

WOMAN AND HOME.

KEEPING THE CHILDREN BUSY AND HAPPY AT SMALL EXPENSE.

Hints Concerning Etiquette—Courtesy at Home—Fashion's Startling—Engrowing Nails—The Quiet Style—The Bumped Child—All Sorts of Useful Hints.

The outdoor life of summer furnishes abundant amusement for little ones. It is the long, rainy days and cold storms of winter which drive them indoors, and crowds them about the mother's knee, to sorely try her wit and patience. An unlimited purse in a liberal hand can fill the youngsters' drawer to overflowing with an endless variety of ingenious toys. Even then there is a satiety, and fever and simpler playthings have greater interest. Only the children themselves can tell us why the weather beaten, much abused rag doll of the household is more beloved than angelic, bisque faced Florida; or why the rough, irregular blocks from the factory are more highly prized than the brightly painted cubes of the toy shop.

Let us tell you of one mother who, like many of us, possessed only limited time and a limited purse. Last winter, shut in by banks of white drift and cold, biting winds, she was obliged to call upon to propose some new pastime for her little girls of 3 and 4 years of age. After their small collection of nondescript toys were tried, and block houses lost their charm, Mrs. Goodhue hit upon the expedient of paper cutting for an especial indoor treat. Her mental vision of bright eyes peeped out by sharply pointed shades suggested the purchase of round and oval pieces, of course there must be two pairs. At first thought this seemed extravagant, if not foolish, but the reflection that their eyes would probably be spent upon more fragile and less pleasing toys, and the certainty of long hours of pleasurable quiet for both mother and children, won the day.

When not in use, the scissors were kept in Mrs. Goodhue's button box on the washstand. A certain corner of the bay window was given over to the little girls, and in that spot were papers allowed to be cut. At the same time she was furnished and the children taught to cut nothing without permission. Patterns and purchased figures were necessary to avoid the miscellaneous slashing of paper, and to avoid the danger of fashion plates, the most common and picture cards were forbidden for the afternoon entertainment. It was necessary to notice how quickly the little fingers would handle the knives, and actually cut out a picture instead of tearing it, as had been her first method. We might suppose that for other children cheap colored papers be provided and the coloring done.

Frequently Mrs. Goodhue took time to fashion dolls and dolls' carriages, cutting an outfit for each child, and two miniature houses were set up, with tables, chairs and beds, on the washstand. Mats of pasteboard, these easily dried, and if put by night in a covered box for another day's diversion. If, before the children became too tired, each they were of cuttings was picked up by little fingers into pasteboard box or dustpan it was a disappointment, happy mother, as well as father, who greeted the father at the close of the pleasant winter's day.

Many times during that winter was the button box called for the largest and prettiest buttons to string. With a coarse needle and button thread at the end of a darning string, or short ones, which they found their mother to be about their baby's wrists. From this they came to sewing buttons on their doll dresses by joining the edge of a hem to one of the four eyelet holes. Later they learned the right way. Their mother might have told you that for weeks afterward buttons were swept out of hidden corners, and that her sewing ran so low that she was obliged to forbid the box entirely, and to purchase whole yards of cheap button thread for the girls to string and to keep in a box of their own. However, the expense was little and the amusement mending.

A little school girl stopped in one day to warm herself. The pleasure of the children over her slate and pencil suggested another purchase, and five cent slates and pencils were ready for the mother's next busy day and the girls' cross one. By far the greatest pleasure was the scrubbing of the slates with a nail, and rag. Neglect to put away the slates at night resulted in their being trod on, and when the broken fragments were carried out, the mother resorted to lead pencils and paper. As there were her first children, Mrs. Goodhue may be pardoned the surprise at the new home proved too tempting, making irregularly appear near the sewing machine, and another near the bedroom door. From that time the pencils were never accessible unless the mother was in the room; and even then she was obliged to keep a strict watch to prevent the defacement of work, books, letters and forbidden papers. One girl might be taught to draw on scrap books and paste on the dining room table would delight and occupy an otherwise troublesome child. If the mother's work can go on with few interruptions, is it not well worth the time taken to clear up?

