sympathy. After having learned the exact state of affairs he sent for the chief clerk of the Inquiry Department and consigned his callers to his attention, with instructions to have a most thorough search made for the letter at every point where it could possibly have been delayed.

"If you will leave your address with this gentleman, I will see that you hear from us within a day or two," said the Postmaster, kindly; "and now you are in town, probably you would like to go through the Post Office."

W. Al misses

MAIN FLOOR OF THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

Eph, anxious to imbibe all the information possible about the postal service, thanked Mr. Dayton, and said they would much like to have the system of the Post Office explained to them; whereupon Mr. Dayton sent for the Superintendent of the General Delivery, and requested him to do the honors of the Post Office for him.

Superintendent Meeks proposed that they start off by taking a look at the main floor from the strangers' gallery, from whence much of the interior of the building can be seen; and after thanking the Postmaster for his promised attention to their case, the travelers left him to get a glimpse of the greatest of all the large post-offices.

There is so much similarity," remarked the Superintendent, "about all the great post-offices of the country, that one is practically a duplicate of another. There is no post-office in the United States which approaches this in the volume of business transacted; and when you have been through our departments you will understand pretty

thoroughly how mail-matter is handled. We think we have the best system in the world, and constantly keep trying to improve it so as to be able to give the public better service. We could do better if more funds were allowed us, but do our best as it is."

They had walked over to the gallery in the course of this conversation, and were looking down upon a scene of busy activity below, where hundreds of clerks were working away at a task which is incessant, and which changes only to increase from day to day.

"Until recently," said the Superintendent, "a wooden bridge enclosed with lattice-work, familiarly known as the 'spy gallery,' spanned this floor. Inside the lattice-work were persons whose duty it was to watch the clerks so as to discover thefts if any occured."

"They do steal letters, then, sometimes?" asked Eph,

sometimes?" asked Eph, ever on the alert for anything which might serve to throw light on their own case.

"Quite a number of letters are stolen, of course," replied their guide and informant. "The principal losses, however, occur on the delivery routes, it being almost impossible for dishonesty to be perpetrated in here."

"Then it is possible that a letter after it leaves this office for delivery might be stolen by the postman?" asked Eph.

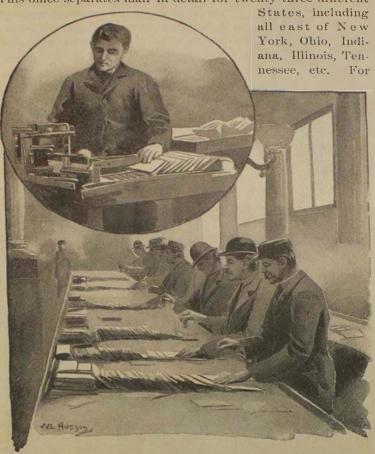
"If it contained money or was supposed to do so, and it fell into the hands of a dishonest postman, it certainly might be taken, unless it were registered. Dishonest letter-carriers seldom take letters which do not contain money, as they run great risk without deriving any benefit. They can generally tell by the feeling of a letter if it contains bills. Many of them can tell by the scent; and again, they judge by the person to whom it is

addressed. Some people are known to be continually in receipt of money in letters, and it is such mail as theirs that dishonest clerks are apt to tamper with. But come, we will go downstairs, and I will conduct you through the various departments."

Passing down an iron staircase, the visitors were soon on the main floor of the Post Office Building, which occupies several thousand feet of space.

"There is one fact to be remarked," said the Superintendent, as he led the way through the labyrinth of sections or departments, "and that is that the profits of the New York Post Office have to pay for postal accommodations away out in places that never would get any mail at all if they had to pay a proportionate part of the cost of the system for their own service. The surplus net revenue earned by the New York Post Office last year amounted to nearly five million dollars, almost a billion 'pieces' being handled. The aggregate of the money-order business done here was one hun-

dred and thirteen million dollars. Our salary list amounts to nearly a million and a half a year. New York is virtually the clearing-house for all the other post-offices in the country, and is the very heart of the mail system of the United States. It receives and dispatches mail to every place on the globe. This office separates mail in detail for twenty-three different



POSTMARKING AND CANCELLING STAMPS BY MACHINE AND HAND.

every town in the United States of any importance there is a pigeon-hole into which its mail is collected. The mail for smaller towns and the distant States is separated by the railway postal service, to facilitate matters. All we do to the mail for St. Paul, Minnesota, for instance, is to make it up in special packages, including, of course, the mail for all places in the vicinity which are fed from the St. Paul office. The mail for other towns in Minnesota outside this center is put all together, and the clerks on the mail-trains attend to the further separating of it. You probably may not know what a complete system of railway service we have in connection with

Eph was on the point of speaking. but it occurred to him that he might get the mail-clerks into trouble for letting him go aboard the car, so he said nothing, and the Superintendent continued:

our department."

"Special fast mail-trains run over all the principal trunk-lines of the country, and these are equipped with a corps of able clerks, whose work supplements

able clerks, whose work supplements that of the city postoffice, so that mail dropped off for, say Philadelphia, Boston, or even New York, is received all ready separated for the branch offices, to which it is sent direct, to avoid delay. The large boxes which you see over yonder, arranged in a semi-circle, contain mail which will be carried, ready

pouched, to such important centers as Easton, Pennsylvania, or Binghamton, New York. There is also a system in use on board the mail steamships, and clerks are busy both on the outward and homeward trips, separating mail so as to facilitate delivery immediately it arrives. The railway service is so complete that in the case of prominent newspapers and commercial establishments having large deliveries of mail, theirs is separated in transit, as it would be for a small postoffice. I may add that most of the post-offices contiguous to New York, whether large or small, have pigeon-holes in this office, which serves as a center for New York and the nearby States. A wagon either leaves or arrives here with mailmatter every three minutes in the twenty-four hours.

"Now that you have a pretty complete idea of our complex system, let us take a run around to the various links of it to be found here."

The Superintendent stopped opposite a machine which was used for postmarking letters and cancelling stamps at the rate of forty thousand an hour. "This is the first step in the course of a letter in the post-office," he explained, "after it has been brought in by carrier or wagon. The machine kills two birds with one stone by canceling the stamp and marking the hour of the letter's arrival here. Every letter passes through this ordeal within half an hour of its being received at this office. The machines are run by electricity, and are a great improvement on our old ones. The time on the stamp is changed every half-hour. Careless persons who place the stamp on the wrong end of the envelope compel us to resort to the hand-stamp to cancel their letters.

"The letters, except those of the city delivery, are taken from here to the tables of the State separators. These men stand in the semicircle of pigeon-holes, in the rear of which sacks are placed to receive the mail, and have to be very expert both in reading addresses and deciding quickly into which of the numerous holes it must be thrown. The State-separating clerks have to be actual encyclopedias, so far as the post-offices of the various States are concerned, as there



SORTING FOR STATES.

is mail for many thousands of places in the different States, and they have to know the name of every one located in each State. When the mails are ready to close, the letters are tied up and a label with the address placed on the package, which is taken to the sack and pouch distributors. Here is another busy scene, where the mail is being pouched;" and



POUCHING MAIL.

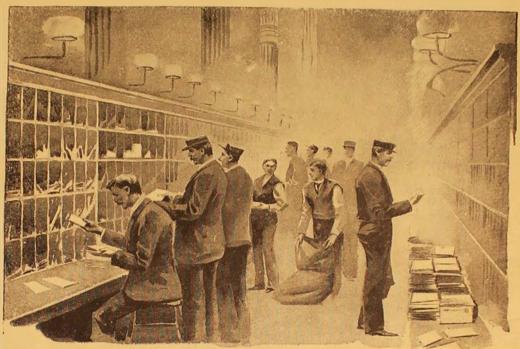
Superintendent Meeks led his callers into another department.

In the midst of long lines of sacks and pouches, held upright by iron supports, were a number of men who appeared to be throwing the tied-up packages received from the separators indiscriminately into the mouths of the pouches and sacks. They were disposing of them accurately enough, however; and the Superintendent paused to explain that the sacks were used for merchandise and newspapers, whilst the pouches were for registered mail and letters.

"The city mail, instead of coming here, goes to the next room, where it is separated for city delivery, and the letter-carriers again sort their mail before starting out on their delivery routes," said the Superintendent as he led the way into the next department, which was fitted with

long cases divided into large pigeonholes before which a number of men were busy sorting the city mail. "The next department," he continued, "is the General Delivery, where mail is given out to those who call for it. We have recently replaced a number of the old private letterboxes with new ones having glass fronts and backs, and we find them more convenient for all concerned.

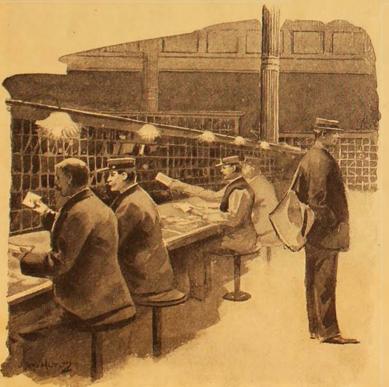
"Now if we take a glance at the Registry and Money Order Departments you will have seen most of what is of any particular importance here. Our registered-mail system," the Superintendent explained, on the way upstairs to that department, "is reduced to such a fine point for safety,



SEPARATING MAIL IN CITY DEPARTMENT.

that out of fifteen million packages handled every year, less than three hundred are stolen by dishonest officials. Lost, they cannot be; for from the point of receipt to that of delivery every one who handles the package has to sign for it. In New York City there are special registered-mail routes; but in the majority of cases this matter is handled by the regular lettercarriers. The Money Order business is yearly reaching vaster proportions. Gold can be sent from San Francisco to this point for sixty-eight cents per thousand dollars, and we carry millions of dollars worth of gold for the bankers. In the Registry Department there are always two clerks to receive a package and sign for it. The 'registered' pouches are fastened by rotary locks, and when closed at a certain number, it is evidence of their having been tampered with if they open at another. This is a substitute for the oldfashioned wax seal. The only thing now that you have not seen in the career of a letter," concluded Superintendent Meeks, "is the splendid wagons we have for transmitting the mail; but as you go out, if you will take a glance down Mail Street you will find a row of them waiting to be loaded or to discharge incoming cargoes."

After directing the couple how to leave the building, he excused himself and went to look after other duties; while Aunt Olympia and Eph—the latter feeling now that he was thoroughly equipped to teach Miss Titus a hundred things



LETTER-CARRIERS SORTING CITY MAIL.

she knew nothing about—left the Post Office to await the report on the special search which the Postmaster had ordered.

 \mathbf{v}

ALAS for the vanity of human hopes! No trace of the mysterious letter was unearthed by the search at the New

York Post Office, and Eph and Aunt Olympia, after fruitless efforts to make any further headway in the solution of the case, sadly turned their faces homeward, heavyhearted, and considerably worse off financially than before they started out on the quest which had brought them no nearer to the accomplishment of their purpose.

During the journey home Eph was soleinn and reticent, even to an unusual extent. He was busy thinking, after his own peculiar method, about the trip, and wondering how he could deduce from the store of information he had acquired something

which would lead to the discovery of the missing letter. The remarks of the old railway mail-clerk had remained fixed in his mind, as had also those of Mrs. Collins. That the letter had really been lost he did not believe; and if not lost, where was it most likely to be?

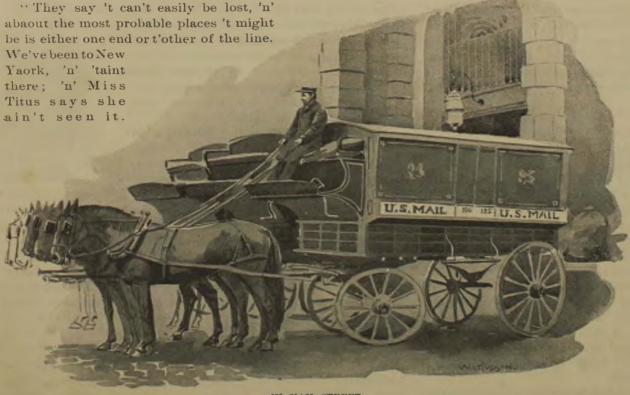
Eph's reasoning powers were of a rather peculiar order; imbued to a certain extent with the natural logic which in his somewhat quaint, rustic way he cultivated, they might have come under the classification of intuitive. As the train sped southward, Eph, ruminating ceaselessly, kept repeating to himself the following proposition:

In answer to Aunt Olympia's look of surprise and verbal questioning, Eph would say nothing about what had caused the spirit to move him, except to repeat now and again, with less emphasis, the same mysterious and suggestive "By gol!"

The travelers had once more settled down to everyday life in Melonville, and found that Neb had fortunately got



SORTING FOR GENERAL DELIVERY.



IN MAIL STREET.

Naow ef that's so, where can the letter be? Gee! Why can't I think that aout?"

How many times this or a similar idea in slightly different words was repeated by Eph during the journey, it would be difficult to say; but as the travelers were on the way from Birmingham, on the home stretch, Eph, who had been absorbed in reverie, as usual, and was still mentally repeating his deductive proposition, suddenly jumped up, and slapping his hand on his knee with an emphatic bang, exclaimed, in a most emphatic tone, "By gol!"

into no serious scrape during their absence, when Eph one morning signified his intention to Aunt Olympia of going down to the post-office on business, and asked her to accompany him.

"What's up now, boy?" queried the old lady, with an incredulous look on her face.

"You'll see," said Eph,
"if you come along;
leastways I think you
will."

Aunt Olympia finally put on her wrap and hat, and the pair set off for the post-office, where they found Miss Titus in a kind of mollified humor, probably caused by the fact that the couple had returned from their quest unsuccessful.

"Miss Titus," said Eph,

when they had reached the counter of the store, "I waant to come 'round in the back of the office an' look at somethin'."

"You're welcome to examine anything here," replied Miss Titus, with a toss of her head.

Eph walked solemnly behind the boxes with his lanky stride, followed by Miss Titus and Aunt Olympia.

"Will you pull out that drawer in the letter-box for me?" asked Eph, without hesitation.

Miss Titus and Aunt Olympia both stared at Eph, but the



former did as he asked and pulled out the drawer. Eph then went down on his knees, and putting his hand into the letter-box felt round the inside of it, until presently, when he had reached the space over the top of the aperture, where there was a little ledge caused by the carpentry work, he stopped, tugged for a moment, and then drawing out his hand brought something with it which caused him to use once more his mysterious phrase "By gol!"

When they saw that it was the lost letter, Miss Titus grew red in the face and Aunt Olympia almost fainted. Recovering herself Aunt Olympia looked long and curiously at Eph for a few seconds, and then said, in her usual positive and deliberate tones,

"What sorts of things a fool will think of that nobody in their senses ever would do!"

Eph did not say anything. He was gazing at the ceiling with a solemn grin on his face, as usual, apparently the most self-satisfied being in the world.

ARTHUR FIELD.

HELPS IN MANY CAREERS.

ACTORS, authors, artists, and business men tell what helped them most in their lifework. Interesting bits of autobiography given specially for DEMOREST'S MAGAZINE by Helena Modjeska, Rose Coghlan, Francis Wilson, Marie Tempest, Gen. O. O. Howard, John B. Claffin, Charles L. Tiffany, Oliver Sumner Teall, Daniel C. French, Sydney Rosenfeld, F. Hopkinson Smith.

HELENA MODJESKA, TRAGEDIENNE.

Almost all are helped in their life by some principle of philosophy; but in their lifework, their art, or their pro-

fession, it is not philosophy alone which helps,—it must be something more.

To be specific: I have been helped most as an actress, first, by long and hard study; and second, by never being satisfied until I dominate the role which I am to play. These are acquired helps. Everyone, I believe, has some natural attributes which must be the primary helps. I have mine. First, I had a fondness for the stage even in childhood, and this I should call a natural love for my art; second, I

have a keen instinct by which I judge quickly; and third, I have the power of perseverance.

For instance, my father objected to my going on the stage. I had the instinct to know that if I persevered I could obtain his consent, so I resorted to every argument that would appeal to his better self. Finally I won his permission to appear in a charitable performance. The result was he was told that I displayed talent and should be allowed to develop it, and so, at last, he actually assisted in organizing a company and starting me on a tour as a star.

ROSE COGHLAN, EMOTIONAL ACTRESS.

Your question seems to me to necessitate in its answer something which may appear to be self-sufficient; for I am

going to say that the elements which have helped me most in my lifework are personal magnetism and physical endur-

ance. Perhaps I might sum up these two elements in that most desirable of fortunes—health; for it is health that makes possible both magnetism and endurance. I feel my audience and know when I am holding it.

Then, too, another thing which must have helped me is that rather vaguely defined quantity called dramatic instinct. In my first season I began in the smallest part, and finished as leading lady. Peo-

ple called this success; and if it was, rather, a step toward success, it must have been the outcome of dramatic instinct, for I was not then fired with great histrionic ambitions, nor with lofty aspirations to become an actress of renown. It was not until I drifted to America that I viewed dramatic art as my profession and pursued it seriously. Since then, to the natural elements which have helped me I have added labor, and plenty of it.

FRANCIS WILSON, COMEDIAN.

It is difficult for one to say exactly what helped him most in his career. There are so many turning-points in life that it is

hard to determine at which point one was helped the most. However, if I must reduce my answer to a single statement, I will say prolonged endeavor. Perhaps this is but another way of saying "Try, try again;" but prolonged endeavor seems to me to convey the impression, not of trying periodically, but continuously.

Whether failing or succeeding, I think I have always been endeavoring to do better. To this add thrift and temperate



habits, and I think you have the things that helped me most.

MARIE TEMPEST, PRIMA DONNA.

What helped me most? My voice. Ah, but it is the underlying helps that make the voice possible, which I must

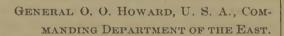


enumerate in order to answer your question properly. In other words, the question is reduced to, What has helped me to maintain my voice? Now it was no philosophical theory, nor any stereotyped motto of life, for I have neither. Well! I'll tell you what it was. It was a regular and simple life; plain food, plenty of sleep, and mental peace. Upon these depend health, and through health the voice. After this, the thing which helped was taking my art seriously and giving my whole life up to it. And—well—I think

there was something more. It was self-discipline; for I have devoted whole weeks of hours to patient study and practice.

Of course there are other qualifications besides a musical education necessary to success on the stage. The most important of these are, perhaps, elocutionary skill, dramatic art, and physical culture, all of which I had unconsciously acquired in years of study before I entered stageland. As a matter of fact, I never expected to live my life in the operatic world; but my family met with financial reverses, and of course I had to turn from amateur singing to professional. It is since

then that I have been helped in the manner I have named. Will it seem strange if I add that my ideal of life would not be lived on the stage? I prefer, rather, the quiet domestic life of the home.



Perhaps the thing which has helped me above everything else in my life is Christian faith. I believe that all who follow the example set by our Saviour can derive

from it the most lasting and most satisfactory help in all that makes life.

JOHN CLAFLIN, HEAD OF THE H. B. CLAFLIN CO.

I should think that all business men of whom this question is asked would reply, industry. Certainly that is what helps every merchant. I cannot say that I have worked hard myself, in the generally accepted sense of work, but I feel that I have been industrious; and if I have made any success at all, I attribute it to unremitting industry. Perhaps, also, I had business qualities which by development have aided me; but it was industry which helped along the development. Industry counts, of course, but not for success or fame unless

it is backed by sound moral qualities.



If I were asked to tell young men what will help them most to success in business, I should say: Be honest; be on the lookout for opportunities; if no opportunities arise, make them; be certain you are on safe ground, and advance cautiously; be firm in an opinion, and hold to a decision once formed; eat and sleep at regular hours, and reduce your whole life to its simplest common denominator.

CHARLES F. TIFFANY, FOUNDER AND PRESENT HEAD OF TIFFANY & CO.

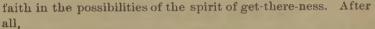
Industry and capable assistants,—this is my reply to your question as to what has most helped me. I do not believe that industry will do all; one must have others to aid him who are also industrious, and together they must work toward the one end. Surely the man, particularly the merchant, who surrounds himself by the most capable assistants has the best chances of success.



OLIVER SUMNER TEALL, BUSINESS MAN AND SOCIETY LEADER.

Your question resolves itself into a problem. The solution must be a combination of answers to the main problem and to its side issues. But first, is it possible in all cases for one to be honest in his reply to this question without appearing to be the very quintessence of conceit?

Supposing, for instance, the thing that helped a man most should be real genius backed by executive ability. Would that man have the nerve to say so? Now I am not hinting that these are the misfortunes which helped me. My helps were not natural, but acquired. They include not one thing, but several. They were perhaps a jostling of elbows with the world, the resultant study and knowledge of human nature, and an unfaltering



'Tis neither wealth Nor rank nor fate, But "git up and git" That makes men great.

Do you want me to sum all this up in two words? Well, here they are: American push.

DANIEL CHESTER FRENCH, SCULPTOR OF THE FAMOUS STATUE OF THE REPUBLIC.

To your question I am at a loss to reply. I should say that a tolerably strong constitution and the ability to work had helped me as much as anything. I also apply myself to my work not at set hours, but at all times. He who would succeed in any field of art can have no "hours," no Sundays, no holidays, no vacation. He must simply give all himself and all his time to the work in hand.



SYDNEY ROSENFELD, AUTHOR OF "THE SENATOR," "THE POSSIBLE CASE," ETC.

If you mean what has helped me most as a playwright, I reply, A facility in writing dialogue. This, of course, is not all that is necessary to write a play; you must first have a plot. But then, almost everyone can furnish you with a plot, and it is given only to the few to write the play; hence, if the dialogue is not all of the play, it is certainly the most important part.

I have always had this love of writing dialogue. I remember that at school I



gained distinction for neglecting my lessons in order to write bits of funny dialogue, and to make little scraps of songs for the boys to sing, for which malady my father administered many a dose of strap, and my mother, of slipper; but the medicine only furnished me with material for more songs.

F. HOPKINSON SMITH, AUTHOR, ARTIST, ENGINEER, AND LECTURER.

I will tell you what has helped me in everything that I have undertaken. I call it fixedness of purpose. I make



contracts not only with the government, but make them with myself, too; and in carrying out this form of help I have resorted to all sorts of ridiculous tricks to bind myself.

For instance, when I was building the Race Rock Lighthouse, off New London Harbor, in Long Island Sound, I made two very original covenants with myself. No one of the stones forming the foundation weighed less than six tons. Now

when we began laying those stones the top button of my coat came off, and I contracted with myself not to have it sewed on till the stones appeared above water; and I kept the contract, taking a cold in payment. Then I resolved not to get my hair cut till the course was finished; and as a result I went about with my hair streaming over my shoulders in truly æsthetic fashion.

ARRANGED BY GILSON WILLETS.

A Pair of April Fools.

'LL bet five cents you get fooled before the day is over!"

Ted Barton grinned provokingly across the table at his pretty sister Nan, who had just laughingly made her boast that no one would be able to take her in with any first of April jokes.

At Ted's exclamation she only replied, lightly, "Nonsense, Ted! It would take a smarter boy than you are to fool me." Then she went out to help her father on with his overcoat preparatory to going on his daily rounds among his patients.

Ted looked at her departing figure and snickered softly, and when the aforesaid trim little figure had vanished, in blissful unconsciousness of coming evil, the young scamp executed a hornpipe, and then holding his sides laughed until the tears stood in his mischievous eyes.

Two hours later Nan answered the postman's ring and returned with a letter in her hand, which she opened at once. Ted watched her slyly. Womanlike she looked at once to see who it was from, and a rush of rosy color flooded her pretty face, deepening as she read, while her dark eyes grew luminous with joy. As soon as she had finished reading her letter she ran out of the library and up to her own room.

Ted was twelve years old, but as soon as Nan had left the room he immediately proceeded to stand upon his head and flourish his naughty heels high in the air.

Nan sat in her room, her sweet face still flushed, and her heart swelling with joy. Presently she raised the letter to her lips and pressed a quick, shy kiss upon it, and then opened and read it again. What she read was as follows:

"MISS NAN BARTON:

"Dear Nan,—I have long tried to tell you that I love you. Could you love me enough to become my wife?

"Yours in hope,

"JACK AKERS."

Tears of humility and joy stood in Nan's soft brown eyes. Jack Akers—the talented young journalist and author—loved her! She had almost dared to hope, sometimes, that he was not entirely indifferent to her, and she—why! did not her foolish, tender little heart beat in a most unruly manner whenever she was in Jack Akers' presence? Nevertheless this proposal was a surprise; for although handsome Jack Akers had frequently been at her father's house, and had seemed to find her company very pleasant, he had never spoken a word to her that anyone might not have heard,—and yet he had loved her all the time!

Nan read the letter over and over. It was a beautiful thing to her. What if the handwriting was a little scratchy? That was because Jack was literary; she had always heard that the penmanship of literary people was proverbially bad.

She was very happy all day; and when Ted asked her slyly who her letter was from, she laid her hand with more than usual gentleness upon his curly head, and said, brightly,

"Never mind, Teddy dear. Perhaps I will tell you by and by."

It was strange, but someway the pressure of that soft little hand hurt Ted, and an odd lump rose in his throat. Yes, it was certainly queer, but all at once he found it impossible to look into Nan's happy face and his eyes sought the floor, while as Nan passed on and ran lightly up the stairs he gazed after her remorsefully.

"I say!" he muttered, "it was a nasty trick! I never thought she liked him, and I meant to tell her right away. But now—"

Ted was beginning to find out that "the way of the transgressor is hard." He felt as though it would be impossible to tell Nan the truth now. Anyway, he would put off the evil hour until night, and then when she came to kiss him good-night, as she had always done since their mother died, three years before, he would make a clean breast of it. So, satisfying his conscience, he rushed off to spend the afternoon with his chum, and forgot all about it.

When he came home at four o'clock Nan sat with her wraps on, warming her feet before the library fire.

"Hillo, Nan! Where've you been?" was Ted's first greeting.

"I just ran down street to post a letter, dear," returned Nan, absently, gazing dreamily into the fire.

The intelligence acted like an electric shock upon Ted. For an instant he gazed at her pretty profile in great consternation; then he came up to her and said, in a somewhat strained voice,

"Nan, you never answered that letter you got this morning so soon as this, did you?"

"Why, Teddy, you don't think it was too soon, do you?" asked Nan, anxiously, wondering how Ted had guessed her secret

"Well," mumbled Ted, incoherently, "seems sort of sudden,—same day, you know."

"I can't help it now," murmured Nan, in a slightly troubled voice; "and, Teddy dear, I may as well tell you that it was from Mr. Akers, and in it he asked me to be his wife."

Such a beatified look as Nan's face wore. But Ted's face was scarlet; Nan thought he was going to cry.

"But you never told him you would, Nan!" he said, faintly.

"Why, yes, dear brother, I did, for I love him with all my heart."

Ted groaned. Life was not a bed of roses to him at that moment.

"Don't feel bad, Teddy dear," said Nan, gently. "I shall love you just the same. I have tried to be both mother and sister to you since dear mamma died, and I shall still try to."

That troublesome lump had gotten into Ted's throat again.

"Are you not the least bit glad for me, Teddy, when I am so happy?" asked Nan, softly.

Ted made a dive for the pretty gloved hand, pressed a hasty kiss upon it, and then dashed out of the door and out of the house. But a round, discolored spot was left on Nan's dainty glove where a big salt tear from Ted's eyes had fallen. Nan looked at it, half-smiling, half-sad.

"Dear boy!" she said, "I did not think he would feel it so deeply."

Ted rushed pell-mell down the street, his only thought to recover Nan's letter, if possible, before it reached Jack Akers, and thus save his sister that humiliation. But, alas! he was too late, for Nan had been out some time, and had posted her letter at once. Ted had a bad quarter of an hour then, and for the first time in his life it occurred to him that boys were really a superfluous element in creation.

In comfortable bachelor apartments uptown, a handsome, blond young fellow sat before the fire holding an open letter in his hand, which trembled slightly with emotion of some sort. His face wore an expression of extreme astonishment mingled with joy.

"What can it mean?" he said, aloud, the puzzled look deepening in his handsome eyes. "I have received your letter," she says,—and I haven't written her a letter. I wonder,—by George! That's it! It is the first of April, and some unprincipled scoundrel has written the poor child a letter purporting to come from me. A nasty trick, but a lucky one for me! I should never have dared to ask her. And she loves me,—bless her sweet eyes!"

If Jack Akers was not at that moment the happiest man alive, he at least looked it. He had loved pretty Nan Barton for months; but he was only a young journalist, as yet scarcely more than well launched upon his career. To be sure, he had gained some reputation, more reputation than money, in fact, as is frequently the case, and last year he had published a book which had been fairly successful; but the proceeds from a "fairly successful" book don't go very far toward filling the author's pocketbook. Jack Akers had been lionized a good deal, but he had the rueful consciousness, that comes sooner or later to most young authors, that "all is not gold that glitters;" and the gold being conspicuous for its absence, he would never have dared to ask Nan Barton, the daughter of a wealthy and successful physician, to marry him.

His ecstatic meditations were disturbed by a maid entering to light the gas.

"There's a boy downstairs, sir, who insists upon seeing you." she said.

Jack frowned at the interruption of his pleasant thoughts.

"Send him up," he said, with slight impatience. A moment later Ted Barton stood in the room.

"Why hillo, Ted! This is a pleasant surprise. Come up to the fire," said Jack, cordially, surprised, nevertheless, at seeing who his visitor was.

Ted came straight over and stood beside him.

"Mr. Akers," he said, bravely, "you received a letter from my sister Nan this afternoon, didn't you?"

A sudden intelligence shot into Jack Akers' handsome eyes. He held up the dainty missive, and smiled.

Ted's face grew very red, but he did not hesitate.

"Mr. Akers,—sir," he said, earnestly, "you must not blame our Nan for that. I've come to tell you all about it." Then, swallowing very fast, Ted blurted out the whole story. The fine eyes of the young man before him never left his

face until he had finished, and then Jack Akers put his arm about the boy and drew him gently to him.

"Well, Ted, my boy," he said, kindly, "do you think it was a very manly thing to do?"

"No sir," answered Ted, in a strangely choked voice, "I think it was beastly mean!"

"I am sure you think so, Ted, and I am glad you came here and made a clean breast of it. It was the right thing to do; and since you have done this, I believe you are a boy to be trusted. Do you think you could keep a secret, Ted? If I should trust you with one, you would not betray my confidence?"

"'Is thy servant a dog?" asked Ted, indignantly.

The strong mouth under the tawny mustache twitched slightly, but Jack continued, gravely:

"It's just this, my boy: you must keep all this a strict secret. Nan must never know but that I wrote that letter. Do you understand?"

"Why!" cried Ted, blankly, "she will have to know! Do you think I expect you to marry Nan whether you want to or not?"

Jack laughed softly and tightened his arm about the boyish figure.

"But what if I want to, Ted? Suppose I should tell you that my desire, above all others, has been to marry Nan, but that I feared to ask her because I have not a fine home to take her to."

Ted gazed at him with startled eyes.

"Is it the truth,—honor bright?" He gasped.

"' Honor bright,' Ted," replied Jack, smiling.

"Glory!" shouted Ted; he couldn't help it, the relief was so sudden. He gave Jack a hearty slap on the shoulder, and then went off into a sudden peal of merriment.

"It's as good as a circus!" he shouted.

Jack smiled indulgently.

"You have done me a good turn, Ted," he said, "but you deserve no thanks for it." Then the smiling eyes grew grave as Jack continued, seriously: "Never do such a thing again, my boy; practical jokes seldom turn out well. And remember," he added, as Ted was departing, "Nan is not to know."

