

# WOMEN AT HOME

There are nagging husbands and nagging wives, but the most delectable of naggers is the mother whose continual fault-finding embitters the childhood of her children, and leaves them without the memory of motherly acts and words. We commend these words of the New York Tribune:

A vivid recollection of a visit to a summer resort is of an irritable invalid mother, a d d'er unhappy, harassed boy. She nagged at him in the dining-room till the poor child lost all appetite. One morning the father came down alone, and explained that mother was not well enough to come to breakfast. Whereupon the boy, with childlike frankness, exclaimed: "Oh, I'm so glad!" Then, seeing his father's reproving glance, he explained, "You know, papa, I'm not glad she's sick, but—but I do enjoy my breakfast so much more when she's not here." Memories of a mother's sweet voice have led back wandering feet to paths of righteousness; but harsh words of other mothers have driven the children to the broad ways of destruction, as did a certain widow who railed continually at her children. They feared her when they were little; but, as they grew older, they gave back railing for railing; and every son of that mother was laid in a drunkard's grave.

In another home, the nagging of the

When your mother comes and begins to express her surprise, go right up to her and kiss her on the mouth. You can't imagine how it will brighten her dear face.

Besides, you owe her a kiss or two. Away back, when you were a little girl, she kissed you when no one else was tempted by your fever-tainted breath and swollen face. You were not as attractive then as you are now. Through years of childish sunshine and shadows she was always ready to cure, by the magic of a mother's kiss, the little, dirty, chubby hands whenever they were injured in those first skirmishes with the rough old world."

**A Commonplace Life.**  
The trouble is with you, my dear girl, that you count little things as of no worth. Where we have one great remuneration to make we have a thousand little ones, and life, which you are inclined to call commonplace, is not so, for every day can be made rich in beautiful deeds. God, who is just, is merciful, and when temptation comes to you, even if you fail, He remembers that you tried to do what was right, and so is tender in His thought of you. There is not one of us who achieves, even for one day, what we long to. But, my dear, we can always try for it. We can be ready for the trouble that is before us and equip ourselves by prayer and good thoughts so that we can meet it bravely, and, possibly, overcome it. Of course, that is what we wish to do, and yet if we are not strong enough,

## BEHOLD THE NEW SLEEVES.

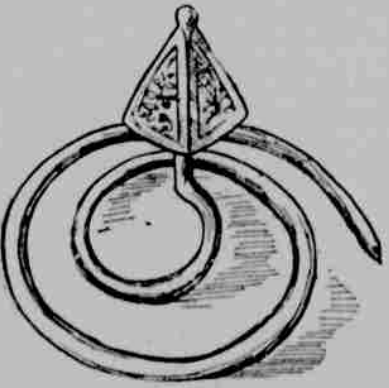


mother was repeated in the children. Old grievances were dwelt upon, magnified and brought forward at most inopportune moments, and there was a continual round of petty fault-finding and reproof. But a realization of her responsibility came to the mother; she controlled the querulous words and turned them to gentle ones. The children were puzzled. They did not expect the new condition to last; but last it did, and now it is rare to hear an impatient word in that house from any of its members.—Household.

### A New Hat-Holder.

It is hardly worth while to remind the women and girls of the various styles of hat-pins now in use. It is said that a few of them are good, many are indifferent and most of them are positively bad.

So far as a man may judge of such things it seems reasonable to assume



NEW HAT PIN.

that, to give satisfaction, the pin must hold the hat in place steadily, in spite of wind, weather and all other conditions, and this, it is said, the ordinary hat pin does not do.

Here is something, however, that will do all that; at least its inventor makes that claim for it. It is a spiral grip, which is fastened on both sides of the hat, and held in position by a little cap. When the hat is put on, the spiral is turned from the outside, and it is a matter of only a moment to adjust it.

**About Kissing Mother.**  
A father, talking to his careless daughter, said: "I want to speak to you of your mother. It may be that you noticed a careworn look upon her face. Of course it has not been brought there by any act of yours; still it is your duty to chase it away. I want you to get up to-morrow morning and get breakfast.

If we fall by the wayside, we must get up and try again, and keep on trying. That, in itself, will give us strength. And as the years go on and youth belongs to the past, it will always, because of this trying, be easier to do that which is right and merit "that peace which passeth all understanding."—Ruth Ashmore in Ladies' Home Journal.

### You Are Coming Home.

The sky, my dear, is a brighter blue—  
The rose is a rarer white;  
The river ripples and sings—for you—  
You are coming home to-night!

