



# The Home Department

Conducted by  
Helen Watts McVey

"Arline."—Aged 19 Years

Call her not dead, though you found  
her asleep,  
Lying so restful, so silent and  
white;  
Sleeping the sleep that cometh to  
all,  
Sooner or later—mortality's night.  
Fold the white hands o'er the slumber-  
ing heart,  
Tenderly, knowing all earth-work is  
done;  
Nothing to her is the morning's red  
dawn—  
Nothing to her is the setting of  
sun.

Gone to her rest, in her beautiful  
youth;  
Free from the scar of earth's piti-  
less stain;  
"Dust unto dust"—'tis the way of the  
world.  
The spirit has passed through the  
portals of pain.  
Softly caressing the bright, silken  
hair,  
Say that the angels her dear lips  
have pressed:  
Borne her away from our cherishing  
arms,  
Upward, afar, to the beautiful rest.  
Kiss the dumb lips through your fast-  
falling tears—  
Never again will she come at your  
call;  
Our Beautiful passed from this sor-  
rowful star,  
Leaving to us but the dirge and the  
pall.  
Say she went home in her life's dewy  
morn,  
Star flowers paving the way she has  
fled;  
Say she has laid down the cross for  
the crown;  
Say she's at rest, but, O, call her  
not dead!

—Helen Watts-McVey.

### With Our Friends

We read a great deal about the  
farmer who is careless of his wife's  
comfort, and who fails to provide con-  
veniences for her or to help her with  
the heavy work. He is blamed, too,  
for not hiring help for her indoors,  
and for her lack of "good clothes"  
and reading matter. There are a few  
other delinquencies, more or less seri-  
ous, laid to his charge, but these will  
do for a starter. It all sounds very  
straight—on paper. In the stories,  
his alleged selfishness goes on until  
the poor woman has a dangerous  
spell of sickness, which straightway  
brings the selfish man to his senses,  
and a "stout girl" is forthwith in-  
stalled in the kitchen, and the wife's  
conveniences multiply as if by magic.

I do not doubt that there are such  
men—plenty of them, and the fact  
is to be deplored; but in a great many  
of such cases, the woman is herself  
to blame, because she takes up the  
burdens, uncomplainingly, and the  
husband never realizes to what in-  
justice her patient love subjects her.  
I have often wished I could hear the  
other side of the story; but, accuse  
him as we may, the farm husband  
"openeth not his mouth."

Having had some experience as a  
farm wife, with a husband whom time  
has proven to be simply a "male  
angel" in the matter of doing all in

### AN OLD AND WELL TRIED REMEDY

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for children  
teething should always be used for children while  
teething. It softens the gums, allays all pain, cures  
wind colic and is the best remedy for diarrhoea.  
Twenty-five cents a bottle.

his power to hold up the heavy end  
of the load himself, sparing me, I feel  
that I could talk for him.

There is a great deal of hard drudg-  
ing work to do on a farm, both in-  
doors and out, and farm help for the  
house or the field is almost impos-  
sible to get. If there is much stock  
to look after, it is "the master's hand  
that fattens," and if that is withheld,  
there is inevitable loss. Stock, like  
children, does not thrive in the hands  
of hired help; on many farms—es-  
pecially thrifty ones—the husband and  
father scarcely has a moment to call  
his own from early dawn to late bed-  
time. The early rising is imperative;  
everything must have its breakfast,  
and have time to eat it before being  
put into harness or turned outside.  
Feeding at night cannot be under-  
taken until a certain hour, and to  
feed, house and look after all calls  
for much time and work. Every in-  
dividual animal must be glanced at,  
and if he shows lack of appetite, in-  
clines to droop, or evinces symptoms  
of any disorder, it must have atten-  
tion. The runtlings must have an  
extra measure of food; the weakling  
must have a little the warmest shel-  
ter. As the mother with her children,  
so must the good farmer be with  
his animals. Then, when supper is  
over, and the family about to retire,  
the gude mon must take his lantern  
and look over the housed animals to  
see that all is safe for the night.  
Of course, if there are hired men, or  
lots of boys, much of this can, with  
oversight, be relegated to them. With  
most of the farm men, carelessness  
about increasing the housework, or  
seeming lack of interest in the  
overworking wife is because of their  
interests centering in the outside  
work, and they do not realize, until  
something brings it home to them,  
the hardships which the wife unamur-  
muringly, but not wisely, persists in  
carrying.