"Mum's the word!" replied Ted, emphatically.

Two hours later Jack Akers sat in Dr. Barton's handsome parlor with Nan beside him, and his arm had someway found its way around her waist. Ted passed along the hall and glanced slyly in. Jack caught sight of him and called out, heartily:

"Come in, Ted, I want to shake hands with you. I am to be your brother. Don't you congratulate me?"

"You bet!" answered Ted, "and myself, too!" he added, significantly. Then he turned abruptly and marched out of the room.

"Don't go, Teddy dear," Nan called after him, "we don't want to be selfish because we are happy."

"Don't you think we look happy, old fellow?" called Jack, boisterously.

Ted had almost closed the door, but he opened it again, and putting his head inside, said, wickedly,

"I think you look like a pair of April fools!"

"I declare!" cried Nan, smiling, "I had completely forgotten that it was the first of April! Well, nobody succeeded in fooling me!"

And it was not until she had been a wife for more than a year that her husband told her the story of Ted's letter; and then, if the truth must be told, she did not seem to be greatly disturbed by it.

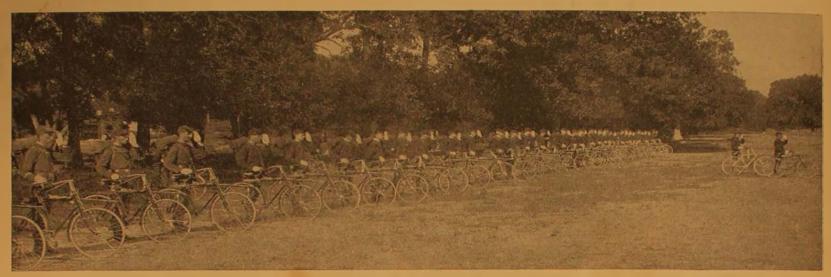
ELIZABETH A. VORE.

Modern Uses of the Bicycle.

F a fin de siècle artist should attempt to depict Diana in accordance with the ideas of these eminently practical days, he would probably think it appropriate to represent her mounted on a bicycle, skimming along a pike at a brisk pace, with her nether limbs draped in a divided skirt to facilitate her movements and impart to them the requisite artistic grace.

Not only is the bicyclist omnipresent in these days, crop-

connected with the adaptation of it to novel purposes. For certain branches of army service it would seem that the bicycle is peculiarly appropriate. Major-General Miles, of the United States Army, thinks so well of it that after organizing one corps at Fort Sheridan he has given instructions for the formation of several additional corps. The National Guard in a number of States, including, notably, Pennsylvania, New York, Illinois, Massachusetts, Ohio, and Connecticut, have also equipped companies with wheels; and at the opening ceremonies of the Chicago Exposition the Toledo Cadets, a part of the Ohio National Guard mounted



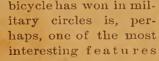
TOLEDO CADETS, O. N. G.

ping up in the most out-of-the-way and unexpected places, but to what numberless uses is the "wheel" put in our utilitarian age! First, we hear of a company of some regiment of the National Guard being mounted on bicycles, followed by the similar equipment of letter-carriers, drummers, messenger-boys, and the whole list of the traveling public, down, or up, to the prudent theatrical company which, remembering past experiences and the inconvenience of risking a homeward journey on foot, secures a comfortable, if not enjoyable, retreat on the economical wheel.

The cost of a really good bicycle is a decided obstacle in the way of the more general introduction of these vehicles; but in cases where a horse would otherwise have to be employed, the saving is so obvious that no comparison can be instituted as to expense. The bicycle has so many points

of advantage in other ways over its animated rival, that its growing popularity should not occasion any particular surprise.

The favorable opinion which the bicycle has won in mil-





A TRICK BICYCLIST.

on wheels, were given a prominent place in the procession, at the head of the cavalry, and presented a very smart appearance. The illustration we give of this corps shows the company at drill, and, as may be seen, the soldierly bearing



MILITARY BICYCLE.

of the troops is in no way impaired by the style of their mounting.

At Pittsburg a still more remarkable innovation has been made by equipping a battery of artillery in the National

Guard with wheels. During some maneuvers last summer sixty artillery-men connected with this company were equipped with bicycles, and rode on ahead of the battery to arrange details for the march. The Brigade Signal Corps of Connecticut has also been fitted out with wheels for the purpose of enhancing its efficiency. The company carries quite a large amount of material in its equipment, including rifle, signal flags, blanket, and overcoat, the general baggage, also two heliographs, telegraph and telephone apparatus, camera, cyclometer, barometer,



DELIVERING MAIL IN THE COUNTRY.

balloons were sent up from the Esplanade des Invalides, in charge of aeronauts, who were instructed to descend within an hour as close to a given point as possible after traversing a district including about a twenty-mile radius. A company of cyclists was then dispatched from the Esplanade to capture any of the balloons which might fail to cross the territory they were to clear. Two of the balloons failed to reach a point outside the twenty-mile radius and were captured by the cyclists before they could make their escape. The authorities were well pleased with the efficient work of the cyclists.

thy of notice. Five

It may be appropriate to mention here that in no country in the world has the bicycle become more popular than in France. A recent estimate places the number of persons owning machines of their own at three hundred thousand, in addition to the numbers who hire wheels. French women seem particularly fond of the wheel; and the stylish modistes are commissioned to produce bewildering effects in costumes for the fair patrons of the captivating pastime. Even the carriage is frequently discarded for the subtle enchantment of the wheel, in which the fair Parisienne seems to have discovered some new and exceptionally exhilarating pleasure. A not uncommon sight in Paris is that of a lady who pre-

vious to mounting her bicycle slips off her long skirt, from which she emerges in full bicycling costume, and hands it to her to care for while she nimbly mounts her machine. A novelty recently presented at the Théatre Gaieté, Paris, was a spectacular bicycle play, which is described as having been quite a success. The leading Parisian theaters have added check-rooms for bicycles to their other accommodations, as so many of their patrons wend their way to the play upon the favorite wheel.

Some clever feats are performed on the bicycle by trick riders. One of our illustrations shows an act performed by Kaufman, who is supposed to be the greatest of these acrobat-bicyclers, and as the illustration has been taken from a photograph, it is not in any way exaggerated.

Next to the adoption of the bicycle for military purposes, the most important industrial use to which it has been applied is in connection with the postal service. The postal departments of Washington, Chicago, Brooklyn, and other important centers, have success-



A DRUMMER IN THE COUNTRY.

fully introduced the bicycle for their letter-carriers and delivery work, the advantages of its use being most conspicuous in the suburbs, where calls are less frequent than in the crowded sections. The bicycle is probably destined to play a most important part in the postal delivery system of the future. It is estimated that the sparsely populated districts of States having no free postal delivery could be effectively supplied with such a service at a cost not exceeding that of delivery in the crowded centers, if roads were provided over which bicycles could travel.

A petition recently presented to Congress, in favor of a Department of Roads being established by the government, contained the following estimate concerning the possibilities of an extended bicycle postal-service:

"That one postman, so equipped and carrying not to exceed seventy-five pounds weight of mail, can daily serve the people of a district con-



MESSENGER-BOYS.



taining thirty miles of continuous good road; or sixty miles of less thickly populated country, every other day; or ninety miles more thinly populated, twice a week; or one hundred and eighty miles sparsely populated, once a week; and thus each postman may serve as many families as the average number served by one postman in cities."

That such a system would be of immense benefit to the population of outlying districts and tend to aid in the more rapid development of remote places cannot be doubted; and provided the roads existed there would be a great inducement to settlers from the fact that a bicycle ride would bring them to the local centers which would spring up at various points. In this

A FIREMAN'S WHEEL.

direction the bicycle might prove a useful adjunct to civilization by helping to prevent the congestion of population in a few densely crowded centers, which is one of the most undesirable tendencies of the times.

Bicycles have

afforded by the bicycle, neglecting business, home, and family, to spend all the time they could spare from rest on the wheel, to which, like Ixion, they seemed to be in separably bound.

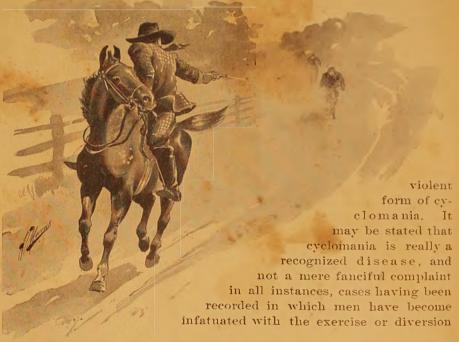
CYCLISTS CHASING A HORSE-THIEF.

> The "London Lancet" some time ago printed

been utilized largely by commercial travelers not carrying very heavy samples, who cover districts where railroad facilities are limited. A large spool-cotton house recently equipped and started a number of their representatives on wheels; and the enterprising drummer may often be seen lingering in front of the country store, note-book in hand, capturing an order from some rustic dealer far from the beaten track of the regular traveler.

One of the most common sights in Washington is a messenger-boy astride the wheel; and, indeed, the principal part of the service at the National Capital is performed by the aid of bicycles. They have recently been introduced into the telegraph stations of Philadelphia, where a revolution has been effected in the very nature of the messenger-boy by the innovation, if the press reports are to be relied upon concerning the matter. Wheels have been placed in the various stations, and to those boys who have acquired the art of riding them higher pay is guaranteed than to their pedestrian comrades. Every boy carries in his hat a record showing the best time he has made, and it is said the spirit of emulation is so strong that the proverbial dilatoriness of the messengerboy is a thing of the past, and the messengers are to be seen flying over car-tracks, cobblestones, and gutters as if their very lives depended upon the rate of speed attained.

The bicycle craze is said to have affected the general staff at the telegraph stations in such a manner that managers, operators, inspectors, and the rest are all attacked with a



District to the second of the

EMPLOYE OF ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY.

a very grave and dignified article announcing the discovery of a new disease which had been classified, medically, as kyphosis bicyclistarum. The disease is alleged to be the result of bicycle riding by juvenile cyclists, caused by the stooping attitude, which produces an aggravated form of spinal

they overhauled after an eight-mile run, near Centreville Station. Discovering the object of their pursuit, the run-away turned and fired a revolver, one of the shots taking effect in the pneumatic tire of one of the wheels. He was nevertheless held till the sheriff came up and relieved the

amateur policemen of their prisoner.

A machine which attracted some attention at the Chicago Exposition is designed for the use of firemen, and is intended to be an auxiliary to the regular service. It is now being experimented with by one of the Boston companies, with a view to its utilization for small fires, where only limited assistance is needed. The equipment consists of a small tank containing two gallons of chem-

icals, equal to twelve pails of water, for extinguishing purposes, and a fire-axe, the whole outfit weighing only sixty pounds. It will probably, if adopted, be principally reserved for suburban use in cases of trifling alarms, and may also be quite serviceable in rural sections. Employees of the electric-light companies whose duty it is to renew the carbons in the street lights have utilized the bicycle for making their rounds.

A novel equipment was recently built in England for the French traveler M. Jacquet-Morel, consisting of a portable bicycle-raft for crossing rivers. When journeying on land the raft is packed on the front of an ordinary safety bicycle, and in a few minutes it can be unpacked, and may be propelled across



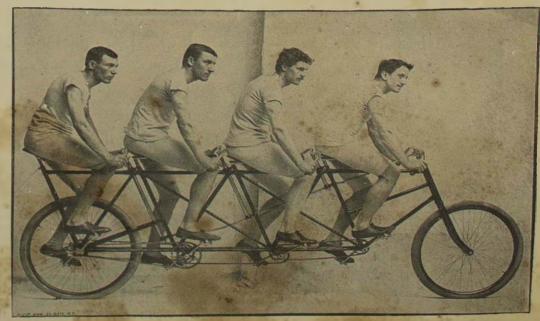
BICYCLE CATAMARAN.

curvature due to the abnormal amount of exercise forced upon the dorsal regions of the spine. "Shoulders back! Chest forward! Eyes front!" must be the watchword of all who would avoid kyphosis bicyclistarum, or, as the humorists designate it, kyphosis bicyclistararumism. These irrepressible jokers assert furthermore that the apparent curvature of the trunk in time becomes permanent, the rider gradually assuming the form of the wheel, a perfect circle being the final stage of kyphosis, which is declared to be past all medical aid.

The mounting of a squad of Park policemen on wheels in Philadelphia was announced some time since, and has been followed by similar departures in other cities. The police departments in this country have not yet made much progress in the adoption of bicycles for the regular force, although in Liverpool a large number of patrolmen and roundsmen have been furnished with mounts. The Pinkerton detective agency utilizes bicycles quite often in cases where it is necessary to follow parties for the purpose of shadowing their movements, less suspicion being aroused by the fact that a person on a bicycle is slowly following in one's wake than if it were a pedestrian hovering in the rear. A case which should demonstrate the advantage of having the police mounted upon bicycles occurred at Belleville, Illinois, a short time ago. A horsethief passed through the town, whom the police were instructed to pursue. While the sheriff and jailer were getting their horses, four bicyclists started to chase the thief, whom



BICYCLE FOR A ONE-LEGGED MAN.



THE QUADRUPLET.



A FAMILY BICYCLE.

the stream by means of the rear wheel of the machine. A high record of speed was obtained by a catamaran built on similar principles to this raft.

A couple of Chicago evangelists, known as the "Rev. Morrill Twins," who are almost indistinguishable from one another in personal appearance, have recently been making extensive tours on a tandem bicycle through the broad and booming West, exhorting sinners to repent. Bicycles have also been found of great service by cripples, who, by having machines constructed specially to accommodate their infirmities, have been able to travel in comfort and resume an active part in life. The illustration showing a one-legged man riding a bicycle affords an example of these adaptations. Machines are also announced which will be propelled by springs and electricity, so that when fatigued, or suffering from "a natural tired feeling," the bicyclist can enjoy his ride with ease.

The craze for pace-making in bicycling records has led to the production of the Quadruplet Wheel, a photograph of which we give. The machine is built entirely with a view to speed and strength, and will carry four persons, each weighing two hundred and fifty pounds. The exact limit of speed to which it can be put is unknown, although four men have ridden the Quadruplet a quarter of a mile in less than twenty-four seconds. Something in the way of a lightning flyer may ultimately develop from this new style of vehicle. The addition of children's seats and parcel-carriers to the ordinary bicycle suggests family touring which should



ON A TANDEM.

be expeditious, economical, and fairly comfortable to the experienced rider; and the tandem has proved a most delightful medium for *tête-à-tête* excursion.

For information and courtesies, thanks are due to the Pope Manufacturing Co.; Gormully & Jeffery; Rouse, Hazard & Co.; E. C. Stearns & Co.; Gendron Iron Wheel Co.; and the editor of the "New York Wheel."

THE ROAD TO FAME OR FORTUNE.

HOW TO BECOME SUCCESSFUL PROFESSIONAL WOMEN.

BY MARGARET BISLAND.

(Continued from Page 289.)

SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS CHAPTERS.

Miss Bessie Singleton's father, overwhelmed with financial trouble, took his own life, leaving his wife and children penniless. Bessie, but just introduced into society at the time of the calamity, received news of it by telegram, while she was at a ball in the company of a gentleman who had shown her very marked attention. She is the close of the children, and in the time of trouble was the comfort and stay of all, planned for the future, and settled the family in a little house in the village after they left their own beautiful home. She secured a position for herself in the public school; but after a few months gave it up to a younger sister, came to New York to try her fortunes as a journalist, and sought employment in a newspaper office. After repeated rebuffs, the editor of the Daily Meteor consented to give her "space" work: that is, she is to take an assignment every day and write it up, and at the end of the week is to be paid for the space she has filled. Returning from this interview to her boarding-house she ran against a Miss Carter, an artist, in the vestibule; mutual apologies and explanations ensued, and Bessie accepted an invitation from Miss Carter to take tea in her studio on the next day. Her companion of the ball had written her one or two courteous but formal letters before she left home, and this evening she found in her room a bouquet of hot-house roses from him, and a note stating that as he was called out of town he had sent the roses to welcome her to New York.

Betty went out on her first assignment in a blinding snowstorm, wrote what she considered an excellent account that would fill a column, and then went to the tea at Miss Carter's studio. Here she met Nellie O'Conner, an actress, Jean McFarlan, a young physician, and Gretchen and Isabel Müller, one a singer, the other a musician. They elected Betty a member of their club, the Pleiades, and she started homeward, on the way meeting a wealthy young lady who had made her debut at the same time with herself. The heiress patronized Betty, but of course was not very cordial; yet Betty felt very happy in her independence. The next morning she bought a Meteor and found her work of the previous day cut down to a single paragraph, and on demanding an explanation was told that her work was "trashy," and that she must be brief. Sadly disappointed, as she had been calculating on pay for a column, she started on another assignment, turned in her "copy," and going home found a card from her friend Mr. Fenwick Huntington. Still more disappointed at not

seeing him, she rushed up stairs to find Miss Carter waiting for her to request that she would come to her studio as soon as she could find leisure, to get points for an article about Miss Carter, to be published in an art paper. The next afternoon she went to the studio, when Miss Carter told her how, after the death of her grandfather, with whom she lived, she had taught school, and saved, and starved, almost, until she got together three hundred dollars, with which she came to New York, entered at the Art Students' League, had to begin in the lowest classes, but, possessing talent, steadily worked up until she was able to open a studio for herself. This interview resulted in the formation of a strong friendship between the two women. Almost every day until she was able to open a studio for herself. This interview resulted in the formation of a strong friendship between the two women. Almost every day Betty would drop in at Miss Carter's studio and tell her about her discouragements and her successes: how she had few assignments, but turned to good account every "catchy" thing she saw, writing it up for her paper and thus adding to her earnings; how she sometimes was snubbed when she interviewed ladies on society matters; how she went to a fashionable ball to write up the dresses and encountered Mr. Huntington and Miss Van Tassie, her former rival, in the entrance hall, who revenged herself by speaking quite derisively to Mr. Huntington about women as reporters. But with It all, she was comparatively happy, and conscious of achieving some degree of success. Meanwhile Nellie O'Conner, the actress, had an opportunity to take a leading part, and was to make her first appearance on her birthday, and the Piciades determined to give her a birthday surprise-party, to which a number of friends of the plant of the same building with Miss Carter, and shout, when Betty had the Plefades were to be invited, among them the Great Bear, an artist having a studio in the same building with Miss Carter, and about whom Betty had a theory of her own that he might be the lost Pleiad.



readmess, the table loaded with all the dainties five scant purses could supply, Fanny Carter's assortment of brass, pewter, and silver candlesticks were filled to permit of an artistic illumination,

and Fanny herself painted souvenir cards for the guests and laid a royal fire, the Müllers brought their music along, and Jean bore in, amid cheers, her contribution, a small but handsome birth-

> day-cake well loaded with the proper surprises for the guests.

"If only we had a few flowers it would be quite perfect," said Fanny, look-

ing around with a gratified smile. "Gretchen, I hope you got all the invitations off

A knock interrupted Gretchen's reply, and when Betty opened the door she found a huge parcel wrapped in waxed paper, on the floor, and a note addressed to "The Pleiades."

"A joke," said someone.

A joke, indeed; for when the lightly caught paper fell apart a huge cluster of dewy pink roses was disclosed to view, with six little bouquets of violets. Inside

the envelope was found a card, on which, in a delicate hand, last moment to fill a gap," quoth a second.

"The Great Bear accepts with pleasure the kind invitation of the Pleiades to sup this evening, and begs the Pleiades will receive the small expression of gratitude the Great Bear is able to make for the generous hospitality the Pleiades offer a lonely stranger."

'Dear me! however did he know we called him 'the Great Bear,'" murmured Jean to her guilty companions; "and yet he seems to use the nickname more in amusement than anger."

"The janitor's wife, I fear, has told on us," confessed Fanny, shamefacedly. "I think we would better apologize to him this evening.'

"No man bears malice or hatred in his heart who sends a peace-offering like these," remarked Betty, complacently sniffing at each rose separately; "and

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these violets! Oh, smell, girls! real sweet ones! Think how fine we shall look for Nellie with these in the breasts of our gowns!"

Nellie's chance proved a veritable hit, and the five young

women in sober gowns with bunches of odorous violets at their breasts applauded with a right good will. There was a full and fashionable audience, the play was new and by an eminent author, and Nellie on her entrance was kindly applauded. Her voice trembled a bit, her manner was nervous, and the first act left the Pleiades holding hands and their breath unconsciously.

"Do you know," whispered Jean, down the line, "the Great Bear is here? I saw him come in as the

curtain went up; you can see his bushy black head streaked with gray, over the top of that woman's pink bonnet.'

"She looked truly lovely in that white gown; and her big dark eyes, how they shone!" murmured Betty.

On all sides they heard the new leading lady discussed in pleasantly complimentary tones. Directly in front of the girls sat, however, a group of gentlemen whom Betty recog-

nized as the dramatic critics of the leading newspapers, and a thrill of resentment ran through the Pleiades when one of the critics, turning to the other,

"This new comer is destined to spoil the play. No force nor fire, no magnetism."

"Amateur, I dare say; some incompetent caught up at the

"The stage is in a pretty bad way when a raw girl

is put in the place of an artist like Miss Bacus, groaned another.

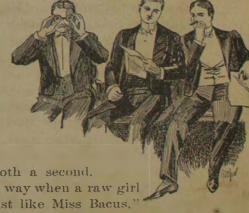
"An imposition on the public, by Jove!" remarked the first man.

Five pair of bright, angry eyes glowering at the three gentlemen might have disturbed them had they known it; but they sat in ironical unconsciousness of Betty's wild desire to poke them with her hat-pin, or Miss MacFarlan's muffled wish to give them a good piece of her mind. Miss Carter smiled comfortably.

"She is only nervous a bit; the talent is bound to show soon; just wait," she whispered, and then the curtain rose once more.

This time there were no quavers in the clear, musical roice of the leading lady; gracefully she moved about the





stage, her gestures were free and fine. Twice a ripple of applause ran over the audience, here and there the people sat erect in their seats, some leaned forward earnestly. A note of pathos broke through the comedy of the part; how low and tender the Irish voice could grow! Five shabby hats



nodded nervously, and five handkerchiefs covered pink noses and tear-dimmed eyes. Ah! just hear the ringing accents! The climax had arrived, and grasping a crimson curtain the

heroine poured out her confession, her scorn, her grief, her despair, and held out her white arms piteously to her hero.

"Ah, Raymond, forgive, forgive. I was wrong, wicked, cruel, if you will; but I have repented, I have made reparation. Be merciful to me as I could be merciful, and as the man whose love I took and then threw away was merciful."

But the hero cruelly turned from her, and in all her stage bridal-robes the lovely heroine stepped forward, staggered, fell, and, her white draperies billowing about her, lay fainting at the hero's feet.

Three times was the curtain rung up to permit the excited, enthusiastic audience to catch a glimpse of their new favorite. The Pleiades nearly burst their best gloves in the

effort at swelling the repeated chorus of appreciative applause, and Betty poked Miss Carter vigorously in the ribs to call her attention to the actions of the newspaper critics. They were using their hands to good effect, and repeating to each other, in tones of genuine admiration:

each other, in tones of genuine admiration:

"Excellent! Excellent!" "Lots of talent!" "Gives
promise of real genius!" "A new star of the first magnitude!"

As for the Pleiades, nothing but "Glorious!" "Grand old girl!" "A regular Rachel!" "Didn't she look beauti-



hearty admiration and understanding they had of Nellie's undoubted and well displayed dramatic art and fervor.

The last act brought her again and again before the curtain, and as the audience filed out, the Pleiades, as per arrangement with the box-office man, waited in the foyer

for their heroine. She came flying down to meet them, the powder, rouge, and finery replaced by her own smooth pink color and a sober street-gown.

Fanny had hurried on before, and when the girls opened the door of the studio they found it brilliantly lighted, the birthday cake set with numbers of little candles and wreathed with pink roses, Mr. and Mrs. Holbrook standing near, smiling with all their might, and, more won-

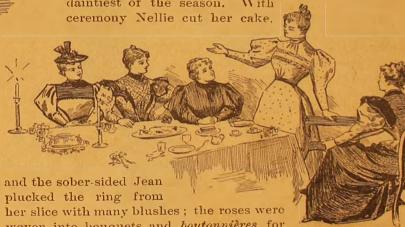
derful than all, the Great Bear, his hands clasped behind him, had his place on the hearth-rug, "as though he had always belonged there,"

said Jean. The Müllers ran to the piano and began

a bright march, and Betty proposed three cheers, that were given with a right good will.

Well, well! it was a jolly supper they all sat down to. The accomplished Dan Robinson stewed rare bits

more excellent than anyone had ever eaten before, the sandwiches were the best, and the salad the daintiest of the season. With



plucked the ring from
her slice with many blushes; the roses were
woven into bouquets and boutonnières for
the guests, and, to everyone's surprise and
delight, the Great Bear rose and made a
graceful little speech, and he was followed
by Fanny, who, smiling and composed,
told how, after four years of sisterly association and friendship, one of the little
constellation had at last achieved the success for which she had so gallantly striven.

There were cries of "Speech!" from Nellie, who, rising, said solemnly and with emotion.

"Bless you all; and may ivery hair o' ye heads turn to sperm candles and light ye to glory, me dear friends." (To be continued.)

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS WORTH OF PORTRAITS FOR NOTHING. See our great offer on page 330.

Mrs. Manifold and the Specialists.

RS. MANIFOLD had been ailing for some time. She felt tired and languid, slept poorly, had no appetite, and her head was heavy and dull. Her husband thought she ought to consult a physician; but as the Manifold family had always been in an astonishing state of good health, neither husband nor wife knew what physician to appeal to in this emergency.

"I suppose one is as good as another," suggested Mr. Manifold.

"Or as bad," said his wife. "But I would prefer an old man, one who has ceased to experiment upon people just for practice."

"Or one who has filled the necessary number of graves and now is ready to 'live and let live,'" added Mr. Manifold. "Suppose you ask Mrs. Osgood. She has been more or less of an invalid for years, and she ought to know all about doctors."

So Mrs. Manifold consulted Mrs. Osgood.

"It all depends on what ails you," said that lady. "You know really skillful physicians are all specialists nowadays. I have suffered from every sort of disease, nearly, and I have had every sort of physician. Now if you describe your symptoms I can get an idea of what you need to be treated for."

Mrs. Manifold proceeded to say that her head was heavy, that she found no repose in sleep, that her appetite was poor, and that she was tired all the time.

"Why, my dear woman! you must call Doctor Slashemwell at once!" cried Mrs. Osgood. "Yours is a bad case of —of—I can't remember the long Latin name Doctor Slashemwell gives it, but you have the same symptoms I had, and he makes those troubles his special study. I was three months in his sanitarium under his care. I had two operations performed. He is a wonderful surgeon! The second time he barely succeeded in bringing me out alive after I had taken chloroform. I nearly died from heart failure, I was so weak."

"'Chloroform!'" repeated Mrs. Manifold, in terror. "You don't think I would have to be under the influence of chloroform, do you?"

"Oh, that depends upon the causes which led to your trouble. Doctor Slashemwell would be able to decide upon that after talking with you a few moments. He always gets right at the seat of a disease in one interview. I do hope you will send for him at once. The longer you delay, the more difficult and stubborn your case will become. A trouble like yours so frequently results in tumor, you know, if allowed to run on."

Mrs. Manifold went home with visions of lances and knives flashing before her vision. She had not dreamed her condition was so serious. She thought she ought to send for Dr. Slashemwell right away; but she resolved to wait until morning.

That evening she related the result of her visit to her husband.

"Stuff and nonsense!" cried that gentleman. "There is no such serious condition of things about your case. At least, I do not believe Mrs. Osgood capable of diagnosing your disease so summarily. You would better go to see Doctor Slashemwell at his office tomorrow and hear what he has to say."

Mrs. Manifold returned from the doctor's office and went into hysterics in her husband's arms.

"He says I ought to come to the sanitarium and be operated upon at once," she cried. "He says I may be bedridden for life if I do not attend to the matter immediately. But I will never consent, never, never!" And Mrs. Manifold stamped her foot with an emphasis which bespoke remarkable vigor for so sick a woman as Dr. Slashemwell had announced her to be.

A ring at the bell diverted her mind from her ailments, and she was informed that Mrs. Manton awaited her in the parlor.

"You do not look well, my dear," quoth that lady, with the unwise frankness of one's best friends.

"No, I am not well," replied Mrs. Manifold, pressing her hands to her brow. Then she proceeded to relate her symptoms to Mrs. Manton.

"I noticed you pressed your brow. Do your eyes blur at times, and feel strained if you look at any object fixedly?" asked her listener, leaning forward with deep interest depicted on her face.

Mrs. Manifold confessed that she had observed these symptoms.

"My dear woman, you have trouble with the optic nerve," said Mrs. Manton, laying her hand impressively on her friend's arm. "I have been all through it, and I know all about it. Trouble in the eyes leads to derangement of all the bodily organs. Let me take you in my carriage at once to the celebrated oculist Doctor Seymour. He saved my sight for me, and he is wonderful!"

Mrs. Manifold felt so relieved at the possibility of escaping the horrors threatened by Doctor Slashemwell, that she eagerly grasped at the hope held out by her friend. She accompanied her to the office of Doctor Seymour, and that renowned gentleman began to question the lady.

"You have backache and headache, I suppose?" he asked.

"Yes, almost constantly for several weeks."

"Feel tired and languid mornings, and do not sleep well, —disturbed by nightmares?"

"Yes, yes."

"You are nervous and irritable?"

"Nervous, but not irritable," corrected Mrs. Manifold.

The doctor smiled. In all his practice, he had never known a woman to confess to the latter symptom.

Then he placed Mrs. Manifold before a lighted candle and held a small piece of glass before her eyes.

"How many lights do you see?" he asked, "and what are their positions?"

"Two; one a few inches above and to the left of the other."

"Um,—ah,—I thought so," remarked the oculist.

Then he placed two rows of figures before the patient and questioned her regarding them, and performed various juggling feats with bits of glass which he dashed back and forth between her eyes and these objects, all the time asking questions. Finally he ceased, and spoke:

"You are suffering from astigmatism of vision," he said.
"You were born with this trouble, and all your bodily ailments spring from it."

"But my sight has always been perfect! I can read, write, or sew, with no fatigue to my eyes, and never was ill until within a few weeks," cried Mrs. Manifold.

"That may be; yet astigmatism has existed, and is now asserting itself," repeated the oculist, firmly. "All your pain and languor and backache arises from this strain on your eyes. By permitting me to perform a slight operation, cutting a small cord in the eyes and allowing your vision to focus properly, you will obtain relief from all your misery. Then you should wear spectacles constantly."

"Oh, horrors!" cried Mrs. Manifold. "I cannot come to that yet. I see perfectly, and I have never had any trouble with my eyes. It is absurd to think of putting spectacles upon me!"

"Then you will not obtain the health you seek," replied the doctor, with dignity.

Mrs. Manifold paid her second consultation fee of twenty-five dollars, and went home almost as depressed as when she finished her interview with Dr. Slashemwell. But at least

she had a choice of evils. She woke in the late night with a severe toothache, and nursed her agony until morning. Then she hurried to the nearest dentist.

"My dear madam, your teeth are in a terrible state!" exclaimed the dentist after he had his patient a prisoner in the chair of horrors. "Your gums need careful treatment. With such a state of inflammation as they are in, and with these upper teeth so crowded as they are, it is a wonder you have not all sorts of nervous troubles and insomnia. So many people suffer from diseases which they could escape by proper care of the teeth. You ought to have this tooth at the left of the molar drawn, and the other two straightened. It would improve their appearance, and improve your whole physical condition. You would be astonished were I to tell you of so-called incurable maladies which I have caused to disappear by treating the teeth."