Over the wearisome land and sea  
You are coming home,  
You are coming home,  
You are coming home to me!

You are coming home! . . . I have waited long,  
And the world seemed lost to light;  
But the twilight thrills with a glad, sweet song—  
You are coming home to-night!

Over the wearisome land and sea  
You are coming home,  
You are coming home,  
Sweetheart, to love and me.

You are coming home! . . . I shall see your face,  
With its loveliness and light;  
I shall hold you, dear, in a fond embrace—  
You are coming home to-night!

Over the wearisome land and sea  
You are coming home,  
You are coming home,  
To me, sweetheart, to me!  
—Atlanta Constitution.

### To Make a Belt Stay Smooth.

An unhygienic but fashionable way of making a ribbon belt stay smooth, and one that is taken advantage of by many of the fashionably gotten up women, is to wear a belt of stout canvas or even kid under the dress waist. The ribbon will keep in shape over this when it wrinkles over the best corset. The kid belts should be perforated. Otherwise they collect and hold the insensible perspiration going on all over the body all the time, and after a short time are wet enough on the inside to ruin underclothing and be uncomfortable to boot.

Of all the gowns seen at the openings none equaled in elegance a princess robe of printed velvet on a cream ground.

## ALL ABOUT THE FARM

### HOW THE CORN CROP IS NOW HARVESTED.

Latest Machinery for Taking Care of America's Greatest Money Crop—Subsoil Attachment for Plows—Adjustable Jack for Farm Wagons.

**A Modern Corn Binder.**  
The great American money crop is Indian corn. It is without much doubt native to the western continent, where its production is practically controlled, as no other country possesses the soil and climate suited to its best development. The fertile land of the central west is its natural home. Here it brings wealth and prosperity. A loss or

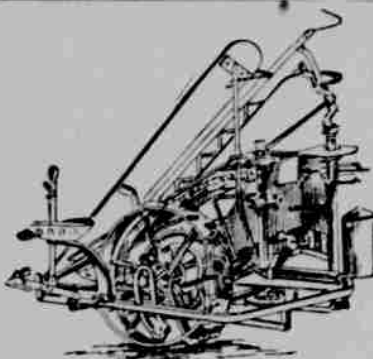


FIG. 1. THE IMPROVED CORN BINDER OF 1885—REAR VIEW.

partial failure of a single crop amounts to a calamity. Machinery for preparing the ground, planting the seed and cultivating the growing plant has been improved upon from time to time; but the one great drawback is the lack of a practical implement for husking standing corn. This has not yet appeared. However, the same object is being partially accomplished in a somewhat roundabout way by means of the corn binder and the combined husker and fodder shredder. All corn cannot be husked by this plan, as it necessitates cutting, shocking and running the cured fodder through the husker, but improved corn binders have made this practice more common than would have been possible a few years ago. The greater appreciation for corn fodder as feed for all kinds of farm animals, and its wide use, have created a demand for better corn harvesting machinery.

A good idea of the 1885 corn binders can be had by carefully studying the accompanying illustrations. Fig. 1 is a view of the complete machine as seen from the rear. Where the corn is very tall an extra set of packer arms is provided. Fig. 2 shows the front part of the machine tilted forward in order to enable it to pick up lodged or leaning stalks. As soon as they reach the elevator chains and packer, these stalks are easily taken care of. The whole machine is light, simple and easily

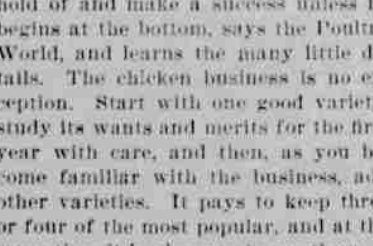


FIG. 2. TILTED FORWARD TO PICK UP LODGED CORN.

operated. Various home-made contrivances for cutting corn have been devised also.

**Have but One Breed of Chickens.**  
It is much better for the novice or amateur to keep one good variety of fowls than three or four, for the first year or two at least. It prevents the possibility of their becoming mixed, gives you an opportunity of studying the particular points in breeding to feather, size, etc., and, last, but not least, it does away with the many little details that are bound to be associated with four or five varieties. There is no business that an amateur can take hold of and make a success unless he begins at the bottom, says the Poultry World, and learns the many little details. The chicken business is no exception. Start with one good variety, study its wants and merits for the first year with care, and then, as you become familiar with the business, add other varieties. It pays to keep three or four of the most popular, and at the same time it is pleasure to see them.

