

WOMAN AND HOME.

WONDERFUL PROGRESS OF THE WOMEN OF THE FAR EAST.

Something Personal About Women Who Write—How and Where the Clubs Have Grown—How to Administer a Saleratus Bath—Hints to Wives and Mothers.

In Japan women have always held a position superior to that of their Asiatic sisters. Their seclusion, even in the old days, was not so strict. They led a freer and more out-door life, and they were educated to a certain extent. The family idea and rule prevailed, and with the exquisite politeness of those people exalted deference was paid the mother of the family. The Confucian laws were recognized there as well, and her duties and obligations were strictly defined by them. Her three great duties were obedience to her father, her husband and eldest son, as they in turn became the head of her family.

Japanese women of the middle and upper classes were taught to read and write the common language in the hirakana, or simple running characters, instead of the square characters of the classic language. All novels, plays and newspapers are written in the hirakana, and women are still the great novel readers of Japan. No woman attended the theatre before marriage, and the upper classes not at all, the real reason being of the stage being given as a reason. A Japanese woman's education formerly comprised endless lessons and practice in the mysteries of etiquette, learning to play the koto and samisen, and to arrange bouquets. Women of literary taste were not uncommon at court, and the screens in the empress's suite in the old Kioto palace are covered with autograph poems dashed off by herself or her ladies in waiting. The present empress of Japan is poetic in her tastes, and has shown a great interest in western literature. It is under her lead that such reforms in the condition of women have taken place, and in the court life she moves and acts as any sovereign lady of a European country.

Since 1870 new laws have been made regarding the legal status of women in Japan, and the people are still in transition between the old customs and the new condition of things. Under the present laws women can hold property, dispose of it, and manage their affairs on much better terms than are possible to the women of some European nations. They can testify in court, although they seldom do it, old prejudices not being sufficiently overcome to allow a woman's testimony to have much weight with a Japanese judge.

The advancement of women has been the most wonderful feature in the progress of Japan during the last twenty years. The Empress Haru has led most of the movements, and founded institutions and schools destined to assist Japanese women to a higher and more nearly equal intellectual and social plane with men and with western women.

Besides these reforms, the empress at the head of the Fujin Kofu Kenrei, a society for the advancement of women, and aiming to secure them a higher social and legal estate. Many Japanese men are members of this society, and earnestly devoted to its ends, more especially those who, having occupied official positions abroad, have had the opportunity to see and feel how different the position of the women of their own families has been in foreign countries compared to what they enjoyed at home. The late Viscount Mori, the minister of education, who was assassinated in February, 1889, was an ardent worker in this cause. He organized a society of literary men, the Meirokusha, that through its publications urged the advancement of women, their emancipation from the old customs and etiquette, and Viscount Mori's great point was the social and legal equality of men and women. He was the first noble to make the new marriage ceremony conspicuous, a civil contract being drawn up before the governor of Tokio, and signed by Viscount Mori and Miss Hirose. In his death the women of Japan lost their ablest and most powerful champion.

Japanese women have been quick to accept foreign methods of instruction, and prove themselves intelligent and faithful students. In the hospitals and training schools for nurses they show much ability, and take satisfactory standing. No one among them has yet aspired to be a student of law, and while there have been women writers of novels, poems and dramas, history tells of but one woman, a murderer who defended herself in court, and won her acquittal by the force and eloquence of her arguments. The exciting melodrama of her life and trial is an old favorite with all theatre goers.

The women of Japan have always occupied the highest plane of any Asiatic women, and the future promises them a position and consideration equal to that of their American sisters. Oriental and Occidental reformers can ask no more.—Eliza Ruhamak Scidmore in Harper's Bazar.

Women's Clubs. The original women's clubs in this country were the New England Woman's club, of Boston, and Sorosis, of New York city. They started almost simultaneously just twenty-one years ago. It was shortly after the close of the civil war, and it was partly due to the work of the women during the war that the need of clubs was shown. A great many clubs throughout the country resulted from the two original ones. Many of the eastern clubs and some in the west affiliated with the New England Woman's club, and some with Sorosis. The Association for the Advancement of Women has also done much to foster clubs. Their congress is held in different places like Chicago and Detroit, and to places where help is needed. One or two women's clubs usually spring up where the meetings are held.