It passes our comprehension how some women can expect their progeny to be reasonably good tempered, and yet provide nothing whatever to assure a healthy cheerfulness. They will lay aside for themselves a bolt of muslin for a rainy day's occupation, and regard the smallest amount spent in children's toys a needless expense. A school-noon boarding in a well to do family told us of such a parent the other day. The little girl had 6 dolls, to be sure, but that was all, and these had been purchased during some surprising stretch of generosity on the part of the close pressed father. Old and battered, and minus a wardrobe, pieces of an old shawl were considered fine enough, when the dolls were cleaned at all. Anything was good enough for the children to play with, except the parlor came set chairs, into which it was regarded a sacrilege to allow a child to scribble, much more to play horse with. For the mother's time to play horse with the dolls was dressed in neat calico gowns, made from remnants left from the quilting.

And to the children's delight not one garment of the two whole outfits furnished was sewed on, but made to take on and off to button and unbutton. It is safe to say that the little stark girl had never been so nearly wild with joy when some odds and ends of gay ribbons and laces were added for their dolls' further adornment. Clay pipes and a dish of soap suds initiated them into the wondrous beauty of the soap bubble, to the great dismay of the servant over the prospect of an increase in washings. Ten cent oil cloth aprons saved the shop, appeared the kitchen goddess, and did good service long after the pipes had lost their steam.

Brize in the bag of chesspins some day when the children feel fitful, and build pig pens for them. If they take a great fancy to the pins, lay a few down to add to their playthings. One mother, anxious to finish some stitching, quieted the clamorous little people with some clothespin dollies, which she dressed in a few moments from scraps of

gingham picked up from the floor at her side. Suppose you buy small tack hammers and papers of tacks to drive into blocks or shingles. Empty baking powder cans with lids, empty bottles without the corals (which are said to be poisonous), large glass marbles to roll from one to the other across the carpet, small brooms to help mother with the sweeping, can all be included in the list of inexpensive toys.

To a mother, horrified at sight of the dingiest stew pan in the cupboard, brought by her young hopeful into the parlor, where sat a distinguished caller, was suggested the idea of buying cheap, new tinware just for the children's play house. Bright new tin pails filled with the smallest potatoes or apples from the cellar bin are sure to please. Could the baby hurt himself with an egg beater to whirl about? A ten cent one would answer. Mrs. Gilmore allows her little folks to play with the large dripping pans. With a worsted horse line tied to one handle, the beloved dollies are given a fine sleigh ride. Whenever a neighbor of ours bakes a batch of ginger cookies, her boy and girl hunt up their wooden rolling pins. Each is provided with a flat board and a wad of dough, which is frequently dropped on the floor and stepped on before it is placed in tiny scalloped pans into the oven. This indulgence is granted only on days just before the scrubbing is done.

From the kindergarten dealers you can obtain a box of pasteboard money for a quarter. These, with eight-cent pocket knives and a "store" stocked on chairs, will count on a whole afternoon's entertainment. Teach the oldest children to "make change." Rig up a tent with a blanket over the dining room chairs, or lend them cast off clothing in which to "dress up." But we go on enumerating at the risk of the reader's fatigue.—Elizabeth F. Purdy in Good Housekeeping.

Courtesy in the Home Circle.

If the head of the family—its ruler—speaks unkindly, it is because the bonds that bind them together are his safeguard. There is a sense of security from exposure in family pride, in part, but stronger than all else is the knowledge of the womanly love that seeks to hide all errors. The wife or daughter, and sometimes sister, are often spoken to by the "gentleman" of the house as he would not dare to speak to any other woman, however insignificant. But more particularly is this brute sense of ownership manifested in his wife. A brother finds no particular pleasure in talking sharply or domineering over his sister. He is well aware she may resent it, and retort even more sharply than he addressed her. For a daughter, a father, unless lost to all sense of shame, has usually a peculiar tenderness by which she escapes much of the oppression that other members of the family are exposed to. The restraints of society often prove a stronger protection to the wife from her husband's irritability and unjust censures than his professed affection for her. And more's the pity! It is often the case that polite, deferential attentions will be more frequently proffered by gentlemen outside the family circle than from her husband. Do any need to be told where to find this tenderness? The daily papers are full of what may follow.