**Adjustable Wagon Jack.**  
This wagon jack is made of white oak, the sill (a) 2 by 4 by 18 inches, the post (b) 1 1/2 by 4 by 28 inches. One inch must be cut out of the post (b) half way down for the lever. The iron brace is cut through the lever is 1 by 3 by 42 inches. The crescent-shaped and toothed iron (c) passing through the center



FOR OILING FARM WAGONS.

of the post connecting with the lever is 1 1/2 by 3/4 and 30 inches long. It is crescent shaped with notches about 1 1/2 inches apart. The notches rest in a bolt and three holes should be made in the upright (b), thus insuring adjustability to almost any desirable height for oiling ordinary farm vehicles.—Farm and Home.

**Hogs Need Fresh Water.**  
No animal suffers more from neglect at something to drink than does the hog. The slop and milk which are com-

monly given to pigs confined in the pen are not good substitutes for water. The slop thrown into the swill barrel from the table has too much salt to make a good drink, and the milk is too solid to be a substitute for water. Try the pigs at least once a day with clear fresh water, and you will be surprised to find how much they will drink of it.

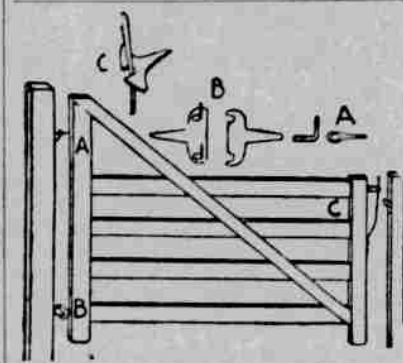
### Holding Farm Produce.

A correspondent of the Country Gentleman has found one advantage in prompt sales of produce. Every farmer knows, or should know, how much money he should receive for sales each year to meet the ordinary expense. If receipts are cut down by small crops and low prices, he must plan to cut down expenses, or at least not to incur any extra expense. When a big crop is stored, in the expectation of better prices, one naturally figures receipts at the expected price, and if it is not realized, there is disappointment, to say the least.

By converting crops into money as soon as they are ready for market, it seems possible to do a safer business. There is less care and worry. On the other hand, when convinced that any product is selling temporarily at a price far lower than conditions justify, the profit that is obtained by holding goes to the one most deserving it—the producer.

### An Automatic Gate.

The ideal gate is one that will shut itself and open each way. Such a gate was described in the New England Homestead as follows: A shows the iron for the upper hinge. B shows the lower hinge, which has double pinions, while C shows the catch driven into the post with the spring. To open and shut itself the gate must be hung about 4 inches out of plumb, having the lower hinge (B) project out from the post



A GATE THAT SHUTS ITSELF.

that much farther than the upper one. It shuts then just like a wagon rolling down a hill. The lower hinge (B) must be 8 inches from slot to slot.

### Picking Apples.

Gather when the plums turn to a brownish color, and the fruit parts easily from the twig when turned to one side. As the fruit is gathered it should be laid lightly, not dropped, into a basket, and be just as carefully removed from the basket to the storeroom. A blow or knock will cause a bruise, which will be succeeded by rot. Store on straw on a dry floor. A bed of three inches of straw will suffice. Lay the fruit quite thinly at first, and add another course when the first sweating is passed; later on the apples may lie three or four thick. When sharp frost threatens, cover up the fruit with straw, bags or something of that kind, to protect it from frost.

### Raising Buckwheat.

I mow my lot about June 25, then plow and sow to buckwheat from July 1 to 10, using three-quarters of a bushel to the acre if the land is rich, and one bushel if not. I sowed 1 1/2 bushels on two acres, and had nearly or quite eighty bushels. Grass seed sown in buckwheat, according to a writer in the Agriculturist, will yield a big crop of hay the next year, so the crop of buckwheat is almost clear gain. If late feed is wanted, nothing is better than a succession of barley, which will grow until the ground freezes up.

### A Subsoil Plow Attachment.

The accompanying illustration shows an attachment by means of which three subsoil plows may be readily brought into use by the driver whenever needed. Suitable cranks, levers and cross-bars serve to make the triplicate attachment conveniently adjustable, either vertically or laterally.

The whole thing is controlled by a lever fulcrumed on the rear of the plow beam, a thumb latch being provided which engages a rack on one of the handles. Farmers will all appreciate the advantages offered by this new device.

### Potatoes as Stock Feed.

The farmer who grows potatoes does not have much time to spare in growing other root crops. But in every large crop of potatoes there will be a considerable portion that is too rough or too small to sell, and these can be profitably fed. No kind of roots is economical as the main feed. They are only used in small quantities as an appetizer, and for this purpose the small potatoes unfit for market are as good as roots of any kind.