That evening Mr. Manifold brought a gentleman home to dinner. "My dear," he said to his wife, "I met this old college chum of mine quite by chance today, and learned he had become a very successful specialist in catarrhal troubles. In talking with him I mentioned your recent poor health, and he asked me your symptoms. When I gave them he said they indicated a catarrhal condition of the whole system; so I brought him home to talk with you, and I hope he can straighten you out."

Dr. Sneezemdorf pronounced himself quite confident of his ability to restore Mrs. Manifold to good health in three months' time, if she would submit to the removal of her tonsils at once. The whole seat of the mischief lay there, he said; and the condition was now so chronic that only the removal of the tonsils could check the insidious disease which was sapping the patient's strength.

Mrs. Manifold thought she would consider the matter.

After the doctor had gone, she said to her husband: "I have made up my mind today, dear, to try my own common sense for one month; and then if I am no better I will make a round of the specialists, beginning with Slashemwell and proceeding in order, if I live to do so. But I want you to let me go away into the country tomorrow, out on a farm where I can ride a horse and lie in a hammock and sit in the sun every blessed moment of the day. I want to take a lot of old-fashioned herbs and boil them down to a good bitter tonic, and this is all the medicine I shall use, save fresh air. When the weather does not permit me to go out, I mean to help the farmer's wife sweep and churn and knead bread, for exercise. If at the end of a month I am still ailing, it will be time then to make arrangements with the specialists."

But Mrs. Manifold came home well and strong at the end of the month, in spite of all the ills with which—according to the diagnoses of the specialists—she had been afflicted.

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

A Puzzle Prize.

HE publisher of Demorest's Family Magazine offers a prize of ten dollars for the best puzzle sent in between now and May 1, 1894. The puzzle must be original, that is it must not have appeared before in any publication, although it is not essential that it shall have been invented by the party sending it in. Many excellent puzzles which have been originated for private amusement would afford a vast amount of fun for the general public if they were published in Demorest's Magazine. Some of these, indeed, may be of the simplest character and yet possess elements of interest. We invite all those who know of any puzzles of this kind, which have interested or amused themselves or friends, to send in a description or drawing of them in competition for the prize. Contributions which are meritorious but do not take the prize will be accepted and paid for at regular rates. Of the contributions which do not win the prize, those arriving earliest will stand the best chance of being accepted and paid for.

The Jolliest April Fool.

A TRUE STORY.

(For the Children.)

OULD you have scanned Romie Newton's face as he stood against the old green pump, you would have said he was plotting mischief. In fact, life held for him but two conditions of happiness: when he was planning mischief and when he was doing it. All other occupations—eating, sleeping, studying, running errands, and "doing chores"—were but necessary intervals that must be got over as quickly as possible.

But the mischief that Romie was now turning over in his busy brain was unusually fascinating. You will understand this when I tell you that the hour was three o'clock, and the day was the thirty-first of March. To "April fool" his only sister Nettie—three years his senior—was now necessary to his complete happiness.

"I'll have to be awful sharp," he said to himself as he shifted his other shoulder against the pump. "I used up all the old dodges on her last year. I do wish I could think of something new!"

In the midst of these thoughts, through the open kitchen window (the afternoon was warm) came these words in his sister Nettie's clear, firm voice:

"I've a good mind to say I'll not go to Sunday-school or church again!"

Romie was startled. What could have come over Nettie? In a moment this followed:

"I know I'm wicked, I ought not to think of my clothes; but I just can't help it! I'm so tired of looking shabby; and when I think of that lovely brown dress-pattern, trimmings and all for only three dollars, at Downly's, I can't be reconciled. And there are my gloves, too. Even your skillful fingers, mother, cannot make them fit for another appearance in public."

At this point Mrs. Newton closed the window, and Romie heard no more. He had heard quite enough, however, to bring a different look on his freckled face.

"If only I could earn some money, or had something to sell! If I had chickens, like Tom Brown, or rabbits, like Ned Jones. Oh, dear!" He leaned so hard against the decrepit pump that it gave forth a responsive groan, as if in sympathy.

"Yap! Yap! Yap!" at that moment sounded from some invisible source; and, a second later, around the corner of the house came two handsome Scotch terrier dogs in hot pursuit of an encroaching cat. Romie's face flushed at sight of them, and then turned deathly white.

The dogs relinquished the chase after the cat, and bounded towards Romie, prancing about him in expectation of the caresses usually lavished upon them; but their capers made no impression upon their young master, and after gazing a few moments into space he set his lips tightly together and started towards the house with a firm, rapid step. In a little while he reappeared, with clean hands and face and neatly brushed hair. Like Nettie, his wardrobe was a very meager one, and there were no other changes within his power.

The dogs again came running towards him. He caught up the smaller of the two and hugged him affectionately to his cheek.

"O Stub!" he sobbed, "how can I let you go!"

Stub answered by a pitiful little whine, and buried his short black nose in the depths of Romie's shirt-collar.

"Of course I'll have Muggins left, but she isn't half as smart and pretty as you are," he whispered.

Stub whined again and nestled close. Romie wavered. Why must he do it? Then he thought of Nettie. Wasn't she the dearest and best sister that was ever known? How fast the recollections of her goodness came crowding upon him: her patience with his pranks, her frequent averting of richly deserved scoldings, the hours she devoted to his amusement, reading to him when he was too lazy to read for himself. As he hugged Stub's warm little body closely to his wellworn jacket, he tried to remember one unkind word or act from this queen of sisters; but it was impossible to do so. Even when he was naughty, selfish, and impatient, she kissed away his ill-temper and coaxed out his better self.

No, it was no use. Stub might try all his blandishments, he might roll up his dark eyes, and wag his funny little tail and wave his dainty paws in the air in his very best style. Romie's decision was made.

"I'll see that lady on Summit Street first," he thought.
"She has tried more than once to buy Stub, and I am sure she will love him."

So hugging closely the fluffy little body he went on down the street at his very best gait. When he came to the place he found that the lady had bought a dog the day before. It was not half so pretty as Stub, she admitted frankly; but then, of course, she didn't want two dogs.

There were three or four other places, however, in reserve, for Stub had many friends who were eager to own him. One after another of these places were visited, but in vain: some of the people had changed their minds, others had already bought dogs; so the poor boy walked slowly along, hugging Stub very closely, and wondering what he should do. One moment he rejoiced that Stub was still his own; the next he mourned that Nettie must still go shabbily dressed to Sunday-school, or, worse still, stay away altogether. In the midst of his serious thinking, a lady suddenly intercepted him.

"Do you want to sell that dog?" she asked, pleasantly.

"Oh, yes, ma'am!" he answered, eagerly.

On learning the price of the dog she said:

"Go to Engine House Number Four, and give the foreman this card. Tell him that I want your puppy. He is just the kind that I have long been looking for."

It was a distance of many blocks to the designated enginehouse, but away went Romie as fast as his already tired feet could carry him.

The twilight was coming on when he again turned his face towards the business part of the city. His arms were empty, and there was a tugging pain in his heart; but he struggled with it bravely, and tried to think only of the crisp new bills snugly tucked away in his jacket pocket.

When he reached Downly's dry-goods store the clerks were arranging the goods preparatory to closing; but Romie slipped in before the doors were locked, and with a little help from one of the bright young women behind the counter, he bought not only the coveted dress-pattern, but also a pair of neat kid gloves to match it, and a soft, white ruching to encircle Nettie's pretty, plump neck. Then with his precious bundle under his arm he set out for home.

As he trudged rapidly along, he suddenly remembered his anxiety to "fool" Nettie on the coming morning.

"Oh," he thought, "I know what I'll do. Now that will be an 'April Fool' worth something."

It was quite dark when he reached home. He stole noiselessly in at the unlocked front door, and deposited the big bundle under the sofa in the parlor. He then slipped as noiselessly out of the house again, and re-entered it through the side door with his usual accompaniment of merry bluster

An hour or so afterwards his mother was taken into his confidence, and of course she soon found a pretext for send-

ing Nettie to the next neighbor's. There was then a long visit to the parlor, whence they both returned with smiling faces.

The next morning, as soon as her eyes were opened, Nettie remembered her determination not to be "fooled" by her teasing brother. She came downstairs with every sense alert; but Romie was subdued and dignified, and made no allusion to the unfortunate first of April. When breakfast was over, Romie immediately left the house; and a few minutes afterward Mrs. Newton came into the kitchen, saying,

"Nettie, there is someone in the parlor who wants to see you."

Nettie wondered a little at the unseasonableness of the call, yet, suspecting no pranks from her mother, she went at once to the parlor, her mother following. She stopped, however, on reaching the door. In a large chair sat a "dummy" made of her much-despised "one dress," and in its lap lay the long-desired "lovely brown dress-pattern," and a pair of kid gloves dexterously crossed as if covering a pair of plump hands. She was too astonished to speak or move; but in the midst of her happy silence a well-known voice shouted, "April fool!" and from behind the chair Romie bounded into her arms.

"But where did you get all the money?" she inquired, after she had kissed him a great many times and shed one or two joyful tears on his brown curls.

"Weren't you wondering at breakfast where Stub could be?" said Romie, flushing a little.

Nettie was silent a moment, then said, with a sigh,

"I am ashamed when I remember how often I have scolded him for his naughty capers, poor little Stub!"

"Oh, never mind him," said Romie, swallowing hard, and hiding his swimming eyes under pretence of examining the new kid gloves. "They'll be good to him; and I tell you this is just the jolliest 'April fool' that I ever got up!"

And Nettie agreed with him.

CLARA J. DENTON.

Society Fads.

UPERSTITION of a mild order is rampant in our ranks this spring. The occult sciences are claiming a great deal of the fashionable butterfly's attention. This I know, for palmistry, graphology, mesmerism, and clairvoyance are vigorously discussed at every luncheontable. It is a sure sign of the predominating interests in feminine circles when a question is argued over that midday The subjects lying nearest our hearts are best considered with a few chosen friends over the lobster cutlets and grouse croquettes. Palmistry, or chiromancy, as many of us prefer to call it, is certainly le dernier cri. A darkeyed, silken-voiced, pseudo-Oriental gentleman, who tells a picturesque story of his childhood in Persia and among the gypsies who stole him from his parents, has sprung into great favor among us. He wears a flowing, dark beard, a turban of gold-colored silk, and on his hands the most gorgeous turquoise rings, the sacred stones of Persia. receives his fair interlocutors in a room hung with deep green curtains, and lighted by candles of perfumed wax. Seated cross-kneed on a heap of green silk cushions he peeps into the soft pink palms unfolded for his scrutiny, respectfully touching them with his own gem-ringed, slender, brown fingers, and out of your left hand he reads the past, out of your right, foretells the future.

I HAVE heard wonderful things of the Eastern gentleman's

powers of divination. He told Jane Van Duser, three days before her Yorkshire terrier, Frou-frou, died, that a great calamity threatened her; and he has told other equally remarkable things to other people. It costs just five dollars to have a reading of one's palms; nevertheless Monsieur le Chiromancer's handsome and expensive rooms on Fifth Avenue are every morning filled to overflowing.

Two pretty girls sat opposite me at luncheon the other day, two healthy, hearty, rosy, daintily dressed creatures, who are pretty disciples of Mesmer and understand the force of hypnotic suggestion. When the meal was over and we sipped our coffee in the drawing-room, these sisters gave an exhibition of their powers, quite terrible to see, since some of their manifestations were really inexplicable. They found and replaced in a selected spot in my head a hair-pin I had secreted between the leaves of a book; and they came and went from wide-eyed dreaminess to active intelligence as easily as I pass in and out a door. They are two young English girls who, like their country-woman Miss Lancaster, of much wider fame, have made of mind-reading and mesmerism a study and a livelihood. They are the daughters of a clergyman, well-bred and refined, and receive so much to come to a luncheon and exhibit their powers after. For a compensation they will put one into a gentle mesmeric trance that one may experience the strange sensation, or they will use hypnotic influence on each other, and the one under the spell will do all sorts of interesting things by her sister's silent mental suggestion.

THE spring dinners are joys forever; more piquant, interesting, and beautiful than ever before. One of special interest lingers in my memory. It was white,—white china, white Dresden candelabra, white wax candles with white silk shades. The flowers on the table were white carnations made into bouquets tied with white brocaded satin ribbon, and simply laid on the snowy damask cloth. The hostess, a slender ash-blonde woman, was in white chiffon, folds and folds of this cloudy material draped about her. She sat at the head of the table in a great high-backed chair, all its woodwork of gold, its upholstery white brocade, and where the back extended high above her shoulders, into the woodwork, on a level with her head, were set four diamondshaped mirrors, that to the interested guests reflected their hostess's lovely profile when she turned her face, reflected the pearls at her throat, the diamonds in her hair, and, incidentally, the faces of her opposite neighbors. This fancy for mirrors in the back of the chair is copied from some old, old arm-chairs brought from Arabia.

On either side of la dame à la chaise blanche stood two white china pots in which blossomed the tallest white lilies I have seen; for as she sat these fair clusters of bloom nodded higher than her head. She took her place in admirable composure, though we stared at her the courses through in admiring curiosity, and a fine little smile of amusement would twitch the corners of her husband's mouth.

MRS. VAN KORTLANDT'S eldest daughter was married the other day and has gone off on the popular wedding tour, to the Mediterranean, to Athens and Cairo, on a three months' trip. In consequence of the excitement and overwork entailed by the great making-ready and the proper carryingout of the ceremony, not to speak of grief at parting from her first born, the dear lady has gone up to her countryplace to rest for a bit. It was truly a splendid affair. The bride's bouquet was white orchids, her gown white miroir velvet. Her great train was borne by two tiny cousins in full Charles I. costumes of white satin, and up the aisle she

was preceded by a bit of a girl cousin, whose white lace frock was, as well as the little boys', copied from Van Dyke's portrait of the children of Charles I. Over her flowing golden curls the little one wore a white satin skullcap topped by a tiny diamond button, and the boys carried in their hands gold-topped canes from which fluttered streamers of white satin ribbon. We all craned our necks and giggled with delight to see marching down the rose-strewn aisle, beside the tiny maid of honor, Uncas, Miss Van Kortlandt's giant St. Bernard. Around his great neck was a collar of white orchids, and by white satin ribbons the little girl held him in dainty leash. He seemed in nowise disturbed by the music, crowd, or solemn proceedings, but gravely sniffed the heels of the bridegroom as he carried the pretty bride away on his arm, as though to assure himself his mistress had fallen into proper hands.

THERE are fashionable folk who for the sake of Anglomania and economy are putting off their weddings until June, when the ceremony can be celebrated in the countrytown church. It is more than ever the desire of brides to have bells rung and to walk across the church-yard lawn trailing white draperies after them. Someone tells me that a pretty girl whose marriage is fixed for the fifteenth of June, and whose father has a stately country-place in the lovely hills of New Jersey, is having the children of a nearby village trained in wedding choruses. Twelve of these girls are to be given white gowns, and on the bridal party emerging from the church will, as joy-bells ring, form a circle about the cortege, singing congratulatory melodies and pelting everybody with rose-leaves.

EVERY year, as you well know, the jewelers, following the instructions of the powerfully modish, or modishly powerful, as you may choose to term the ladies who make and unmake our fashions, popularize some special jewel or peculiar type of form or setting. Snakes, beetles, butterflies, birds, and all sorts of antique forms, and the stones have enjoyed revival and oblivion. This spring the winged dragon is the beast that beauty loves. This winged creature is just over from France in silver and gold with emerald eyes, every plume in his spread pinions brightened with a tiny ruby. He takes his flight across the back of Jane Van Duser's new watch, and Mrs. Van Kortlandt, calling the other day, had a fine specimen of his kind pinned into the belt of her gown. From his claws ran down a thread-like gold chain, to which was suspended a wee watch of burnt gold. At a musicale, last week, a woman sat in front of me in a lovely gown of white chiffon, and the delicate flutings, that rested like a mist on either white shoulder, were caught by wonderfully beautiful gold dragons no larger than my thumb. crests were held high, their wings outspread and powdered with beaming rubies. As they had no gems in their heads, I took it for granted they must be wee imitations of the mythological being Argus. MADAME LA MODE.

Lilies and Heliotrope.

(See Panel Oil-Picture.)

(See Panel Oil-Picture.)

The exquisite panel-picture, "Lilies and Heliotrope," which accompanies this number of the Magazine, is the promised companion piece to "An American Beauty" which was given with Demonest's for November, 1893. These lovely pictures, painted expressly for us, have been given in response to repeated requests for something suitable to fill long and narrow wall-spaces, the effective decoration of which is always a vexatious problem difficult to solve. The beautiful Annunciation lilies mingling gracefully with the changing hues of the heliotrope will make a very lovely Easter greeting. Suggestions for framing them were given in the November number.

What Vines Shall I Plant?

EVERAL readers of the articles on flowers published in this magazine have asked me to tell them something about vines for use about the house and yard. I gladly comply with this request, because I have always advocated the liberal use of vines in adorning the home. If I had to choose between shrubs for the lawn and vines for the house, I would choose the latter. A house bare of vines never has the cosy, homelike look that a place does whose walls serve as a background for the display of the flowers and foliage of climbing plants. Vines have always seemed to me to be the poetry of "green things growing;" and the free use of them throws a charm about the humblest cottage, and adds to the beauty of the stateliest residence.

Do you want a vine that will attach itself to the walls of your home, be they wood, brick, or stone, and need no assistance from any support you can give? A vine that will climb to the caves, and beyond them, if allowed to, covering all unsightly places with beauty, and taking away the harsh effect of sharp angles and rough corners? A vine beautiful at all times, and so entirely hardy that it requires no protection? Such a vine is the ampelopsis, better known as American ivy-a most appropriate name, by the way-or Virginia creeper. This is the vine of all vines, native or foreign, for general cultivation. It requires very little care. Plant it in any ordinary soil, and take a little pains during the first year of its existence, in helping it to get a hold with its sucker-like discs on the walls of the building, and after that it will take care of itself, growing more and more beautiful with age. During the summer its rich green foliage is very pleasing; in autumn, when its leaves take on dark tints of red, crimson, brown, and maroon, with here and there bits of the summer's green still lingering, as if to give contrast by which the other colors are intensified, I know of nothing more brilliant. No flowering vine can equal it in vivid beauty; it must be seen to be fully appreciated. Go into the woods in late September and find a tree up whose trunk it has clambered and along whose branches it has spread its luxuriant growth, and you will, at first sight, imagine that the tree has suddenly come into flower, so intense are the colors of its leaves. If I could have but one vine to plant about the home, this would be my choice. Its only rival as a house vine is ampelopsis Veitchii,—introduced over twenty years ago from Japan. The Japanese creeper has small three-lobed leaves, which cover a wall with the densest drapery, clinging so closely to window caps, cornice, and every point of ornament that it covers without concealing architectural features. It, also, is perfectly hardy and takes on in the autumn the most brilliant colors.

Through the lower belt of the Northern States, and further south, the Chinese wistaria is deservedly popular. At the extreme north it seldom stands the winter well. When well grown it is a most magnificent vine. It is of very rampant growth, reaching to the eaves of three-story houses in a short time, if planted in good soil. Its foliage is pretty enough in itself to make the vine well worth growing, but when in full bloom its great, pendulous clusters of purple-blue flowers, hanging so high above you that they look like a bit of Indian summer mist or haze as seen against and among the luxuriant foliage, are most charming. For training along the cornice and about the brackets of the higher stories of tall houses, this is perhaps the best vine we have for that portion of the country where it is perfectly hardy. The American ivy clings closely to the walls, while this flings its branches about in all directions, and swings itself from bracket to bracket in festoons or wreaths of greenery that are very attractive because so entirely informal.

The native celastrus scandens, more popularly known as bitter-sweet, is a vine for which I am always pleased to speak a good word. It has pleasing and abundant foliage which I have never known to harbor a worm or insect. It is of very free and rapid growth if given something to twist its branches about as they develop; if nothing else is at hand they coil about each other until they form a rope of branches often as large as one's wrist. The flowers are inconspicuous, but the fruit is extremely showy, borne in small, pendulous clusters all along the branches. The berries are enclosed in a shell which splits into three pieces; these turn back far enough to disclose the fruit. The shell is a ruddy orange, the berries a bright red, and both are quite as brilliant as flowers. These clusters would remain on the branches all winter if the birds would let them alone, but they lay claim to them, especially the robins, and the berries are generally stripped off the vines before snow comes. This vine is very easily cultivated; any one can grow it. For planting by an old tree whose trunk you wish to drape with greenery there is nothing better except the American ivy. It is excellent to train up veranda pillars and along the eaves of porches and piazzas.

Among the most desirable of summer-blooming vines is the clematis; Jackmanii with its great, violet-blue flowers, languinosa-alba, white, and coccinnea, scarlet, are all popular varieties. These vines are better adapted for covering screens and for use about verandas where it is desired to exclude the sun, than any of the others named. The best support for them is woven wire such as is used for light fences. The larger the mesh the better, as the vines can reach through it more easily than through small, close meshes. By planting Jackmanii and a white variety together, a fine contrast of color is secured. There are many good varieties, with colors ranging from pale blue to pure white, and maroon with rosy shades showing in stripes along the petals of some in such a manner as to give the flower a most striking appearance. Clematis flammula is a native variety bearing a wonderful profusion of feathery white flowers during the summer. This variety is a much more rampant grower than any of the foreign sorts, and, to my mind, quite as beautiful. It has that delicate, airy grace which Jackmanii can never lav claim to with its great blossoms. For veranda use nothing excels it. Jackmanii when planted with it gives a vivid contrast, not only in color, but in form, and the beauty of each is heightened by the partnership.

Akebia quinata is a hardy vine of very rapid growth. It has large, luxuriant foliage, and flowers of purple shaded with chocolate, very fragrant, if not showy. This vine gives a thick, dense mass of leaves, which makes it effective in covering verandas where complete shade is wanted. It is extremely useful for growing over summer-houses and arbors. Insects never attack it.

No one can afford to neglect the honeysuckles. They are beautiful and sweet, and flower freely and continuously. They are not very tall growers, therefore are better adapted for covering trellises than for training up walls. Lonicera Halleana is one of the best. Its flowers are white, changing to yellow, and very fragrant. It blooms during the entire season, from June to the coming of cold weather. The fragrant monthly is a variety having red and yellow flowers in great profusion. Lonicera sempervirens, commonly called trumpet honeysuckle, is an old variety bearing bright red flowers. Lonicera aurea reticulata is a variety with beautifully variegated foliage. The leaves are netted and veined with bright yellow on a rich green ground, and its flowers are a pale yellow.

South of Chicago the bignonia (trumpet creeper) is very popular, as it well deserves to be; but at the North our win-

ters are too severe for it. Its roots survive and send up many shoots each season which make a wonderful growth, but we seldom succeed in getting flowers. In those localities where it proves hardy it is a most magnificent vine; it should be grown in rich loam, in a sunny position, to insure success. Its flowers are of rich orange-scarlet, trumpet-shaped, and borne in great clusters; and it has extremely beautiful foliage.

Perhaps many readers will think I ought to include the so-called "climbing" roses in my list; but I do not do so because they are extremely difficult to grow well, and unless well grown they are never satisfactory. The canes must be laid down each fall, and unless great care is taken in doing this they are sure to be injured, and because of their stiffness this work is very difficult. Few amateur florists will do the work properly because of its difficulty; and a neglected plant will have such a forlorn look that it will be a constant reproach to its owner. At the South, and through the lower belt of the Northern States, these roses are very satisfactory; but they are not advisable for general culture farther north, unless they can be given the best care. If you think you can give them that, get Baltimore Belle, creamy white, and Queen of the Prairie, bright pink, and plant them in a very rich soil, which must be kept rich if you want the plants to do well.

In conclusion let me say a few words as to the care vines should receive. They should be given just as good soil as that given shrubs; too frequently they are neglected in this respect, and the owner wonders why they fail to do well. Every spring dig in about their roots some old, well-rotted manure, and be sure to keep weeds and grass from choking them; and at the same time go over them and remove all superfluous growth, and all that is weak or has been injured. Careful pruning is as beneficial to a vine as to a shrub. Be sure, too, to give substantial support to all vines needing it. Never fasten them to the walls with bits of cloth, as cloth soon decays and your plant is likely to take a tumble some day which may greatly injure it. Use, instead, strips of leather, or wire. The latter is best if care be taken to wind it with something to prevent its cutting into the wood. I have seen iron supports which can be put over the vine and driven into the wall that are very good for small vines, but they would not answer for large and heavy ones. Wistarias require no support when they reach the cornice if there are brackets there for them to clamber through. The American ivy requires no artificial support at any time, except, as I said. during the first year. Fasten it closely to the wall until it gets hold of it; after that it will take care of itself.

EBEN E. REXFORD.

Qur Tirls.

Give the Girls A Chance.

ARENTS, give your daughters a trade or profession. Yes, my dear, horrified-looking madam, and you, too, my dear sir, raising your eyebrows in polite condemnation at sight of the homely word, I repeat it most emphatically, give them a trade. No matter what it is, so long as it will earn a good, honest living for them in case they should ever need it; and even if they should not need it, the feeling of comfort and independence that comes with it is very satisfactory, and not to be attained in any other way whatever.

"But," I hear you say, "what does my daughter need of a trade? Has she not everything that she can possibly wish for? And, besides that, all girls marry; she will probably be no exception to the rule. What need, therefore, that she should trouble herself as to ways and means?"

Now such logic is all well enough for some, and no doubt many are content to let it go at that; but the average girl's pride rebels at the idea of being dependent. Then, too, suppose your riches should take wing, as riches have a disagreeable habit of doing occasionally; would not the knowledge that your daughter held in her fair hands a shield and sword with which to protect herself and keep the grim foes Want and Distress at a distance prove a comfort and blessing, not only to her, but to yourself as well? It is true that all-or nearly all-girls marry; and let me tell you, right here, that then is the time, of all others, when a girl longs for a few dollars of her very own, that she may add a few straws to the home nest that is to be hers, and feel free to exercise her own judgment and taste in so doing. No one except those who have experienced it know what a humiliating feeling possesses one who has to stand idle while her belongings are bought for her with money that somebody else has earned and owns.

One girl of my acquaintance was speaking of this a few days ago. To outside view her life has doubtless seemed

very easy and pleasant; but no one but herself could tell of the unsatisfied longings that come to her, and that could be so soon gratified if—ah! that little word "if," what a mountain it ofttimes is in the pathway of our plans and hopes!—she had but some way of earning something for herself. Whenever she mentions her desire to do so she is generally met by a superior, grown-up sort of a smile, "as though," she says, "they are wondering 'what queer notion the child will take next'; and the advice to 'Never mind, maybe something will turn up sometime. Be patient and cheerful till then.' Advice which, though kindly meant, is irritating, to say the least; especially when followed by: 'If you're bound to learn to do something, you'd better learn to be contented. You've got a good roof over your head and enough to eat and wear; what more do you want?'

"And it isn't because I'm discontented. My home is comfortable, and I am happy enough in it; but why should they feel hurt, and consider me ungrateful and unreasonable because I feel that I'd like to be earning something? Or because if I see a book, a piece of music, or any little thing I want, either for myself or others, I should like to know that I could buy it, and in so doing not spend money that they wanted and needed for something else? It is just dreadful! especially on birthdays and at Christmas time. Oh! why can't they see that the discontent they are so anxious to keep me from is only being brought nearer by this way of living? Why can't they understand that it's because I don't want to be dependent upon them or anyone else; that I only want to feel that I have the means of making my way in the world in an honest, respectable way? If I were a boy, nothing would be left undone to gratify my ambition of learning a trade or studying for a profession; but being only a girl I must simply fold my hands and sit down, as you might say, and be laughed at for wanting to do differently.'

This is true; not in her case alone, but in many others.

From the earliest years of a boy's life his future is looked forward to, and his friends endeavor to help him on as fast as possible in the way of attaining a trade or profession that shall give him an independent standing in the world; while his sister is left in utter ignorance and helplessness as far as a plain knowledge of making her own way is concerned. Very often, where the family are in poor or moderate circumstances, -and this is the class I am talking to most especially, -she must give up many a little pleasure or advantage in order that her brother may be helped along and given every chance; and that, too, when she has an equal supply of brains and intelligence, and an intense longing for something better.

"What, then, would you have?" someone inquires, sarcastically. "Would you turn our girls into carpenters, masons, or clerks? Would you have them become butchers, mechanics, or farmers, doctors or lawyers? Truly, your ideal of pure womanhood must be high."

To the first part of this speech I reply "No and yes." I would not wish to see a girl building a barn, carrying a hod, or handling a cleaver; but I do not see why she should not make just as good an architect or farmer,-for in farming, as in everything else, the brains are the chief factor,-or do as well in any profession or trade as a boy would. To the second part I say "Yes," most assuredly. My ideal of pure womanhood is high, so high that it has urged me to put forth this plea, weakly worded and tame though it is, especially in comparison to what I feel on this subject. I tell you it is my firm opinion that fully half the girls who go astray do so from this cause alone; while the number of unhappy marriages that could be directly traced to it are appalling. "Plain language?" Yes; but this is a subject that needs plain language, to my way of thinking. No one but those who have experienced it can ever know what a bitter. humiliating feeling it is, this feeling oneself to be a useless clod; no one except those who have gone through it can understand the intense longing for something of one's own, be it ever so small.

It is mistaken kindness to keep your girls at home, year after year, because you "do not approve of girls earning for themselves," or "don't like to think of their having to get their own living." The time may come when they will have to earn for themselves; and if they are suddenly called upon to take up the battle of life alone, with no very clear idea of how to do it, is it any wonder if the huge waves of helplessness and discouragement they must and will encounter threaten to engulf them, and often do? Then, too, suppose your girl marries, and after a time is left, as so many are, with a family of little ones, no one to provide for them or her but herself, nothing to depend upon except her own resources. Do you not agree with me that she would look back with thankfulness, and loving, grateful feeling, to those whose forethought had provided a way out of the difficulty?

Yes, by all means, give the girls a fair and equal chance with their brothers, and if one must stand aside for the other, far rather let it be your son than your daughter; for boys, being boys, have a better chance naturally, and can make their way and succeed in fifty ways to a girl's one. Find out first what she is best fitted for, then give her every chance possible, as you would your son; and do not neglect to teach her that no honest work is degrading, but, rather, lifts one to a higher plane.

I am thankful to note that year by year new avenues of independence open to girls, that the force of girl and women workers-all honor to them !--is increasing; and I earnestly hope that the time is not far distant when every girl in America can stand up and look the world squarely in the face, with the honest, honorable consciousness that she is well able to earn her own living, and feels a just pride in doing so.

But Human.

WO men sat in the dim light of a grate fire and a shaded lamp. The master of the house, Herbert Field, was fair and young; his guest, who leaned back lazily in the arm-chair, was dark and of an uncertain age.

Both men were exceedingly handsome, but sorrow was stamped on the face of the guest, Sidney Bruce, and the direct rays of the lamp under which he was sitting showed

the lines of care plainly.

"You ask me, my dear Herbert, why I never married? Well, it is not a very long story; it was cut only too short four years ago. About that time (of course you don't remember, as you were in Europe, but it may have reached you there) the Emery Mining Company failed, and I lost all. I say all, because I was then engaged to a beautiful girl of eighteen.

"I went to her secure in the love I thought she bore me, and told her my story. I painted my ruin in darker colors than the real truth, for I did have a little fortune left me by my mother, which was safe in the bank. I shall never forget her face when she said, in a freezing tone,

"'Mr. Bruce, all is over between us,' and gathering up her dress she swept from the room."