Sorosis had over one hundred answers to its invitation for a meeting of delegates. There are about one hundred and fifty regularly organized women's clubs in the country. The object is to have a place for suburban members to meet their friends when they were in Boston and for culture and study. As many other clubs are similar, I will give a sketch of the month's work. We meet every Monday. The first Monday is devoted to art and literature. A lecture is given by some able speaker. The second Monday is devoted to discussion. Usually a short paper is read by a member, and discussion follows it. On the third Monday, the work committee takes up some question of reform, such as sanitation or social economies. The fourth Monday is occupied with educational matters. The public schools, kindergartens and similar affairs are discussed.

Once a month we have a tea, when amusement and social intercourse are in order. Our club has many study groups. These are devoted to English literature, political economy, botany, art work and other subjects. There are many small clubs formed for the purpose of taking up special studies, such as history or art.

We have changed public sentiment in regard to women. When women's clubs were first formed, people were unfavorably disposed. Men did not want their wives to belong to the clubs because they thought it

become popular. In western cities the clubs have more of a social character than they have here. In Boston we have directed much attention to securing school-suffrage for women.—Julia Ward Howe.

The Literary Woman.

The old idea that a literary woman must necessarily be a fright is disappearing before the progress of common sense. The term "blus stocking," at one time honorable, but for so many years abhorrent to the ears of the advanced woman who dared to use her brains in literature, is again regarded with something more than toleration. While the word does not describe the object to which it is often applied, in its offensive sense, it is allowable in speaking of a literary woman, and the latter is no longer offended when she hears herself thus referred to. Think of a few brilliant writers of the gentler sex that you know, and you will understand that beauty of person is not incompatible with unusual graces of intellect. Fancy Amelie Rives Chanler in her gown of white China crepe, draped in Greek folds, her golden hair piled high and confined at the top by tortoise-shell and diamond combs. Picture to yourself her beautiful classic face, her soulful eyes and her delicate, yet strong features, like Minerva veiled in a morning mist. Fancy this, and then talk in a slighting way about literary women if you can.

As a matter of fact, the women that write are nearly always pleasing and generally beautiful. Even that intellectual giantess, George Eliot, had a face, strong and rugged as it was, that her friends considered handsome. It is evident, and is admitted now, that women can wield the pen as well as, and in some cases better than the men who so long arrogated that implement to themselves. To offset this, it was thought necessary to show that some disadvantages attend the growth of intellect. As a woman rightly values her personal appearance as much as any other attribute, it was seen that an effective weapon would be given to the men in the assertion that a writer could not be handsome. The old prejudice is dying out now, perhaps, for we have enough lovely feminine literature in America alone to show the absurdity of the old fashioned theory. Women are writing more than ever, and they are at the same time handsomer than ever into the bargain.—Pittsburg Bulletin.

Cultivate Harmony.

A home of discord may be visited by acquaintances, but its doors are never likely to be knocked at by friends. Sensible people will give it a wide berth, and prefer friendship and intimacy with those who live at peace. Nobody finds a wise young man courting a girl in a family who get on ill among themselves. He wants a bird out of a good nest, and has no wish to be drawn in by marriage to take one side or other of a life long feud. It is hard on a girl, you say, sometimes. But about the young man's sagacity there can be no question whatever. If all homes were happy what a pleasant world it would be, and there is no reason why happiness should not reign everywhere if people would only make wisdom, and not stupidity, the guide of their lives.

If there is to be household harmony an important point is to cultivate a sweet temper. We cannot do without that. Some tempers are like violin strings, out of tune; with them who can expect either melody or harmony from the family orchestra? This is especially a young woman's subject; indeed if our girls are not amiable nobody else can be expected to be. It is to their kind and gentle words that we must look for an antidote to fretting and ill humor. At home the keynote of the day's music is often struck by the first word we hear in the morning, and happy is the house where it is always uttered by the smiling lips of good tempered girls.—The Household.