### They Lack Persistence.

Many amateur growers plant trees with enthusiasm and then grow discouraged over borers and rabbits; over spraying and pruning; over curculio and knots and lice and mice and grubs. They are growers who will never glut the markets. They are a great help to the nurseries and give the progressive orchardist a chance to sell his superior products.

## TRIALS OF TEACHERS

### SOME TIMELY ADVICE FROM ONE OF EXPERIENCE.

**Cheering Words to Those Who Take Up School Work in the Country—The Schoolboys of To-day Differ from Their Daddies.**

**A Word to Country Teachers.**  
The day of your arrival at the place where you are to teach will be the preface to your term's work. Let it be a very "taking" one.

Don't apologize for coming to a small town and say that you came to enjoy the scenery and to regain your health, for that is vacation privilege, not school work.

Be sure to leave your old hats and dresses at home; they would not be good enough to wear in that pretty hillside town. Against Nature's picturesque background they would be far more out of keeping than in the city with only dull brick walls for contrast. And don't, O don't put on a single "air" if you don't want to become an amusing object lesson. Laying aside then all girlish folly, and trying to put on the teacher's whole armor, you go to your new work, the first Monday in September.

Dingy white walls, two pitted little boards instead of comely blackboards, cobweb curtains at windows, and for the rest—O dear! But what of it!

You look into the pleasant faces of your pupils, and know you have an army strong to help you, by and by. Nature's ready-made furnishings are just at hand. Before long, you may find that all this seeming hindrance may be your fortunate opening for nature study. The conservative parents do not believe in bringing this "waste work" into school hours. Suppose you give it a new name, too, and call it decoration of the school room. Take long walks with your pupils to find what you want; the prettiest of autumn's work to press and mount for your school room walls; curious woods for latticed window shades, easels, picture frames. Because the school room is so sunny, you have the excuse on hot September afternoons, to vacate it for the cool, shady hilltops near. There you can teach them to see, as you see, Nature's wonder pictures, to hear, as you hear, her music and her rhymes.

Your older boys may be often absent from school during the fall term for work. You may think that these frequent breaks lessen the interest in study, upset your plans, and make past labor for your pupils of little avail. For field work crowds out school work. Maybe you are mistaken. Better believe that every truth those boys have learned, lies simmering somewhere in heart or brain, and will be ready for use by the time it is wanted. Through you, they have become acquainted with nature and her science teachings, and so, harvesting may be more educative than books. When the teacher does faithful work with the faithful scholars, these enforced absent days are like Sabbath rest, from which he returns to look with new energy and appetite.

"The register looks dreadfully!" Yes, but since looks that can't be helped matter little do not fret about that. Probably your register will never rest among the town archives.

You make the same point that the teachers who came before you made, of pupils not well classed, and too many classes. Don't be tied to this precedent. Abolish the class system altogether if need be, and generalize your work. Do all things tactfully, though. Two or three of your oddest, dullest pupils have made their slow way to Oceania in geography, and are ambitious to finish the book. Don't take away their self-respect, and remove their goal a year further off by putting them back with that class of bright 12-year-olds. Let them sojourn in the South Sea Islands awhile; make their stay in Oceania delightful, and let their own town, county and State be the Mecca, to which they return by reviews once or twice a week. It may be advisable in all their studies, to let them remain in the highest class. For the younger pupils, combine. Make geography, for instance, an all-school study, avoiding the terms, class or division.

Thus, you can easily grade year school. You can lead the backward pupil who does his best, to feel that he is not so far behind the others.

So much work for so little salary! Yes, but with your four dollars a week and board, haven't you as wide a margin left as have some of your city sisters? You left home well supplied, to live among a generous people who have few artificial wants. You can easily learn to be content with things you have.

The parents do not visit your school except on the "last day." Another grievance! Then think of Mahomet and the mountain and be the mountain. Visit the parents, not once, twice, but so often that you seem like "own folks" to them. Your visiting them may be more gainful than their visits to you. Little disaffections dissolve in the social cup of tea. Liking you, they will be satisfied with your work.

The truth is true, that country schools have graduated the best men and women. As you look over your human material, can you not assort it all, as excellent, good or fair?

Isn't it something to be thankful for, that your youthful twigs are bent aright, so that they do not need your constant straightening out, to incline them towards goodness?

And so we might go on, weighing the trials of country teachers with their compensating pleasures, and every time

the pleasures will have the far more exceeding weight.—Primary Education.

