

WOMAN'S DEPARTMENT.

An Interesting Batch of Gossip for the Entertainment of the Fair Sex.

Notes on House Decoration—A Glance at the Fashions—A Home Peril.

BY ANNIE E. MYERS.
For the House.

No enterprising housekeeper but has her soul tried devising new and novel features for her domain. At the present day furniture as well as dress must submit to the dictates of fashion, and her decrees are so varied that it is often a fatiguing undertaking to furnish a house both practically and tastefully.

A level-headed woman will go calmly and unexcitedly about it. Decide in the first place that even an unpretentious house can not be decked out in a hurry. Each article must receive deliberate and almost prayerful attention.

Tradition to the contrary, no woman likes to go through the shops merely for inspection. It is much pleasanter to always purchase. The clerks seem to recognize intuitively her character. They pay her the barest civilities; they consider her their most despicable enemy, and have no hesitancy in letting her know the fact. They are always busy when she comes near them, and telegraph her approach to less well-informed but sympathizing coadjutors.

But a woman bent on a wholesome purpose will not mind a little thing like that. She will patiently inform herself of what is in the market, she will make drawings and study combinations of color and shapes, and not purchase until she is sure she has what she needs.

Each season there comes some especial feature. At one time it was brass, again stained glass or inlaid floors. For the moment they were the feature. Just now it is carved furniture. To be in style you must have a piece of it of some kind or description.

Carved furniture is so adaptable to most styles of decoration that it is acknowledged to be the most useful for many purposes.

Carved oak cabinets for reception-rooms, carved buffets for drawing-rooms, and dainty little carved writing-tables or desks for ladies' boudoirs or drawing-rooms are most sightly.

Of course, the greatest luxury may be displayed in it, and various kinds of beautiful foreign, Indian and Canadian, combined with English, woods are utilized. Many exhibitions show articles of every kind in it for houses of modern luxury and refinement, making an effect equal to the elegant marqueterie of ancient days.

But there are as well less expensive and quite beautiful articles that middle-class houses may aspire to possess. Pretty shelves and cabinets with simply the edges carved, when finished with a brass rod on which run rings suspending silk curtains, behind which glimmers an article or two of bric-a-brac are often seen.

Strongly made chairs of unique design are also carved and not expensive. They come with cane seats and backs and are ornamental in any room, but particularly so in halls and dining-rooms.

In upholstered furniture, Turkish designs are obsolete, and the tapestry covers are placed over cushions held in carved frames. This brings us to the simplest of carved ornaments, mirror and picture frames. Many ladies who have made more or less of a study of wood-carving in an amateur way are providing themselves with these to their great satisfaction. They often further add to the effectiveness of their work by covering some of the raised birds or flowers with gilt. This taste is questionable, although much admired, particularly with walnut wood.

With this craze for carving the use of tapestry is more resorted to by housekeepers than ever. Woolen tapestry drapes the windows, and portions of it look charmingly rich in otherwise plainly furnished rooms. In combination with high-toned plushes nothing can be handsomer. But they are most expensive, and as the season advances they can not be comfortable or appropriate.

However, these tapestry designs come in lighter materials, even in airy scrim, and at moderate prices within the reach of all. The dark-indigo blues and Oriental reds and yellows are faithfully reproduced in yard-wide scrim at fifteen cents per yard.

Tidies, the solace of many an idle life, are handsomely embroidered in tapestry designs and colors. They have completely superseded tidies in crochet or lace. With these rich colors much gold embroidery is employed. These pieces of ornamental needlework are often used as covers temporarily tacked over satin or any plain colored chair seat or back. Gentlemen who have considered these little pieces the nuances of their parlor lives are delighted with this resort to positive facts in positions.

A Home Peril.