Of course the wife is really danger-  
ously overworked at times, especially  
if she have little children and ill-  
health. Indoors, there is no "let up;"  
the meals—in abundance—must be  
cooked; the milk, even when she does  
not draw it herself, must be attended  
to, the butter churned, eggs gathered,  
washing, ironing, baking, scrubbing,  
sewing, patching, darning—and the  
thousand daily and tri-daily duties  
that beset her must be attended to,  
in addition to the great care de-  
manded for her young children. It  
is wonderful how she does it all so  
well. And the stout girl is a crying  
need, but the capable, experienced  
woman is better; but where is she to  
be found? It is not so easy to "in-  
stall" her, in real life, as it is in the  
story. Many a farm husband would  
gladly work himself out, in order to  
be able to pay the extra indoor help;  
but to look for one that is not a hind-  
rance rather than a help, is like  
searching for a pin in a haystack.  
The only solution I can think of is the  
"multitude of counsel" to be found  
in organized neighborhood clubs,  
where the "best methods" may be  
discussed, and the interests of each  
looked after; in the introduction into  
the home of all the labor-saving ma-  
chinery possible, and the co-operation  
of the whole family toward the end  
of lightening the wife and mother's  
work as much as possible. I hope the  
farm husband will interest himself  
in these matters.

### The Anticipation Box

The recent nightmare of Christmas

shopping is still fresh within the  
minds of many of our readers, and  
now is a first rate time to begin plan-  
ning to outwit circumstances in the  
next holiday carnival. It would be  
well to set up an "anticipation box,"  
into which, as the new is brought  
forth, the old can be quietly dropped  
into its proper receptacle. There  
might be divisions or there might be  
more than one box or bag. Into one  
might go the "as good as new," while  
anything the worse for the wear  
should go into another, to be repaired  
as soon as possible and put with the  
better ones. Any surplus, duplicate,  
misfit, or not-cared-for article should  
go into one of these as soon as its  
sequestration is advisable; odds and  
ends of ribbons, laces, silks, braid,  
feathers, bits of velvet, satin, plush,  
broken strings of beads, dilapidated  
dolls, ends and leftovers of embroid-  
eries, floss, threads, fancy yarns,  
tinsels, attractive pictures, cards, un-  
satisfactory toys, pieces of china, odd  
scraps of jewelry, and the hundreds  
of things for which no use can be  
found after the holiday season is  
ended, might be put away in these  
boxes or bags, to be later and at  
leisure fashioned into little things  
for the next Christmas disbursement.  
Now and then, during the year, odd  
bits may be added to the stock al-  
ready at hand, and often "just the  
thing" may be found at small cost,  
and at a time when we do not have  
to divide our money so often. Many  
things that seemed quite beyond our  
reach during the rush, will be thrown  
on the bargain counters, or sold at  
"special sales" at greatly reduced  
prices for some weeks after the new  
year opens, and all sorts of fancy-  
work materials, as well as useful  
things, will be sold much cheaper than  
it can possibly be had for at the next  
Christmas times. It is just as satis-  
factory to do the buying and lay  
things away, as to try to crowd so  
much into a few days, and thus avoid  
the struggle with the mob of shoppers  
in the "rush" season. This is what  
the "one woman in a hundred" did,  
and now she is out shopping when the  
"ninety and nine" are almost helpless  
with nervous prostration, and is get-  
ting double the amount of goods for  
her money that was to be had be-  
fore Christmas.