### Not Like the Old Days.

The schoolboy of to-day has a much better time of it than his father had. Change has so rapidly followed change in our public school system that the boy who went to school twenty-five years ago could scarcely recognize a single thing about our schools at present which is like that of the old school days, says a writer. The old slate, the slate of poetry and history, with its battered frame edged with initials cut with a pocket knife (when it had a frame), the slate that had the face of a mischief maker instead of the strict attention to problems, is a thing of the past. The click-click of the pencils racing to see which could first find the cube root of the numbers that the teacher had named has given way to the softer cadence of a lead pencil, for slates and slate pencils have been found to be the steadfast ally of the little microbe of diphtheria. The multiplication table still exists, but only as a relic of barbarism. The pupils no longer stand in line and repeat over and over again 7 times 1, 7 times 2, 7 times 3, etc. The youngsters are taught by means of the association of objects, and the hated table of many generations comes to them naturally without having to go through any monotonous sing song. Seats with straight backs have been supplanted by seats that are hygienic.

As fast as possible the children are being provided with individual seats, and in the course of time the poetry of the "seat mate" will have departed with that of the slate pencil. Grammar, with its many rules that used to try the memory and not the intelligence of the pupil, has been simplified into language lessons. Most of the middle-aged men of to-day began their education by learning to repeat the letters of the alphabet. Their grandsons begin with words and objects. So the saying that one has yet to learn the A B C of a thing has lost some of its force.

Even the poet of the bare-footed schoolboy will soon be without a fount of inspiration. The boy of to-day has much better clothes. He knows comparatively nothing of the wonders of maternal patching. Ready-made suits are so cheap that nearly every one of him is "fitted out" at the opening of the school. The part of the birch switch has utterly lost its calling. Corporal punishment, even making children hold up their hands or stand on a line, is against the rules.

There is no doubt about it—the boy of to-day is more obedient and better clothed, and has an easier time of it than the boy of twenty-five years ago. Besides, the new boy has as much learning at the age of 10 as the old boy at the age of 14. The same is true of the new girl that is to become the new woman.

### Take Time to Eat.

The opinion that hurry in eating is a prolific cause of dyspepsia is founded on common observation. The ill-effects of "hobbling" the food have been attributed to the lack of thorough mastication, and to the incomplete action of the saliva upon the food. Two-thirds of the food which we eat is starch, and starch cannot be utilized in the system as food until it has been converted into sugar, and this change is principally affected by the saliva. But there is a third reason why rapidity of eating interferes with digestion. The presence of the salivary secretion in the stomach acts as a stimulus to the secretion of the gastric juice. Irrespective of the mechanical function of the teeth, food which goes into the stomach incompletely mingled with saliva, passes slowly and imperfectly through the process of stomach digestion. Therefore, as a sanitary maxim of no mean value, teach the children to eat slowly—and in giving this instruction by example, the teacher, as well as the pupil, may receive a benefit.—Sanitary Inspector.

### Make Geography Interesting.

In teaching your little girl geography try to make it something more than a dry list of names to be learned by rote. Take her imaginary voyages and journeys from one country to another. Tell her something of the manners and customs of the people and anything you can learn yourself about the lives of the children. Describe to her how the Swiss boys herd their cattle under the shadow of the Alps, and the Esquimaux are made daring by being thrown into the icy water in their strange fur garments. Tell her of the stunted lives of the pit boys in the coal mines and of the German girls who learn to use their five knitting needles almost as soon as they can hold them. Books of travel will furnish you with many interesting incidents which you can turn to account. Geography will not be a wearisome task to her. Her mother's wisdom can make the first steps attractive.—Ladies' Home Journal.

### Sympathized with Her.

A witty and popular New York clergyman, whom everybody knows by reputation, had a laughable, and at the same time unpleasant, experience recently, says the Journal. One Sunday, not long ago, he was going up the steps of his Fifth Avenue church, when he was asked by an old lady (who, of course, did not know him) to help her up the steps. With his usual courtly grace, he complied with her request. On reaching the top step, she halted, breathlessly, and asked him who was going to preach that day.

"The Rev. Mr. Blank," he replied, giving his own name.

"Oh, Lord," exclaimed the old lady; "help me down again. I'd rather listen to a man sharpening a saw. Please help me down again. I reckon I won't go in."

The clergyman smiled, and gently assisting her down the stairs again, remarking, as he reached the sidewalk, "I wouldn't go in, either, if I wasn't paid for it."