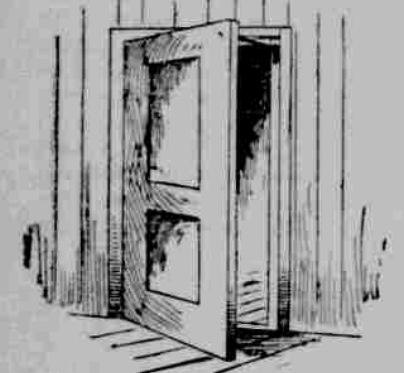




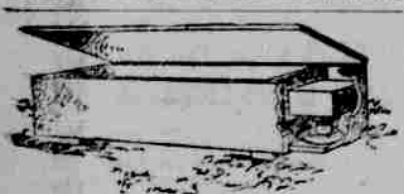
Improved Pull for Doors.
The cut shows an improved way of using the card and wheel pull for doors. The door jamb is made very wide by nailing on a piece to the ordinary jamb. In this, insert a small pulley wheel at a slight angle, so that the rope will not pull so much across the edge of the wheel when the door is wide open. The weight runs up and down upon the back side of the jamb. The door should move easily so that as light a weight as possible may be used. Then the door will open easily, and yet pull to with great promptness. With all inside barn and stable



Doors fixed in this way, much trouble, and often loss, will be avoided by cattle and other animals getting into forbidden quarters, because of doors carelessly left open.—Orange Judd Farmer.

A Sensible Suggestion.
The middle-aged woman, or one whose children have grown past the destructive age, should get the comfort there is in the pretty things which she has accumulated. She should not board her embroidered table decorations, keep her silver wrapped in cotton flannel bags or the sofa pillows put away for fear they will be worn out by use. Now is the time to enjoy them. If she thinks that it would be better to keep them for the children she should remember that when these things fall to their possession they will be out of date, but not antique enough to have any value beyond the sentimental one that "they were mother's." Most grown-up children take a pride in seeing their mother's home up to date; if they do not they certainly do not deserve a legacy of what might have made their mother's life more comfortable and more enjoyable. —Grange Homes.

Warmth Water for Stock.
A plan for warming the water for stock during cold weather is shown in the engraving herewith. One end of the trough is partitioned off, and over a square opening in the partition is tightly fitted a galvanized iron box, the water flowing freely out into this iron box. Under this iron box a small coil stove is placed, admission being



ad by means of a small door in the end of the trough. With a tight cover, the water in the trough can be kept from freezing very easily. It is especially important to have the iron box as low down in the trough as possible, so that the water at the bottom of the trough may be warmed, as well as that at the top. If possible, then, let the end compartment extend below the main body of the trough, so that the iron box may open into the lower part of the trough. As the water is heated, it will rise, and the colder water from the bottom be drawn in, to be heated in its turn. —American Agriculturist.

The Farm Moscer.
Mice are a great menace to the farmer's premises. They gather from the fields as autumn approaches, and build nests in stacks and under piles of rubbish and in every available place they can find shelter. These pests must be baffled in every way possible. A few good cats are about as successful mice exterminators as can be found. Some farmers try poison, and we have written many items recommending poison; telling farmers how to arrange them, and the poison box is still worth trying in the small fruit orchard, but experience proves that there is nothing so effective in ridding the farm of mice and keeping them away as a good cat or two. We have experimented with poison in many forms and have secured a partial success in the way of poisoning mice, but when the cat made its appearance, the mouse problem was soon solved. We unhesitatingly recommend keeping a cat or two in every farm.

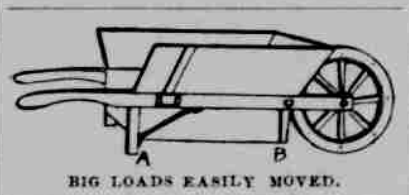
Waste of Corn Fodder.
Early breaking of corn is important to save its grain from being wasted by mice and other vermin. But after the corn has been husked the stalks

have a new surface exposed to rains. As they are then partially dried, the stalks should be got under cover as soon as possible. If the stalks are wet after being once dried, the waste from rotting goes on much more rapidly than before. If the stalks should heat somewhat in the mow this is better than to leave them exposed to further injury by storms, with little chance of drying out, except as it will be frozen dry by the cold of winter. This freezing of wet stalks takes from them most of their feeding value.

The Quality of Timothy Hay.
One reason why timothy hay is a favorite in the markets is its uniformity of quality. Not being so nitrogenous as clover, it is much less likely to be injured by being wet and heating. The variation in quality is mainly due to early or late cutting, though some livery stable keepers prefer the fully ripened timothy, which is least nutritious because the horse likes the timothy seeds. Clover hay is very apt to become musty and dusty if it has been exposed to fermentation. Timothy hay will not be dusty unless cut in the bloom, and the dust is not so injurious as that from partly decayed clover.

Sweet Apples for Horses.
A quart or two of sweet apples per day for each horse will be worth more to it than the same bulk of oats additional to its regular ration of hay and grain. The apples are better than any kind of roots, and this year they are everywhere cheap and plenty. Sour apples are nearly as good, but the horses prefer the sweet apples when they can be had. In nutritive value there is very little difference. There is much sweet in what we call a "sour" apple, which is only called "sour" because an acid disguises the sweet it contains.