"She must have been a fiend!" said Herbert Field.

"On the contrary, she had an angel's face, fair and good to look upon. No, Herbert, all women are but human, even a girl of eighteen."

"I do not believe that, Sidney. Why, I know if I went to my betrothed and said, 'My love, I have lost all,' she would cling the closer to me and love me all the more."

"Do not try her, Herbert. As I said before, women are but human."

"Now that you have put the notion into my head I believe I shall try the scheme just to show you that all women are not what you picture them. I will go tonight and say, 'My love, my speculations have proved disastrous, and I am a ruined man'; and then, my dear boy, I will prove to you that I have a jewel, for I know Maude Thretford will not desert me."

Sidney Bruce gave a start at the name, and as if by accident put out the light.

"What a mistake, Herbert; I meant to turn it up, and I have put it out," he said, huskily.

"Never mind," answered his companion. "I am going over to the Thretfords'. You remain here until I come back. When I return—"

Sidney Bruce rose and laid his hand on his friend's "For God's sake, Herbert, don't do this thing. shoulder. You don't know-

"Why, old man, you seem cut up about something," Herbert answered, laughingly.

"Is there nothing that will turn you from it?"

"You know me well enough, Sidney. When I once make up my mind nothing can change it,-not even you, my dear old friend. Come! after many years in Europe you return to me only to quarrel?"

"Nothing will change you?"

"Nothing!" answered Herbert.

"Well, then, good-by," his guest answered, sadly. "Good-by,' Sidney? You mean good-night."

"Good-night," But Sidney Bruce clung to his friend's hand, and at length watched him depart with misgivings. As soon as he was gone Sidney Bruce rang the bell and ordered his trunk sent to the station. It was still unpacked, for he had just arrived that afternoon. Then he sat down and wrote to his friend:

"MY DEAR BOY:

"I cannot remain and see your misery. It is fate. Our lives have been ruined by one woman,-Maude Thretford.

Remember it is much better to have this blow come now than -afterward; yet I would give my heart's blood if this affair had never happened. Good-by. I am off for Europe again.

"SIDNEY BRUCE."

When the little clock on the mantel chimed ten, Sidney Bruce was on his way to the city. Soon after his departure, into the room, with dejected mien and pale face, came its owner, Herbert Field. He bowed his head on the table and wept tears wrung from his heart. It had proved as Sidney said: she was "but human," after all. His idol was shattered, and life seemed not worth living. Suddenly he thought of his friend, and his eyes fell upon the letter lying open upon the table. He read it over and over again, then threw it into the grate. The fire was almost gone, but the letter revived it and the blaze burst forth.

Herbert Field dashed the tears from his eyes and thought: "Just as that letter has revived the hopeless fire so will I revive my ruined life. It is only a coward's act to fly from sorrow by suicide. I will bear it. I will forget it, and like Sidney, dear old Sidney! live on."

The news went like wildfire through the country. The great fortune of the Fields had been lost in wild speculations, and young Field had vanished, no one knew where. People talked about it for some time; then came the startling news that they had been wrong, entirely wrong. The speculations had proved to be not only good, but young Field had added another fortune to the immense one left him by his father.

He came back to New York and entered into society with a very earnest and happy face. He laughed softly to himself when one morning among his letters he found one from Maude Thretford, begging him to come back to her, that she had always loved him, and must have been insane to give him up.

His answer to this letter was unique. It ran:

"MY DEAR MISS THRETFORD:

"As my wedding-cards are just out this morning it would be hardly fair to forsake my little bride and bow again before the hollow heart which, since a girl of eighteen, you have always possessed. I send with this letter an invitation and hope we may see you among our friends. My bride is Edith Hilton, a lovely girl who gave me her love when I thought myself a poor man. I told her, as I told you once, our life would have to be 'in a cottage,' and-strange, was it not?—she consented. My best man is Sidney Bruce, a friend of yours, by the way, who, if rumor proves true, will wed a fair debutante of this season. It is needless to say I am the happiest man on earth; and I know we have your congratutions and best wishes.

"Sincerely,

"HERBERT FIELD."

"'Tis strange how I can forget so soon," he said to himself; "and how fondly I love my fair Edith! Ah, we are all 'but human.'" WILLIS WINSTON.

George W. Childs.

(See First Page of Portraits.)

HE death of George William Childs of Philadelphia, editor and proprietor of the "Public Ledger," moved one of the most remarkable citizens of this country. Mr. Childs was not conspicuous in politics, but as an American citizen of the most exemplary type. His loss leaves a blank in the ranks of modern philanthropists; his career was a pattern which succeeding generations may well desire to emulate. His motto was that a person could be liberal and yet successful, which his life abundantly illustrated. Commencing at the foot of the ladder, he achieved fortune and success by sheer force of character and honest principles; and millions of dollars that he made were spent during his life doing good in many directions.

The editor of one of the most prominent newspapers, although opposed to him in politics, was so impressed with the integrity of his character that he offered to back his nomination for the presidency; but political honors were not the object of Mr. Childs' ambition. "Peace on earth, good will to men" was never more perfectly exemplified in any human life than in that of George W. Childs, which was devoted to well-considered efforts for the elevation of humanity; to the alleviation of suffering, and the furtherance of every beneficial scheme he gave himself and his large means without restraint. The record made by the angel for Abou Ben Adhem has been suggested as the most suitable epitaph for the tomb of Mr. Childs; and it expresses the principle of his life. He loved his fellow-men.

His charities embraced favors to private individuals as well as to institutions which he promoted, and his benefactions extended beyond the limits of his own country; the memorials to Milton, Shakespeare, Cowper, and Herbert, in England, evidencing the wide scope of his generosity. At his death telegrams of condolence were received by Mrs. Childs from prominent people all over the world, of all shades of opinion, and in all lines of life.

The Angel of the Resurrection.

(See Full-Page Gravure.)

HE original of our exquisite Easter picture is from the easel of the well-known artist Carl Gutherz, who, although born in Switzerland, was brought to this country at an early age, and by education and long residence here is identified with American art and artists. His father was an artist before him, and under his guidance he began his studies; going later to Paris, Brussels, Antwerp, and Rome. He is a great favorite in Paris, where he has been called "the father of modern religious art."

An exalted enthusiasm is portrayed in every line of this beautiful picture, a light as of other worlds radiating from all the delicate outlines of the figure and the symbolical lilies that rear their graceful stems in the foreground.

A Prize of \$100 for Photographs.

A CHANCE FOR AMATEURS AND PROFESSIONALS.

THE publishers of DEMOREST'S FAMILY MAGAZINE offer a prize of \$100 for the finest collection of photographic views illustrating a subject of popular interest and suitable for a magazine article. The subjects may be foreign or domestic (preference will be given to the latter), the only stipulation being that the photographs have never been used for publication. The competition will be open until August 1, 1894. Contributions which do not win the prize but are available for publication will be accepted and paid for at regular rates.

From ten to twenty photographs should be included in each group, and the subjects may be anything suitable for publication in a magazine; those which are most original and timely,—when well executed, of course,—standing the best chance in the contest. If possible, a descriptive article should accompany the photographs; but when one cannot be sent, data must be given so that one can be prepared, and the possibility of making an interesting article from the matter furnished will be one of the points considered in awarding the prize.

Of the contributions which do not win the prize, those arriving earliest will stand the best chance of being accepted

Home Art and Home Comfort.

Easter Gifts for All Your Friends.

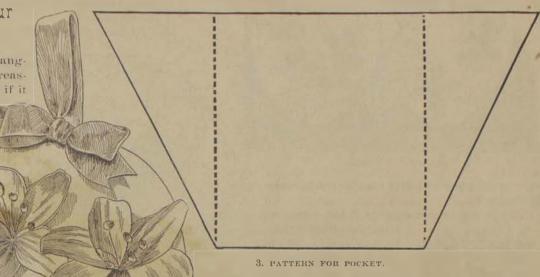
HE graceful custom of exchanging gifts at this season increases in favor every year, and if it is not abused by becoming a means of lavish and ostenta-

means of lavish and ostentatious display it has much to commend it. Simple presents are always in much better taste than luxurious and expensive things; and when the personal element of individual work enters into it the gift is doubled in value.

Lenten leisure for the making of these pretty things is not so abundant this year as usual, because, all over our land, and especially in our large cities, warmhearted and generous women have had their hands, and hearts, too, more than full with philanthropic work. Yet there are many who will find time to prepare simple souvenirs for the joyous Eastertide, which more than ever will be greeted with heartfelt thanksgiving and rejoicing, symbolizing to not a few a resurrection of hope after a winter of black despair.

The lovely lily note-pocket (No. 1) needs no Easter motto to announce its use as an Easter greeting, for in shape and decoration it is so symbolical of the season that no other purpose is even remotely suggested. It is made of rough cardboard. The background, in shape of an egg, is fifteen inches long and seven and a quarter wide in the broadest place. The edge is gilded narrowly and tinted with green in watercolors. The lilies are cut from the rough cardboard, -No. 2 gives the pattern, -are shaded in dull greens, and the petals have narrow gilded outlines; the stamens and pistils are painted brown with tips of yellow. Pasteboard pockets cut like No. 3 and bent down along the dotted line are fastened securely to the egg, and to the front of these the lilies are firmly glued. The ends from white pasteboard boxes an inch and three-quarters wide and two and a quarter deep are very convenient to cut for the pockets. A bow and loop of white satin ribbon is fastened at the top.

A quaint employment of Easter symbols in making an "In



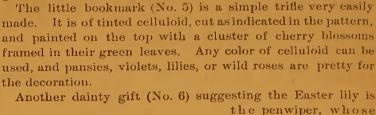
and Out" announcement-card is one of the most unique Easter offerings which has been seen. (See No. 4.) The materials required are a piece of rough cardboard ten and a quarter inches long by seven and a half wide,



a tiny toy chick, -this is of china, but any kind would answer as well,—a half-yard of orange ribbon to tie the card in

> shape at the corners, one brass button-headed paper-fastener to hold the index feather in place,





the back as a support, and chicky is fastened on with

open chalice is filled with fringed chamois. The under leaves are cut from a circle, four and a half inches in diameter, of heavy, rough cardboard, and painted with water-colors in shades of yellow green. The lily-like petals which form the cupcut from a five-inch circle-are of medium water-color paper, and tinted outside and in with shades of pale

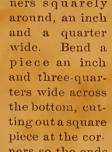


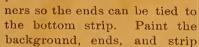
4. "IN AND OUT" CARD.

and a small piece of water-color paper to make the feather.

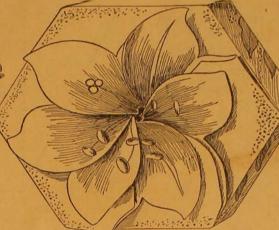
Cut the top of the cardboard into shape as

seen in the illustration. to represent a whole egg and one which is broken, and trim it down at the sides, bending the corners squarely around, an inch and a quarter wide. Bend a piece an inch and three-quarters wide across the bottom, cutting out a square

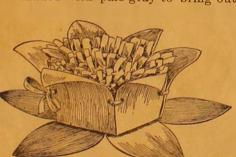




across the bottom with water-colors in shades of grass green. The eggs are left white except the edges, which are shaded with pale gray to bring out the oval shape.



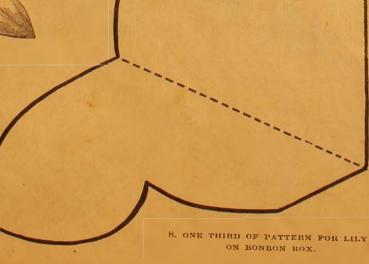
7. BONBON BOX.



6. PENWIPER.

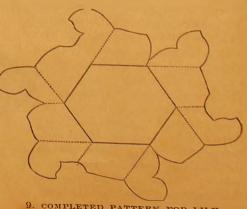
The violets are painted in natural colors, and the words "In" and "Out" are gilded and edged with vermilion. The index is painted to represent a yellow feather and fastened in place with a brass paperfastener. A piece of cardboard is glued to

5. BOOKMARK



bluegreen. Holes are either punched or burnt with a hot round nail in the sides of the petals, through which yellow "baby" ribbon is threaded. These tie the lily in shape to hold the tufts of fringed chamois. The lily petals are glued firmly to the under leaves, and the

chamois is also glued in place. The Easter-lily bonbon box (No. 7) represents when closed an Annunciation lily. A pasteboard box in the



9. COMPLETED PATTERN FOR LILY.

11. BONBONNIERE



10. EGGSHELL PENWIPER.

One third of the pattern for the lily cover is given in No. 8, which represents the actual size. The hexagonal line gives the size of the box. No. 9 shows the appearance of the cover before folding. The cover should be made of Whatman's water-color paper, and cut a seam larger,—that is within the inner line,—slit it in at the angles the depth of the seam so you can paste it around the top of the box on the outside; then cover the outside of the box also with the same paper. Crease the cover in folds on the dotted lines, and turn all the folds to the

graduates in college caps, etc., are popular subjects for these; and they can be utilized as penwipers by fastening some leaves of chamois underneath.

The Easter bonbonnière (No. 11) has a very attractive and flower-like appearance, being made of white crêpe-paper. A cornucopia of any desired size is first made of parchment paper, the one seam of which is sewed together. This is

covered with the crêpe paper put on loosely at the upper edge, where it is pulled out slightly and by dainty manipulation made to take petalous curves suggestive of the lily, and tied with white "baby" ribbon. Irregular dashes of gilding are given to this edge. The one seam is pasted neatly together over the shortest part of the cornucopia where the fullness completely conceals it. All the fullness is drawn down to the point and tied with "baby" ribbon. A butterfly made of the crêpe paper and gilded as seen in the illustration is perched just in front. The body of the butterfly is about the size of the two upper

joints of the little finger. Take a piece of cotton for this and cover with *crêpe* paper; tie once, to define the head, with fine thread, which does not show when gilded. This makes a dainty catch-all to hang by the toilet mirror. It is very pretty made of lavender paper trimmed with a cluster of violets instead of the butterfly.

The match-holder (No. 12) is another form of utilizing eggshells. The upper edge is broken unevenly as if just vacated by baby chick, and it is glued to a little paper mat in a bed of purple violets. Directions for making the violets of tissuepaper, together with patterns therefor, were given in Demorest's for February, 1893.



12. MATCH-HOLDER-

left: they will fall into place, leaving lily petals on the top. Vein and outline the petals, the outer edges of the folds, and the upper edge of box, with silver. Shade the lily with pale cream-color and a very delicate blue-green,—use water-colors,—and paint the pistil green and the stamens brown and

yellow. The tips of lily leaves are thrown irregularly around the box; these also are outlined and veined with silver, and tinted a delicate green. The spatter of dots is done with silver.

Every Easter brings us new grotesques made by using eggshells for heads. No. 10 shows one of the prettiest of these, a little maid in a picture hat. The artist of the family should be intrusted with the task of painting the face, which can be made as pretty or humorous as fancy dictates. The head is fastened securely in the usual way to a rough linen card or a piece of heavy water-color paper. A wide frill of pale blue tissue-paper is gathered around the neck, and this is headed by a very full ruche of delicate pink tissue-paper. The large hat is made of plain white writing-paper; a crown is neatly pasted in, and it is surrounded by folds of blue tissue-paper; large bows and ends of this and of pink complete the trimming. Nuns' and monks' heads, John Chinaman, sweet girl



13. EASTER CARD

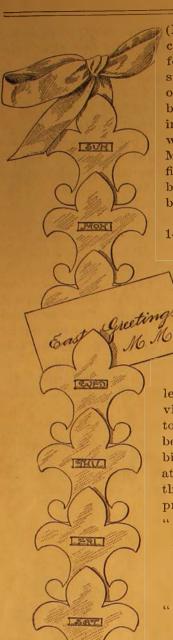
Cards, booklets, and envelope sachets for the writing-desk

are always in such profusion that one wonders where they all come from; here and there among them one finds some very dainty conceits, and when a gift must be intrusted to the tender mercies of Uncle Sam's mail it is wisdom to confine oneself to these simple and easily transported things.

The pretty card



14. A DAINTY BOOKLET.



15. CARD-RACK.

(No. 13) is of pearl-gray rough cardboard, seven and a half by four and a half inches in size, with sprays of apple blossoms thrown over it and upon a white satin ribbon which is slipped through slits in the card, and bears the one word "Easter" in gilt letters. Made a little larger—say ten by five inches—it could serve as a blotting-pad with several leaves of blotting-paper fastened beneath.

The dainty Easter booklet (No. 14) is in the form of an egg. The

crackles of the shell are simulated with gilt lines; the band of ribbon holding the violets is painted a very delicate pink, and the real ribbon tying the leaves together matches it; all the decoration of the simulated ribbon, stars, tracery, and

lettering is done with silver; the violets also are frosted with touches of metal. The interleaves bear upon one side pictures of rabbits and chickens in many frisky attitudes, while on the reverse side the following good wishes are expressed:

"With vows and wishes I send
An Easter egg unto my friend,
Within its tender shell to bear
A peace and joy beyond compare.
No barren, sterile life possessing,
But fruitful of all future blessing."

"The blessings of sweet Eastertide
In copious showers on you descend:
New life, new hopes, and heavenly joys,
True peace that ne'er shall have an
end."

"God be with you this Eastertide
And blessings on you pour;
By night and day shine on your way
Till Time shall be no more."

The last leaflet bears the following:

"The Easter symbol of an egg
With my heart's love, accept, I beg.
May from it Peace and Hope upspring
And with them every blessing bring,
A fruitful and prolific brood
Of all that's happy, bright, and good!"

An engagement card-rack (No. 15) is always a convenient and acceptable gift, and the fleur de lis design illustrated is charming and very easily made. The fleurs de lis are cut from rough water-color paper, and measure two and a half inches by one and three quarters; they are delicately tinted with heliotrope shades—done in water-colors—and silvered on the edges. Slits are cut, through which a half-inch heliotrope ribbon is run; abbreviations for the days of the week are lettered in silver on the ribbon, and the lower parts of the fleurs de lis are pasted or glued to the ribbon to prevent slipping out of place.

E. A. FLETCHER.



What Women Are Doing.

Of the one hundred medical missionaries in China, fifty-six are women.

Dr. Mary Putnam Jacobi has been elected chairman of the section on nervous diseases by the New York Academy.

Dr. Maud J. Frye, of Buffalo, N. Y., has a class of young women whom she is training to become skilled and satisfactory attendants for convalescents and children.

Miss Eide, of Kristiania, who is the first woman to receive a diploma as candidate of pharmacy in Norway, stood at the head of her class in all branches but one.

Miss Mary Proctor, daughter of the late Richard A. Proctor, is an enthusiastic student of astronomy. She lately gave a lecture on "The Giant Sun and His Family," which, though prepared for children, proved instructive and entertaining to adults.

Chicago has thirty police matrons with a head matron over all. The W. C. T. U. has a committee of women who strive to keep out political influence in the appointment of women as matrons, and to get women who are total abstainers.

Miss Louise Stockton, the sister of Frank R. Stockton, and an interesting writer herself, has organized a Round Robin Reading Club, to promote the systematic study of literature. The instruction is by correspondence, and the reading is done at home in clubs or circles formed for the purpose.

Miss Sarah Freeman Clark has given to the town of Marietta, Georgia, a library building, together with four thousand volumes as the nucleus of a library. The building is said to be a miniature reproduction of the great circulating library of the British Museum.

Miss Susannah Haydock is the proprietor of a nice little drugstore in Philadelphia, and makes the compounding of medicines a specialty. She is a graduate of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, and her preceptor was Dr. Susan Hayhurst, also a graduate, and for many years apothecary at the Woman's Hospital.

A darning club, organized in a Western town, is the latest thing in women's societies. The members decided that darning is too dull work to be done alone, so they organized a club, which meets every Wednesday morning. One woman reads aloud while the others repair the family hosiery.

Miss Cornelia Bradford, founder of Whittier House, in Jersey City, which is on the plan of the College Women's Settlements in New York, has in operation a day nursery, a sewing-class, and a series of receptions where poor women and girls are welcomed to "afternoon teas," and thus brought into personal relations with those who in the best sense may be helpful to them. As soon as possible a kindergarten and other classes will be started. Miss Bradford has a plan for loaning money to worthy poor people, and she also hopes to help the poor to simpler and less expensive customs in the burial of their dead.

Miss Shaw, who is on the staff of the "London Times," has won great honor for herself and her sex by the distinguished manner in which she has acquitted herself of her duties. She was sent to the Cape as special correspondent, and afterwards to Australia; and on her recent return to London was invited to deliver before the Royal Colonial Institute a lecture upon the resources of Australia. It was the first occasion upon which a woman had ever addressed this learned body, and so great was Miss Shaw's success that it was pronounced not only a red-letter day for the Institute, but also a red-letter day in the history of woman.

The Woman's Parliamentary Club, recently organized in Connecticut, meets regularly twice a month, with a membership of sixty, which includes many public-school teachers. The plan is to have a permanent organization with permanent officers; but for the experience members will get by actually filling these offices the permanent officers will abdicate, the President calling upon different members to act as President and Secretary at the different meetings. At one meeting the club resolved itself into a mass meeting. The call for the mass meeting was read, chairman and secretary were regularly elected, and the subject of clean streets and pavements was introduced. One member offered a resolution which gave opportunity for motions, amendments, substitutes, and a thorough parliamentary drill.

Sanitarian.

Some Dos and Don'ts of Healthful Living.

ERBERT SPENCER says: "Perhaps nothing will so much hasten the time when body and mind will both be adequately cared for, as a diffusion of the belief that the preservation of health is a duty. Few seem conscious that there is such a thing as physical morality, all breaches of the law of health are physical sins."

The foundation of trouble with many people is an error in diet, for our food either does us good or harm. While it is generally recognized now that fruit should be eaten generously the year round, it is especially necessary at this season. The most healthful first course for breakfast during the next two months is grape-fruit, alternating occasionally with an orange, lest the palate weary of the same thing. Although the peculiar acid tang of grape-fruit, or shaddock, is not agreeable to all at first, a taste for it is easily acquired; it stimulates the appetite remarkably, and well deserves the praise sometimes bestowed on the apple, of being of greater value to the human economy than all the drugs in the pharmacopæia. Those people, and they are many, who think that cereal foods, especially oatmeal, do not agree with them, will find that they can digest them perfectly if they eat at the same time a few crackers, a bit of toast, or some brown bread. These foods mingling with the cereals in the process of mastication break up the mass, enabling the gastric juices to more readily penetrate it, and thus facilitate the normal process of digestion.

No rules can be given for the rest of the meal, as they would be worse than those of English grammar, made up of exceptions. Individual tastes have to be considered as well as habits of life and its daily routine. The machine must be fed according to the work required of it. It is almost an unvarying rule, however, that less meat is required as the days grow warmer, and it is well to replace it frequently for breakfast with fish or eggs cooked in a variety of appetizing ways.

A prime cause for biliousness, which now hangs out its warning signals, is a dilated stomach. It is a state of poisoning, caused by the action of decomposing germs on food remaining there which the stomach has been too overtaxed, or too weak, to expel. Someone goes so far as to say that "if a man is bilious he ought to be ashamed of himself, for it means that he has abused his stomach." It arises primarily from an unnatural distention of the stomach caused by overloading it; but, in a weakened condition of the whole physique, is sometimes due to a breaking-down of the stomach. For the first incipient attacks, when there is heaviness, languor, and drowsiness, with coated tongue, bad taste in the mouth, headache, perhaps, and some dizziness, a free use of grape-fruit with a careful, abstemious diet for a week, and plenty of exercise in the open air, with early hours at night,—say nine o'clock for bedtime,—will in most cases effect a perfect cure and save a tedious illness.

In the midst of the widely discussed question anent the advisability of punishing the baby and the heated debates concerning it, a word of advice seems necessary in order to protect that long-suffering little mortal from further disastrous experiments. Rational treatment is all baby asks or requires, and protection from its worst enemies, those overfond mammas who look upon baby as a plaything, and the fussy nurses who would think their occupation gone if they were not incessantly "doing something for baby." Habit is

all the discipline which the tiny mortal requires during the first twelve months of its existence in this troublous world; and if they be good, healthful habits, dictated by common sense, it will not be a troublous world to either mother or infant. In everything concerning baby's life regularity of habit must be insisted upon ; from the day of its birth every attention it receives should be given regularly, and all care should be so systematized as to minimize its disturbance, for a prime factor in baby's well-being is quiet, the more undisturbed sleep the better, and it should from the first be unaccustomed to being taken up immediately when it wakens. There must be regular hours for feeding, and regular hours for the daily bath and dressing; regular hours of sleep, and periods of waking naturally follow; and with regular attention to physiological needs there is no reason why the fewmonths-old baby should not be a model of perfect discipline.

Those poor babies who make night hideous by wailing for father or mother to walk with them were first taught to like the motion; and the parent who picks the wee morsel of humanity out of his snug nest and tosses him to the ceiling to hear him laugh with glee, has only himself to blame if it pleases the baby king so well that he wishes to play at midnight.

Recent experiments with hot water treatment have proved that it may be used in many infantile disorders to great advantage. A child that refuses to nurse or cannot keep bottle-food on its stomach will take hot water greedily and soon fall into a refreshing sleep. The hot water carries off disturbing elements and cleanses thoroughly the digestive organs, in such cases being a stimulant, an antiseptic, a sedative, and a food.

While there is much to be said in favor of cycling as an exercise for both men and women, there is also a very emphatic Don't to be uttered with regard to the position which many people assume when riding. The cycle stoop makes all benefit from the exercise impossible; it compresses the lungs, rendering it impossible to breathe properly, and, if persisted in, will produce a very serious spinal curvature. Though, of course, the professional "sprinters" are the worst offenders, there are many ambitious riders who fall into the habit from a foolish desire to attain speed, without realizing that they are endangering health thereby. To their credit be it said, very few women have fallen into this pernicious habit. As an exercise for those suffering from dyspepsia, either anæmic or nervous, or from any derangement of the digestive organs, and for persons prone to rheumatism, correct cycling, with the shoulders held erect, has proved very beneficial. It is a great advantage also to students and all who lead a sedentary life, for it sends the blood circulating vigorously through the whole body, and purifies it with the deep draughts of pure fresh air which the lungs are compelled to inhale.

The health of young children would be vastly improved. and their tempers also, if the sensible custom of the English were more prevalent here, that of nursery meals with a simple diet of wholesome food. American children are as a rule over-fed with too hearty and too rich food, and overstimulated with condiments. Of course where these things are not seen it is no privation to go without them; but with our popular custom of children's going to the table with their parents the only remedy is for both father and mother to have sufficient firmness to deny their children the highly seasoned foods which their own older appetites crave. If the little people never taste it they will never want it; and many cases of trying insubordination, hot temper, and quarrels that transform children into little fiends, and would shame cats and dogs, can be traced to over-stimulation from MARCIA DUNCAN, M.D. improper food.

The World's Progress.

CURRENT TOPICS, NOTES AND COMMENTS ON EVENTS OF THE DAY.—INTERESTING SUBJECTS AND NOT-ABLE THINGS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED DURING THE PAST MONTH.—CONTEM-PORANEOUS HISTORY FROM A FAMILIAR POINT OF VIEW.

This is not the statement of sanguine dreamers who weave pretty theories to soothe their own minds. It is the boldly expressed opinion of military and naval experts, who know thoroughly well what changes are taking place in the use of new destructive forces, and to what these new discoveries will lead. They declare that war will have to stop within a few years for the simple reason that it will be of too revolting a character to be indulged in by civilized beings. The great progress being made in aeronautics and explosives is the direct cause leading to the dawn of the millennial era, and it is thus, out of evil, that good is destined to come. These experts declare that air-ships or balloons are now being constructed for some of the great powers, which when loaded with certain new and terrible explosives, now being experimented with, will be able to totally destroy the largest cities in a few hours. When a declaration of war amounts to wholesale massacre of such a character as this, men will have sense enough to let the ballot-box decide all their grievances and to live together in one grand, universal brotherhood. Tariff fights will be the worst battles waged, and military titles will be used, as they often are in this country by jocose individuals, to decorate an otherwise undistinguished name. The world is tired of seeing these great military bullies walking round with chips upon their shoulders for someone to knock off and plunge half the world into ruin and misery, and the sooner the facts which these experts claim can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of everybody, the better it will be.

Greater New York. destructive forces, and to what these new discoveries will lead.

Greater New York.

The agitation to increase the size of New York city by consolidating it with Brooklyn and some of the adjacent towns is by no means a new one. It would result in placing New York unquesmeans a new one. It would result in placing New York unquestionably at the head of all the cities on this continent in point of population, as it is already overwhelmingly so in matters of wealth, trade, and general influence. There is now a bill in the Legislature to provide for the taking of a vote of the people in both cities on this point, not for the purpose of settling whether the consolidation shall be carried out, but to show what the real sentiment of the people is about the matter. The estimated population of Greater New York would be about three millions, which would be scattered over an area of three hundred and seventeen square miles, in comparison to London's six million population and six hundred and eighty-eight miles of territory. The increase of population in the last decade in London has been about twenty per cent, and in New York, twenty-five per cent; while Chicago has more than doubled its population, making a gain of one hundred and eighteen per cent in the same period. It must be remembered that both Chicago and London have gained considerably by annexation during the past ten years; but the estimate for New York is based upon an increase of territory of which one city alone will furnish almost a million extra inhabitants. New York will be the second city in the world, not excepting Paris, which has gained less than ten per cent in the last decade; but how long she will continue to be so depends upon Chicago's capacity for doubling her population. It is claimed the latter city has already reached the two million mark; and if that be so, supposing she doubles again in the next ten years, and New York maintains her normal growth, twenty-five per cent added to three million will not give her the position of second city in the world. Paris will not, from present aspects, be in it for third place, even; but New York may, if the present consolidation be accomplished, be easily the second city of the world.

Gladstone and the Peers.

If nothing more were fortheoming to avidence the same timple tionably at the head of all the cities on this continent in point of

Gladstone and the Peers.

If nothing more were forthcoming to evidence the radicalism of Gladstone, his hostility to the Peers would amply entitle him to the title of the greatest radical of the age. The difference between a good radical and a good democrat is not a very obvious tween a good radical and a good democrat is not a very obvious quantity; and if the Grand Old Man had been born a native of the United States it is not difficult to see towards which party he would have gravitated, and which in all probability he would have often led to victory as he has led the Liberal party in the United Kingdom. The recent refractoriness of the House of Peers over the Parish Councils Bill has provoked a growl from the radicals of Great Britain which is extremely menacing to the existence of that archaic institution. So serious has this menace become that the Queen, knowing how closely her destinies are linked with those of the privileged aristocracy, is said to have Inter-

vened, and that a compromise will probably be arrived at through her instrumentality. The work of the House of Peers, recently has consisted of the destruction of the Home Rule Bill, the Employer's Liability and Parish Councils Bills, and they are said to have already prepared to reject such bills as the Welsh Disestablishment, Local Option, and Registration Reform. Englishmen are slow to act in momentous matters, unless it be in a case where prompt action is absolutely necessary; but if the Lords do not mend their ways in a manner that can scarcely be hoped for, there is trouble ahead for them as sure as Oliver Cromwell ever lived or the Independence of the American Colonies was declared. It is not surprising that this heroic character, bowed beneath the weight of years and responsibilities that few men could sustain equally well, should sometimes utter a suggestion that he would soon lay down his burden. It is probably more from internal than external affairs that such premeditated action on his part has been mooted, and the war scare in Europe again blows over as it has so often done before.