Of all social failings courtesy is the most fatal and most common. Husbands speak roughly to their wives, and wives "nap" their husbands; brothers are rude, and sisters are tyrannical; all oppose, contradict, annoy one another, and no one thinks it incumbent upon him or her to keep that check on the temper, and that padlock on the lips, which would be a matter of obligation if a stranger were present. Though there would be infinite distress—mourning and lamentation unspeakable—should one of the cross-grained brood die, says the *Home Journal*, there is a general atmosphere of storm, threatened or broken loose, which makes living in such a home damaging to the character and distressful to the sensibilities. Here comes in the advantage of discipline and the value of wise authority. Here comes in, contrariwise, the evils of this modern laxity, this abrogation of authority, when parents have let the reins drop from their hands, and discipline—not tyranny, not undue coercion, but the moral pressure which is the result of experience and knowledge—is as effete as the dodo. We shall not do better in the next generation, and we shall have to wait now for the time when some great religious passion or national emotion shall knit society together again and restore the essential spirit of discipline by the coherent force of a cause, an idea, a faith. Here is where religion, when sincere and personally applied, is so valuable. It supplies the motive for self-control, the obligation for that patience and forbearance with each other which cre-

ates sweetness of temper and courtesy of manner. And here it is that irreligion is so hurtful when people have not enough moral force to supply, by self-respect and consideration for others, that absolute control over their baser natures which has been lost by abjuration of authority. Those who have taken to heart the sweet and tender precepts of Christianity would necessarily be courteous, gentle, of patient temper, of complying ways. And if, unfortunately, a great deal of what is called piety exhales itself in formalism here and barren dogmas there, the residuum turns its precepts into practice, and that divine peace which reigns within has its expression without and the radiance of the home matches the sunshine of the heart.

Young wives and husbands cannot be too strongly reminded of the probable shipwreck they will make of their happiness if they yield to that ill-temper which expresses itself in discourtesy, want of compliance, unnecessary opposition, and above all, that most disastrous amusement of "nagging" and creating a row. Hundreds of households have gone wrong for the mere want of checking in time the habit of annoying as a relief to the momentary feeling of irritation or discomfort. The wife who gets into the way of contradicting, of "checking" her husband, or opposing him in small things and standing out in large ones—the husband, who is sneering, contemptuous, tyrannical, fault-finding—perhaps neither side knowing the whole extent of his folly, but just giving way to it as more easy than to fight and conquer it—these young people are doing their best to dig the grave of their married peace, and some day poor, pale, failing little love will fall into it, stark and plumeless, and will never rise to life again. In the beginning these little tiffs and discomforts are made up with a kiss from him and a few tears from her to add cement to the reconciliation. By time the tiffs are more acrid and the reconciliation is less warm. By still further time this never comes in at all, and things get into that chronic state when there is never an open breach and never a formal healing, but an ever-widening rift and a never-ending coldness. Then the two lives jar and grind like rusty hinges—locks which misfit the slots; wheels where the axle is stiff—or anything else which should work together in harmony and smoothness, but which, for want of care to keep the adjustment exact (perhaps for want of oil to the joints), creak and chafe and hang and do not fit, to the annoyance, and more, of all the bystanders.

Little Women.

All the fashions tend to make women look taller, all the pompadour styles are being revived, and the coquettishness of that era adapts itself only to the small women. Beautiful giantesses are not the vogue, and the time of the tiny creation has come at last. Of course she triumphs—a little woman could not resist that; of course, gawky, horsey, and all the other abominable adjectives that can be applied to big women, are in her possession, and she delights in using them. She goes in for being immensely innocent, and would seem to have followed the advice given in a French journal, of which this only is remembered: "Look confident and indifferent; express your self simply, and with a voice as sweet as possible; be keenly alive to everything that passes, yet appear absent minded; know as much as possible, yet please by asking questions. Having read everything, quote nothing; seem everything, appear ignorant; hear all, always express surprise; desiring everything, ask for nothing. Be light-hearted; preserve your beauty; be indulgent, to attract sympathy. Do not force wit; always listen attentively; be charitable for your own satisfaction. See things at a glance; judge quickly, and think more quickly still, in order to keep a cool head."

There is an immense amount of wisdom in all this advice, which, singular as it may seem, appeared, I believe, in "La Vie Parisienne." It takes a Frenchman to think out all these things, for just as certainly as he appreciates beauty at its utmost value, just as certainly is it true that he appreciates that something more than beauty, which is bound to retain a man, once he is made conscious of it. Balauc says, "The most celebrated attachments in history were all inspired by women in whom the vulgar would have found some defect. Cleopatra, Joanna of Naples, Diana of Poitiers, La Valliere, Madam Pompadour, in short most of the women whom love has rendered celebrated were not without imperfections and infirmities, while most women whose beauty is described to us as perfect have been finally unhappy in their loves. This apparent caprice must have its cause. Perhaps men live by sentiment more than by pleasure; perhaps the churl, wholly physical, of a beautiful woman, has its bounds, while the charm, essentially moral, of a woman of moderate beauty is infinite."