### Some Good Rules to Follow

Bulwer Lytton once said: "If I  
were asked to say, from my experi-  
ence of life, what attribute most im-  
pressed the minds of others or most  
commanded fortune, I should say,  
earnestness of purpose. The earnest  
man wins way for himself, and earn-  
estness and truth go together. Never  
affect to be other than what you  
are—either richer or wiser; never  
be ashamed to say, 'I don't know.'  
Men will then believe you when you  
say, 'I do know.' Never be ashamed  
to say, whether as applied to time or  
money or morality, 'I can not afford  
the guinea you ask me to throw away;  
I can not afford to waste an hour in  
idleness. I can not afford to sacrifice  
my self-respect.' Once establish  
yourself and your mode of  
life as what they really are, and  
your foot is on solid ground,  
whether for the gradual step onward,  
or for the sudden spring forward.  
From these maxims let me deduce  
another—learn to say no, and say it  
with decision; learn to say yes with  
caution—'no' with decision whenever  
it resists temptation; 'yes' with cau-

tion whenever it implies a promise.  
A promise once given is a bond in-  
violable. A man is already of con-  
sequence in the world when it is  
known that we can implicitly rely  
upon him; that he will not fail us.  
I have frequently seen in life a per-  
son preferred to a long list of appli-  
cants, for some important charge  
which lifts him at once into station  
and power, merely because he has this  
reputation, that when he says he  
knows a thing, he knows it, and when  
he says he will do a thing he will do  
it. Muse, then, over these maxims;  
you will find it easy enough to prac-  
tice them if you try."

### "Clear Starching"

Such delicate materials as lace and  
net need special care in the wash-  
ing. They should be placed in a  
clean bowl with cold water, and let  
soak for an hour or more; squeeze  
(not wring) out, soap all the soiled  
places with a good soap jelly, and  
put them in a porcelain-lined or agate  
sauce-pan, add cold water to cover,  
and a teaspoonful of turpentine; set  
on the back of the stove and let sim-  
mer for an hour; then empty into the  
bowl, squeeze and pat until all dirt  
is removed; they must not be rubbed  
or wrung, as such usage would ruin  
them. Let them have two or three  
rinsings in clear water, and then put  
them through water with a little blu-  
ing in it. Mix some starch with boil-  
ing water, but do not let it be thicker  
than fair cream; put into it the laces  
squeezing until thoroughly saturated,  
then take out one piece at a time,  
squeeze, and then slap between your  
hands many times until all the super-  
fluous starch is driven out of the  
meshes of the lace, as the success of  
the process depends on that. Spread  
each piece on a clean cloth and roll  
up as you would any starched things,  
and let them lie for several hours, or  
over night. In ironing, each piece  
must be laid out on the board in turn,  
stroked and pulled into exact shape  
so that the pattern or design is even;  
then spread a piece of sheer muslin  
over the piece and iron from the  
straight, or lower edge upward—never  
lengthwise. Iron until nearly dry,  
then take the piece in your hand and  
gently pull out the scollops and points,  
again pressing under the muslin, and  
your lace will look "like new," show-  
ing no shiny marks of the iron, or  
meshes filled with starch.

### For Work Dresses

Elbow sleeves are both comfortable  
and labor-saving when doing the nec-  
essary work about the kitchen, where  
the sleeves are generally rolled or  
pinned up to get them out of the  
way. When hastily summoned to the  
door or to meet visitors, a long cuff,  
or puffed lower sleeve, with an elas-  
tic at the top may readily be slipped  
over the bare arm, and this can also  
be worn when an errand takes one  
to the grocery store.

The ubiquitous shirtwaist suit is  
seen everywhere, and worn on all  
ordinary occasions; but for one do-  
ing the various tasks about the house,  
stooping, bending, reaching, stretch-  
ing as one must, the unpleasant fea-  
ture about them is "the parting of  
the ways" as between the waist and  
skirt, which can hardly be avoided.  
The mother-hubbard style of dress is  
not to be recommended—especially,  
the old, loose style, although the  
closer-fitting models are not so ob-  
jectionable; but one of the neatest  
selections for all-around wear about house-  
work, is the usual skirt and a negligee  
which can be slipped over the head,  
with no buttons to fasten, or hooks

### BETTER THAN SPANKING

Spanking does not cure children of bad wetting.  
If it did there would be few children that would do  
it. There is a constitutional cause for this. Mrs.  
M. Summers, Box 118, Notre Dame, Ind., will send  
her home treatment to any mother. She asks no  
money. Write her today if your children trouble  
you in this way. Don't blame the child. The  
chances are it can't help it.