

## WOMAN AND HOME.

## HOUSES FITTED FOR SOCIETY AND THOSE FOR FAMILY USE.

**Benefits From Change—Women In Burmah and Japan—Dressing on Time.** Flowers at Dinner Parties—Her Pitiful Condition—Reading For Children.

There are two kinds of homes—those fitted and meant for society and those furnished for home comfort and family use. The greatest compliment one can pay the first is to say they are fine and in the height of reigning fashions. The greatest compliment one can give the second class is to say they are cozy and individual. The young woman who a bride has a chance to make a home cannot possibly overestimate the influence and power.

Lowell long ago taught us the simple lesson "that the many make the household, but only one the home." If that one is accomplished and naturally refined, these traits will show in every picture, every bit of china, in every detail. Though it is plain that the small salary is needed for uses other than artistic, yet the touch of true refinement lurks in the tasteful Venetian photographs and centers in the "Aurora" of Guido Reni over the mantel, which is becoming an inexpensive artotype. If she is illiterate and uncultured, no matter how much money she has at her command, he is sure to show these characteristics.

Money hasn't much to do with the interior of a home these days, when a vase or plate of modern pottery is as fair and lovely as the rarest of porcelains used to be and when a really excellent photograph of a famous painting can be had for a trifle. In the society home the blue silk parlor lamp and delicate upholstered chairs are kept hidden between company periods with calico coverings, while closed shutters and carefully drawn shades exclude every ray of sunlight.

The funeral aspect of such a house is quite a contrast to that less pretentious one, where the half worn easy chair, the somewhat littered table and the streaming light all indicate pleasing comfort. Of course things wear out in this kind of a home, but its cheery atmosphere makes it a place dear to inmates and friends. She can be an ugly, uninteresting woman who fails to give character to her home.

"Twas a simile; 'twas a garment's rustle. 'Twas nothing that I can phrase, But the whole dumb dwelling grew conscious And put on her looks and ways.

—Brooklyn Eagle.

## Benefits From Change.

The thing that a woman needs most essentially to keep up her health and spirits is change—not necessarily a constant variation of scene and occupation, but a brief relaxation once in awhile from the humdrum duties of her routine existence.

Nothing thrives well that is not occasionally transplanted to some other spot, there to take in new ideas, to acquire fresh thoughts, to store up something that will be food for reflection when once more the burden of regulation existence is shouldered. There is a most harmful idea existing among certain good housekeepers and most excellent women that if they were to leave home for one day everything would at once collapse into a state of utter ruin. This is a species of false conceit that prevents many a tired brain and body from obtaining the respite from grinding care that it is necessary for them to receive. Husbands should take it upon themselves to provide certain little pleasant experiences to vary the monotony of the domestic drudgery that is the wife's heritage. This does not necessitate undue outlay of money, for a change, bright, pleasant and inspiring, can frequently be obtained in many ways when not a cent is required to secure it.

If it is possible, a little trip taken once in awhile is the best tonic ever prepared. Seeing new places and new faces stimulates the imagination, braces up those forces that have been exhausted in the ceaseless round of humdrum doings at home, and thus helps to build up the body in the pleasantest manner possible.—Philadelphia Times.

## Women In Burmah and Japan.

Burmah is the land of free woman. She is the lord of the soil. Thebaw lost his kingdom because Queen Supayalat reigned in his stead. The graceful figure of the Burmese woman clothed in rustling silks, her beautiful hair decked in beautiful roses and jasmine, her neck and fingers adorned with valuable rubies and diamonds—who will not be fascinated by her charms? The Burmese girls are seen in their best attire only on festive days in the temples. The promenade of the grand golden pagoda in Rangoon on a festival day is an impressive spectacle. Hundreds of gay young girls, some laughing and chatting, some distributing food to the pilgrims, some offering flowers before the stainless shrines of the gentle Tathagata, one almost imagines that he is in the midst of a company of fairies.

The Burmese girl is graceful, but the sweetest flower of womanhood is to be found in Japan, the land of chrysanthemums and cherry blossoms, and Japan, too, is a Buddhist country. Henry Norman in his work, "The Real Japan," says the Japanese woman is the crown of the charm of Japan, and he describes her as follows: "If you could take the light from the eyes of a Sister of Mercy at her gracious task, the smile of a maiden looking over the sea for her lover and the heart of an unspoiled child and materialize them into a winsome and healthy little body, crowned with a mass of jet black hair and dressed in bright, rustling silks, you would have the typical Japanese woman."—Journal Maha-Boohi Times.