But cruel, unnatural and mean as this is, it is not always confined to the masculine in the household. We wish we could prove that a lady never "answers back," when "reviled, revileth not again," never returns railing for railing, a sharp retort for a bitter word, or meets discourtesy with equal neglect and indifference. We blush to acknowledge that the wife is perhaps as often responsible for the beginning of evil in this respect as her husband. Public opinion has as strong hold on her as on a man—even stronger, as woman has more of that kind of pride which holds her back from the open exhibition of the irritation that is driving her almost furious, than a man. She will not allow the public gossip to hold her up to the gaze of the world if self-restraint is possible. But all the courtesy and amiability, the deference and respectful attention exhibited in public or to friends outside, are worthless to man or woman if the same are not more earnestly extended to each in the sacred precincts of home. Love that shines in the most kindly acts, respectful attention, quick to see what may be needed or gratifying—the most perfect courtesy at home or nowhere else. All that is found outside should be but the overflow of that which is unchanging and perpetual in the charmed circle of home. There is where we must seek for the true lady and gentleman. If not fully developed and sacredly maintained there, but prominently exhibited elsewhere, the sentiment is a counterfeit. Tender as may be the exhibition of that spirit which is the spark from God's altar that kindles the home fire, fond and loving, and caressing as may be its revelation, it never degenerates into that overfamiliarity that is the bane to the best and noblest emotions.—Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher in New York Star.

Hints Concerning Etiquette.

"For reasons which must be perfectly obvious," Aunt Ruth continues, "introductions to young women ought to be made with great caution. He who introduces a young man should first know his character and habits to be irreproachable; if there is missionary work to be done let it be by those having more judgment and experience than a girl of 18. If an undesirable acquaintance persists in calling, 'not at home' is the proper message to send him—she is not at home to him, and to call this form a falsehood, is prudish. It might be preferable to send word that she was engaged, which would be the same thing. Not to recognize him upon the street would be the cut direct and can be necessary only in extreme cases. To fail to return a call where there is no family affliction and no explanation offered, is sufficient to show to a lady that the acquaintance is to be dropped, and is not often misunderstood. On this subject an English writer has well said: 'This etiquette, which may appear trivial and over punctilious, is in reality a power which society places in the hands of ladies to govern and determine their acquaintanceship and their intimacies, to regulate and decide whom they will admit into their friendship, and whom they will keep at the most distant footing. As such it is to be commended.' It is a disposition to have too long a visiting list, we cannot know every one intimately and must make our selection according to taste and natural affinity.

"However much custom differs in different places, it is usual to call only between the hours of 3 and 6. Formal calls need not last longer than fifteen minutes; the more social should not be extended until the caller becomes a bore. You remember Mrs. Brown whom we used to dread to see. Often making her appearance before lunch, and generally on those days when your mother was making a carpet or hanging some curtains or when there was only enough 'left over' to go round, she stayed till night. If she came after lunch and Mrs. Strong or Miss Grainger appeared, Mrs. Brown was sure to stop them. The genus bore is ubiquitous and there will be the usual number among your neighbors. Your way is not to let them get a foothold; keep on your dignity till you have made your selection of friends and unbend only to them. Half the world of women overrun the other half heedlessly or out of want of that mental culture which would give them interest and

occupation. Vacuity is the parent of heedlessness as well as vice."—Hester M. Poole in Good Housekeeping.

The Martyrdom of Fashion.

Mrs. Frances Willard, the able president of the Women's Christian Temperance union, who has devoted her whole life to teaching the women against the traffic which has made martyrs of so many of them, has never herself been able to escape the martyrdom of women's fashions. In a recent publication she cries out against the miseries of high heels and tight corsets, and yet she evidently continues to wear them, for she says that she "has never known a single physically reasonable or comfortable day since that sweet May morning, in her 16th year, when she was first confronted with corsets, high heels, hampings, long petticoats, and such like instruments of torture."

She declares that since then she has "ceased to be a denizen of God's beautiful outdoors, and has remained in her cage—the house—right through all the years because her high heels threw her out of doors, and the clinging folds of her long tailed gown bothered her." She says that "I say to myself so often, 'if I could only put on a hat, button a coat around me and step out freely, how delightful that would be.' But no; there are intricate preliminaries of changing slippers for boots and a wrapper for a walking gown before a woman can do so simple a thing as go for a constitutional."

What she says that it is easier to reform the whole world than abandon one's own feminine vanities.—New York World.

Treatment of Ingrowing Nails.