Saleratus Baths.

When a patient is suffering from fever, and the skin is hot and dry, a saleratus bath is often found to give at least temporary relief. This bath can be given to the patient in the bed without removing the bed clothes or his own clothing.

Have the water as hot as it can be borne, with saleratus dissolved in it in the proportion of perhaps half a cupful to a quart of the water.

Wet a sponge in this and then squeeze it so dry that there will be no danger of dripping. Bathe the face and hands first and dry them instantly with a soft towel. Then, putting your own hand and arm beneath the bed clothes, hold them up bridge like to keep the clothes from the sponge, and at the same time push back to night dress or under shirt of the patient, so that with the other hand you can pass the warm, damp sponge over his body.

Take a limited surface each time and dry it quickly before attempting the next. All this is done beneath the bed clothes so that no air can get in to chill the body. Push up the sleeves so as to bathe the arms in the same way.

It is slow and careful work, but not difficult, and the relief and comfort afforded, even if not permanent, will repay the effort.

These baths may be given once a day, or in some cases at morning and at night.—Youth's Companion.

Woman's Part in Life.

The woman who is of the world today must be prepared to be all things in succession. She must be the careful housewife, the social leader, the religious, the scholar, the wit, the confidant—all in turn. She must compass at least a show of all learning; she must be in sympathy with all branches of knowledge and feeling; and she must attend to a hundred forms of life of the very existence of which her grandmothers were ignorant. Whether she has been wise in taking all this burden upon her it will hardly fall within the province of the present generation to decide.

Whether the children and grandchildren of these wonderful women will be the better or the worse for the extraordinary strain which is put upon the mothers of the race, every man may speculate, but no man can tell. Every woman might be supposed to decide for herself how far she will share this high strung life, but as a matter of fact no human being is able to escape the influence of his day and generation. We are part of a whole, and although a woman may to some extent withdraw herself from the current, in the end she is forced to choose between being left a stranded waif on the shore of the stream and taking her part of whatever the life of her time may be.—New York Star.

Nutritious Food.

Cheese is the most nourishing of any article of food. It contains all the properties necessary to the support of the body. One pound of cheese is worth three pounds of beefsteak.

Wash it, as it removes the starch; put it into boiling water, add one tablespoon of salt; keep boiling rapidly until done. When soft take it off the fire and pour cold water through it; put it into a buttered dish, cut into pieces about six inches long, then pour a sauce over it, which is made as follows: One cup and a half of boiling milk, one tablespoon of butter, a heaping tablespoon of flour, one-half teaspoon of salt and a saltspoon of pepper; stir the butter and flour together until they bubble; stir in the salt and pepper, then add the milk gradually, after which pour over the macaroni.

Take one-half cup of grated cheese, sprinkle over the top, over the cheese sprinkle one cup of cracker crumbs, into the cracker crumbs put a saltspoon of pepper. Bake until the crumbs are brown in a quick oven.—Mrs. Green, New York School.

A Tyrolean Custom.

In some parts of the Tyrol a peculiar and beautiful custom prevails among the peasantry. When a peasant girl is going to be married, before she leaves her home after to the church, her mother gives her a handkerchief, which is called the "tear handkerchief." It is made of newly spun linen, and has never been used. She is supposed to dry her tears with this when she leaves her home and when she stands at the altar. After the marriage is over, and the bride has gone with her husband to her new home, she carefully folds up the handkerchief and places it unwashed among her little treasures. So far it has done half its duty. Her children grow up, marry and go away to new homes, each daughter receiving in her turn a new "tear handkerchief," and yet the last present, the present received from her mother, has not fulfilled its object. Years roll by, and the once young and blooming bride becomes a wrinkled old woman, and outlives perhaps her husband and all her children. At last, when the weary eyelids are closed forever, the "tear handkerchief" is taken from its resting place and spread over the placid dead face.—London Figaro.

The Care of Babies' Eyes.

The number of children who are spectacles has become a serious subject of remark. That a radical wrong exists somewhere, when children only 4 years of age are thus hampered for life, is only too palpable, but whose the blame, and what the remedy for this evidently increasing affliction? Are future generations to be sars eyes as well as sane teeth? No one impresses the necessity of care in the management of eyes until the damage is done, and then it is too late.