At Timbuctoo.

At Timbuctoo.

So our intrepid and gallant French friends have at last succeeded in reaching Timbuctoo, that mysterious dot on the map which always stimulated our imagination because of the dense mystery which surrounded it. True, of late years the sanctity of Timbuctoo has been somewhat imperiled by the progress toward it in various directions made by African explorers, and in 1889 two French travelers actually ventured within sight of the city. France, imbued with increasing military ardor, has, it is said, since that time, cast covetous eyes upon Timbuctoo, and determined upon its ultimate acquisition. Although her "sphere of influence" included nothing as far north as Timbuctoo, that of no other European power came so near to it as her own; and probably Colonel Bonnier, who recently seized the city, looked upon it as his legitimate prey, considering such to be the case. Anyway, he did not wait for instructions from his government, but proceeded to hoist the French flag over the place without delay, and then, after leaving a handful of troops to garrison it, he departed for some other point. Shortly after his departure the fierce natives of the region, known as Tuaregs, annihilated a French force within a short distance of Timbuctoo, and great apprehension has been felt since for the lives of the garrison. Colonel Bronnier, however, is probably safe in French territory; but it is to be hoped that his government will not leave him nor his gallant men in the lurch for want of re-enforcements, in the of Timbuctoo has been somewhat imperiled by the progress tohis gallant men in the lurch for want of re-enforcements, in the same manner that the British government left General Gordon at the other end of the Soudan when that brave soldier was engaged in endeavoring to advance its interests in a similar way.

Cheap Telephones.

Telephone accommodations can now be secured at very cheap rates owing to the recent expiration of the first Bell Telephone patents. For domestic uses,-that is, to connect one room with another in a house, or houses with stables and outbuildings,—
these older style telephones can be utilized very advantageously
at most moderate cost. The connection can be extended further
than this where it is only necessary to make it between two
points, and may therefore be used between the houses of friends
or between the house and office, where the cost of stringing wires
would not be too expensive, and private property would not have
to be invaded. The telephones are now being advertised by dealers for one and a half dollars, and all the additional cost involved
will be the purchase and hanging of the wires. The instruments
on which the patents have expired are technically described as
"The combination, with an electro-magnet of a plate of iron or
steel or other material capable of inductive action, which can be
thrown into vibration by the movements of surrounding air or by
the attraction of a magnet. The formation in an electric telephone of a magnet with a coil upon the end or ends of the magnet
nearest the plate. In combination with an electric telephone, the
employment of a speaking or hearing tube for conveying sounds
to or from the telephone."

Many improvements have been added to the original instruments, and the patents on these will expire only in due sequence;
but for ordinary purposes, such as here suggested, they will prove
perfectly serviceable. There is no ground to suppose that the
cheapening of these telephones will interfere at all with the regular business of the city telephone companies, owing to the fact
that the complicated system which they control enables them to
give such universal service.

A National Boulevard. another in a house, or houses with stables and outbuildings, -

A National Boulevard.

One of the most remarkable suggestions which the present depressed condition of the labor market has brought out is the building of a transcontinental boulevard across the United States from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans. The idea, at first sight, from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans. The idea, at first sight, seems an attractive one, and the design suggested, that of a grand boulevard one hundred feet in width, would permit of the proportions being commensurate with the general magnificence of the scheme. On each side of the boulevard would be a sidewalk, twenty-five feet in width, with a double row of handsome shade-trees, the center being occupied by a section twenty feet wide, in which would be planted varieties of the flora peculiar to each State. This would leave a double driveway of ample proportions on each side, and it is proposed that statuary commemorative of the history of the several States might properly adorn the thoroughfares. It is believed that the enhancement of the value of the property along the route would furnish sufficient funds to pay all expenses of patrolment and keeping the boulevard in repair. The expenses of construction would be borne by the different States through which it passed, offering an opportunity for the surplus labor in each section to be utilized. Beneath the center portion of the road devoted to botanical specimens, sewers, drainage pipes, and conduits for water, gas, and telegraph wires, night be placed. It is thought that fountains and other artistic and useful decorations would be donated by societies representing the trades mechanics arts and professions and other artistic and useful decorations would be donated by societies representing the trades, mechanics, arts, and professions, and that persons of wealth might present statuary commemorative of national episodes and characters. The road would serve a most useful purpose besides being a monument to the enterprise and industry of the country.

The Moral Wave.

The Moral Wave.

It is a peculiar fact that at a time when prosperity shines upon the just as well as the unjust there is little desire to overhaul matters which ought to be looked into or to bring the guilty to a reckoning. The tendency changes with the condition of the money market; and as soon as the stringency begins to be generally felt, reformers, critics, and others tumble over one another in a mad rush to convict of wrong-doing those who have long been openly suspected. A moral wave of this kind is now sweeping over the country, resulting in the production of a crop of reformers of various calibre, who elect themselves champions of the public weal and denounce or attack those who have come under the ban of their suspicion. Politicians, judges, police officials, and individuals of high and low degree have been experiencing the effects of the wave in a most remarkable manner during the last few months, and the presence of a Senate Investigating Committee in New York for the purpose of inquiring into alleged abuses in its municipal affairs, indicates a very serious condition of things by the mere fact of its existence. Politics in the larger American cities have long been suspected of being susceptible of purification, and it is only due to those intrusted with their conduct that an investigation should be made which will either enable necessary reforms to be introduced or else clear them from the stigma occasioned by such made which will either enable necessary reforms to be intro-duced or else clear them from the stigma occasioned by such reports.

Niagara Harnessed.

The greatest shrine on this continent for modern pilgrims, Niagara Falls, has now developed a double purpose in combining the useful with the beautiful. It was sublimely grand to hear the waters of the great cataract washing over the rocky ledges and seething in never-ending confusion below, but the majesty of Niagara gains an added charm when we reflect that now it is something more than a surpassingly grand sight, a panorama of unequalled magnificence, it having, by means of mechanical art, been harnessed to a power plant capable of supplying its almost unlimited energy to the service of mankind. The Niagara Falls Power Company, which has been granted extensive concessions, has, by the outlay of a sum of money ultimately to reach four million dollars, partially erected a plant, which, when completed, will aggregate a very large amount of power. Three turbines of 1,100 horse power each are already in operation, and others of 5,000 horse power will soon be placed. The Falls are utilized by tunneling beneath them and thus diverting a portion of the current, the tunnel starting a mile and a half above the American Falls, and the canal running two thousand feet further back. Through this canal the water passes by means of steel pipes to huge turbine wheels, afterwards descending to the main tunnel, two hundred feet beneath the surface, to an outlet a thousand feet below the Falls. The principal tunnel, in the shape of a horseshoe, is twenty-one feet high, nineteen wide, and seven thousand feet long, with a fall of from four to seven feet per thousand. The loss of water from the Falls will lower them only seven inches, an almost unnoticeable amount; and it is predicted that the power required for the Middle States, to them only seven inches, an almost unnoticeable amount; and it is predicted that the power required for the Middle States, to light streets, run factories, cars, and for heating purposes, will ultimately be supplied from Niagara.

California's Fair.

California's Fair.

The opening of the International Exhibition at San Francisco on the 27th day of January last, although following so closely upon the closing of the great World's Fair at Chicago, seems to have been a decided success, and to fairly reward the efforts of its promoters. Eighty-five thousand persons were present at the opening, and the attendance since has been satisfactory. Many features of the Chicago Fair are reproduced with slight variation; but there are a host of distinctive exhibits as well, which will repay even those who have seen the Columbian Exposition for visiting it. The Fair contains in miniature the whole of the State of California, and a more interesting collection than the varied features of the Great Pacific State make could hardly be imagined. One of the exhibits comprises the cabins of some of the old "Forty-nine" argonauts, including that of James W. Marshall, the first discoverer of California's splendid treasure, J. W. Mackey's, and many others. These cabins are the work of Marshall's and Mackey's own hands, and are transplanted to the Fair with the identical surroundings they enjoyed at camp. California's wealth of fruit, grains, and flowers enables her to make a superb showing in the horticultural, agricultural, and other allied departments. The orange exhibit is startling both as to variety and quantity, there being sufficient of this fruit displayed, it is said, to freight a European liner. The architecture of the principal buildings, although on a very much smaller scale than that of the Chicago Fair, is extremely graceful and appropriate. The Fair will remain open, in all probability, until the Fourth of July.

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A Northeast Passage.

A Northeast Passage.

Although the discovery of a Northwest Passage has not yet been made, to reward the blood and treasure expended in the many futile attempts to find it, a northern route to Siberia has been opened within the past few years, which is one of the most remarkable geographical occurrences of the decade. The discoverer, Captain Wiggins, commander of an English merchantman, as long ago as 1874 made a successful voyage around the northern coast of Norway to the Arctic Ocean, and steamed up the Yenesei River some fifteen hundred miles into the heart of Asiatic Russia. Since this first voyage over twenty-five trips have been made from British ports, and there is no doubt that the passage is safe enough during the summer months to vessels that are constructed suitable for the climate. The Russian Government is preparing to use the route for the shipment of quanthat are constructed suitable for the climate. The Russian Government is preparing to use the route for the shipment of quantities of railroad supplies necessary to equip roads projected through this region, and there will be an increased number of vessels each year plying in the Siberian trade by means of this route. A vast territory has been brought in touch with civilization by the discovery of Captain Wiggins, and although Russia cannot but benefit enormously by the way opened for her by a British navigator, she may yet find that the discovery will be as valuable to England as to herself, by furnishing a backway route to her great Indian territory should the day come when she has to strike a blow in its behalf.

No Poet-Laureate.

It seems to have been decided by the Queen and her advisers that there is no minstrel living today upon whom the mantle of Tennyson might fittingly fall. Several of the modern minor poets have been named for the honor; and it seemed, recently, that Lewis Morris was destined to wear the laurel; but since his name was dropped no one has been mentioned for the rôle. The fact is that there is not a great poet living either in England or in any English-speaking country today. Literary critics, who imagine themselves blessed with more discernment than the general public may think they see budding greatness in one or another of themselves blessed with more discernment than the general public, may think they see budding greatness in one or another of the many writers of verse who are struggling for notice; but if the true note were struck there would be little doubt that a great poet had arisen. Perhaps we have reached a stage in the development of the Anglo-Saxon race when the most dazzling efforts in poetry and fiction have been accomplished. The influences of opinent of the Anglo-saxon race when the most dazzing enorts in poetry and fiction have been accomplished. The influences of modern life are inimical to the fostering of the poetic instinct, without which in its highest and grandest sense no real genius can be born. If one might expect to see the British lyre resurrected it would seem that the new voice should come from some forgotten pastoral nook, remote from the snorting of trains and the hum of the poetry-destroying mob; but the infection of materialism has been carried there and the ideal conditions destroyed by the all-permeating newspaper, so for our poets we shall probably have to go to peoples who have not yet felt the iron of modern civilization enter their souls and kill the heart of

The Tariff.

The settlement of the tariff question means bread to thousands who are to-day in need of it through the broad expanse of this great country. The indecision which has attended legislation on this matter in recent years and the conflicting opinions in regard to the subject are largely responsible for the depressed state of our industries and commerce. Parties may come and go, and will continue doing so as long as constitutional government in its highest condition of development exists; but a tariff based upon laws which will prevent great fluctuations and yield sufficient revenue for the purposes of government should be framed and put into operation at the earliest possible moment. There is no reason whatever why such phenomenally hard times should exist in this country, for there are, apparently, almost limitless sums of money seeking investment at reasonable rates of interest, and there are resources here sufficient to use up ten times the amount of capital available. The thing urgently needed to restore confidence and prosperity to all classes is the passage of a tariff measure, fair and just to all, and operative for as long a term without interference with its fundamental principles as it is possible to make it. The settlement of the tariff question means bread to thousands

The Educational Value of a Portrait Album.

The Educational Value of a Portrait Album.

An album containing portraits of one's relatives and friends possesses a distinctive sentimental value independent of its intrinsic worth; one of miscellaneous portraits may be interesting, but can be of no permanent value; but a collection of portraits of the world's most renowned people, such as we suggest on page 330, and shall provide the material for and an album to contain it, is one the value of which from a monetary, sentimental, and educational standpoint cannot be over-estimated. As a means of entertainment and general interest it appeals to old and young alike; but it is intrinsically valuable as a source of education for the young. It is natural for one to be more interested in the achievements of a person after becoming familiar with his general appearance and features, and the formation of a collection of this kind by a young person will serve as a perpetual object-lesson, and cannot fail to have an enormous influence in molding character and fostering and developing ambitions that otherwise might remain dormant. Therefore, encourage the young people to start a Demorest's Magazine Portrait Album. Distinguished people of all cras will be included in it, and its value as a record of the world's progress will be enhanced as the years pass by.

Mousehold.

The Drapery Era.

EVER before have draperies played so important a part in the furnishing of our homes, adding, when well chosen, the last touch of comfort, daintiness, and beauty. We have, fortunately, passed through the chaotic, overdone period when draperies were a craze and every chair, table, shelf, cabinet, and picture was looked upon as merely a coign of vantage whereon some fearful and wonderful construction of silk or gauze, lace or embroidery, could be displayed. How we lived through it is really matter for surprise, and shows the wonderful vitality of the human race; but were the truth known, probably many an epitaph should read "Died of sashing and bowing up her parlor."

It is now quite generally understood that the only use for draperies of this sort—on furniture, pictures, etc.—is when it is necessary to make a special background to bring out the beauties of a picture, statuette, or rare bit of porcelain. Our vases and bronzes are considered dressed without sashes; and that terror of man, sometimes asserted to have been invented for his special undoing, the old-time tidy, or chair back, is relegated to "innocuous desuetude."

One of the most important things in the furnishing of our homes is the curtaining and draping of the windows. These are the eyes of the home which look out upon the world, and by whose expression the vast, unknown world that never crosses our portal, never comes nearer than to look squarely into our "eyes," forms its opinion of us, and judges not only our social status, means, etc., but also our culture and taste. When you see the showy lace curtains drawn back so that the whole center of the window can be occupied by a huge vase or koro of gaudy imitation Satsuma, or something equally pretentious, you need not be surprised to learn that the servants' rooms in such a house are bare of all suggestion of comfort; and very probably one would not need to go so far as that to find the evidences of "sparing to spend," of spending for barest show. Nothing should ever be placed in the windows purely for display. The chance glimpses of handsome furnishings or rare bric-a-brac which the advantageous arrangement of the room occasionally discloses are sometimes charming, but we should by no means call upon the outside world to admire our household gods; we should hold them too choice for that.

Sash-curtains are quite generally now the full length of the window and come next it; inside-toward the room-is the shade; and inside of that are the full drapery curtains. Often, in the city, there are two sets of these, -heavy brocatelle, velvet, or plush, or rich Oriental weaves, in addition to those of lace. For the full sash-curtains, the latest fancy is tamboured Swiss, finished on the edge and across the bottom with a ruffle, also embroidered; they cost from \$3 per pair up. Pretty ones also are made of polka-dotted Swiss. The preference for these, in the city, is pure white, and they are more generally tied back with white ribbon than with a color. In sumptuous houses sash-curtains of Irish point, Venetian guipure, and other rich and expensive laces are used, and often these are but slightly wider than the window, hanging down straight with but scanf fullness, and not tied back. For the half-length sash-curtains a great variety of materials are used; among them are scrim, Madras, dotted Swiss, silkoline, crêpe cloth, and plain or figured China and India silks. For the silk curtains yellows and yellow greens are a popular choice; and, indeed, in all housefurnishing a great deal of yellow is used, its value in cheerfulness and brightness being more and more recognized. These curtains are often made in one piece, quite full, and hang from a brass rod fastened to the top of the lower sash.

Among the cotton fabrics for summer draperies nothing can exceed in beauty the Japanese stuffs. There are plain cotton *crepes* in soft *fade* tints of blue, olive, old-rose, terra cotta, and greenish yellow which are so perfect in tone that artists rave over them; as they are twenty-seven inches wide and cost but 25 cents per yard, they are within the reach of the most modest purse. If used for portieres they should be lined with cheese cloth, satine, or French cambric; but for window curtains, and for curtaining library shelves—indeed, for most other purposes,—the lining is unnecessary.

Shiffu cloth, which was a novelty two years ago, is another very effective Japanese fabric; it is shot or chinéed with irregular dashes of color upon color, in two-toned effects usually, though occasionally contrasting; the threads of the woof are much heavier than those of the warp, giving it a corded effect, and at irregular distances gold or silver threads are woven across. This can be had in all desirable colors: the new bluish, or "art," greens, shot with dull reds and brown; light blue with dark, and the reverse; red, oldrose, and terra cotta; lemon and tan; pink, with red and blue. It is a yard wide and costs from 50 to 75 cents per yard. This is a serviceable and effective material for piazza furnishings, chair cushions, hammock pillows, etc.; and, indeed, one is always safe in choosing any of the Japanese fabrics where durability is essential, as the dyes are in most cases sun and water proof. Beautiful portières and curtains of the shiffu cloth come embroidered all over with bold designs, either in gold thread or heavy outlining of silk threads; these cost from \$6.50 to \$10 per pair.

The hechima crepe is such an established favorite that it is considered a standard and staple fabric, and where blue and white effects are desired nothing can be more satisfactory. It comes in all manner of quaint Oriental patterns of dark china blue on a white ground, is thirty inches wide, costs 50 cents per yard, and the colors will last as long as the fabric. A charmingly cool effect can be gained for a summer morn ing-room or for bedrooms, by combining hechima crepe and blue denim in the furnishing, using the latter for portieres, divan cover, chair cushions, and even the walls; and the crepe for curtains, divan cushions, bed and toilet drapery, etc. There is a very narrow crepe, not more than three-eighths of a yard wide, matching the hechima in color and of similar designs, which makes a very effective frieze if the walls are covered with denim.

So many are the varieties of these fascinating crepes that it is almost impossible to mention all. One sort, soft and light in texture, has a straggling all-over conventionalized pattern in gold lines, guaranteed never to tarnish; in these are many shades of tawny yellows, greens, old-pink, dull blues, and ℓcru . Curtains of the same in bold and showy patterns can be bought for \$3.50 per pair, and the fabric by the yard costs from 25 to 50 cents. Others, heavier in texture, have similar patterns in light or dark shades upon a ground of the same color; these are very desirable, and make pretty cushion-covers or summer draperies for libraries and sitting-rooms.

Our home manufacturers have put upon the market an attractive cotton crêpe one yard wide which sells for 17 cents per yard. The designs are conventionalized and the colors very good, and the pattern is printed through and through so the fabric is practically double-faced, a very great advantage. This in old-rose with pattern in dark red would combine effectively with the dull red denim as described above for hechima crêpe with blue.

Almost more attractive than China silk are the silk-andlinen Japanese crêpes with bold patterns in olive, old-pink, and dull blue, on cream or yellow grounds, the whole design being freely stamped with gold; the shimmer and sheen of the gold and silk give an indescribable brightness, and simulate, without imitating, the richness of far more expensive fabrics. They are twenty-seven inches wide and cost 48 cents per yard.

The so-called swivel silks, or silk ginghams, are introduced this season in patterns suitable for draperies, and are called art brocades; they are in all delicate colors with pretty floral patterns in natural colors thrown broadcast over the brocaded ground. They are thirty-two inches wide, and are regularly offered at 55 cents a yard; but some special sales have been made of them for 29 cents. These are effective in carrying out floral schemes of decoration, and being softer than cretonne drape much more gracefully.

Prettier than cheap lace curtains are those of snow-flake; it is a thin cotton material about the weight of grenadine, usually cream white with horizontal stripes of dull color, green, old-rose, red, and yellow. It is very wide, double-fold, and is now offered at 11 cents per yard. Pattern curtains of snow-flake with silk stripes and fringed across the bottoms cost \$4.50 per pair.

Madras is another material greatly to be commended instead of cheap lace; it drapes gracefully, and can be had in many soft, harmonious tints: tawny yellows, dull blues, cream, and olive are all good. It is double-fold, forty-five to fifty inches wide, price from 28 to 68 cents per yard. While it is suitable for summer use it can also be used the year round anywhere where lace would be appropriate. Indian Madras is a much handsomer fabric, and lends itself admirably to gorgeous effects, as its bold Oriental designs and rich coloring suggest sumptuousness, ease, and luxury. It is as soft and pliable as the common stuff, but heavier, and costs \$1.48 to \$1.95 per yard, fifty inches wide.

A new stuff in our shops, which is admirably adapted to combine with the artistic Morris cretonnes, as both the designs and colors harmonize, is a double-fold and double-faced muslin called India print. The patterns are copied from tropical plants of luxuriant growth, the great leaves, buds, and flowers running riot in natural colors over a cream or pale gray ground. As only pure vegetable dyes are used, the fabric is sun and water proof, and its cost is but 50 cents per yard. The designs are so large that they are only suited to spacious rooms, but a delightful and unique interior could be arranged in a roomy summer cottage with this stuff for window and bed curtains, and a Morris cretonne—price 95 cents—for divan cover and chair cushions.

China and India silks increase in beauty of color and design every year; yet while all are pretty, we find on examination that there are China silks and China silks! There are certain special kinds that greatly exceed in beauty of texture the ordinary ones. Shiku silks are heavy and firm yet soft and pliable as the thinnest, with an irregularity in the threads of the woof that increases their beauty. The patterns are very effective and in all desirable colors, and they are full yard wide, price \$1.25; for some purposes the plain colors are even more effective, and often the best results are secured by using the two together, as a lavish use and repetition of any design fatigues the eye, and a grateful repose is given by the solid color. These cost only \$1.10 per yard, and all the delightful, soul-satisfying, artistic tints can be found,-queer dull blues, olive-greens, greenish yellows, and fade pinkseverything to satisfy the most exigeant taste.

Corah silks are also yard wide, but lighter than the shikū; they come in seven yard lengths and cost \$11.50 per piece. They are in unique set designs upon various light grounds, and also in rich dark grounds, blue, green, and red, with very striking Egyptian designs. Among floral motives especially to be noted is the poppy pattern; this can be had in a great variety of colors, shades, and combinations. Very

striking is a brilliant red poppy with natural foliage on a dark blue ground; but one of the prettiest is the deep orange-colored flower on a cream ground. These cost \$1 per yard.

Very lovely effects are produced by draping a width of silk over the tops of lace curtains, letting one end hang half-way to the floor at the side, while the other is quite short. Over plain fabrics the drapery may be figured, and over figured it should be plain. It is every woman's ambition now to achieve individuality in her home, to express herself in it, and to have an interior totally unlike her neighbors, but giving forth everywhere suggestions of comfort, ease, and beauty. To accomplish this, though it is very convenient, it is not an indispensable condition that one have carte blanche in spending. The wealth of materials at our disposal, of every grade and price, is so great that the most important requisite is time to consider and plan, and judgment in selection. Hap-hazard and hasty buying simply because a thing is pretty in itself without consideration as to its ultimate use produces an unsatisfactory, conglomerate result that will ever torment the weak victim of this method-without method—of furnishing her home. It is a safe rule always to think, not twice, but four times, before buying a thing simply because it is pretty and cheap.

Our thanks are due Messrs. A. A. Vantine & Co., Stern Bros., and H. O'Neill for courtesies and information.

A Forgotten Command.

THERE was a pious man who one day died
And passed to judgment. Born to wealth, his lot
On earth had been with those who labor not,
But he had kept himself from worldly pride,
Had hated sin, and sinners; and had tried
To let no evil word nor action blot
His earthly record. Valiantly (in thought)
He battled ever on fair virtue's side.

Expectant now before the judgment throne,
He waited there the nimbus for his head.
Till some strange force compelled him to recoil.
"Avaunt from me!" (God cried in thunder tone.
"And six days shalt thou labor," I have said;
Death keeps no crown for those who do not toil."

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

"Which is the Sweeter?"

Which is the sweeter, dear, and fair, You or the roses which you bear? See! they nestle in thine arms Homage paying to thy charms; Thus they show thee in their way Which is sweeter, you or they. If I a rose were, there should fall At thy feet my petals all.

THOMAS TAPPER.

The True Story of a Cloth Cat.

(For the Children.)

ER name was Rose Raymond, but her mother always called her "Rosebud." On a certain day in April, which was Rosebud's sixth birthday, she had such



"THE WAY HE LOOKED WHEN ROSEBUD FIRST SAW HIM."

new tricycle out of doors, but Bridget never said a word when she rode up and down the basement hall. Then, too, there was no reason why she should not wear around her neck, all day long, the dainty gold chain she found beside her plate on the breakfast table. There was a new doll, also, dressed as a sailor-boy, so Rosebud was as happy as a little girl could be who had a cold, and who had to stay home, for perhaps two or three days, instead of going to a beautiful kindergar-

When Mrs. Raymond came home from her daily visit to

the market she brought Rosebud a huge, yellow grape-fruit, which the grocer sent to her when he learned that she had a cold and could not pay him her usual morning call with her mamma. Mrs. Raymond also brought home a piece of cloth on which was printed a gray cat. The first picture shows the way he looked when Rosebud saw him for the first time.

a bad cold that her mother decided she could not go to the kindergarten for a few days.

But a birthday was almost as good as Christmas, Rosebud thought. She could remember three other birthdays, and they were very nice indeed; so even a hard cold could not make her sixth birthday anything but happy. Of course she could not take

her pretty

Mrs. Raymond cut him out, and Rosebud was a great help, for she brought from the store-room an old hat-box filled with cotton. Mrs. Raymond made him almost as plump as "Doodles," the big black-and-white cat that Rosebud loved so well. Doodles had fine whiskers, and the cloth cat (who wore a cheerful smile) must have some, too; so Mrs. Raymond added whiskers of white thread, well waxed. Then the cloth cat was given to Rosebud to play with. I know this pleased him, for he smiled all the

For a while Rosebud liked him better than Doodles, because he did not squirm about and try to scamper away to the garden where he could chase the sparrows. But by and by she said a cloth cat was no fun at all, because he would not chase a rubber ball around the room, as Doodles would. She put the cloth cat by the fireplace and forgot all about him (she was playing with the new sailor-doll) till Doodles walked into the room. He looked at the cloth cat severely and said:

"Meow!" by which he probably meant, "How do you do? You are a stranger, but—this is my home."

The cloth cat did not reply.

"Meow-W!" said Doodles again. He was somewhat annoyed.

Again the cloth cat remained silent, but it looked very cheerful.

This was too much for Doodles. Up went his back, higher and higher, and his tail grew bigger every moment. Then he crouched down, and slowly drew nearer and nearer, his tail

slapping the carpet angrily. He almost reached the cloth cat (by this time his teeth were showing), and then-

Then he stopped, put out one white, velvety paw, touched his foe, and turned and walked away, the most shamefaced little cat in the world.

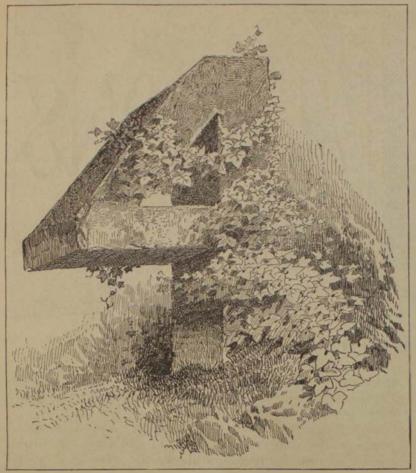
How mamma laughed over Doodles' mistake, and how Rosebud laughed, too, burying her round little face in one of the big sleeves

As for the cloth cat, I know he enjoyed the joke as much as anyone. All this happened several weeks ago, and-you will hardly be-



THE CLOTH CAT REMAINED SILENT, BUT HE LOOKED VERY CHEERFUL."

Puzzles.



TAKE AWAY THE VINE AND LEAVE NOTHING.



HOW MANY BIRDS IN THIS PICTURE, AND WHAT ARE THEY?

ANSWER TO PUZZLE IN MARCH NUMBER.

BASE-BALL

BALE GALL

BOLE GULL

BOLT BULL

BOOT BILL

FOOT-BALL

Chat.

Musicales have been a feature of Lenten diversions; all the performers amateurs, friends of the hostess, who exhibited their talents in Charity's dear name, winning many a dollar for various benevolent objects in which society women are interested. The members of one unique club, composed of a double quartette, robed themselves in dominos, the women in red and the men in black, and as they sung solos, duets, and concerted pieces, the performance derived a piquant interest from the uncertainty regarding the personality of the singers. Another club, entirely of women, calling themselves "Plantation Warblers," donned regulation plantation dresses and kinky hair, but drew the line at burnt cork, and sung only old-time negro melodies to the accompaniment of banjos, to the great delight of fashionable audiences. But the most artistic of all was the "Mandolin and Guitar Club," twelve young women, all beautiful, their charms enhanced by Greek costumes of white crepe embroidered with silver, the graceful movements of their hands a delight to the eye, and their performance one of which professionals might well be proud.

A masquerade on horseback is to be one of the entertainments for Easter Saturday evening, the participants the members of a riding-club who have met for practice and amusement on Saturday evenings during Lent. All are experts in the saddle. and in addition to the spectacle of a gayly attired cavalcade some pretty fancy riding is promised, and a hurdle race, some of the riders women, and all attired as jockeys. The costumes are very beautiful and unique, and it is unnecessary to add, chosen for their becomingness. One fair damsel is to appear as Di Vernon; another, as the squire's daughter, in an old English riding-dress; there will be a huntress, an Amazon, an Indian girl, a quakeress, a Spanish toreador, an Incroyable, a girl scout, several jockeys, "Two Little Girls in Blue," Rosalind, and some fanciful habits adapted to feminine needs from national costumes and military uniforms. The costumes selected by the men are equally attractive: a French cuirassier, Hussar, English cavalry-man, military officers of different nations, a troubadour, jockeys, a cowboy, clown, and the inevitable dude. After the riding there will be an informal dance and supper.

"A rabbit hunt" were the mysterious words on the invitations issued by a society bachelor for a few intimate men and women friends to pass an evening with him. Some of the uninitiated did not realize the full significance of the occasion however, until, after some excellent music and a game of progressive hearts, small tables were brought in, each equipped with a chafing-dish and the other paraphernalia and ingredients for a genuine Welsh rarebit, which expert members of a popular chafingdish club proceeded to concoct. Favors for the ladies were toy rabbits filled with the dainty confections which it is au fait to carry in tiny silver bonbonnieres. About midnight a ghost story was called for, which was thrillingly told by a dramatic raconteur, with the lights effectively low; but whether some miscreant, as at one memorable ghost-story party, suddenly turned up a light at an unexpected moment and disclosed things intended to be strictly entre deux, is a point about which all the guests are suspiciously reticent.

Russian bath parties are again very popular among women, probably as a preparation for the gayeties that are to follow the early Easter. The hostess invites her guests for the afternoon, arranges for special rooms and attendants, and after enjoying every luxurious detail to the utmost, thoroughly invigorated they repair to her residence, with wondrous appetites, to do ample justice to a dainty but substantial supper.

Of the forming of clubs there is no end. The latest is a "hobby club," composed of twelve original spirits, each with a hobby, which can be aired at one of the weekly meetings, provided the possessor is willing to submit to the criticism and badinage of the other members. By the rules, every member is bound to be prepared when his or her turn comes, which is decided by vote. Twenty minutes are allowed for the presentation of the hobby, thirty minutes for general discussion, and fifteen minutes afterward to the owner, to answer objections and ridicule.



REVIEW OF FASHIONS. - APRIL.

PATTERN ORDER,

Entitling holder to a Pattern, will be found at bottom of page 397.

