

The Home Department

Conducted by
Helen Watts McKee

The Call of the City

Faint and far, like a thing of dreams,
With palace and mart and spire,
With the tread of a million hurrying
feet,
With hope and regret and desire—
The city lies and it calls with a voice
That touches men's souls with fire.

The fields stretch far to the rim of the
day.

And afar to the rising sun,
The valleys between bear lilies white,
As the snood of a cloistered nun;
The winds of heaven, untrammelled and
sweet,

Fan meadow and fen and fall—
But ever and ever the wind fares forth
With its burden, the city's call.

The maid who dreams by the side of
the brook

That flows from the niche in the hill,
Heeds not that the bird on the blos-
soming spray

Sits mute to hear her trill
The tender lilt of an old love song,
For she catches the throng's ac-
claim

In the voice of the brook and the whis-
pering breeze—
They bring her the message of fame.

The youth with his hand on the stub-
born plow,

As furrow on furrow he turns,
Bares his head to the tempter breeze
And a wondrous fire there burns
In the depths of his steadfast, grave
young eyes

As he stands there strong and tall—
For over the hush of the fallow field
Comes stealing the city's call.

The student bending to parchment and
page,

While the midnight oil burns low,
Delves on and on, for the way is long
That the searcher for truth must go—
But a glow o'erspreads his strange,
wan face,

As he lets the last page fall,
For into the quiet, shadowed room
Comes creeping the city's call.

Faint and far, like a thing of dreams,
With palace and mart and spire,
With the tread of a million hurrying
feet,

With hope and regret and desire—
The city lies and it calls with a voice
That touches men's souls with fire.
—Boston Transcript.

Home Chats

The season of house cleaning and general purification is now so close at hand, and so many of our friends are calling for "easy ways of doing things" that we are devoting a good deal of space to the subject, for a week or two. Many of our friends, realizing the wide influence exerted by The Commoner, have kindly sent in helpful items for others when asking for help for themselves—for which we thank them. Most of the recipes, directions

A NOTRE DAME LADY.

I will send free, with full instructions, some of this simple preparation for the cure of Leucorrhoea, Ulceration, Displacements, Falling of the Womb, Scanty or Painful Periods, Tumors or Growths, Hot Flashes, Desire to Cry, Creeping feeling up the Spine, Pain in the Back, and all Female Troubles to all sending address. To mothers of suffering daughters I will explain a successful Home Treatment. If you decide to continue it will only cost about 12 cents a week to guarantee a cure. Tell other sufferers of it, that is all I ask. If you are interested write now and tell your suffering friends of it. Address Mrs. M. Summers, Box 169 Notre Dame, Ind.

and methods are from practical experience. To insure satisfactory results from any trials, one must not forget that common sense and good judgment must be supplied by themselves. We do not always place the blame for our failures where they belong. If you have "good luck" with these methods, let us hear from you.

One of our readers, in sending some helpful suggestions, says: "Why not call a spade a spade, and if we are going in to exterminate the bed-bug, why dignify the nasty thing by calling it 'house-vermin'? It is disgusting to have the pests forced onto us, but it is disgraceful to allow them to stay. If we find we have smallpox or the seven-year itch, we don't stop to mince about names, but set to work to get them out of the house, and take methods to keep them out. There is positively no excuse for harboring the pests."

In next week's issue I will give you the methods recommended for the extermination of the filthy things, and, from personal experience, I am convinced that they can be entirely done away with; but you must show no quarter when you begin the war. Right now is a good time in which to plan your battles and get your ammunition ready. Don't wait until they have secreted a batch of eggs and hatched out a new brood to resist you.

Query Box

(Quite a few of our querists are answered in articles under other headings, as the answers were too long for the space given to Queries.)

S. G. C. wants the address of some one living where Cape Jasmines grow wild.

Mr. W. G.—Write to Eben E. Rexford, care of the journal in which you saw the article, and it will reach him.

Lula M.—Clematis seeds may be planted, but most kinds germinate very slowly, if at all. Best buy the plants.

J. L.—Look up the subject of pearls in some encyclopedia. Can not give you prices, and you will have to write to some dealer for them.

Jared.—Suppose you give your literary friend a pen-wiper, paper-weight, paper cutter, ink-stand, or blotting pad. Any of these are inexpensive, and every one of them in demand with one who uses a desk.

Housewife.—Sticky fly-paper is made by soaking thick paper in strong alum water, letting it dry, and applying to its surface the following mixture: Boiled linseed oil, one dram; resin, half a pound. Melt, and add a little honey.

Mrs. K. L.—The cradle went out with the old-fashioned fire-place and the spinning wheel. Babies still have sleeping places, spinning is still done, and we have the gas log. What more can you ask?

Catherine C.—Where woman's suffrage has been tried, it has been found that there are still homes, husbands and babies, and women of those states are very much like the women in other states who do not vote. I can give you no statistics.

Miss Lula Wallace, having misplaced addresses of the friends who sent her literature, desires to thank them through this department. She has been especially helped by reading "Sesame and the Lilies."