Interesting Women.

GAIL HAMILTON says that "women can never hope to rule the state until they give up their baby names."

SARAH BERNHARDT comes back to visit us less fragile in figure than formerly, but is said to be none the less interesting in her acting.

MISS HEWITT, daughter of Mayor Hewitt, is said to have introduced the fashion among girls of having mastiffs and other large dogs as pets.

The marriage of Miss Mary Agnes Christina Mesmer and Mr. C. J. Griffith, at Los Angeles, was a marriage of millions. The bride has \$1,000,000 in her own right, while the groom's wealth is estimated at \$5,000,000 in land and mines. She is twenty years old and speaks four languages, while he is thirty-four.

MISS GRACE HOWARD, daughter of "Joe" Howard, is going to Dakota next month to spend two or three years instructing the Indians. Miss Howard is an exceedingly talented woman, with a somewhat strong mind. She has spent sometime on the frontier, and quite a strong friendship exists between her and Miss Rose Elizabeth Cleveland because of their sympathies in the same direction.

MISS MIDDLE MORGAN, the great newspaper woman authority on live stock, does not live in that much described and mercurial house of hers in Jersey. She has managed to obtain the office of station agent at a little flag station on the Pennsylvania Railroad just out of Jersey City. In this way, by sleeping in the depot, she saves rent, and picks up enough coal and wood along the track to keep her in fuel. She never pays a car fare nor a ferry tick, and if she cannot get a pass or deadhead her way she walks.

EX-SENATOR McDONALD.

His Views on the Political Outlook—He Believes in "Turning the Rascals Out."

Hon. Joseph E. McDonald, of Indiana, was recently interviewed by a reporter for a New York paper. "What is the prospect for a Democratic victory in 1888?" was asked by the newspaper man.

"Oh, first rate, I think. You see, the Democrats in my State refused to vote at the last election because they thought the administration had not divided the patronage sufficiently among them. I suppose 20,000 at last refrained from voting on that account alone. I don't mean to say by this that President Cleveland has not made good appointments in my State, for he has, but in the Congressional districts there were a great many aspirants who failed to get office. These same men will turn out in 1888 and vote for Mr. Cleveland if he is nominated, because they know he is preferable to a Republican President. President Cleveland has ample time to strengthen himself wonderfully before his term expires. He came into office not knowing public men, and has devoted his time mainly, almost exclusively, to routine work. He has made a fine administration and an excellent chief executive, there is no doubt about that, and has shown that he has a backbone and stamina. But if he would take some line of policy and shape it—a policy that would redound to his credit and the credit of the Democratic party—he would sweep the country with an irresistible impetus in 1888. It would add to his popularity, to his strength, and to the cohesion of the Democratic party. President Cleveland is a conservative man, a safe man as chief executive. If Mr. Blaine is pitted against Mr. Cleveland in 1888 I think it probable that Mr. Cleveland will carry New York, though it will be close. Indiana will go for Cleveland, although it gave a majority for the Republican at the last State election. Do I think Mr. Cleveland will be renominated? Yes, if he wants to be, but now I cannot tell you whether he wants to run again. If he does, and is elected, I think his experience will be such that he will not attend so exclusively to his mere duties as President, but turn his attention to a policy for his party. Many in his party think he should turn the Republicans out and put in Democrats. I do, too. I believe that the civil-service reform is a sham. That law is not good for a republican form of government which makes a civil list and requires a tenure of office. It may do well enough for England, but we do not desire anything of the kind in the United States. Why, if the Republicans should go in to-morrow and take control of this government they would turn out immediately every Democrat in office. There would be no dallying or weighing on the nice scales the delicacy of such action, but with stalwart promptness out would go every Democrat from even the smallest positions."

EX-GOV. PALMER.

He Thinks Cleveland Will Be Renominated and Re-elected.