THE best dressers among women now give more thought and consideration to the selection of materials for their gowns than to the style of making, providing, of course, that the latter conforms to general modes. While the season is not prolific of novelties, the fabrics are quite as beautiful as last year, and there is an even greater variety of crepons and craped stuffs, which will have great vogue the coming seasons; for handsome gowns for Easter functions they will divide favor only with the new silks.

Some of the new *crepons* are made of mohair, which gives them a glossier look than hitherto, and a wiry texture; and novel effects are gained by larger and bolder craping, by silk stripes—plain or brocaded—like ribbons run across, à travers, by narrow cross-stripes of light contrasting colors, and by tiny silk tucks, puckered like ruffles, which form bayadere stripes. All these fabrics are very wide, and the stripes are made to run vertically or crosswise, as is most becoming to the wearer. The all-black *crepons* of silk-and-wool are especially beautiful, and they are richly trimmed with jet passementerie or spangle galloons.

In spring woolens there is a tendency to lighter colors, as tan, beige, mastic, *écru*, and delicate grays, or white closely cross-barred with *mordoré* and tan or yellow. They are lightly woven and mostly smooth-surfaced; some of these are brightened by dots, dashes, and irregular threads of delicate color, and there are still many changeable effects. There is a very large line of lovely black-and-white mixtures of silken woof and woolen warp, in small designs shot and *chinéed* in every conceivable form.

It will be good news to economists that none of last season's fabrics are passé, and as the changes in making are towards greater simplicity it is very easy to remodel old gowns. To these and to all who are seeking progress towards artistic dressing a word of warning is given. "When woman will she will, and when she won't she won't." With the lesson of last spring before them it rests with women to decide whether the heavy, burdensome draperies and overskirts, attended with that abomination a sham underskirt, shall become accomplished facts and again

reign supreme, or continue, as during the winter, isolated things adopted only by those eager for the latest novelty and careless how soon it becomes passe.

Overskirts are by no means de rigueur. Among imported gowns, one out of four may have one; and a view of gowns prepared for spring openings shows the overskirt in the minority. A concession to the effort to introduce them, which promises to find greater favor than bona fide overskirts, is a panel trimming on one or both sides or in front; this is of harmonizing or contrasting stuff or of trimming. A light checked wool gown has a panel on the left side of the gown fabric crossed closely in diagonal lines with goldenbrown silk passementerie, which borders also the foot of the gown and finishes the edges overlapping the panel. A tancolored faced-cloth has panels on both sides of golden-brown moire; the corsage has wide, softly draped revers of the moire, and a crumpled girdle to match.

Probably the least objectionable of the overskirts is one so long that it discloses no more than a peep of the underskirt in front and at the back, but shaped up on one or both sides to show it fully; usually the underskirt contrasts in color and material with the gown proper, which in this form the overskirt seems to be. A black crépon may have an underskirt of green velvet, gray moire, or éminence satin; a silk-and-wool crépon of iridescent colors is sloped up eight inches on one side to show an underskirt of golden-brown satin trimmed with silver and gold passementerie; and a tancolored faced-cloth gown shows in the same way one of white moire.

A novelty in trimmings carries out the circular idea, one edge being very full and the other straight; this is shown in embroidered tulle and net, crocheted passementerie with cord and jet, mohair braid with insertion effects, moire ribbons and galloons profusely wrought with cabochons, sequins, and paillettes—spangles—of jet. A brilliant effect is gained by mingling iridescent paillettes with those of jet, green and black being very popular. All jewel colors are seen mingling with metal threads, and white guipure laces are thus wrought; there is also an effort to introduce leather bands studded with many colored beads and brilliantly embroidered.

Our thanks are due to Messrs. B. Altman & Co., and Stern Bros., for courtesies received.

Modish Easter Gowns.

A SURE sign of the season is the reappearance with renewed energy and in greater variety than ever of the irre-

pressible Eton jacket and its companion the blouse waist. In the "Radcliffe" coat, shown on No. 1, we have a very pretty variation of this, which combines with the jacket and blouse the effect of the half-length coat or an overskirt. The jacket is entirely independent of the blouse, and the sleeves may be inserted in either the blouse or jacket; the coat-skirt is in circle shape

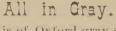
with two box-plaits in the back, and may be sewed to the blouse or to the belt, the latter being preferable, as it can then be worn or omitted, as desired.

The dress-skirt, the "Fraser," illustrated in the March number, is a circle shape in front, with gores at the back laid in three boxplaits. Brown hop-sacking is the material used for this costume, the edges finished with a fancy black braid. It has an extremely chic air of simplicity, and will be a popular model for all spring wools. The blouse and sleeves are of black-and-magenta peau de soie. The coat pattern is described on page 379.

The companion model, No. 2, is suitable for a house or walking-gown. It is of black *crepon* trimmed with black vel-

vet ribbon having a white-corded edge. There are several dis-

tinctively smart touches about this, as the circle basque pointed in front with box-plaits in the back, and



This smart gown is of Oxford gray suiting trimmed with narrow black velvet ribbon. The skirt—the "Fraser"—has five rows of the velvet set closely together near the bottom. The coat—the "Ailesbury"—has the favorite circle

skirt, and is fitted with the usual seams; the illustration of the back shows the arrangement of the bretelles. The vest is of white cloth overlaid with black bourdon lace. This will be a serviceable gown

for cool days throughout the summer, and very useful at the seashore or in the mountains. The model is suitable for all seasonable goods. For description of pattern see page 379.

A LIGHT-WEIGHT silkand-wool fabric which makes elegant gowns is woven in vertical stripes having the effect of a satin-striped black grenadine over a light-colored silk. These handsome stuffs require no trimming; therefore most skirts are perfectly plain, though occasionally a very narrow border of some sort finishes the bottom.



Modish Easter Gowns.

RADCLIFFE COAT. FRASER SKIRT.

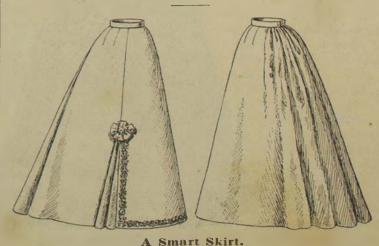
YATES BASQUE. MERLIN SKIRT.

t the both the second with the

All in Gray.
ALLESBURY COAT.

the bretelle-bertha, which also has box-plaits in the back; and the arrangement of the simple trimming on the skirt simulates drapery while adding nothing to the weight. The pattern of the skirt is the "Merlin," illustrated in the last November number. For description of the basque, the "Yates," see page 379.

THE DEMOREST'S MAGAZINE PORTRAIT ALBUM begins in this number. All great celebrities, both living or dead, will be included. See page 330.



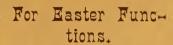
A SMART SKIFT.

THE KIRKLAND. (See Page 376.)

An Easter Wrap.

CAPES are again to be in high favor for light wraps, and many are in preparation for the first warm days. Their continued favor is assured as long as large sleeves and full shoulder-trimmings remain in vogue. The prettiest are short, with great fullness and much elaboration of trimming about the neck and shoulders. Our model—the "Helena"—

is of heliotrope faced-cloth lined with changeable silk; the upper cape is of changeable moire,-black and purple,-and is trimmed richly with jet. The pattern is suited to any material, and adapted to allages. For description



see page 379.

SILVER-GRAY velours combined with black velvet is the material for



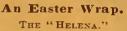
1. Fancy Straw Hat.



A Smart Skirt. (See Page 375.)

THE new skirts show no de-

flutes by elastic bands tacked to the inside: the pattern is.



this attractive gown. The skirt is the "Merlin," illustrated and described in November, 1893. It can be lined with silk or French cam-

bric, or merely faced the depth of the trimming. The corsage pattern is the "Chatham." The outside is slightly fulled over a fitted lining, and it fastens on the left shoulder and under the arm. The back is like the front. The yoke is of silver-and-black brocade, or of white cloth braided with silk and

metal soutache. It would also be pretty of white silk covered with heavy bourdon lace. The model is good for combinations of silk and woolen, or of velvet with either. For description of waist pattern see page 379.



For Easter Functions. CHATHAM WAIST. MERLIN SKIRT

2. Black Straw Hat.

marked to show exactly where these are to be. There is a fanplaiting about a half-yard deep on the sides of the front breadth, and the front is trimined across the bottom and up the sides the depth of the plaiting, with braid, insertion, or passementerie. This is suited to all spring woolens, crepons, moires, satins, and all the fancy silks. For description of pattern see page 379.

3. Brown Straw Hat.

Spring Hats.

No. 1.—Fancy straw hat, ecru in tint, the brim medium in width and slightly flaring, and the crown low. The crown is surrounded by a band of brown velvet, a loose cluster of yellow asters ornaments the front, and a butterfly bow of brown-and-yellow brocaded ribbon is placed at the back above a cluster of asters.

No. 2.—Black straw hat with broad brim faced with black velvet, and low crown surrounded by a black velvet band. against which the back of the brim is caught up by a rhinestone buckle. In front two black ostrich-tips and a black pompon and aigrette form the trimming, and a half-wreath of pink roses is placed underneath the brim.

No. 3.—Brown mixed straw hat with a low crown, and the brim broad and flaring in front and narrow at the back.

1. Shoulder

Cape of Crêpe

and Lace.

A full bow of green velvet in front, a cluster of daisies and grasses at the back set in a cluster of green velvet loops, and a green velvet bow at one side under the brim, constitute the trimming.

Dressy Devices.

No. 1.—Shoulder-cape of white China *crêpe* and black lace insertion; the stock collar may be of the *crêpe* or of bright velvet of some becoming color.

No. 2.—Collarette-fichu of rose-colored crépe and black lace. A ruche of lace or narrow band of feather trimming heads the ruffles, which may be of the crêpe edged with lace, or of five-inch wide black lace. A half-breadth of the crêpe forms the ends, which may fasten at the sides under a ribbon belt, or pass behind and tie with long ends.

No. 3.—This becoming device for "dressing up" a simple waist can be made very easily. It will require about three yards of any soft material eighteen or twenty inches wide,—silk crépon, crêpe, lace, surah, or any pliable silk. Take off about fifteen inches for the stock collar and loop over it and the bow, using half the width of the goods for each. Pass the remainder through a buckle about four inches deep at the back of the waist (or tack

it to a whalebone placed across on the inside), then bring the ends up to the neck in front, form two long loops, and fasten the top to a narrow

binding which can be tacked inside the stock collar, or pinned to the waist and the collar adjusted over it. The collar can be made to fasten in the back, or under the loop in front; and a rosette could be used in the back, instead of the buckle.

No. 4.—A wide sash-ribbon is used for this modish affair, which is a dressy addition to any plain waist. It may pass around the neck or not, and is tied in a huge bow, the ends being brought down and drawn under a high corselet of jet, passementerie, or black bourdon lace. About a yard and a half of ribbon will be required if it is not passed around the neck.

No. 5.—A dainty arrangement of feather trimming and ribbon on a lace and silk sleeve. This is one of the

devices by which ingenious girls make various changes in their toilettes, adding or omitting the ribbons, and using different colors according to the occasion. It is a pretty sleeve for lace or *chiffon* eveningwaists, or for a black lace or grenadine gown.

Some Easter Gowns.

SMART tailor-gowns of black or navy-blue serge have "First Consul," or "Bonaparte" jackets, which flare away boldly in front to disclose waistcoats of white moire, and have double revers of the same silk with slender sharp points extending out upon the shoulders, ornamented with small metal buttons; a short basque lined with moire extends across the back from under the arms.

Other tailor-gowns have long coats which may button double-breasted or be left open to disclose a *chic* waistcoat. The skirts are in all cases plain.

A charming gown for Easter is of cadet-blue faced-cloth, shaped up on the sides to show an underskirt of navy-blue:

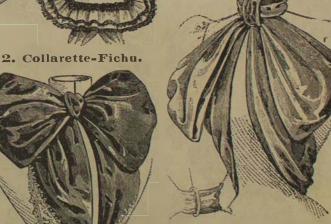
the half-long coat with revers of dark blue turns back from the front to show a full vest of white surah.

A lovely tan-colored mohair crépon lined with silk of the same color has a skirt a little over four yards wide and fastened in three godet folds behind, the bottom being cut in shallow waves across the back to make the outer edge of the fold the length of the inner edge. A yoke and deep cuffs of rich jet trim the corsage, the front of which is draped with a wide black satin ribbon, which also girdles the waist. Yokes of lace, white or black, and passementerie are much used. A dinner-gown of black moire and green velvet has an unlined yoke of jet beads set to a stock collar of green velvet. A black velvet gown opening at the side to show a petticoat of black satin and caught up on the hips with a jet girdle, has a white satin yoke and deep cuffs entirely overlaid with jetted lace, and is finished at the throat with a stock collar of cerise velvet.

So popular is accordion plaiting that silk firms are putting upon the market ready plaited silk. This is much used for party-gowns, and also for waists of house and dinner-gowns. Skirts of black satin or moire have waists of plaited chiffon, Liberty satin, or silk of a bright, becoming color.

Easter Millinery.

THOUGH hats and bonnets grew smaller by degrees and beautifully less as the winter waned, the promise thus held forth of a decided change to smaller shapes and low trimmings, with the coming of spring hats, has not been fulfilled. Our senses are so jaded in the



3. Scarf Jacket.

matter of eccentric shapes and mingling of trimmings that nothing of that sort has power to startle us, and simplicity alone would make us open our eyes with surprise.

The new bonnets are prettier than the hats; they are very small, and so varied in shape, color, and trimming, as to suit

every face; fine light straws are wreathed with spring flowers, and have two rabbit's-ear bows of black or dark velvet. The big Alsatian bow has been perched in every place till at last it has reached the most eccentric position

of all,—squarely at the back. Black moire ribbon is bowed up on everything. A wide-rimmed low-crowned hat of multicolored straw has two erect loops of wide black moire ribbon at one side of the back fastened by a huge buckle, and branches of lilacs with large pink roses and buds finish the trimming.

4. Corsage Garniture.

5. Ribbon

Trimming

for Sleeve.

SUPPLEMENT TO DEMOREST'S FAMILY MAGAZINE FOR APRIL, 1894.



Fashion Gleanings from Abroad.

(For Descriptions, see Page 379.)

WE DO NOT GIVE PATTERNS FOR ANY OF THE DESIGNS ON THIS SUPPLEMENT.

Descriptions of the Designs on the Supplement.

WE DO NOT GIVE PATTERNS FOR ANY OF THE DESIGNS ON THE SUP-PLEMENT.

The designs on our Supplement are selected from the most reliable foreign sources, and also represent popular fashions here. They furnish suggestions for draperies, trimmings, combinations, etc.,—in fact, for every detail of the fashionable toilet,—and the models are so practical, and in many instances differ so little from the patterns we give, that they can easily be modified, even by the least experienced amateur, to suit individual needs, and adapted to all seasonable fabrics, simple as well as expensive; while for professional dressmakers they are invaluable.

Spray brooch set with chrysoprase and diamonds.
Betrothal ring set with pearls and diamonds.
Triplet-ring, set with solitaires, diamond, ruby, and sapphire, and tiny

4.—Question-brooch set with diamonds; one of the season's novelties.
5.—House and reception gown of tan-colored *crepon* trimmed with *faille* to match and black moire.

6.—Silk-and-wool novelty goods,—puce and emerald green,—with corsage of accordion-plaited changeable surah to match; trimmed with puce-colored

of accordion-plaited changeable surah to match; trimined with puce-colored velvet and margot lace.

7.—Visiting-gown of pearl-gray jeunesse sole,—the new accordion-plaited silk,—with panel and girdle of satin to match edged with black spangle passementerie; sleeves of black-and-white moire.

8.—Black satin dinner-gown trimmed with point de Venise.

9.—Tan-colored faced cloth trimmed with pipings of brown satin; the skirt is sloped up at one side to disclose an underskirt of brown moire; the revers are also faced with moire.

10.—Gage d'amour; chrysoprase heart surrounded with diamonds.

11.—Covert cloth coat, double-breasted, and fastened with large white pearl buttons.

12. - Evening waist of pale-blue chiffon with yoke and vest front of Grecian

13.—Double-heart bracelet, set with sapphire, opal, and diamonds.
14.—Child's frock of navy-blue cloth trimmed with cadet-blue.
15.—Reception-gown of black satin and steel-gray moire.
16.—Lizard brooch set with eneralds.

15.—Lizard brooch set with emeralds.
17.—Walking-gown of Oxford gray suiting; black velvet revers and belt; **Eminence silk blouse.
18.—Incroyable bow of ivory satin ribbon with cream-colored lace on ends.
19.—Incroyable bow of striped gauze—pale blue—finished with Valen-

20.—Gown of mastic-colored cloth, with coat and sleeve-puffs of aubergine cloth; the skirt and pelerine are trimmed with black spangle passementerie.

21.—Incroyable bow of black moire sash-ribbon trimmed across the ends

21.—Incroyable bow of black moire sash-ribbon trimmed across the ends with white thread lace.

22.—Stock-collar and bow of pale blue velvet trimmed with margot lace.

23.—Gown of heliotrope cloth with underskirt—showing at bottom of left side—of a lighter shade, and waistcoat and revers to match.

24.—Heart brooch of twisted gold set with pearls.

25.—Spring wrap of mastic-colored cloth with yoke of white satin overlaid with black bourdon lace.

with black bourdon lace.

26.—Evening-gown of white gauze trimmed with ruffles finished with orange velvet ribbon. This model and No. 31 are commended for commencement gowns to be made of crepon, India silk, lawns, and mulls.

27.—Reception-gown of dark heliotrope crepon combined with satin of a lighter shade; trimmed with black velvet and passementerie.

28.—Dinner-gown of black satin and black lace.

29.—Traveling-gown of brown hop-sacking.

30.—Walking-gown of fine checked suiting, gray and brown, trimmed with brown silk passementerie.

brown silk passementerie.
31.—Evening or summer-afternoon gown of white dotted Swiss trimmed with butter-colored lace; stock-collar, girdle, and lower sleeves of lemon-colored silk.

Descriptions of Our Cut Paper Patterns.

REMEMBER THAT EACH "PATTERN ORDER" ENTITLES THE HOLDER TO BUT ONE PATTERN.

Always refer to these descriptions before sending your "Order" for a Pattern, that you may know just the number of Pieces that will be in the Pattern received.

FOR GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR CUTTING AND JOINING THE PIECES, SEE THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE IN WHICH THE PATTERN IS INCLOSED.

For General Directions for Cutting and Joining the Pirces, see the Back of the Envelope in which the Pattern is inclosed.

Allesbury Coat—Half of the pattern is given in 10 pleces: Front, side gore, side form, back, revers-bertha, collar, three pieces of the sleeve, and skirt. Flace the revers-bertha to the row of holes in the front and back pieces. Gather the sleeve at the top, between the holes. In cutting, place the front edge of the skirt-piece lengthwise on the goods. A medium size will require six and a quarter yards of goods twenty-four inches wide. Patterns in sizes for 31, 35, 33, and 40 inches bust measure.

Butter Goar. — Half of the pattern is given in 11 pieces: Front, side gore, back, colar, belt, and sleeve of blouse; front, back, revers, and collar of lacket; and skirt. Gather the back of the blouse at the bottom, back of the hole, and the content be holes. Lay the back of the skirt in a boxplate of the skirt lengthwise on the goods. A medium size will require three and skirt, four yards of silk of the blouse and sleeves, and five yards of the first of the blouse and sleeves and five yards of the reverse of the skirt lengthwise of the blouse and sleeves, and five yards of the reverse of the sleeve. Lay a boxplate in the custide in the back of the skirt for the sleeve, and 40 inches bust measure.

Yates Basque.—Half of the plouse and sleeves, and five yards of the reverse of the sleeve. Lay a boxplate of the outside in the back of the reverse bertha, collar, skirt, and three pleces of the sleeve. Lay a boxplate of the outside in the back of the reverse bertha end for the pack piece. Lay a boxplate of the outside in the top of the skirt holes, and at the bottom, and place the levere-puff at the top, between the holes, and at the bottom, and place the levere-puff at the top, between the holes are steeves in the sleeve. In cutting, lay the front edges of the skirt-plece and reverse the sleeve. In cutting, lay the front edges of the skirt-plece and reverse the sleeve. Fasten the outer part of the wal

KIRKLAND SKIRT.—Half of the pattern is given in 6 pieces: Front, lining for front, plaiting for front, side gore, and two back gores. Lay the piece for the plaiting in two side plaits turned toward the back on the outside, and place the front edge to the row of holes in the lining for the front. Tack the back edge of the front lightly over the plaiting, and leave the lower edge of the front and the plaiting loose from the lining. Gather the back of the skirt back of the hole at the top. Place two elastic bands across the inside of the back, tacking them at the places indicated by the holes near the seams; the length of these bands must be decided by the size of the person. In cutting, place the front edge of the pattern for the front on a lengthwise fold of the goods, and cut all the gores lengthwise on their front edge. A medium size will require ten yards of goods twenty-four inches wide, and one yard and a half of trimming. Patterns in two sizes, medium and large.

inches wide, and one yard and a haif of trimming. Patterns in two sizes, medium and large.

Cresswell Skirt.—Half of the pattern is given in 3 pieces: Skirt, flounce, and overskirt. Gather the skirt and overskirt at the top, back of the hole in each. Place the upper edge of the flounce to the row of holes around the skirt. Gut all the pieces with their front edges placed to a lengthwise fold of the goods. The size for sixteen years will require eight and a half yards of goods twenty-four inches wide, and eight yards of trimming. Patterns in sizes for 14 and 16 years.

Glencroff Waist.—Half of the pattern is given in 13 pieces: Front, side gore, side form, and back of lining; outer front and back pieces, full yoke for front and back, collar, and four pieces of the sleeve. The outer front and back pieces are to be gathered at the bottom, forward and back of the hole in each respectively. The yoke pieces are to be gathered top and bottom. The lining, outer part, and cap for sleeve are to be gathered at the top, between the holes. The size for sixteen years will require three yards of goods twenty-four inches wide, and four yards of velvet ribbon. Patterns in sizes for 14 and 16 years.

Harewood Jacket-Waist.—Half of the pattern is given in 12 pieces: Front, jacket front, side gore, side form, back, deep collar, two pieces for standing collar, chemisette, and three pieces of the sleeve. The opposite notches in the top and bottom of the jacket front indicate the middle. Gather the chemisette top and bottom, forward of the holes. Gather the ends of the full piece for the standing collar to bring it in to fit the plain lining. Gather the sleeve-puff at the top, between the holes, and at the bottom, and place the lower edge to the row of holes across the sleeve. The size for fourteen years will require three yards of goods twenty-four inches wide, and two yards of trimming for one plain row. Patterns in sizes for 12 and 14 years.

Verona Dress.—Half of the pattern is given in 12 pieces: Front, side gore, side form, and

years.

ZARA DRESS.—Half of the pattern is given in 10 pieces: Front and back of lining, outer front and back pieces, hertha, collar, three pieces of the sleeve, and skirt. Lay the outer front and back pieces in box-plaits at the top, according to the holes, and gather them at the bottom. Gather the bertha at the top, back of the hole, and place it to the row of holes in the upper part of the waist. Gather the sleeve-puff at the top, between the holes, and at the bottom, and place the lower edge to the row of holes across the sleeve. Gather the top of the skirt. The size for six years will require four and a patterns in sizes for 6 and 8 years.

Monthose Coat.—Half of the pattern is given in 10 pieces: Front and back of waist, chemisette, revers, collar, three pieces of the sleeve, and two pieces of the skirt. Place the upper edge of the revers to the row of holes in the front. Gather the sleeve-puff at the top, between the holes, and at the bottom and place the lower edge to the row of holes across the sleeve. Lay the back of the skirt, according to the holes, in three box-plaits, with a side-plait at each side, forward of them, turned toward the back on the outside. The size for four years will require four yards of goods twenty-four inches wide, and one yard and a half of contrasting goods. Patterns in sizes for 2 and 4 years.

ATOSSA WAIST.—Half of the pattern is given in 12 pieces: Front, full front, side gore, side form, and back of waist; front and back of jacket; bretelle, collar, and three pieces of the sleeve. The full front piece is to be gathered at the bottom, forward of the hole. The bretelle is to be gathered between the holes, sewed to the jacket front as far as the shoulder-seam, and carried down the back in a line with the row of holes in the back of the jacket. The outer piece of the sleeve is to be gathered at the top, forward of the hole, and at the inner seam, above the hole. A medium size will require three and a half yards of goods twenty-four inches wide, and one yard additional for the bretelles. Patterns in sizes for \$4, 36, 38, and 40 inches bust measure.

GRISELL BLOUSE-WAIST.—Half of the pattern is given in 5 pieces: Front, back, collar, belt, and sleeve. The opposite notches at the top and bottom of the front designate the middle; this piece is to be gathered top and bottom, between the holes; the back is to be gathered at the bottom, back of the hole. The sleeve is to be gathered at the top, between the holes. A medium size will require four yards of goods twenty-four inches wide. Patterns in sizes for 34, 36, 38, and 40 inches bust measure.

ISKA BLOUSE.—Half of the pattern is given in 5 pieces: Front, back, collar and two pieces of the sleeve. The opposite notches in the top and bottom of the front designate the middle and show how far the fronts are to be lapped. The extension at the back is to be laid in a box-plait on the inside. The sleeve is to be gathered at the top, between the holes. A medium size will require four and a half yards of goods twenty-four inches wide, and three and a half yards of trimming. Patterns in sizes for 34, 36, 38, and 40 inches bust measure.

require four and a half yards of goods twenty-four inches wide, and three and a half yards of trimming. Patterns in sizes for 34, 36, 38, and 40 inches bust measure.

Froder Princess Dress.—The pattern consists of 8 pieces: Plain front and side gore in one piece, draped front, full piece for left front, side form, back, and three pieces of the sleeve. The row of holes near the neck of the plain front shows where it may be cut low, if desired. The notch in the top and bottom of the draped front designates the middle of the front, and shows how far it is to be lapped over the left front. The holes near the front and back edges of this piece denote three plaits to be turned upward on the outside. The plaits in the front edge are to be fastened to the left front at the place indicated by the cluster of holes. The upper and lower edges of the full piece for the front are to be gathered, the lower edge drawn in to fit between the notches on the front edge of the plain front, and the upper edge to fit the shoulder seam. The extension on the side form is to be laid in a plait turned toward the front on the inside. The extension on the front edge of the back piece is to be laid in two plaits turned toward the back on the inside. The extension on the front edge of the back piece is to be laid in two plaits turned toward the back on the inside. The extension on the front edge of the back piece is to be laid in two plaits turned toward the back on the inside. The extension on the four day of the side of the sleeve is to be gathered at the top and bottom and drawn in to fit the under sleeve. A medium size will require fourteen yards and a half of goods twenty-four inches wide. Patterns in sizes for 34, 36, 38, and 40 inches bust measure.

Windson Jackett.—Half of the pattern is given in 9 pieces: Front, side gore, side form, back, two collars, pocket, and two pieces of the sleeve is to be laid, between the holes, in three box-plaits of equal size. A medium size will require four each of the sheet. Cut lengthwise of the good

Kent Sleeve.—Half of the pattern is given in 3 pieces: Two pieces of the sleeve, and puff. The upper part of the puff is to be shirred by four rows of gathers above the upper row of holes; and at the bottom, by three rows of gathers below the lower row of holes, and the lower edge is to be placed to the row of holes across the sleeve.

Divided Skirt.—Half of the pattern is given in 2 pieces: One-half each of the skirt and yoke. Each half of the skirt is to be joined, like drawers, as far up as the notel. The top isto be gathered or laid Illine plates and seved to the yoke like an ordinary skirt. A meeting start the requires the sevent yards and half of material twe sleeves and the start of the yoke like an ordinary skirt. A meeting and large.

Miss's Carbe—Half of the pattern is given in 8 pieces: Cape, small cape, and collar. Baste the gores and it them carefully before cutting off. The size for fourteen years will require two and one-eighth yards of goods forty-four inches wide. Patterns in sizes for 12 and 14 years.

Alice Dress.—Half of the pattern is given in 9 pieces: Two pieces of the yoke, two full pieces of the waist, belt, shoulder-puff, sleeve, cuff, and one-half the skirt. The full pieces of the waist can either be joined in a seam to the bottom of the yoke, or they can be gathered about a quarter of an inchrom the upper edge and sewed to the outside of the yoke so as to leave a frill. The belt extends across the front to the side seams; at the back, the skirt and waist are to be joined and arranged with drawing-strings, commencing at the ends of the belt. The size for two years will require two and three-equarter yards of goods thirty inches wide, and three-eighlus of a yard of all over embroidery. Patterns in sizes for 2, 4 and 6 years.

Nessie Coat.—Half of the pattern is given in 8 pieces: Front and back of waist, tretelle, collar, three pieces of the sleeve, and one-half of the skirt. The bretelle is to be gathered between the holes across the sleeve. The skirt is to be gathered at the top. The





Nessie Coat.

Babette Coat.

Descriptions of these Patterns will be found on Page 379.

PATTERNS of these desirable models being so frequently called for, we reproduce them in miniature this month in order to bring them within the limit of time allowed for selection. For it should be remembered that one inestimable advantage of our "Pattern Order" is that the holder is not confined to a selection from the patterns given in the same number with the "Pattern Order," but the choice may be made from any number of the Magazine issued during the twelve months previous to the date of the one containing the "Pattern Order." Always remember that a "Pattern Order" cannot be used after the date printed on its back.

A Neat Walking-Gown.

This trig little gown is well suited for a southern journey or trip across the water, or for everyday service at home. It is of chestnut-brown hop-sacking, trimmed with narrow ribbon velvet of a darker shade. The skirt is the "Circle" illustrated and described in Demorest's for August, 1893. The round jacket-waist — the "Harewood"—is doublebreasted and snugly fitted; it fastens over the skirt, which should be hooked to it in the back and on the sides, to prevent slipping. The revers form a wide collar at the back. A chemisette of pale blue crepe with full stock-band of the same completes the corsage. Any becoming color may be chosen for this, and for traveling, chemisettes of linen or colored lawn have a chic appearance. For full description of the waist pattern see page 379.

A Smart Spring Gown.

GREEN-and-brown novelty goods is the fabric of this pretty gown, and it is trimmed with narrow bias bands of emerald-green velvet. The skirt—the "Cresswell"—is a new circle pattern with a deep circle flounce, and the overskirt is also cut in a circle; both skirts fit the form across the front and over the hips, but have a little fullness in the back. The corsage—the "Glencroft"—is slightly fulled over a fitted lining, and has a full guimpe of tan-colored crépon. The waist is girdled with a brown satin ribbon tied in a square bow at one side, and there is a stock collar of the velvet. The back of the corsage is like the front. This is a good model for all spring fabrics, and will be suitable for many summer ones. The underskirt should be lined with silk or French cambric, and some dressmakers face such a skirt the depth of the flounce with canvas; but this is a matter of individual preference. Some women will not tolerate an inch of stiff facing in any gown. Neither the flounce nor overskirt should be lined. For description of pattern see page 379.

A Spring Coat for Little Ones.

The circle in its present evolution may be considered a strictly fin de siècle mode, having never before in the history of fashions taken so prominent a place. It is the motive upon which the front of the skirt of this fetching little coat is modeled, while the back is a straight breadth laid in boxplaits. The skirt is joined to a plain round waist which is rendered very stylish by the broad revers, deep collar, and the full sleeves. The design is suitable for both girls and

dard pattern



as a stan-

A Smart

GLENCROFT

WAIST, CRE-

A Neat Walking-Gown. HAREWOOD JACKET-WAIST. CIRCLE SKIRT.

for girls' gowns. The skirt is of full straight breadths, and may be lined or simply hemmed. It is sewed to the close-fitting underwaist; but it is a good plan to mount it on a belt so it can be worn with a blouse also. The little jacket is a form of the Eton, and will look as well over a blouse as with the close waist. Two ways of trimming the suit are shown in the different views, and it is suited Spring Gown to all woolen or cotton fabrics. The pattern—the "Verona" -is fully described on p. 379.