Javelle Water

M. R. asks for a recipe for the making of the javelle water sold in drug

stores. It is not difficult to make, nor is it expensive when prepared in the home. It is very efficacious in keeping table linen and white clothes free from fruit stains. It is made as follows:

Place four pounds of bi-carbonate of soda in a large granite or porcelain lined pan, and pour over it four quarts of boiling water. Stir with a stick until the soda is dissolved; add a pound of chloride of lime, and stir until this has dissolved. Allow the liquid to cool in the pan, strain the clear portion through a thin cloth into wide-mouthed bottles or jugs and cork tightly for use. The part that contains sediments may also be bottled and used for cleaning sinks, kitchen tables, etc. A small teacupful of the fluid added to a boiler of water will assist materially in keeping the clothes white, and will not injure them in the least. The most obstinate stains of tea, coffee, etc., on table cloths and napkins will usually succumb to an application of one part of javelle water diluted with four parts of soft water. If the stained article is soaked in this fluid for several hours and then washed and rinsed, it will usually come out perfectly white and clean. Only white goods can be treated in this way, however, as javelle water is likely to fade colors. In using it in the wash water, however, colored clothes are not injured, as the amount is so small in the water used.

Cleaning a Hair Mattress

When a hair mattress has been soiled during illness, or otherwise needs renovating, it is best to send it to a professional cleaner, but if this is not practicable one may do it at home. Rip the covering apart in an empty room, having made two bags of coarse cheesecloth or mosquito netting, which will allow dust, dirt and water to pass freely through. The hair, which is in a solid mat, may be cut across by a pair of strong scissors, and each portion placed in one of the bags, care being taken to disturb the shape as little as possible. Sew the opening in each bag across, like the end of a wadded comfort. Take hot water and ammonia, the proportion being two tablespoonfuls of ammonia to every gallon of water, first placing the ammonia in the tub, then the bag of hair, then the hot water poured over it. Souse the hair up and down in the water, pushing it about somewhat to thoroughly part it, until it is clean; then rinse in lukewarm water, changing the water until it no longer shows discoloration. Squeeze all the water possible out with the hands, then lay on a clean rack, or hang over a line to dry. Treat the second bagful in the same way, and when all is thoroughly dry, make a new case of ticking and lay the hair evenly in the case, tack the mattress with an upholster's needle, placing under each tacking a small square of old, soft leather to prevent the thread pulling through.

If marble has become discolored by smoke, wet a piece of flannel in strong ammonia, rub it quickly upon the marble and then wash with hot soap-suds. If this does not remove the smoke, make a paste of chloride of lime and water, brush it over the surface and in one minute wash it off with hot soap-suds.

Deaf People Now Hear Whispers

Listening Machines Invented by a Kentuckian.

Invisible, When Worn, but Act Like Eye-Glasses.

Ever see a pair of Listening Machines? They make the Deaf hear distinctly. They are so soft in the ears one can't tell they are wearing them.

And, no one else can tell either, because they are out of sight when worn. Wilson's Ear Drums are to weak hearing what spectacles are to weak sight. Because, they are sound-magnifiers, just as glasses are sight-magnifiers.

They rest the Ear Nerves by taking the strain off them—the strain of trying to hear dim sounds. They can be put into the ears, or taken out, in a minute, just as comfortably as spectacles can be put on and off.

And, they can be worn for weeks at a time, because they are ventilated, and so soft in the ear holes they are not felt even when the head rests on the pillow. They also protect any raw inner parts of the ear from wind, or cold, dust, or sudden and piercing sounds.

These little telephones make it as easy for a Deaf person to hear weak sounds as spectacles make it easy to read fine print. And, the longer one wears them the better his hearing grows, because they rest up, and strengthen, the ear nerves. To rest a weak ear from straining is like resting a strained wrist from working.

Wilson's Ear Drums rest the Ear Nerves by making the sounds louder, so it is easy to understand without trying and straining. They make Deaf people cheerful and comfortable, because such people can talk with their friends without the friends having to shout back at them. They can hear without straining. It is the straining that puts such a queer, anxious look on the face of a deaf person.

Wilson's Ear Drums make all the sound strike hard on the center of the human ear drum, instead of preading it weakly all over the surface. It thus makes the center of the human ear drum vibrate ten times as much as if the same sound struck the whole drum head. It is this vibration of the ear drum that carries sound to the hearing Nerves. When we make the drum vibrate ten times as much we make the sound ten times as loud and ten times as easy to understand.

This is why people who had not in years heard a clock strike can now hear that same clock tick anywhere in the room, while wearing Wilson's Ear Drums.

Deafness, from any cause, ear-ache, buzzing noises in the head, raw and running ears, broken ear-drums, and other ear troubles, are relieved and cured (even after Ear Doctors have given up the cases), by the use of these comfortable little ear-resters and sound-magnifiers.

A sensible book, about Deafness, tells how they are made, and has printed in it letters from hundreds of people who are using them.

Clergymen, Lawyers, Physicians, Telegraph Operators, Trainmen, Workers in Boiler Shops and Foundries—four hundred people of all ranks who were Deaf, tell their experience in this free book. They tell how their hearing was brought back to them almost instantly, by the proper use of Wilson's Ear Drums.

Some of these very people may live near you, and be well known to you. What they have to say is mighty strong proof.

This book has been the means of making 326,000 Deaf people hear again. It will be mailed free to you if you merely write a post card for it today. Don't put off getting back your hearing. Write now, while you think of it. Get the free book of proof.

Write for it today to the Wilson Ear Drum Co. 53 Todd Building, Louisville, Ky.

For Cleaning Garments

Nothing is better for cleaning dusty and greasy garments than soap bark, and its value should be better known to the average housewife. It is extensively used by tailors and scourers in purifying men's clothing; it is quite inexpensive and can be got at any drug store. Light colored goods can not be cleansed with the bark, however, as the slight coloring matter in it will darken a delicate tone. To prepare soap bark for use, pour a quart of boil-