## Dressing on Time.

A woman of the world almost invariably can effect the most rapid changes of toilet, for it is a part of her creed to dress quickly and appropriately for any function. The youthful beauty may require an hour or so in which to dress for a ball, may linger over her Sunday dressing until she is late for church and may keep the other members of the family waiting whenever she is to appear in public. Milady, on the contrary, serene in the consciousness of being perfectly attired for every occasion, considers 15 minutes to be an ample allowance for the most elaborate toilet, and if needs be can be literally "ready in five minutes." It is really a mark of good form, did the tardy ones but know it, and indicates a familiarity with the usages of the world to be able to dress with rapidity and at the same time well.

Young people should be taught that it is not only selfish, but bad form, to keep people waiting, for it is unhealthily true that we are so constituted that it would trouble us more to commit any social solecism than to feel our conscience accuse us of any want of consideration to others. Some people seem to have a constitutional inability to be ready on time, and they go through life causing more discomfort and exciting irritation than a little. They are placidly selfish and gravitatingly self satisfied while their victims fret and fume and lose

their tempers, exciting in the cause of it all only a sort of surprised pity that they should "show so little self control."—New York Tribune.

## Flowers at Dinner Parties.

The art of decorating dinner tables has developed rapidly in the last few years. Formerly a plateau of flowers for the center of the table and a little smilax on the chandelier were thought to be sufficient. If the dinner were large and elaborate, possibly three plateaus, a large design in the center of the table, wholly obstructing the view across, were added. Sometimes there was a large pyramid of fruit made up of red bananas and apples, yellow lemons and oranges, bunches of grapes dangling down, and perhaps a little smilax or some hardy ferns to give the finishing touches.

All this is changed. Nothing should obstruct the line of vision. Flowers should either lie close to the table, or when high effects are wished narrow shafts of medium height containing long stemmed flowers, tastefully arranged should be used. At times clusters are made and arranged on a plateau, then given to the guests after dinner. It is far more graceful to use flowers with long stems arranged in a cut glass bowl, and if it is wished to give them to the guests it may be done informally, or bouquets may be laid at each lady's place and boutonnieres at each gentleman's.—H. H. Battles in Ladies' Home Journal.

## Her Pitiful Condition.

"One of the most pitiful cases of necessity," said a New York minister's wife, "that I encountered is that of the middle aged woman forced to become self supporting. There is almost nothing that she can do. One who came to me had taught music years ago, before she was married, and she spoke of taking that up again. I dared not encourage her, for in the competition with modern methods her old fashioned knowledge would have no chance.

"She knows some stitches of fancy work and lacemaking, valueless by the side of the art needlework of today. She has painted on china and wood, she says, but I feel there would be no demand for the products of desultory dabbling now, when women make the occupation a lifetime pursuit. She said she would sew and pointed with some pride to the gown she wore, 'which I made myself.' I tried not to show the thought that was in my mind, that few would pay money for a duplicate of the tasteless though neatly fitting dress which she had on, and it was with a feeling of helplessness that I undertook to reply to her very hopeful question, 'Now, what, Mrs. Blank, would you advise me to start in upon?'

## Reading For Children.

Mr. Horace Scudder believes that reading would become a delight to children if after they have mastered its rudiments "some form of great imaginative literature" were given them "or a reading book and other works continued year after year until they have finished their school course. This reading should be done, he believes, without analysis or extensive comment to turn it into a lesson and a pointed moral, but to stimulate the imagination of the child while his mind is most impressionable.

Of teaching the young to write English, he says, among other things: "It is a blunder, I am convinced, to tell a child to reading Hawthorne's 'Wonder Book,' for instance, and then to direct him to tell the story over again in his own language. One may do this with great profit when a child has been reading a historic fact or a biographical sketch, but when a piece of literature is a work of art the thoughts, the fancy and the language in which it is couched are inseparable. Far better may we set the child to copying patiently and carefully the whole story or poem, that we may impress upon him the whole integrity of the production."

## Tight Gowns and the Heart.

A doctor has made an experiment to determine the influence on woman of tight clothing as regards the action of the heart. The test was the running of 440 yards in loose gymnasium garments and covering the same distance with the corsets on. The running time was 2 minutes 30 seconds for each trial, and in order that there should be no cardiac excitement or depression following the test the second trial was made the next day.

Before beginning the running the average heart impulse was 84 beats to the minute. After running the above named distance the heart impulse was 152 beats to the minute, the average natural waist girth being 25 inches. The next day corsets were worn during the exercise, and the average girth of waist was reduced to 24 inches. The same distance was run in the same time by all, and immediately afterward the average heart impulse was found to be 168 beats per minute.—Medical Journal.