In a published interview, ex-Gov. John M. Palmer, of Illinois, says, after having a long interview with the President, that he is delighted with him chiefly on account of his superb common sense, and he adds that he is the more pleased to say this because he was not originally a Cleveland man. He went to the Chicago convention in the interest of Joe McDonald, of Indiana. The principal act of the President's administration which impressed him favorably was the veto of the dependent pension bill. That, he says, was an iniquitous measure, and when the President vetoed it and therein disclosed the explanation of his present call to Washington I sent him a telegram of congratulation. I could do so consistently. I had served in the army from the beginning to the close of the war. No man is in heartier sympathy with the soldier element than I. But this bill was going too far, and so when the President set his seal of condemnation upon it, I saw we had a man at the head of the Government with a proper appreciation of what was right and what was wrong. It was a brave act, and doubly so from the fact that the pressure in favor of the bill was almost irresistible.

In answer to the question who would be the choice of the Democrats of Illinois for President, Governor Palmer replied: "Cleveland, beyond a doubt. Illinois has no 'favorite sons' from a Presidential standpoint. I don't think there is any question that our delegation will be a unit in his favor at the next convention."

"Will Illinois put forward a candidate for the Vice Presidency?"

"It is not improbable that we may. The candidate for this place ought to be a soldier and a Western man. General Black, the present Commissioner of Pensions, would make a superb candidate. Since General Logan's death the Republican organization is becoming much less aggressive than it was during the lifetime of that gentleman. Logan was the cleverest Republican politician in the State. He could always command a large soldier vote. Thousands of Democratic soldiers voted with him habitually. Now that he is gone they are ready to return to the Democratic fold and support one of our own soldiers, and we have none more prominent than General Black. Yes," continued General Palmer reflectively, "I think with Cleveland and Black as our ticket there is little doubt of our swinging Illinois into the Democratic column in 1888."

Mark the Contrast.

The protectionist journals in the United States have for months past been asserting that the system of free trade was undermining and destroying the entire industrial and commercial fabric of Great Britain, while protection was building up that of every other European state.

Now, how much of truth there is in this statement may be ascertained from the fact that while the revenues of every Continental European state, without exception, are exhibiting a declining tendency and their exchequers large yearly deficiencies, those of Great Britain were scarcely ever before in so flourishing a condition. Thus, a few days since Mr. Goschen, the British Chancellor, was able to report a surplus of nearly \$9,000,000 for the current year, and to forecast a larger one for the ensuing year. He adds that the revenues have largely exceeded the estimates, and that there is every reason to look for a reduction of the betis noire of the English plutocracy and middle classes, the income tax.—*Exchange*.

INDIANA STATE NEWS.

—Patents have been granted Indiana as follows: Charles E. Anderson, LaPorte, fence machine; Aromatic B. Austin, Fort Wayne, dust-pan; John B. Bennett and F. W. Samuels, Indianapolis, target trap; George G. F. Boswell, assignor of two-fifths to J. E. Boswell, Indianapolis, stalk harvester; Henry L. Brown, Indianapolis, air pump; William H. Brown, Indianapolis, assignor to C. H. Sparks, Chicago, jail or prison; George S. Claw, North Indianapolis, scythe snath coupling; Mary E. Cory, sleeve-protector; Elizabeth E. Fisher, Delphi, ward-robe hook; George W. Immel, Logansport, door clamp; Francis M. and S. C. Love, Shelbyville, wire fence machine; Amos Mendenhall, Unionport, gold-mining device; James N. Loore and A. L. Minor, Lowell, car-coupling; Orville K. Patterson, Willis Grove, assignor of one-half to J. K. Patterson, Petersburg, combined square and bevel; Charles E. Sweeney, assignor to C. R. Long, M. E. Sweeney, Pierceton, and T. J. Keagy, Kosciusko County, corn-planter; Henry H. Wilson, Huntington, table-leaf support.

—Mr. Wm. Gorham, who has been a guard at the State Prison South for twenty-eight years, and during that time filled temporarily all the official positions in that institution, and recognized as one of the most competent and faithful employees, was asked to resign. Mr. Gorham tendered his resignation at once, which was immediately accepted. From the outlook it is probable that all the employees under the Howard administration will also be set aside. Another guard named Knackley, who is a brother of the Vincennes postmaster, was also discharged, on the ground that there were more men than were needed. The State owes both of these gentlemen under Warden Howard's administration four months' salary, or \$240. Mr. Patton paid Mr. Gorham for his services since he took charge of the prison.