Young mothers who cover the baby's face with a veil, or who wear spotted lace against their own eyes, and who allow their children to read by insufficient light, are laying up trouble for themselves, though oculist and optician will be better off for their criminal ignorance. As to the evening rooms, where children spend so many hours of the day, do parents ever ask or know how they are lighted and whether the scholars face windows, and whether they are obliged to strain their eyes by blackboard exercises in half lights. A little precaution in the use of the eyes and some knowledge on the subject of improper lighting would be a pound of cure in this matter of spectacles.—Boston Herald.

How Long a Child Should Sleep.

A healthy baby for the first two months or so spends most of its time asleep. After that a baby should have at least two hours of sleep in the forenoon and one hour in the afternoon, and it is quite possible to teach almost any infant to adopt this as a regular habit. Even to the age of four or five years a child should have one hour of sleep, or at least rest in bed, before its dinner, and it should be put to bed at 7 or 7 1/2 in the evening, and left undisturbed for twelve or fourteen hours. Up to the fifteenth year most young people require ten hours, and till the twentieth year nine hours. After that age every one finds out how much he or she requires, though as a general rule at least six to eight hours are necessary. Eight hours' sleep will prevent more nervous derangements in women than any medicine can cure. During growth there must be ample sleep if the brain is to develop to its full extent, and the more nervous, excitable or precocious a child is, the longer sleep should get if its intellectual progress is not to come to a premature standstill, or its life be cut short at an early age.—Dr. C. Pollock.

Score One for the Women.

An interesting experiment was recently made by a Dr. Durand in reference to the relative power of imagination of the two sexes. He gave to one hundred of his hospital patients a dose of sweetened water, and shortly afterward entered the room, apparently greatly agitated, saying he had by mistake administered a powerful emetic. In a few minutes four-fifths of the subjects were affected by the supposed emetic, and were mainly men, while all of those not affected were women.—San Francisco Argonaut.

Jean Ingelow's Home.

The London home of Jean Ingelow is in Kensington. The house is built of light colored brick and is surrounded by a garden, in which flowers are kept blooming even in the winter. Inside the house there are more flowers in pots and in vases. Miss Ingelow is so fond of flowers that she writes oftener in her conservatory than anywhere else. All her writing is done before gaslight, or rather before night, for London fog renders gaslight often necessary at very early hours in the day.—New York Telegram.

An Old Law.

There is said to be an unrepented law of New Jersey, passed while the state was a British colony, which provides "that all women of whatever age, rank, profession or degree, whether virgins, maids or widows, who shall after this act impose upon, seduce or betray into matrimony any of his majesty's subjects by virtue of cosmetics, washes, paints, artificial teeth, false hair or high heeled shoes, shall incur the penalty of the law now in force against witchcraft and like misdemeanors."

Some Old Clothing.

The Marchioness of Granby wore at Queen Victoria's last reception the dress in which her husband's great-grandmother, the "beautiful" Duchess of Rutland, was married in 1775. It was a white and gold brocade woven in a design of roses and leaves. With it the marchioness wore a train of heliotrope velvet and some of Nell Gwynne's jewels in the shape of a splendid diamond coronet and a pearl necklace with uncut ruby clasp.—Detroit Free Press.

Rhoda Broughton, the well known English novelist, is 43 and a highly intelligent looking woman, although her features are hard and rather masculine. She is a good talker and has a rich fund of humor of a very rare and piquant kind. Most of her literary work is done early in the morning. It is her custom to allow at least two years to elapse between the publication of her stories. She is fond of pug dogs and has many of them.

If all that has been said by orators and poets since the creation of the world in praise of women were applied to the women of the American Republic, they would be sold for no price.

VALUE OF OLD MASTERS.

FIGURES OF INTEREST TO THOSE WHO LOVE FINE PICTURES.

Americans Not So Easily Humbled as They Once Were—The High and Low Water Marks of Famous Painters—Murrillo's Range from \$18 to \$125,000.