## Elderly Women and Round Hats.

Isn't it a pity that so many elderly women will persist in wearing round hats? No where does advancing age show more plainly than in the curve of the cheek and neck, that is so charming in youth, so unattractive in later life. The telltale line is shaded by the kindly bonnet strings, and some women recognize this and take advantage of it. Many others continue on their way, gorgeous to behold, in Gainsborough hats that would be quite appropriate in women 10 or 15 years the juniors of the well satisfied wearers. And the worst of it is that there is absolutely no help for it. You may tell a woman that her husband drinks, her son bets and her daughter flirts, that she herself is extravagant or has the reputation of being an atheist, a coquette or a bluestocking without seriously affecting her equanimity. But as you value her good will never dare to hint that she wears a hat too youthful for a matron of her years.—Kansas City Times.

## American Women.

Mrs. Eleanor C. Gregory, in an article on English and American women, shows her good taste and rare sense of discrimination by a frankly expressed preference for the Americans. She thinks we have better manners than the English and says so in these words:

"Let me wind up by expressing a hope that English girls may soon enjoy universally the social training which is the portion of their American cousins, for I do not believe that a better school for readiness and grace of manner exists anywhere. It is to this training that I would attribute the greater average in America of women who exhibit a graceful self possession, while maintaining that in England the highest ideal and standard of good breeding is less rarely attained."

## Selecting Wall Paper.

The housekeeper whose inclination and pocketbook point to selection of wall paper, curtains, etc., without advice of decorator, should remember one point. Small figures give a cheap, characterless effect to a room. A certain freedom of design is required, and the eye of experience will at once turn from what it is termed a "weak hanging" without giving a second consideration. Harmony is defined as furnishing in one color,

ringing the changes from light to dark, while harmonious contrast is a combination of different colors, producing artistic result without being aggressive to each other—"colors that do not fight," in the words of a woman desperate with repeated efforts to accomplish this most difficult thing.—Decorator.

## Housekeeping.

When I hear of young married people "going to boarding," I always think of what Colonel Ingerson said in his speech of patriotism. It was to this effect: "We can never hope to recruit patriots from boarding houses. What man could be expected to get up and fight 'a case of war for his boarding house? A wife from instinct men will battle for their homes."

Go to hours keeping, young people. It's better than boarding, much better than living with your or her folks.

Start a home of your own somewhere, but a little out of the city if you can. It's better for the children if you have any, and I hope you will have, for it isn't much of a home without them.—Polly Pry in New York Recorder.

## Rugs.

Those who possess a superfluity of rugs can make a charming effect by hanging them against the wall in the corner of a room, one at the head and two or three on the side. Another rug is suspended lengthwise to form a top. A narrow divan seat with four or five large cushions is arranged at one end, and the rest of the space is filled with a small eastern octagon table (on which are laid cigars and cigarettes, matches and a silver taper) and a couple of oddly shaped chairs. A Turkish lamp, with a red glass shade, gives just the amount of light desirable, and a few eastern armchairs arranged in the background of rugs will add greatly to the effect.—New York Ledger.

## Baby's Shoes.

The material to be employed is chamois leather. Cut the shoes in the shape of a tiny sock. Sew them up with the seams on the inside and then turn them so that any edges may be on the outside. Do not make an opening in the front, but rather let the top be wide enough to admit the little foot and ankle easily. Now crochet a scallop with bright wool or silk around the edge and cut a few little slits just under it at a distance of about half an inch from each other. Run a ribbon through those, the same color as the scallop, and drawing it enough to keep the little shoe firm, tie a bow in front. These make nice house shoes for little folks.—Washington News.

## Creamed Canned Salmon.

Canned salmon is made into a palatable and dainty dish for luncheon or tea when creamed. Free the fish from skin and bones, break into large flakes and add a teaspoonful of lemon juice. To make the cream, rub together a tablespoonful of flour and the same quantity of butter and cook in a saucepan until the mixture bubbles, add a cupful of milk and stir until you have a thick, smooth mass. Season with half a teaspoonful of salt and a dash of white pepper or a quarter of a teaspoonful of paprika, put the fish in the cream and simmer slowly five minutes. Garnish with a border of parsley.—Boston Post.

## Deviled Eggs.

Boil five eggs hard. When taken from the hot water, cover with cold water to prevent the whites from turning dark. When cool, remove the shells and cut in two. Take out the yolks and rub smooth with a tablespoonful of olive oil. Add salt, pepper, mustard and vinegar to taste. When well mixed, fill the whites with the mixture, rounding it over on top. Serve on water cress or lettuce leaves dressed with French dressing or serve with water cress or lettuce sandwiches.—New York Mail and Express.