—A pamphlet has been issued by State Fish Commissioner Reed containing the laws in reference to fish. With the laws thus distributed, he says that ignorance can no longer be set up as a defense by those who violate the statutes. The first act of this nature passed in 1852, related to the poisoning of fish and the stretching of nets across the Ohio River within one mile of its mouth. Fifteen years later an act was approved defining the time when fish could be trapped, netted or seized. Following these came amendments and codifications which are set forth in the pamphlet. In connection with this, the Commissioner has sent out a circular asking for the cooperation of all citizens in enforcing these laws. It is his determination to prosecute all violators to the fullest extent the statutes warrant.

—Intelligence of the successful transfusion of blood from the veins of a husband to those of his wife has been received from Elkhart County. Mrs. Daniel Slender, residing near Goshen, has been very ill for several months of anemia, and her condition became so critical that the operation was decided upon at the last resort. Mr. Slender consented to supply the blood, and the physician, after placing Mrs. Slender under the influence of ether, opened a vein in her left arm, inserted the end of a rubber tube, the other end of which was inserted in a vein in the arm of Mr. Slender. The blood flowed freely for over half an hour, when the tube was withdrawn and the orifice closed. The patient showed signs of improvement immediately, and the doctor is now confident of her recovery.

—The Delaware County Stock-breeders' Association held its annual meeting for the election of officers recently. Lewis Moore, of Hamilton Township, was elected President for the ensuing year. A committee of five was appointed to co-operate with the Muncie Board of Trade for the advancement of the interests of Muncie and Delaware County.

—At Columbus, a colored lad named William Foster, about sixteen years of age, from Gallatin, Tenn., while attempting to steal a ride on a freight-train out of the city, was caught under the wheels and his leg crushed so that it had to be amputated. He was sent to the county poor-house, and is in a precarious condition.

—John Hanses, saloon-keeper at Wana-tah, on the Fort Wayne road, committed suicide by getting down on all fours and thrusting his head on the rail while a freight train was passing. The wheels cut his head off. The cause is unknown, but he had threatened suicide for several weeks.

—Argus Dean and the Hon. J. H. Stotsenberg, who own about fifty thousand peach trees near the boundary line between Clark and Jefferson counties, report the buds all safe so far, and the prospect good for an abundant yield of the fruit next summer.

—John McHale, a fireman on the Panhandle between Logansport and Bradford, was killed at Amboy. Deceased was a nephew of Patrick McHale, one of Logansport's most prominent Irish citizens, and had only been in America four months.

—As an outgrowth of the Woodworth meeting at Greensburg, the newly-organized "Church of God" has bought a corner lot three squares from the Court-house, and will proceed to erect thereon a neat house as a place of worship.

—A young daughter of John Shenkel, living several miles from Huntington, was playing about a sugar-camp, when her clothes caught fire, and she was so horribly burned that death followed in a few minutes.

—By the bursting of a grindstone in Pratt & Son's carriage works at Elkhart, Henry Stair was struck and so badly injured that death resulted in a short time.

—Louis Lingg, of Logansport, committed suicide by throwing himself under the wheels of a moving freight-train.

HUMOR.

Two heads are better than one, but not blockheads.

"WHAT is the best way to manage a man?" asks a female correspondent. Marry him.

LIFE is full of compensations. The man who has only one leg needs but one shoe at a time.

The greatest reformer of the age was the inventor of the bustle, which has re-formed nearly every woman.

A FASHION journal says there is a knack in putting on gloves. Come to think of it, that is so. You have to get your hand in, as it were.

THE WISE MAN.
Hell of few failures have to tell
When years have flown,
Who always knew when to let well
Enough alone.
—Boston Courier.

ONE of our lady correspondents, who has just begun housekeeping, wishes us to inform her whether or not minced ham comes from ground hog.—*New Haven News*.

"WELL, but if you can't bear her, whatever made you propose?" "Well, we had danced three dances, and I couldn't think of anything else to say." —*London Punch*.

"THE ballet is a snare and a pitfall," says a Chicago clergyman. Well, he isn't the first minister who has had reason to be disgusted over the sawdust game.—*Boston Courier*.