The value of pictures has been very considerably disturbed by the revelations recently made. It has thrown suspicion upon the method of sale by auction, which has heretofore been so popular, and suggests the possibility that more than one of the great picture sales of recent years have been in a measure "cooked" affairs, in which prices have been made to rise to a height by no means in accord with the actual state of the market.

Americans have not shown quite the same taste for "old masters" as have the people of other countries. Once they revered them on account of their age and gave high prices for their pictures. But they were innocent then, and when they awoke to the fact that most of the old masters which they owned were bogus, they made haste to rid themselves of the same.

Since then Americans have had little to do with this class of pictures. Now, however, they are beginning again to buy them.

BIG AND LITTLE GEMS.

Following are some extreme and some average prices of the pictures of men whose names are mentioned: Jan Van Eyck—An adoration of the magi in the Northwick sale in 1850 fetched \$2,160. Van Eyck's works are scarce and much sought after. The picture mentioned must have been an excellent example, for another picture of the same subject was sold in Cologne in 1882 for a little more than \$500. Only the best of his pictures have sold for more than \$200 or \$300.

Guercino—His finest works in the Louvre are valued at \$4,000, \$5,000 and \$6,000, the "Martyr of St. Peter at Modena" being considered worth \$9,000. Nearly every gallery in Europe has some specimen of his work. During the last century the highest price obtained at auction has been \$2,400. Small heads and less significant works have sold as low as \$10. A few single figure paintings have been sold at from \$50 to \$250.

Hans Holbein—His works are abundantly represented in foreign galleries. Though one of the greatest German painters his pictures have never brought large prices at public sale. A portrait of a lady was sold in 1850 for about \$2,000, other portraits in recent years have rarely exceeded \$200.

Guido Reni—His "Rape of Helen" in the Louvre has been assessed at \$3,000. His works are in all the European galleries. They have seldom sold for more than \$2,000, a "St. John" was sold in 1853 for \$3,400.

David Teniers—More of his pictures than those of any other painter have been sold publicly. He is extensively copied and imitated, but of a list of about 350 different sales of his pictures the highest price ever brought for any one was \$5,000 paid in the Van Sassegen sale, in 1852, for a painting called "The Five Senses."

MURILLO AND RUBENS.

Murillo—The greatest of the Spanish school in point of value. There are nine of his pictures in the Louvre. The most celebrated of these is the "Immaculate Conception" for which the French government paid \$125,000. This is far in excess of all the others, which are rated as worth everywhere from \$1,000 to \$12,000, at which figure the "Holy Family" has been appraised. His pictures figure in all the principal museums of Europe, and have often sold at auction at very high prices. There were no less than fourteen of his pictures in the famous Soult collection, to which the Louvre's "Immaculate Conception" belonged. The "Flight into Egypt" brought \$10,000; the "Jesus and St. John as Children," \$12,000; the "St. Peter Bound," \$30,000; the "Miracle of San Diego," \$17,000; a "Brigand Stopping a Monk," \$5,000.

The rest of the pictures of the collection sold for from \$1,000 to \$5,000. The price brought by the "Immaculate Conception" was the largest ever paid for a picture at the time. It is doubtful whether it would now realize an equal sum, as Murillo's work has not increased in estimation, while new standards of tastes have taken possession of picture buyers. A large painting of the very same subject in the Eardley collection was put up at auction in 1860, but was withdrawn in default of a bid of \$45,000. Since the Soult sale many of his works have been publicly sold. The Empress Eugenie gave the largest price brought by any of his other pictures. She paid \$8,000 for a "Sleep of the Infant Jesus" at the Patureau sale in 1857. Many of his works were sold in the Aguado collection in 1843. They ranged from \$18 to \$5,600, at which sum one of his Annunciations was disposed of. One of his pictures figured in the Aspinwall sale here a few years ago, but was without a buyer. It was subsequently taken to London, where, after long negotiations, it was sold, presumably at no very great price.