MONTROSE COAT. (BACK.)



CHANGEABLE summer-serge is the fabric used for this little maiden's cunning frock. It has a full, straight skirt, and the full baby waist is kept in shape by a fitted lining; the skirt is sewed to the waist, which fastens in the back. A modish up-to-date touch is given by the full bertha which is finished on the edge with a simple passementerie matching the serge in colors. The pattern is the



Ready for Outdoor Play. MANRICO SUIT. ZARA DRESS.



MONTROSE COAT. (FRONT.)

A Policy of Infamy.

BY W. JENNINGS DEMOREST.

THERE is one permanent and paramount principle of human government, — THE WELFARE OF SOCIETY. All methods not based on this principle of protection are simply treacherous subterfuges to defraud the people of their just claim to be securely protected in their life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

PROTECTION FROM OUR ENEMIES.

This principle of protection is so indispensable that we wonder it is ever called in question; but it is found that the people are so liable to be led by insidious appeals to their cupidity and their passion for alcoholic stimulants, that they have entirely forgotten or overlook the superior claims of protection from this terrible enemy of our homes and country. Certainly no public policy has ever been put in practice in a civilized community that has been fraught with such diabolical disregard of public interest or accompanied with such fiendish outrages as the toleration and legal sanction of an alluring, fascinating poison, in the form of alcoholic beverages, to degrade and defraud the people.

THE HORRORS OF THE TRAFFIC.

The horrors and degradation produced by this traffic are not to be measured by any ordinary calculation of its first cost, nor are its depredations to be judged only by its effects on the business interests of the community. Its awful results are more injurious as a narcotic on the moral sensibilities of the people; and when conscience is blunted the anchor of our civilization is gone.

THE CRIMINALITY OF A LICENSE.

It does not require much legal knowledge, nor even common sagacity, to realize that the sale of alcoholic beverages is an atrocious outrage on the moral rights as well as the material interests of the people. It is a self-evident fact that for the government to prostitute its sovereign power to protect and encourage with a license the most prolific source of crime and degradation, is to hand over to their piratical, perfidious enemies, the liquor dealers, the lives, health, and property of the citizens, to be by them despoiled with impunity. This is the most treacherous and despicable treason of which humanity is capable, and deserves universal condemnation.

WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE?

The apathetic citizen who can tolerate such atrocious outrages as the selling of insidious, fascinating beverages to poison and debauch the people with crime-producing tendencies, to furnish an alluring poison that will produce disease, death, and destruction, not only deserves no favor, but should be denounced and held up to public odium. Those who perpetrate these outrages should be made to know what it is to have the execration of all good and patriotic citizens. These infamous dealers in liquid poison and their aiders and abettors (those who uphold them with their influence or votes) should suffer the severest penalty that law can inflict; because not only are they apathetic, but they are virtually accessories to the most dangerous of all crimes. Nothing can be more detrimental to all the best interests of society than the sale of this fiendish poison which instigates the most heinous crimes, brings its victims to the lowest state of moral degradation, and consigns them to the most horrible misery that human beings can endure.

THE GOVERNMENT IMPLICATED.

It is an amazing record of shameless duplicity that the government has manifested in its treatment of this treacherous, piratical business of liquor selling. Well may we hang our heads in shame while our hearts burn with indignation when we remember the selfish, diabolical character of these

outrages, the perfidy and traitorous imbecility that has characterized our government in its toleration and encouragement of these crime-producing, death-dealing alcoholic beverages. This policy has furnished to the world an amazing demonstration of shameless disregard for the welfare of society, combined with a villainous intrigue amounting to a treasonable complicity with the most dangerous enemies of our country. To have the fundamental principles of the government trampled upon, tortured, and perverted to favor an ignominious traffic is the very embodiment of injustice and duplicity.

To have the people debauched with appeals to their passions, appetites, and personal prejudices, to allow selfish greed to be used to engender and foster vice and crime, to have the government bribed by its own citizens to permit these terrible depredations on the people, for a price,—what must be the final result of such outrages but degradation and total destruction of all the benefits of civilization?

THE LOGIC OF EVENTS.

The intelligence of the people and the logic of events demand more urgently than ever a more intelligent and efficient system of dealing with this great and constantly increasing danger from the liquor traffic.

The fact that two thousand million dollars of the people's earnings are expended in support of this diabolical traffic, consumed and worse than wasted, producing depression and panic in all branches of trade, naturally appeals to all thinking people; more especially when they realize that all business relations are depressed and paralyzed by the fluctuations and terrible losses that this traffic produces. And there is another pregnant fact that should have weighty influence: The criminal arrests have increased five-fold during the last few years, and this has become a matter of national importance.

AWAKENED RESPONSIBILITY.

A widespread determination to suppress this poison of alcohol will soon become the dominant feeling among those engaged in mercantile pursuits; and those suffering from financial losses, difficulties, and the criminal dangers of this infamous traffic will be making a definite demand for its suppression as a business necessity. The physical health of the nation is also calling for a more radical treatment, and the government must be awakened to the necessity for aggressive measures for entire Prohibition, to save this country from ruin.

A MORAL REVOLUTION COMING.

The whole moral atmosphere of the nation must be purified and aroused by an appeal to the people to express their honest indignation at the outrage to their morals, and the loss and depression that this traffic occasions in all our business relations. It cannot be long before a more useful and practical application of quarantine laws will be called into action for the protection of the health, lives, and the material interests of the community; and it will then be seen that a license for this traffic or any toleration of this terrible curse of alcoholic poison is the most despicable and abhorrent legal prostitution that the world has ever known.

PRACTICAL RESULTS.

The process of elimination of the saloon and its corrupting influences on society can only be effected through more stringent laws that will make the traffic in intoxicating liquors a matter of fines and imprisonment, instead of a license for its toleration and encouragement. In the light of this argument how specially important becomes the decision of the Supreme Court on this question: "No LEGISLATURE CAN BARGAIN AWAY THE HEALTH OR PUBLIC MORALS. THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES CANNOT DO IT, MUCH LESS THEIR SERVANTS."



Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write

PERFECTION IN AROMA, FLAVOR, Richness, Digestibility, in



Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write,

Household.

(Continued from page 871.)

A Can of Salmon.

THE prejudice against canned goods, which in the infancy of the art of preserving was often a just one, is disappearing, and the number of people who "live out of a tin can" is rapidly increasing. No product of the canner's art is more popular or susceptible of greater variations than salmon. The oil of the fish seems to preserve it from the tinny taste which is sometimes noticeable with less fatty substances, and the flavor is very perfectly preserved.

In buying tinned salmon it is well to select some brand recommended by a first-class grocer and adhere to it. The cheapest kinds are apt not to be salmon, but dog-fish. The genuine article comes in two grades, differing rather in solidity and freedom from bone than in quality or flavor. The very best canned salmon can be removed from the tin in a solid piece free from skin and bone, and may be treated like fresh salmon.

The simplest way of serving salmon is to remove all particles of skin and bone, and to pile it upon a platter, surrounding it with sections of lemon. A flask of vinegar and another of tomato ketchup should accompany it. A bed of lettuce leaves under it makes of it a sort of impromptu salad, which every person may dress at his own pleasure. When it is served cold, the can should stand upon ice for at least an hour beforehand.

A mayounaise of salmon is a good luncheondish for summer, and is less fatal to good digesion than lobster. To one can of salmon allow two good-sized heads of lettuce. Make upon a platter a bed of the crisp heart-leaves, and tear the other leaves into small pieces with a silver fork. Drain the oil from the can of salmon, and separate the fish into flakes, taking care to reject Rub In is the way you have to wash clothes with soap. First you rub the soap Rub Out in; that's work in itself. Then you rub it all out again over the washboard. If

you're strong and healthy and rub hard enough, you may get the dirt all out, too. It's hard work, and every woman knows it. But it isn't the woman only that suffers. She's wearing the clothes out, rubbing them to pieces, all the time.

It's just as hard for every thing as it is for every body.

is Pearline's way of washing. All it Soak In wants is to be let alone. Put it in the Soak Out water and it does its own work—yours, too. It brings the dirt —

out easily and quickly-no hard work no wearing, rub, rub, rub, no washboard. Doesn't that seem better? It is better. There's a saving of strength 33! and a saving of clothes. And, what some women can't believe, it's absolutely safe. It's just as much so as any good soap.

send it back.

Peddlers and some unscrupulous grocers will tell you, "this is as good as" or "the same as Pearline." IT'S FALSE—Pearline is never peddled, if your grocer sends you an imitation, be honest— JAMES PYLE, New York.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write.

Board of Lady Managers, World's Columbian Commission, Woman's Building, Jackson Park.

CHICAGO, ILL., U.S.A., Oct. 14, 1893.

To The Doliber-Goodale Co., Boston, Mass.

MELLIN'S FOOD is used in the Children's Building at the World's Fair, for feeding infants that are left at the Crèche. No other Infant's Food is usea. After a fair trial of the other Foods, I find MELLIN'S FOOD gives the best satisfaction. I confidently recommend it to all mothers.

Miss, Mayory Hall. Matron of the Creche and Day Nursery Exhibit. World's Fair, Chicago, and of the Virginia Day Nursery, New York City.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write,

"Too Many Cooks spoil the broth." Probably because they don , use

Extract of BEEF

Armour's Extract enables a poor cook to rival the "creations" of the most celebrated chef. Our little Cook Book tells how to use Armour's Extract in Soups and Sauces—a different soup for each day in the month. We mail Cook Book free; send us your address Armour & Co., Chicago.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write,

(Continued on page 384.)

Readers of Demorest's Magazine who order goods advertised in its columns, or ask information concerning them, will oblige the Publisher by stating that they saw the advertisement in this Magazine.



Lundborg's

Perfumes are the best.

Peach Blossom, the latest.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write

(Continued from page 383.)

all bits of skin and bone. Mix the salmon and the torn lettuce together, and squeeze over them the juice of a lemon. Heap them upon the bed of lettuce already prepared, and just before serving cover them with a mayonnaise dressing. In making this mayonnaise, half olive-oil and half the oil of the salmon may be used, in which case use lemon-juic instead of vinegar, not forgetting a dash of cayenne pepper.

An imitation of fresh boiled salmon, not to be detected by the uninitiated, is made by getting the best grade of salmon and cutting the lid of the can entirely off. Drain off all the oil, and set the tin in a pan of boiling water, or, better, in a steamer, and cook it for twenty minutes or half an hour. When it is done run a knife around the sides of the tin, and slide it upon a dish for the table. Serve with it egg or tomato sauce,

new potatoes, and sliced cucumbers.

What are known as salmon steaks may be carefully removed from the tin and broiled on a but-

tered gridiron, the closer the better. Butter them liberally, and serve with sections of lemon, or use maître d'hotel butter.

A very good soup is made by simmering a canful of salmon for two or three hours in a quart of water, rubbing it through a sieve, and adding a quart of hot milk. Add a seasoning of salt and white pepper and a tablespoonful of butter, and, if necessary, thicken with flour to the consistency of cream. The color is especially pretty.

To make scalloped salmon, fill a buttered dish with alternate layers of flaked salmon, bread-crumbs, and sliced, hard-boiled eggs, slightly peppering and salting each layer and dotting it with bits of butter. Pour over this a cupful of cream sauce, dust cracker-crumbs thickly over the top, and bake in a hot oven until brown.

Croquettes of salmon are an excellent entree and a pretty luncheon-dish. To a large cupful of picked-up salmon allow half a cupful of mashed potato and half a cupful of bread-crumbs. Thicken

a cupful of boiling milk with a tablespoonful of butter and two tablespoonfuls of flour, and stir over the fire until quite smooth. Add to this a tablespoonful of chopped parsley, and the salmon, potato, and crumbs. Season with pepper and salt, and set the mixture away in a buttered dish until it is quite cold. Mold it into balls, dip them in beaten egg and then in cracker-crumbs, and fry until brown. Serve on a bed of parsley, or pour a Hollandaise sauce over them. Salmon cutlets are prepared in the same way, but the mixture is molded into the form of a small chop. Serve these with a sauce Tartare, which is a thick mayonnaise with the addition of a teaspoonful of onion juice and a tablespoonful each of chopped capers and cucumber pickles.

The pâte cases bought at the confectioner's may be filled with a mixture of salmon and oysters cut in small pieces and heated in a rich cream sauce. The baking-shells which come in so many forms may be filled with salmon wet with cream sauce and covered with cracker-crumbs and browned in the oven; or the salmon may be heated in the cream sauce, seasoned with mace, and served in tiny earthen or silver saucepans which come for the purpose

Other combinations will suggest themselves to the experienced cook; and the writer hopes that the receipts she has given will help some of the inexperienced housekeepers toward that variety which is so desirable and so difficult to obtain.

ELLEN ABERCROMBIE CONWAY.

Correspondence Elub.

The increased number of our correspondents, and the difficulty of finding time to examine or space to answer all their letters, render it necessary to urge upon them, First—Brevity. Second—Clearness of statement. Third—Decisive knowledge of what they want. Fourth—The desirability of confining themselves to questions of interest to others as well as themselves, and to those that the inquirer cannot solve by a adiligent search of ordinary books of reference. Fifth—Consideration of the possibilities of satisfactory answers to the queries proposed. Sixth—A careful reading to see if the questions are not already answered in separate articles and departments of the Magazine. We wish the Correspondence Club to be made interesting and useful, and to avoid unnecessary repetition. We are obliged to confine it within a certain space, and we ask for the co-operation of our intelligent readers and correspondents to further the objects. Inquiries respecting cosmelics, medicine, or surgery, will not be noticed.

"Bettie."—Your first letter was answered in the March number; this was too late.—Four ushers will do for a small church wedding. The groom requests the favor of his friends acting in this capacity, either personally or by note.—Read Fashion Review in March number for hints about making traveling-gown; wear pearl-gray Suède gloves with it for the ceremony.—Farewell dinners given by the groom to the ushers and by the bride to her maids are usually several days or a week before the wedding, but your plan—supper the night before—will do. It is a good occasion to present the souvenir to the maid of honor.—Read answers to "H. L." and to "Mabel Jones" in Demorest's for November, 1893.—Certainly the father's name should be used with the mother's on the invitations, even though he be absent.

"MRS. E. I. K."—Canvas facing around the bottom of gowns varies in width from seven to eighteen inches. Some ladies object to its weight and only permit the narrower to be used. The gown should be finished entirely around the bottom before the trimming is put on.

(Continued on page 385.)

(Continued from page 381.)

"Albion."-No signature to this communication. Read "Winter House-Flowers" in DEM-OREST'S for October and November, 1893.—The music and drawing taught in our public schools is only so much of a training of the faculties in that direction as is an advantage to any child. It is not easy always to tell what children have a natural aptitude for, till experiments have been tried; and the training of the hand and eyes in drawing may lead to other things, while it is invaluable in developing the faculty of attention. If you desire technical information concerning the instruction in cooking in the public schools, write to the Board of Education of New York for it, or to the Training-School for Teachers in University Place, New York. The classes are like any other cooking-classes, and have done much good; the food thus cooked is eaten by the little cooks, or taken home by them .- We do not discuss political topics.—The best food for a baby depends upon the baby. Experiments, which are best conducted under the advice of a trusted physician, are usually necessary to determine just what best agrees with its delicate organs .- Mrs. Sartoris resides in England, but paid her mother long visit last summer.—A society woman can make her life hard or easy as she herself elects, and combined with the exacting duties of her position has much pleasure; her chief advantage, however, over her poorer sister, is that at any moment, when she finds herself making too exhausting a draft upon her nervous and physical forces, she can flee away to some health-resort and get the absolute rest which Nature at such times demands.

"FLORIDA."-When attending an evening party the guests greet first the host and hostess and any ladies who may be receiving with them. If at the moment there is no press of incoming guests, it is correct to pause for a few moments' chat with the receiving party, who always stand near the drawing-room door; after this other friends should be greeted. It is very unusual in this country to introduce the guests as they arrive to the assembled company, but the custom exists in some places on the continent. It is quite an ordeal to enter a German company small enough to be seated, for the guest, if a stranger, is taken around the room by the hostess and presented to everyone.—Stenography is a crowded profession now, and every large city is filled with incompetent workers; but there is always room at the top. Only experts command good salaries. The requisites for success are a thorough English education, indomitable perseverance, and an ability to dig, that is, unflagging industry.-Is there not something you can do in your own town?
"J. B. C."—Overskirts have been worn all win-

ter and will probably increase in number this spring; but there are so many other pretty styles of making gowns that they are not likely to be in the majority.—If your lace-work is very nice you would have no difficulty in disposing of it through a Woman's Exchange. The one in Denver would be more accessible to you than those in the East. "W. H. W."—The guests who attend a five-o'clock tea pay at the same time their calling indebtedness; therefore it is the hostess who is in debt and owes the next call.

"POUGHKEEPSIE."—Read answer to "M. L. N." in March number. No addresses are ever given in this column.

(Continued on page 386.)

MAP OF THE UNITED STATES.

A large handsome Map of the United States, mounted and suitable for office or home use, is issued by the Burlington Route. Copies will be mailed to any address on receipt of fifteen cents in postage by P. S. Eustis, Gen'l Pass. Agent, C., B. & Q. R., Chicago, Ill.



is a double diamond frame exceptionally graceful in designIt is light and tough to the highest degree and is
fully guaranteed..... Made under our own supervision, in
our own factors, of our own finest cold drawn seamless
steel tubing, with every joint and part scientifically tested,
it is a worthy backbone for a famous wheel.....



Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write.

PUP TO DATE _____ REMINGTON CYCLES



Nine patterns.

Prices, \$100 to \$135.

Popular weights.

Materials and workmanship are guaranteed the best obtainable. Fitted with the world famous Bartlett clincher or the Palmer tires.

Send for Catalogue.

REMINGTON ARMS CO., 313 and 315 Broadway, New York

Manufacturers of
"The Remington Celebrated Fire Arms"
of World-wide Reputation.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write.

GOOD

Rich and Fragrant, is what every housekeeper wants. BURPEE'S IMPERIAL ROASTER always ensures this. Costs little; saves money; roasts quickly; gives delicious coffee. Send to-day for

COFFEE, saves quickly coffee.

T.B. C. BURPEE, 1620 N. Ninth St., Phila., Pa.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write.

BUCCIES & HARNESS AT HALF PRICE \$75 Buggy \$37. Buy of factory, save Middle-\$10 Harness \$4.75 man's profit, Catalogue Free, U. S. BUGGY & CARRIAGE CO., Cincinnati, O.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write



The Eureka Reclining Chair will delight you; can change positions instantly while sitting. Elegant in Oak and Brussels. Free low. Gilt castings, \$9.00; Nickeled, \$10.00. Send for Hinstead circular. R. H. ARNOLD, Mfr., 91 Hayward Av., Rochester, N. Y.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write.

LADIES can earn \$10 a week, writing at home.
No canvassing. Profitable home employment, Send stamped envelope for particulars to Miss Harriet Hummel, Ohio City, Ohio.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write,

A N Englishman sat at a restaurant table critically viewing the soup he had ordered.

"What is it?" said he.

"It's bean soup," answered the waiter.

"I don't care what it's been," retorted the Englishman, "I want to know what it is."

That's what fastidious Americans are wanting to know every day—What it is? If it's Franco-American Soup they are content, for they have learned that this brand means the best materials, cooked and canned with the greatest care and cleanliness.

Sample can sent (postage prepaid) on receipt of 14 cents. Sold by grocers everywhere.



Franco-American Food Company, West Broadway & Franklin St., New York.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write.

A VEGETABLE GARDEN 50 cts.



There is profit in vegetable gardening if you grow the right kind of vegetables. The first essential is to get the right kind of seeds. Rawson's vegetable seeds are known to thousands, but perhaps not to you; we make this offer for the sake of better acquaintance. For 50c. we will send the following choice collection of vegetable seeds selected from our special market gardener's stock.

Rawson's Puritan Tomato, Rawson's Summer Cabbage, Rawson's White Spine Cucumber, Arlington Favorite Beet, Danvers Yellow Globe Onion, Imp. Danvers Carrot, B. Seed Tennisball Lettuce, Globe Scarlet Radish, Paris Golden Celery, Arlington Long Smooth Parsnip, Rawson's Sea Foam Cauliflower, Prolific Marrow Squash, Thick Leaf Spinach and Arlington Canteloupe Melon.

With or without this collection we will send you free Rawson's Seed

With or without this collection we will send you free Rawson's Seed Book for 1894. It has been compiled with a special thought for the gardener's wants, and is full of practical hints from cover to cover.

W. W. RAWSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write,

DO YOU WANT A PIANO?

If so, send us your name and address, and receive by return mail a handsomely illustrated Catalogue with Prices, Terms, etc. of

The "OPERA" Piano.

A strictly High Grade UPRIGHT, at a very moderate price; cash or easy payments. Renowned for its durability and rich, powerful and sympathetic quality of tone. Unique and Artistic in Design; Superior Workmanship. Manufactured in 30 different styles and sizes.

PEEK & SON, By Now York, Manufacturers,

ESTABLISHED 1850. Please mention this paper.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write.



Wanted Stove Polishing Mitten.

You can make from \$3 to \$5 a day sure, for every lady buys one at sight. It keeps her hands perfectly clean and polishes the stove better and quicker than a brush or rag. Sample by mail, 35 cents a set. Address, NEW ENGLAND NOVELTY M'F'G CO., 24 Q Portland St., Boston, Mass:

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write.

(Continued from page 885.)

"ENQUIRER."-If you receive an invitation to a wedding out of town which you cannot attend. you send a visiting-card to the persons in whose name it is sent, or if they are intimate friends, note of congratulation and regret. Of course if you know the bride or groom very well you may write to them also; announcement cards must receive a similar acknowledgement.-An invitation to a wedding in your own town requires a card or a similar note if you do not accept it, and if there is also a reception, you should send a card on the day of the reception if you do not attend. whether you attend or not you should call or leave your card on the bride's mother within ten days. The etiquette of card-leaving has been so many times fully explained in this column that anything more must be a repetition.—A married womanthe years married make no difference-leaves two of her husband's cards with one of her own when leaving the house after a reception, one for the host and one for the hostess, and leaves her husband's card but not her own after a call. She is thus supposed to acquit her husband of social duties which his engrossment in business does not leave him time for.—You would better re-read "A Débutante's Winter in New York," which was begun in Demorest's for November, 1892, and concluded in April, 1893. It explained most points of social etiquette. There is no magazine devoted to the subject, and there are no "latest styles of etiquette." There are occasional socalled fads which are usually short-lived; but the established laws of good form which govern the social intercourse of men and women are such as have been found convenient, and are only displaced when a better way is discovered .-When the lady of the house opens the door to her visitor no card should be left; the only exception to this would be in case of a first call, when, for the convenience of the address, a card should be left in the card-receiver on the hall table.—All calling-cards are engraved, and fac-similes of autographs are eccentric and in bad form .-Monograms are preferred to crests; either one is used on stationery, linen, silverware, table glass, carriage doors, and all appointments of handsome turnouts. Read "Society Fads" in March number.

"E. N. F."—Though there are newer silks than faille française, a black one will always look well. You can give it quite an "up-to-date" touch by combining with it a small quantity of black moire—as sleeve-puffs and a short circular basque—and trim with jet passementerie. Have a stock collar of velvet of bright, becoming color.

"L. V. R."—Get China crepe the color of the polka dot in your black India-silk to combine

"ELAINE."—Your samples are pretty and in good style. Trim the tan-colored camel's-hair with either black or brown.—A cream-colored India-silk would be the most satisfactory lining for the organdy; natural pongee would also be good, and the next choice would be satine of the same color.—The black grenadine would be handsome made over a light silk of becoming color; changeable taffetas has been much used for the purpose, and shades of heliotrope and green are popular.

popular.

"A TEXAS GIRL."—Your goods will make a pretty gown by using the pattern of either the "Ailesbury" or the "Radcliffe," given in this number. Trim with a dark shade of golden brown or with black. Use any style of skirt you prefer.

(Continued on page 387.)

Are You Married?

It is the small annoyances that worry—sour milk over night, no milk-man in the morning no cream for the coffee; no milk for the baby. The Gail Borden Eagle Brand Condensed Milkis always ready for use. Grocers and Druggists.

(Continued from page 386.)

"M. F. L."-The poem you refer to is in an old volume of "Faith and Works," but unsigned; it has been attributed to "Saxe Holmes," long a disputed nom de plume, but now generally conceded to belong to Helen Hunt Jackson. The following is a correct version of the poem:

IS IT TRUE?

Is it true, O Christ in heaven, That the highest suffer most? That the strongest wander farthest And more helplessly are lost? That the mark of rank in nature Is capacity for pain? And the anguish of the singer Makes the sweetness of the strain?

Is it true, O Christ in heaven, That, whichever way we go, Walls of darkness must surround us, Things we would but cannot know? That the infinite must bound us, Like a temple veil unrent, Whilst the finite ever wearies, So that none's therein content?

Is it true, O Christ in heaven, That the fullness vet to come Is so glorious and so perfect That to know would strike us dumb? That if ever for a moment We could pierce beyond the sky, With these poor dim eyes of mortals We should just see God and die?

-Little maids three years old have worn all winter the Granny or Shaker bonnets of shirred faille, or wide soft felt or beaver hats which droop around the face. For spring the little bonnets are being made of lawn and Chambéry in white and delicate colors; the fronts are shirred, and the crowns are straight at the sides and puffed high on top. The shirred hats divide favor with these, and those of white lawn tied under the chin with Valenciennesedged strings are about the sweetest things the little mites can wear.

"M. J. P."-The French word crèche is pro-

nounced krayshe; it is one syllable.

"LULU."-Get the prepared enamel paint to finish your bedroom set of furniture; send to some art publisher and buy colored studies of the flowers you wish to decorate with. So much of that work is done now that it is easy to procure suitable and effective designs for any purpose; and as the cost is trifling-fifteen to thirty cents a study-it is much the best plan for the inexperienced worker.

"ADA."-The "Keene" skirt with round overskirt illustrated in our last December number is one of the most popular models; another, which has become rather hackneyed,—because when once seen it cannot be forgotten,—is illustrated on the Supplement for March, No. 28. The latter is most used for combining two materials .-Fashion-plates of a century ago are usually consulted in preparing costumes for an "Old Folk's Concert."—A young woman should be very particular about exchanging photographs with gentlemen. Only very close and intimate friendship warrants it. The same thing applies to the acceptance of valuable presents. Rings are considered gages d'amour, and should by no means be retained after a friendship is ruptured. -There is no change in ladies' calling-cards; a thin, pearl or ivory white, unglazed card, three and a half inches by two and a half, is the choice.—The oldest daughter in a family does not use her Christian name on her card; it should have simply Miss Graham (or whatever her family name may be) upon it.

"J. W. C."-The Ispahan carpeting about Which you ask resembles Brussels in the weave, but is wider; it is strong and thick, and made in artistic designs and colorings. At the time it we mentioned in Demorest's—February, 1802— J. W. Sloane & Co., Carpet Manufacturers, New York, were the sole agents.

(Continued on page 388.)



order. As we are Manufacturers of Lidies' Tailor Made Suits and Wraps, we are able to save you

1st, from 20 per cent. to 30 per cent. on every garment.

2nd, we cut and make every garment to order, thus insuring a perfect fit and elegant finish.

3rd, we pay all express charges, at our expense.

We will mail you our catalogue, together with the new measurement diagram, (which insures a perfect fit) a 48-inch tape measure, and a fine assortment of cloth samples to select from, on receipt of 4 cents postage. This Spring, our samples include a fine line of Ducks and Linens for Travelling Suits and Ulsters, Fancy Dotted and Plain Ducks for Vests, Dressed and Undressed Cheviots, Clay Diagonals, Flannels, Worsteds, Ladies' Cloths, Broadcloths and Covett Cloths, etc., suitable for Suits and Capes or Jackets. We have also a select line of Silks for Walsts. You may select any style of garment from our catalogue, and we will make it to order for you from any cloth you may choose. We also sell cloths by the yard.

Ladies residing in or near New York City are respectfully invited to visit our Salesroom.

We also make garments from ladies' own material. Please men-

THE HARTMAN CLOAK CO., 21 Wooster St., N. Y. City.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write



WE FURNISH THIS Elegant Baby Carriage For \$15.50,

DELIVERED FREE EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

First-class in every particular.

Fine wound reed, shaved spoke wheels, uphoistered in finest silk plush to

order, any color.
Fine Satin Parasol, with silk lace edge.
Best novelty Scroll Gear, nickel trimmings.
Exceptionally easy motion.
Satisfaction assured or money refunded.

OUR CARRIAGES ARE CAREFULLY AND BEAUTIFULLY MADE.

EVERY ONE GUARANTEED.

Large illustrated descriptive catalogue, showing over eighty styles, from \$5.00 to \$30.00, iree on application with stamp.

The Tallman Toy Co. Office and 41 Barclay St. New-York

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Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write



Solid White Crockery Stationary Wash Tubs and Sinks.

Get the best. Do not risk your health by using materials that will leak, absorb, decay and become infectious. Our solid White Crockery Wash Tubs have stood the test of afteen years, and are unrivaled, being imperishable, well glazed and non-porous.

Send for price list and catalogue.

STEWART CERAMIC CO. 312 Pearl Street,

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write,



Unfermented, CONCENTRATED, and Pure

JUICE

A Pure Food.

Our mission is solely to supply Nature's own pure food. Our reason for offering this product to the public, to you, is that it is pure. There is need of such an article of grape-juice. We have the testimony of hundreds of letters to prove the assertion. Nearly all the bottled juice now on the market contains an antiseptic of some description to prevent fermentation, generally salicylic acid. Why does such juice fail as a food? Simply because the antiseptic principle that preserves the juice in the bottle exerts a similar influence in the stomach, and prevents the natural action that is part of Nature's plan for assimilating food. Our concentrated juice of the grape is absolutely free from all antiseptics, and is Nature's best food and strength-producer for weak and defective digestive organs.

Invalids will, of course, seek the advice of their physicians as to the proper time or quantity, but well people may partake freely, and know that the certainty of gain far overshadows the possibilities of excess.

Two varieties of our concentrated

Two varieties of our concentrated juice, suitable for redilution with any aerated, carbonated or pure cold water, are bottled under our labels—i. e., Red, Zinfadel, Muscatel.

Sold only in pint-bottles, the contents of which are equal to ONE-HALF GALLON OF FRESH GRAPE-JUICE. Price, 65 cents per bottle. For sale by leading druggists and grocers. Send for descriptive circular.





The Consumer's Support.

Grape-juice has been found in many cases to rapidly reorganize and reconstruct the blood-current, and to surprise the tissues and excite the nervous system into health. The beverage form of grape-juice is an agreeable and wholesome nutrient. Its fruit acids, its blood salts and its grape-sugar make it valuable to many invalids. It affords a nourishing and easily-managed food.

We seek to supplant alcoholic and fermented drinks by something more wholesome, more satisfying and refreshing—something embodying all the best principles of ripe grapes, marred by nothing that would falsely stimulate or excite; and in the new era that is dawning, the life-giving principles of the grape, in their purest condition, will enter every home as a comfort and a blessing, instead of a delusion and a snare.