## Ellen Terry's Philanthropy.

People who are so fortunate as to be asked to visit Miss Ellen Terry at her South Kensington home need not expect that they will be permitted to sit and twirl their thumbs in idleness. The philanthropic actress has a basket of work always on hand. It is filled with unfinished garments for the poor, and every feminine visitor may choose between knitting and sewing, while the accomplished man may hold zephyr or fushish supplies.—Spinning Wheel.

## Woman In China.

Grimly significant is the notice set up at the side of a piece of water in Fuchau. "Girls must not be drowned in this pond." The day of woman has not dawned in China. The calamity of a daughter is a serious one, and it is not infrequently mitigated as we lessen the kitten and puppy nuisance—by drowning. They have a proverb out there that "the worst son is better than the cleverest daughter."—Exchange.

## Liquid Bluing.

The recipe given below is thoroughly reliable, as it was given by one of the best druggists in Rochester and is used by a large number of housekeepers there: An ounce of soluble blue, a gallon of hot water. Put your soluble blue into an earthen dish, pour on the hot water and allow it to stand until the blue is thoroughly dissolved. Strain through two thicknesses of flannel, bottle, and it is ready for use.

## A Devoted Sister.

Miss Balfour is said to be as untiring in her work for her brother as the wives of some other members of parliament are for them. She accompanies him on his tours, reads his newspapers for him, visits his constituents with praise-worthy regularity and devotes herself entirely to his interests.—London Standard.

The musical editor of the Boston Home Journal has a letter from Patti, and he says it is as well put together as is her wonderful vocalism. It is written on heavy white linen glazed paper, the sheets being 6 inches wide and 9 long. The handwriting is exquisitely fine.

For pimples on the face bathe it occasionally in a soothing lotion composed of a weak solution of borax and warm water. At night use very warm water on the face, then dry and rub into the pores an ointment made of flower of sulphur and lard.

Turkey red makes the very nicest paper for a room which is cozy rather than elegant. It will not fade if properly laundered, and the tint is the most brightening known for such purposes.

Even when shapely fingers terminate in pretty oval nails their beauty is utterly destroyed if the nails are allowed to grow in points beyond the finger tips.

Ginger applied to the cheeks warms and gives them a natural glow, and therefore adds a luster to the eyes.

The society of woman is the element of good manners.—Goethe.

Blue with brown is particularly pretty on a Titian haired girl.

## CHILDREN'S COLUMN

## THE ARTIST'S EXHIBITION.

Pete Failed to Appreciate It, and His Companion Forgot Something.

The artist had an exhibition of pictures in his studio, and Pete and I were asked to see it. Pete came looking very fine. He had on a large new tie and his father's best hat.

Strange to say, I forgot my money, and I even carried my soap to the door of the studio.

There the frown on the face of the artist warned me of something wrong, and when he pointed to the unfinished apron I held and said,

"What are you going to do with that?" I ran back and got my bonnet without a word.

When I returned, the exhibition was in full swing. The pictures were pinned close together on the walls, and the artist was pointing them out and explaining them to Pete.

"This," said the artist, touching a very remarkable drawing, "is where the man says, 'Woodman, spare that tree.'"

"Dat ax ain't going to chop down no tree," said Pete bluntly.

"It is, too!" retorted the artist. "You don't know?"

"Well, well," I hastened to say, "it is just as well. We don't want the tree chopped down. Tell me what this dear little girl is doing?"

"That isn't a little girl!" said the artist scornfully. "It's an old man. That picture is 'The Old Armchair.' These are the man's tears."

"Beautiful!" I murmured, but Pete was not much impressed.

"Dat chair ain't got no arms," he objected. The artist treated this with silent contempt, and went on:

"This is the 'Highland Fling.' Drawn from life," he added after a moment's pause. "They do it that way at my dancing school."

Pete remarked that "it wasn't nothing to the 'breakdown' old Uncle Jake could dance." But besides a scornful look the

artist took no notice of him. There were a good many other pictures which were explained, and I was much pleased.

Everything went well in spite of Pete's criticisms. I began to think I should get through without a single blunder when the artist, turning to me suddenly, asked:

"Which of the pictures would you like, ma'am?"

I was so delighted with this generosity that I said without thinking:

"Why, any one of them, my darling, and thank you a thousand times."

"That's a strange way to talk," said the artist severely.

"I beg your pardon," I cried contritely.