Rubens, being the prince of painters, his pictures have naturally commanded very great prices. The fact that he worked much through his assistants has, however, made a great difference in their value. His works in the Louvre are estimated at \$20,000, \$30,000 and \$40,000, some of the famous series in the life of Mary of Medicis being valued at \$20,000. His single portraits are worth about \$2,000 to \$5,000. The famous "Chapeau de Paille," one of the most beautiful portraits ever painted, was sold in 1822 for about \$15,000. Few of his best works have sold during the present century. The highest price brought at public sale at any time was for an interior with portrait of the family of Balshazar, which brought \$38,000 at the Eardley sale in 1860. Some of his portraits have, nevertheless, sold for no price.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE.

- 84. Bruhl Jos.
85. Bank of Cass county.
65. Beeson, A. res.
20. " office.
2. Bennett, L. D. store.
45. " res.
4. Bonner stables.
71. Brown, W. L. office.
88. " res.
87. Ballou, O. H. res.
7. " office.
8. B. & M. tel. office.
30. B. & M. round house.
18. Blake, John saloon.
69. Bach, A. grocery.
51. Campbell, D. A. res.
61. Chapman, S. M. res.
22. City hotel.
13. Clark, T. coal office.
25. Clerk district court.
68. Connor, J. A. res.
5. County Clerks office.
20. Covell, Polk & Beeson, office.
74. Cox, J. R. res.
82. Craig, J. M. res.
70. Critchfield, Bird res.
31. Cummins & Son, lumber yard.
19. " J. C. farm.
57. Cook, Dr. office.
17. Clark, A. grocery store.
55. Clark, Byron office.
101. Cummins, Dr. Ed., office.
25. District court office.
66. Dovey & Son, store.
73. Dovey, Mrs. Georges.
80. Emmons, J. H. Dr. office and res.
24. First National bank.
91. Fricke, F. G. & Co., drug store.
72. Gleason, John res.
28. Goos hotel.
81. " res.
35. Hadley, dray and express.
38. HERALD office.
44. Holmes, C. M., res.
99. Hatt & Co., meat market.
64. Hemple & Troop, store.
96. Hall, Dr. J. H., office.
97. " res.
44. Holmes, C. M., livery stable.
96. Hall & Craig, agricultural imp.
4. Jones, W. D., stable.
4. Journal office.
89. Johnson Bros., hardware store.
67. Johnson, Mrs. J. F., millinery.
67. Johnson, J. F., res.
69. Klein, Joseph, res.
14. Kraus, P., fruit and confectionery
50. Livingston, Dr. T. P., office.
49. Livingston, res.
50. Livingston, Dr. R. R., office.
83. Manager Waterman Opera House.
33. McCourt, F., store.
73. McMaken, H. C., res.
3. Murphy, M. B., store.
26. Murphy, M. B., res.
72. McMaken, ice office.
60. Minor, J. L., res.
52. McVey, saloon.
55. Moore, L. A., res. and floral garden
77. Neville, Wm., res.
54. Olliver & Ranges, meat market
100. Olliver & Range slaughter house. Pub. Tel. Station.
39. Palmer, H. E. res
21. Petersen Bros., meatmarket.
56. Petersen, R., res.
27. Polk, M. D., res.
93. Patterson, J. M., res.
75. Riddle house.
16. Ritche, Harry.
64. Schildknecht, Dr. office.
11. Shipman, Dr. A. office.
12. " res.
25. Showalter, W. C. office.
42. Siggins, Dr. E. L. res.
28. " res.
56. Streight, O. M. stable.
57. Smith, O. P. drug store.
16. Skinner & Ritche, abstract and loan office.
40. Sherman, C. W. office.
10. Todd, Ammi res.
64. Troop & Hemple, store.
90. Thomas, J. W. Summit Garden.
32. Water Works, office.
37. Water works, pump house.
29. Waugh, S., res.
23. Weber, Wm. saloon.
36. Weckbach & Co., store.
33. Weckbach, J. V., res.
47. Western Union Telegraph office.
47. White, F. E., res.
6. Windham, R. B., office.
7. Windham & Davis, law office.
43. Wise, Will, res.
34. Withers, Dr. A. T., res.
83. Young, J. P., store.
S. BUZZELL, Manager.

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