Its sub-acid taste and easiness of assimilation give it a high value. Its concentration, keeping-qualities and palatability give it certain advantages over the beverage form. It is agreeably administered in aerated water or hot or cold water, ted, carbonated or pure cold water, are

J. S. Twombly, Selling Agent, 27 Commercial St., Boston. Norman Barbour, Selling Agent, ?? Warren St., New York.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write.

(Continued from page 387.)

"DELIA E."-We have a standard riding-habit pattern—the "Diana"—which was illustrated in miniature in September, 1893. The skirt is exactly what you need, fitted for the knee over the pom-mel. The "Talbot" basque, illustrated underneath it, shows the size of sleeve now generally worn for a habit; and perhaps it would suit you better as it is double-breasted and gives chance for a tiny chemisette and necktie. All habits have either coat-tails or a round basque five or six inches deep. The trousers are often omitted, and tights worn instead.

"REILEY."-A congressman-at-large is one elected by the voters of a whole State instead of those of a single district; they are thus elected when the existing apportionment by district does not provide all the representatives to which the State is entitled.—A trip to Palestine, Egypt, and the Nile, with a tour through Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Asia Minor, and Southern France, the whole occupying four months, with three weeks allowed for the Nile journey, costs, from New York, \$1,050; this includes every expense and is first-class throughout. The same trip omitting the Nile is \$800. The fare alone, first-class from London to Jaffa, via Dieppe, Paris, Turin, Basle, Brindisi, and Austrian Lloyd's steamer, is \$119.20; or leaving out Italy and going from Paris to Marseilles and thence by Messageries steamer via Alexandria, \$101.60. See advertisement on page 330 of March number.

"M. E. S. G."-A stock collar of velvet or crêpe of any becoming color is what you need on your black gown. If that does not make it more becoming, add a chemisette also of color, and put a little around the wrists.

"Beloit."—There is no remedy for scratched mirrors except to have them re-silvered with quicksilver, and it can be done only in the factoDo You Remember the

work Glasgo Twilled Lace Thread

Exhibited at the World's Fair? The prizes have now been distributed. If you would like to know the names and addresses of the prize winners, write to us. It's interesting to all who crochet. This Thread received the highest possible award at the World's Fair, Chicago.

Our Illustrated books, Nos. 1, 2 and 3, are standard. Send 10 cts. stamps for either one. Our tidy patterns and bed spread patterns 5c. each, stamp.

Glasgo Lace Thread Co., Glasgo, Conn.

Glasgo Lace Thread Co., Glasgo, Conn.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write

FYOU DYE With "PERFECTION" Dyes you get BRILLIANT Colors, warranted FAST TO LIGHT and washing. No dull or uneven colors if you use "Perfection" Dyes. We send 6 packages any colors you wish to try for 40c Single package 10c. New sample cards and catalogue FREE. Agents wanted. W. Cushing & Co., Box 28, Foxcroft, Me.

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write.

LADIES' FANCY WORK MANUEL. Hustrated with 95 engravings. I send this Great Book Free to any one sending 10 cents to pay postage.

Mme. TOUISSART, Box 3139, Boston, Mass

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write

The Rocker Washer warranted to wash 100 PIECES IN NE HOUR, as clean as can be washed ONE HOUR, as on the washboard. W on the washboard. Write for prices and description. ROCKER WASHER CO., Liberal inducements to live agents. Ft. Wayne, Ind. Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you write,

"CHINA SILK."-Do not have your silk dyed unless it is faded; you could combine with it some China crepe of color to match the polka dot. Make the skirt by the "Kirkland" in this number; use the "Salisbury" basque pattern-in March Demorest's—and have a full vest of crept or plaited chiffon.

MRS. E. P."-Get black moire to combine with your gray gloria and make by the model in March Demorest's "A Spring Walking-Gown." The "Helena" wrap in this number, made of black or gray camel's hair with upper cape and collar of moire, trimmed with lace or jet and lined with silk of bright becoming color, would be pretty with it. For church and calling, a jetted toque with pink roses would be suitable. It is yet early to speak positively about what will be the most popular styles of walking hats; there are many new fancy straws, and the shapes shown are not very different from those of the winter; crowns will all be low, but brims will be wide and narrow, straight and curved, and every description of trimming is lavished on the new hats.

"N. A. B."—The juice of one lemon with an ounce of distilled water and a teaspoonful of borax is an efficacious lotion for sunburn, and will probably whiten your neck. Use it night and morning. If it fails to accomplish the purpose, try the simple face tonic mentioned in "Here and There About the House" in the February number.

"Ignorance."—You would find the expense of publishing your "galop" yourself uncertain and hazardous. You would better negotiate with some music publisher. The relations between composer and publisher are much what they are between authors and their publishers. The recompense is according to the merit of the work, as we have before explained. Sometimes a work bought outright, and sometimes a royalty is paid.

(Continued on page 389.)



pou't make any more Button Holes by hand, whe you can buy this Button Hole Attachment for only Or pollar, perfectly automatic, simple, durable thousands in use. Never sold before for less than \$5.1 fitted only to the following machines: Singer I and V S, No. 2, New Home, White, Household as pomestic, and no other. To introduce them more the oughly will send sample, postpaid, for only \$1.00. Stator what machine wanted. Address, PEERLESS ATTACHMENT CO., Box No. 5, Tyler City, Con

Mention Demorest's Magazine in your letter when you wri

Highest Awards 100 finest engraved calling cards and copper plate for \$1.50 Monogram and address dies et for stamping writing paper for \$2.00, \$2.50 and \$3.00.

The lowest prices for Wedding Invitations and correct Wedding Calling Cards and Invitations. Samples Calling Cards and Society Stationery Cation.



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Gleanings.

THE LAW OF THE ROAD.

AMERICANS are frequently puzzled when in England by the rule observed in driving of turning to the left, although our custom of turning to the right is followed by pedestrians. We have to go back to the moyen age for the derivation of both. The foot-passenger in those "parlous" times went armed, and passed to the right in order, if attack threatened, to interpose his left arm, which bore his shield, leaving his right arm with

(Continued on page 391.)



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(Continued from page 390.)

sword free to strike. Horsemen were usually protected by mail, and defence was easier if the sword arm could aim directly at an adversary, hence, passing to the left was obviously safer. When vehicles came into use later, the drivers naturally followed the old horseback custom and turned to the left.

In early colony days horses were scarce in America, and the pedestrian's rule of keeping to the right was for so long a time the only one, that when conveyances became common the familiar custom of the foot-passenger remained in vogue, and has been the only one recognized in this country.

THE VANDERBILT CARRIAGES.

THE different members of the Vanderbilt family have adopted a uniform style of finish for their carriages, which are all black with maroon bodies, and have the wheel spokes striped with vermilion. Upon the departure of the William K. Vanderbilts for their tour around the world on their yacht Valiant, their carriages-twenty-two in number-were sent to the carriage-maker's for storage. Mr. Vanderbilt has, of course, spacious private stables, but it was a favorable occasion to have the conveyances all overhauled and put in perfect order. They make a most imposing show in the loft of the carriage warehouse, and include almost every vehicle for pleasure, comfort, or convenience; there are park coaches, brakes, drags, carts, gigs, phaetons, landaus, opera stages, broughams, runabouts, and road wagons. Their original cost was the mere bagatelle of fifty or sixty thousand dollars.

THE LADIES' GALLERY IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE annual discussion anent the removal of the obnoxious iron grating which conceals the occupants of the Ladies' Gallery in the British House of Commons from the members on the floor beneath, always affords much amusement, and is as unsuccessful as were for many years all efforts to provide the gallery itself. Elizabeth Fry was the first woman ever allowed to listen to a debate before this honorable body, and she suffered no little inconvenience while enjoying (?) the privilege, as the only spot where she could be permitted was a dark cubby-hole around the ventilator-opening in the ceiling where there was just space for two chairs. It was the

(Continued on page 392.)

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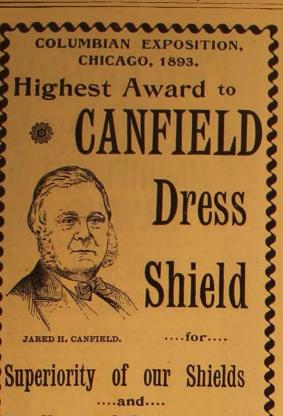
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Quaker members of Parliament who procured from the Speaker a permit for Mrs. Fry to thus listen to some important debates upon prison reform; but the precedent once established other women occasionally followed. At last when Fergus O'Connell was going to make a speech one day he was most anxious to have his beloved wife hear him, and arranged that she should be in the ventilator-hole to listen. At the close of the speech he rushed in hot haste up stairs, longing to hear words of praise from his partial critic. Entering the dark hole he threw his arms about its sole occupant, and kissing her warmly exclaimed, "Well, my darling, what did you think of it?" But Mrs. O'Connell had played truant, and it so chanced that a noble duchess, wife of an influential Minister, was the recipient of the wild Irishman's ardent embrace. Madame la duchesse complained to her husband and insisted that such awkward mistakes must in future be avoided; and thus this amusing contretemps led to the construction of the present Ladies Gallery.

THIS IS WHAT THEY SAY OF US.

THE English war-artist, Frederick Villiers, recently entertained the Royal Society in London by some reminiscences of his visit to Chicago last summer. He has invented a new name for the residents of the Garden City, and calls them "Chicagoese," pronouncing them "a pleasant people to those who like that particular form of nineteenth century foam and fungus." His hearers were vastly amused, and went away supposing they had learned a great deal about people, manners, and things in the "Inter-ocean city." They were told that "Thank you" in a restaurant has but little value,-means no more to a waiter than "If you please," and this is the form of popular orders: "If you should say 'Please bring me such and such a thing' he [the waiter] will put his hand to his ear, and say 'How?' You repeat your politeness, and he will say 'How?' again, until you are compelled to ape the vernacular of the country-videlicet: 'Say, waiter, bring me some domestic duck with dressing,—right here, see? Guess I'll take frillings with that thar duck,—pickled beets, stewed tomaytoes, and mush!"" Great Scott! here is a man who holds up the mirror for us to "See oursel's as others see us," yet we utterly fail to recognize the supposedly graphic sketch. We might as well describe London and the Londonese by quoting cockney English or Yorkshire dialect; and we have yet to find an American writer who would attempt to foist such an imposition upon even an ignorant, untraveled public.

HUMOR OF THE SCHOOL-ROOM.

ALL the funny errors are not confined to American school-rooms, as is evidenced by the following anecdotes which were collected by an English teacher who took the prize offered by the "University Correspondent" for the best collection of pupils blunders. They are vouched for as actual replies taken from examination papers: "Ilaied and Odessae translated Euripides." "Esau was a man who wrote fables and who sold the copyright to a publisher for a bottle of potash." "The heart

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is a comical shaped bag. The heart is divided into several parts by a fleshy petition. These parts are called right artillery, left artillery, and so forth. The function of the heart is between the lungs. The work of the heart is to repair the different organs in about half a minute." To the topic "Explain the words fort and fortress," the following ingenious answer was given: "A fort is a place to put men in, and a fortress a place to put women in." This original definition of hydrostatics was evolved: "Hydrostatics is when a mad dog bites you. It is called hydrophobia when a dog is mad, and hydrostatics when a man catches it."

FASHIONS IN NAILS.

Among the small mercies for which we ought to be devoutly thankful is the passing of the bird's-claw nail. That hideous and shocking deformity had a longer vogue than the victims of the disgusting mania will any of them wish to acknowledge, now that "form" has voted it a back number; and it is hard to understand under what hallucination the fashion could ever have been viewed with the least favor. The dainty woman cannot take too good care of her nails, as they either beautify or disfigure the fingers, and there cannot be a beautiful hand without beautiful nails. As a preparation for trimming the nails the fingers should be held for a few minutes in a bowl of warm water; the nails should be kept just the length of the fingers and trimmed in a graceful curve; in this way they serve the purpose for which Nature intended them, to protect the sensitive tip of the finger, give it strength in holding, etc. They were never intended to scratch in the dirt and dig worms for food as are the claws of a bird. After trimming the nails the skin should be gently pushed down about their roots, where, if properly cared for, the delicate white half-moon clearly shows. The chamois polisher with a little polishing powder gives the finishing touch to the manicuring. Never clean the nails with a pointed instrument. If the nails be too hard, rub a little cold cream or vaseline on them at night; if delicate and tender, wax and alum will strengthen them. A useful adjunct to the washstand is a cut lemon, which should find a place beside the borax box and ammonia bottle. It also strengthens the

(Continued on page 394.)

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nails, and is said to prevent the tendency to hang-nails, and growth of the flesh about the roots.

TRUE HUMANITARIANISM.

Some English cocoa manufacturers have set an example in the treatment of their employés which it would be well to have known the wide world over; and it affords an admirable text for a practical address to those philanthropists who with much talking and sounding of trumpets fail to show us any results of their labor. Most of the workers are girls between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five, and besides being better paid than in other factories the most solicitous care is taken of the girls' health and moral well-being. During the busy seasonfrom September to December—the hours are hard, from 6 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.; but this is what is done to alleviate things: A cup of warm tea and a roll are given to every girl on arriving, before she begins work; half an hour is allowed for breakfast, a quarter of an hour for luncheon. and an hour for dinner. During this season they have half-holidays on Wednesday and Saturday, leaving off work at 1 P.M. on Wednesday, and 12:30 P. M. on Saturday. The rest of the year they work from 8:45 A.M. till 5:30 P.M. and have a half-holiday on Saturday. A large, well-shaded playground is provided for the girls; their cloak-room is large and wellfitted, provided with hot and cold water; and the dining-room is furnished with reversible tables which can be turned into seats so the room can be used for amusements and lectures. The ventilation and lighting of the factorywith electricity-are perfect, and there is a district nurse employed to care for the sick. The problem of the relations between capital and labor is here satisfactorily solved.

A WARNING TO FARMERS.

"The American Agriculturist" is authority for the statement that the entire exhibit of foreign grain at the World's Fair was infested by the weevil, which has done enormous damage to crops in southwestern Russia and in India, and was brought to the Fair in the grain from those countries. Any farmer who has procured grain from the World's Fair should burn it immediately, and every effort be made to prevent the spread of this pest.



A Crystal of Granulated

Sugar

MAGNIFIED 450 TIMES

It is Absolutely Pure.

Last year PRIMLEY used 640,000 pounds of pure Granulated Sugar in his

California Fruit Chewing Gum.

The purest and sweetest gum made. All dealers sell it. Insist on Primtey's. You will find it quite unlike other gums.

Send 5 outside wrappers of either California Fruit or Primley's Pepsin Chewing Gum, with two 2-cent stamps, and we will send you "Uncle Jack," by Walter Besant or any other one of our 1700 fine Books. Send for list

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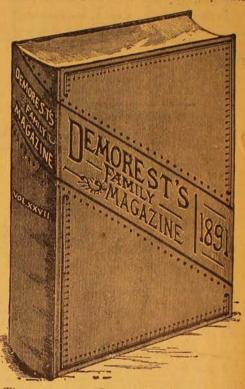
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the greatest novelty of the age. For full particulars address The GREAT AMERICAN TEACO., P. O. Box 287. New York City, N. Y.

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Subscribers ordering a change in the direction of Demorest's Family Magazine must give the old and the new address in full. No change can be made after the fifth of any month, and any order reaching us after that date the change will be made for the month following.

SUBSCRIPTIONS MAY COMMENCE AT ANY TIME. We receive numerous letters asking if subscriptions may commence at any time. Certainly they may, as many do not care for back numbers, while others wish them for some special purpose. We always keep back numbers on hand to supply such as may wish them.

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Spring and Summer Weights are now ready. Ankle or knee length. Sanitary Balbriggan, Lisle Thread, Silk.

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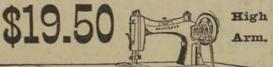
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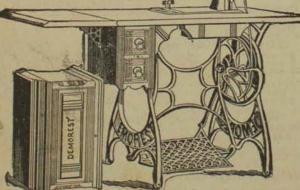
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14K Gold Plated Watch Sent C. O. D. on Approval Beautifully engraved and warranted the best timekeeper in the world for the money, and equal in appearance to a solid gold watch. Examine at express office, if satisfactory pay agent \$3.50. Cut this advertisement out and return with order. Address W. HILL & CO., Wholesale Jewelers, 207 State St., Chicago, IL.

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Spice Box.

Maid-servant:-"Professor! Oprofessor! Just think! I have swallowed a pin!

ABSENT-MINDED PROFESSOR: - " Never mind; here is another one.

A DUTCH ADVERTISEMENT.

"Anyone proving to my satisfaction that my cocoa essence is injurious to health will receive ten canisters free of charge.'

"What's the matter with your funny man? Is he mad?'

"Oh, no," answered the editor. "He's just out of humor.'

IRATE FATHER :- "I'm going to put a check

to your extravagance, sir!"

IMPUDENT SON :-" All right! Give me the cheque."

"How many foreign languages can your wife speak?"
"Three: French, German, and the one she

talks to the baby.'

THE elevator-boy in the dry-goods store is an incorrigible shoplifter, and he always gets taken up or called down for it, too.

MR. WATTS:-"I wonder if a woman ever does get too old to marry?

MRS. WATTS: - "That's pretty hard to answer. Age, you know, does not always bring wisdom."

"You bad boy, you have made a grease-spot on the new sofa with your bread and butter," said Mrs. Fizzletop to her son.

"Never mind, ma; you can sit on it when there is company in the parlor," replied little

"By the way, you remember Miss K. whom so many of the boys went wild over, don't you?

"Yes, and I used to think she was a girl that deserved a good husband."
"Well, I married her."
"You? You astonish me!"

THE lady had implied a doubt as to the statement of the dairyman.
"Madam," he said, indignantly, "my reputation rests upon my butter."

"Well," she replied, testily, "you needn't get ugly about it. The foundation is strong enough to keep it up forever.'

HE:--"Did you ever hear that Jagson's wife speaks two languages?
SHE:—"Yes."
HE:—"What are they?"

SHE: -" The one for company, and the other for Jagson."

MR. HOMESTED (rushing into his wife's room) :- " Maria! Maria! Come quick!

Nellie's got convulsions!"

MRS. HOMESTED (entering the parlor):—
"Nonsense! The child's practicing her Delsarte lesson."

WHEN a young man's first mustache is bold enough to make its appearance, although he may treat it tenderly, his friends do not hesitate to call it down.

MOTHER:-"Almost every one thinks baby looks just like me.

Miss Oldrival:-"Never mind, dear; he may outgrow it.'

"THERE's one curious thing about discovering places," said Johnny. "Take Bermuda, for instance. It was discovered by a man named Bermudez. How he happened to named Bermudez. How he happened to stumble on a place with a name just like his, beats me.'

(Continued on page 396.)

"Toile du Nord."

Parkhill. 27=in. Zephyrs,

> "Clitheroe," 32=in. Zephyrs,

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Economy and Benuty.
BUTTONS at front instead of CLASPS.
RING BUCKLE at hip for
Hose Supporters,
Tape-fastened Buttons—
ton't pull off. Cord-edge Button Holes, Cord-edge Button Holes,
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FIT ALL AGES
Infants to Adults,
All shapes, Full or
slim busts.
Long or short waists,
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Sold by all Leading Retailers. Send for Circular.
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Branch Office: 537 Market St., San Francisco.

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Send 20c. for "WORTH" SKIRT PATTERN FASHION PLATE AND CIRCULARS OF MRS. FLESHER'S DRESS CUTTING SYSTEM, Free. FLESHER & CO., 30 E. 14th Street, New York.

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2c. WALL PAPER.
Gilt paper 3½ cts. up. Embossed golds 10 cts. to 12½
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For public, private and commercial schools in the West, East, North and South. Male and Female Superintendents, Principals and College Professors. Also for special studies, music, drawing manual training etc. Address Editor School Board Journal THE AMERICAN SCHOOL BOARD JOURNAL SET POTTER BUILDING, New York City.

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(Continued from page 395.)

THE widower about to remarry is the most unselfish of mortals. He seldom thinks of number one.

An Irish lad, in announcing his father's disease, said that the dead man had refused to have any doctor. "He always used to say that he'd like to die a natural death."

ONE day the minister's wife was told that her five-year-old boy had been overheard swearing. Calling him to her, she told him what she had heard and asked if it was true. "Who told you?" he demanded. "Oh," she replied, rather surprised, "a little hird told we."

little bird told me."
"Well," responded the youthful impenitent, "then it was one of those darned sparrows.

AT the breakfast table the other morning a little five-year-old was asked if she would have some corn bread and syrup. Turning up her nose in disgust she replied: "No; it

tastes too much like old carpets."

"How do you know what old carpets taste like? Did you ever eat one?" inquired an

elder brother.

"Why, yes," said the youthful epicure.
"Before I was an angel I was a moth, and when I was a moth I ate carpets and other

And they let it go at that.

"I'm a sort of April fool," said the man with the wart on his nose.

"Born the first day of April?" casually inquired the man with the gray spot in his mustache.

No; married."

"I don't know whether that made you an April fool or not," said the man in the mackintosh; "but whoever picked you up for a valuable package that day got badly April fooled.

And there was a most unanimous and approving silence all around the board.

A STORY is told of a servant girl brought to a hospital suffering from the effects of an over-dose of poison. When questioned as to her motive for taking it, she replied: "I wasn't feeling well, and I went to my mistress's medicine-chest. This bottle was marked, 'Three drops for an infant, six for an adult, and a tablespoonful for an emetic.' I knew I wasn't an infant; I wasn't sure about an adult; so I thought I must be the emetic, and I took the spoonful.'

A PIOUS and aged lady, who felt that the end of her mortal existence was close at hand, was settling her bill with her iceman the other day, and took occasion to remark in an earnest way: "I don't suppose I shall take ice of you another year. I expect to pass over the other side of the river before long."

"Oh, no trouble, no trouble at all," replied the enterprising iceman; "we send a team over the river every day." Then he began slowly to grasp the real meaning, and muttered as he picked up his tongs and went out of the door: "Some people would be happy to have a piece of ice 'over there,' anyway, I

A BRIGHT little fellow, who has lived all his short life in a city, was taken to visit at a "real farm," The child was in ecstasies. Every animal on the place was a delight to him, but his affections especially centered about a Jersey calf.

"I would like to buy it," he said to the owner.

"But what would you give in exchange?" he was asked.

"My baby sister," replied the child with the utmost gravity; "we have a new baby nearly every year at our house, and we've never had a calf!"

(Continued on page 397.)



yields, bends, gives to every curve of the form, but holds, supports, rests and lends gracefulness.

WHEN DRESSING

do it thoughtfully. Some have form; others have not this divine attribute, but every lady can attain good effects if she will discriminate in the selection of her corset.

"FLEXIBONE" contributes all the attributes of a graceful, lithesome figure, Ask for FLEXIBONE

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(Continued from page 396.)

ENCOURAGING.

He:-" What if I steal a kiss?"
he:-"I hope you will never be guilty of keeping stolen goods."

HE (in anger):-" I don't know why we men marry, any way: women are such fools!" SHE (sweetly):-" That's just the reason dear!

A PLACE for everything-Baby's mouth.

THE most useful thing in the long run.

A CYNIC remarks that it generally puzzles a horse to know what a woman is driving at.

Doctor:-My good woman, does your son always stutter?'

MOTHER:-"Not always, sir-only when He attempts to talk."

A PERSON took away an umbrella from the pedestrian in front of him. "Permit me," he said, "to return your umbrella. I found it in my eye."

MRS. BANKS:—"Have you any trouble in getting servants?"
MRS. RIVERS:—"No; I've had five in the

ast two weeks."

"My muvver, st's French, she is, but I'm English, an' so's my farver."

"An' what's yer little sister?"

"Dunno-she can't talk yet."

"JOHN, dear," said Mrs. Hicks, "I'm making a shirt for the heathen. Come here and let me fit it on you, will you?"

GEORGE: Do you think you could ever learn to love me?"

ETHEL:—"I might after some time. I see the Queen is learning Hi ndustani at the age of seventy!"

"THIS," said the "dear girl," as she led the vay into a secluded intle nook in the conservatory, "is what papa calls his 'matchbox.' Everybody comes in here to propose."

SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHER: -"Tommy, I was shocked to hear you swearing so dreadfully at that strange boy as I came in."

TOMMY:-I couldn't help it, ma'am. He was making fun of our kind of religion."

Much amusement was caused lately by a notice placed in a shop window. The notice, printed in very large type, ran thus: "Annual sell now going on

SHE :- "Now, my dear, I'll be ready for the theater in ten minutes."

HE :- " All right then; I'll just run down to the office and finish up the two hours' work I

LITTLE Eleanor, three years old, has a new cloak with a breast-pocket in it. The other day, as she was going up to town with her mother, she exclaimed, "Oh, mamma, I have a hole in my upstairs pocket!'

"PROFESSOR," said a pretty woman, "do you dare look me in the face and tell me I

originally sprang from a monkey?"
"Well, really," stammered the professor, en a very charming monkey.

CLERK :- "I don't think you will be able to wear this collar. You can't stretch your neck up like that all the time.

"It's exactly what I want. I'm going to the theater to-night."

JOSTAH:—" 'Mandy, I reckon we'd better not buy anything here. Their goods all seem to be damaged.

LANDY :- " How do you know?"

JOSIAH :- "Don't you see on all the cards that they tell right out that there's a big cut on everything?"

(Continued on page 398.)

LATEST CRAZE!

ree Little Kittens.

A NEW WALTZ SONG.

Also the Waltz "Medium Difficult," also "Simplified."

Words and Music by Geo. W. Peek. At all Music Stores and Stationers in the United States and Canada, or of the publisher, K. DEHNHOFF, 44 West 20th Street, New York. Descriptive Pamphlet Free.

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PROFIT and more made by Get free sample of best known goods in America. Dr. Scott's Electric Corsets, Belts, Brushes, Safety Razors, Curlers, Insoles, Plasters, and all our other popu-Address GEO. A. SCOTT, 842 Broadway, New York City.

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PATENT VENTILATED CABINET
OR BEDROOM COMMODE
Is absolutely odorless, and can be set up
in any room having a chimney or stove
pipe, by anyone. Needs no expensive
plumbing. Costs nothing to keep in order

ABOON TO WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Affords all the conveniences of the most elaborate water closet, without deadly sewer gas. Absolutely necessary where there are no sewers. The effect on health is so great, and expense so little that every family should have one. Made of hardwood, well finished, with galvanized buckets—non corrosive—and all necessary fittings, complete. Price, \$12.00. Freight prepaid to any railway station in U. S. Guaranteed as represented or money refunded. We refer to this paper. Not a luxury, but a necessity; a "saver of doctor's bills." Descriptive pamphlet and testimonials free. Endorsed by doctors. Mention this paper.

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possess all desirable features found in domestic or foreign manufactures, and to excel them in many essential qualities, such asimpalpable fineness, freedom from lint, and other vexatious substances, and positive uniformity of strength and shade. NOTICE,—Our Single Tubes, with few exceptions, are double the size of any foreign now in the marke.

Price List and pamphlets, giving opinions of some of the most eminent artists, will be furnished on application. Among others who have used them and attest their merits, are: D. Huntington, Pres't N.A., Julian Scott, A.N.A., Geo. Inness, N.A., J. H. Beard, N.A., Wm. L. Sonntag, N.A., E. Wood Perry, N.A., R. W. Hubbard, N.A., A. T. Bricher, N.A.

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For date when this "Order" will become worthless, see other side.

Run a pen or pencil through the name / Example: 1. Albertine Basque. 34, 36, 38. 40 Bust Measure. Or if pattern desired be not in this number, see directions on other side. and size of the pattern desired.

Street and Number. Post-Office, County,

1. Allesbury Coat, 34, 36, 38, and 40 Bu*.
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3. Yates Basque, 34, 36, 38, and 40 Bust.
4. Chatham Waist, 34, 36, 38, and 40 Bust.
5. Helena Wrap. Medium and Large.
6. Kirkland Skirt. Medium and Large.
7. Cresswell Skirt, 14 and 16 years.
8. Glencroft Waist, 14 and 16 years.
9. Harewood Jacket-Waist, 12 and 14 years.
10. Verona Dress, 8 and 10 years.
11. Zara Dress, 6 and 8 Years.
12. Montrose Coat, 2 and 4 years.

13. Atossa Waist, 34, 36, 38, and 40 Bust.

We do not give Patterns for the Designs, on the Supplements.

We do not SI published in the Magazine. They subscribers and p may be bought in or one from a fu or one from a fu of sent before the State,

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15. Iska Blouse, 34, 36, 38, and 40 Bust.
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24. Babette Coat, 2 and 4 years.
25. Boy's Shirt-Waist, 6, 8, and 10 years.



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This book will make you familiar at once with all the latest ideas and best home building methods. Sent to all who contemplate building

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How to Plan and Build Them.

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Remember that this "Order" cannot be used after May 15th, 1894. (Continued from page 397.)

MAUD:—"But if you are not sure that you lee him, how dare you marry him?"

EDITH:—"How else can I find out whet I ove him or not?"

DID Madge marry a man of regular hbits?

'Mercy yes; he has allowed her to support hin from the very first."

-"I wonder how it was first discovered that fish was a brain food?

3HE :- " Probably by the wonderful stories that men tell who go fishing.'

"I BELIEVE in love at first sight."

"Why?"

"Because at the first sight you don't really know the girl."

Young HUSBAND:—"I'm just about dead putting down this carpet."
WIFE:—"The carpet is not heavy."

"No, but I have to work in such a cramped position."

"Nonsense. Just imagine you are on your bicycle."

"Tommy," said his mother, "can't you

amuse your baby brother for a while?
"Yes'm," answered Tommy. "Ir you'd hold him up at the wing in I'll get the boys to come and play in frome the house."

TOMMY :- "Europe's in the East, isn't it, pa ? "

HIS FATHER :- "Ye

TOMMY:—"And you can get there just by starting west and going far enough, can't you?

HIS FATHER:—"C ertainly."
TOMMY:—"Well, then, whereabouts on the way 'round do you stop going west and begin to get east aga in?"

THEY were standing g on the elevated station platform waiting for a train, and beguiling the interval by servar at affliction gossip. Said the lady in gray:

"So, my dear, I was obliged to look for another maid; my requirements were quite too modest. I told the woman at the intelligence office that, of course, I would like a maid who could speak Parisian French, read aloud well, and nurse me if I was ill; but all that I positively required was that she should be capable, honest, industrious, neat, good tempered, nice-looking, a good seamstress, and dress hair well; and what do you think the impudent creature said?"

The lady in green shook her head solemnly, and the lady in gray continued, indignantly: 'She said she guessed they didn't have any cherubim or seraphim in the office today.'

THE spinster can at least lay claim to self possession.

JUDGE:- Why do you swear this letter was written by a woman?"

Expert:—"I can't find the second page."

Young Author:—"Don't you like to see yourself in print?"
DÉBUTANTE:—"No; I prefer silk."

MAMMA: - "You careless boy! you've spilled our coffee over your new trousers!"

BENNY:—"Well, there's plenty more coffee,

ain't there?"

PRISCILLA:—"How do you think my hands look in these mosquetaire gloves?" PRUNELLA:—"Oh, immense!"

SHE:-" I must ask you to release me from

our engagement. Papa has failed—
HE:—"Oh, that's all right. I am the man who won all his money."

MRS. W:—"Why, Norah, there is nothing of this lobster but the shell!"

NORAH:—"Sure, mem, you did'nt think oi would cuke it wid'out cl'anin'it?"

(Continued on page 899.)