A very common and troublesome affection is that which is popularly termed "the ingrowth of the nails," and which most usually occurs by the side of the great toe. There is really no alteration in the nail, as its name first swollen and inflamed by constant pressure against the edge of the nail from the use of tight shoes. If this state is permitted to continue, an ulcer is formed in which the edge of the nail is imbedded. Pain is the consequence, sufficiently severe in some instances to prevent walking.

Treatment for this condition often demands the skill of a physician. The sufferer might attempt a cure by the simpler methods, and, if they fail, professional assistance should be sought. The first object is to remove the cause, then to lessen the irritation and reduce the swelling. After soaking in hot water the nail should be thinned by scraping, and, if very painful, a flaxseed poultice will bring relief. After the irritation has subsided, cotton should be pressed between the flesh and the nail, and after that is done, it should be saturated with the tincture of iodine, and the application repeated several days, after which the tenderness will disappear. It may be necessary to lift the end of the nail, and this can be done by pressing cotton between it and the toe. This treatment is usually effective, and is attended with as little pain as any we can be suggested.—Boston Journal of Health.

The Quiet Style the Best.

The quiet girl never wears high colors on the street. You do not see her flaunting in brilliant plaids when they happen to be the style. When high hats are "in," she does not pile hers so high that it sweeps the coils webs from the sky. She does not wear an exaggerated bang when the bang is in vogue, nor the biggest bustle in fashion, nor the greatest number of bangles when bangles reign. But because she does not chatter and goggle and make herself conspicuous in horse cars or at matinees, does not announce her convictions on all occasions and all subjects and profess her admiration at every turn, it must not be supposed that she has no class, convictions or enthusiasms; that she moves along like a star in the heavens, which obeys the laws of gravitation without selecting its course or object in its orbit. It is the quiet girl who makes the best match, who fills the niches which her more brilliant sisters leave vacant, who manages the servants, runs the sewing machine, remembers the birthday lists, listens to the reminiscences of the old and often keeps the wolf from the door.—Linton Argus.

Let the Bumped Child Sleep.

It is a general idea that if a child has a fall, striking its head, and shows a tendency to sleep thereafter, every effort must be made to keep it awake, and not let it sleep. Now, according to one of our best physicians, this theory is a mistaken one, and much harm is done in trying to prevent sleep. Rest is what the brain of the sufferer wants more than anything else, and, if not allowed, what might have passed off in a few hours may result in inflammation and terminate in death. Do not feel frightened, mothers, if your boy rolls down stairs, bumps his head with force, and then shows a disposition to sleep; lay him on the bed, loosen his clothes, and apply thin cloths wet with witch hazel or water to his head. Keep his feet and limbs warm with iron, or bottles filled with hot water. Darken the room, and keep it as quiet as possible, and when a doctor comes, must let him have his way in his treatment by her "sweet restorer," sleep.—New Orleans Picayune.

Children's Teeth.

Most children will enjoy brushing their own teeth, if they are offered a word of praise. Begin when your baby is eighteen months old to clean his tiny teeth, and keep it up as regularly as you do your own. Dentists will tell you this is none too early; that the second set will be all the sounder, and besides the children will be spared much suffering from toothache.—Good Housekeeping.

Since so many women have to spend so much of their lives in the kitchen it should be made a place of comfort. Be sure and have a lounge or easy chair there.

Towels, brushes and combs should be appropriated upon the army plan. Each member of the family should be provided with a separate outfit.

When laid away for any length of time, linen should be washed, rough dried without bleaching, and laid in loose folds without weight on it.

Fried Indian meal pudding—so called—is as toothsome a breakfast dish, for the rising generation, as one can travel many miles to secure.

The best bathtubs have a natural wood floor, or are covered with oilcloth or something of that kind of material.

To remove white spots from table or other furniture, rub the spots with camphor and they will disappear.

Decayed vegetables should not be left in the cellar, and cellars should be whitewashed to be kept sweet and clean.

Put salt in the water to prevent black calluses from fading when they are washed.

Books and pictures, in intelligent families, now rank next to bread and butter.

To fumigate a house, burn in it sulphur of tart: then whitewash and paint.

THE DEAF AND DUMB.

VARIOUS METHODS BY WHICH DEAF MUTES ARE EDUCATED.

A Description of the Successful Working of the New York Institution for the Deaf Instruction—System of Manual Training—Work Turned Out.

In order to prepare the minds of deaf-mutes with the speaking and hearing world it is necessary to acquire language. The language of words is the language of the deaf-mute. The system employed by the present New York Institution is the one proposed by the present principal, Isaac Thwaites, J. L. D., who has been an instructor within its walls during the past forty years. The former proceeds, first, with twelve objects, the names of which, entering all the letters of the alphabet, are written upon a blackboard. He points to one of the objects and then to the name upon the board, repeating the process until the pupil catches the idea. Then the written word represents the article, and the learner is taught to associate the name with the object at sight. This is repeated in connection with each of the other articles until the pupil is able to associate the name with the object at sight. Then the pupil is taught to spell the words by the manual alphabet, after which the teacher repeats the letters in alphabetic order, requiring the pupil to point out each letter as it occurs in the list of words on the board. Next the pupil is taught to write the words by copying them from his book, and then to write them without a copy whenever the corresponding words are shown them.

When this has been accomplished, the pupil is taught the use of the common pronouns in connection with a verb. A simple sentence, such as "Touch the key," is written upon the board, and the pupils are required to pass in single file and perform the task, directed, stated. Then the teacher writes the question, "What did you do?" and each pupil is required to write, "I touched the key." When this lesson is thoroughly learned the use of the other personal pronouns is taught in a similar manner. Then by degrees the adjective, the relative and comparative pronouns, the nouns and names of the verb, the verb forms of the present and the English sentence, the name of abstract nouns and what may be called English idiom are successively developed on substantially the same principle.

TAUGHT BY READING.

When the pupil has made sufficient progress he is prepared for conversation with speaking people by articulation and lip reading. This is imparted by a system recently devised by Dr. Post. The department is directed by Henry C. Carter. It is based upon the fact that all sound has its fixed, definite position upon the lips, and the mute is taught to watch the speaker's lips and other organs of speech so accurately as to discover the words uttered, not by context or guess work, but by absolute recognition of their phonetic elements. Under this system it becomes possible for a mute and speaking person to carry on an extended conversation, or on almost any subject. The articulation of the mute is, of course, crude, and, in some cases, unpleasant to sensitive ears, but it rarely happens that it is so indistinct as to be unintelligible.

In connection with this system there are two departments in the institution for deaf-mutes. One is composed of children under ten years of age, and the other of those between ten and twenty. The latter department is divided into two classes, one for those who are deaf and dumb, and the other for those who are deaf and blind. The latter class is composed of those who are deaf and blind, and who are unable to see or hear. The latter class is composed of those who are deaf and blind, and who are unable to see or hear.

The main object of the institution is to provide the mute with a means of obtaining a livelihood, a system of manual training is carried on hand in hand with mental development. When each makes a mental development at the age of 14 years (unless previously incapacitated) he or she is assigned to some form of employment, at which three hours are spent each day.

A practical printing office under the direction of a mute foreman is in full operation there and turns out work equal to that of the general run of job offices. It does all the printing for the institution, including the annual report, and last year it took in \$1,418 for custom work. A newspaper is also printed there which is edited by a mute who possesses all the instincts of a modern journalist.

In the carpenter shop the boys are taught that trade in all its branches. They do all the repairs to the buildings, and it is estimated that their work last year saved \$5,111.16 to the institution. They also turn out some fine specimens in cabinet work. All the shoes distributed to the inmates by the institution are made by the boys in the shoe shop, where they are taught all the details of practical shoemaking.

Those whose inclinations run in that direction are afforded every facility in the tailor shop for acquiring the trade. There, too, a number of girls are taught to sew upon muslin, garments, and the shop had last year turned out \$2,923.17 worth of clothing. A large farm is also connected with the institution. There three boys agriculturally inclined can put their inclinations to practical use. For the employment of the girls there is a seamstress' room, where almost every article of female apparel is made, and a large amount of mending is done, and alterations in garments are made.

Every effort is made to inculcate good manners, refinement and good taste. In furtherance of this an art department is connected with the institution. In it each pupil receives every week a lesson in drawing from nature, while those who develop a special talent therefor are given special instruction in wood carving, in clay modeling, in plaster casting, in the ornamentation of porcelain and in painting in oils and colors. There is a room in this department devoted to specimens of the pupils' work.

The special training in the institution is carried on without sectarianism.—New York Press.

The issue of rum is to be discontinued in the British army in India, and the canteen for spirits will soon be a thing of the past.

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