Handy Style of Wheelbarrow.
A deep wheelbarrow is more useful than one built on the old plan, because it will hold more, and the work of building such a barrow is not much greater. Any one who owns a wheelbarrow can easily construct one by first procuring two stout pieces for the shafts and mortising them together firmly just behind the wheel. The next mortise must come 2 inches from the ground on the legs at A. From this mortise the floor of the barrow must reach forward to B, where it is supported by two facing legs mortised into the shafts and reaching within 2 inches of the ground. The sides may be solid from the floor up, or if preferred they may extend only to the top of the shafts, and from this point movable side boards may extend upward. The only disadvantage in having the body solid is in being forced to remove most of the load from between the handles.



Big Loads Easily Moved.
This wheelbarrow is especially useful in carting leaves, etc., and in handling heavy stones, which are loaded upon it with ease, because so near the ground. If one desires he may arrange a movable bottom, which will permit the load to be deposited without tipping by merely raising the handle. —Farm and Home.

Watering Plants in Winter.
There is far more danger of giving house plants too much rather than too little water in winter. During the short days and long nights, with very little sunlight on the soil, it is hard to keep it at a temperature where the plants can grow vigorously. All the surplus water added lowers the temperature until it reaches a point where the plants barely exist without making any growth. If the soil has much vegetable matter, humic acid will be developed at a low temperature and this will poison the plant roots.

Saving Dry Road Dust.
One of the jobs which should be attended to before cold weather is to save a few barrels of dry road dust to be used as dust baths for hens in winter. Nothing contributes more to the health of hens than this. Coal ashes will answer, but they stick to the feathers of fowls worse than road dust will, and give the birds an unsightly appearance. The road dust is coarser, and we think the fowls like to roll in it better than in the white, fine dust that comes from sifting coal ashes.

Phosphate for Clover.
Whenever phosphate is sown with grain, a part of the fertilizer is always appropriated by the clover seed sown with it. Clover is a lime plant, and it also needs the phosphoric acid that is so helpful to the wheat. The phosphate is especially valuable when applied to clover that is to produce a seed crop. Potash is also needed to make clover seed well, and should be applied in some form.

Telephone Wires and Lightning.
Telephone wires seem to have an important influence in preventing lightning from striking, according to the investigation of the German Telegraph Department. Three hundred and forty towns with telephone systems and 500 towns without them were under observation. In the former lightning struck three times for every hour of storm; in the latter five times. Moreover, the violence of the lightning was much less in the former cases.

Lite Leeds, Jr.—What is Hardfrost doing this season? I haven't heard of him. Walker—Playing the Dane, Leeds.—You don't say! He must have struck luck. Walker—Yes, there's a commission inquiring into his ancestry.—Pittsburg News.

POWDER-HORNS.
The Best Device for Carrying Loose Gunpowder in Time of War.

Powder horns have become quite rare, and are curious objects for the study of the collector and the historian. Like coins and medals, from which the collector may find out many interesting facts about the past, powder horns which have been decorated with pictures and inscriptions give much information concerning the geography and history of famous places and events.

The use of horns of animals for carrying gunpowder was introduced into America from England and France, but the exact date when they were first used in Europe is not known. Certainly it was not less than three hundred and fifty years ago, as can be seen from the dates on specimens in European museums.

Before improved guns and cartridges were used, the curved horn was the best device for carrying gunpowder in war time for the use of the muzzle-loaders and flint-locks, and the horns were used even with some of the later guns—those that were fired by percussion caps.

A desirable horn could be had easily and cheaply. It was quickly prepared for holding the gunpowder, and, moreover, it was strong enough to withstand the rough usage to which horns were often subjected, as in skirmish fighting or making long marches through the wilderness. The horns neither rust nor decay, even if buried in the earth for a century; and, if the plugs are properly fitted, the powder will keep dry, although carried for days in the rain. They can be floated, or dipped in the water, without harm to the powder within, this being a matter of the greatest importance during the Colonial and Revolutionary wars, when bridges were hardly thought of and armies had to wade through swamps and streams of water, often up to the necks of the soldiers.

In order to prepare the horn for the soldier's use, the ends were stopped by wooden plugs and were securely fastened to a strap which was worn under the left arm and over the right shoulder, the curved horn fitting the left side of the waist of the wearer; and a more graceful equipment could not be desired.

During the colonial times and during the Revolution, when a soldier volunteered or was ordered out for active service, he was generally required to come provided with four articles, namely: gun, powder horn, blankets, and knapsack. The Government furnished the rest of the accoutrements and the outfit of clothing.

A military order required every powder horn to be marked with the owner's name, so that it could be quickly returned to him after being filled at the powder wagon.—St. Nicholas.

An Old Trick.
The amount of fun that members have when out on their trips is equalled only by the amount of enthusiasm that they inspire by their songs. Coming up from Jackson the other day, one of their old jests was successfully played. The word was passed around and, when the brakeman entered the car, one member looked at his watch and, not being satisfied with the result of the inspection, asked the brakeman what time it was. The brakeman accommodatingly told the inquirer, whereat the seventy-five members of the club shouted in chorus, "Thank you kindly, sir!" The brakeman dropped his head and sneaked crestfallen away amid the laughter. Pretty soon he came back.

"Say," said he, "if you will play that on the conductor, I won't say a word about it."
The boys agreed to it very readily, and, when the conductor entered he was asked the time of night. He pulled out his watch and gave the hour to the inquirer.
"Thank you, kindly, sir!" shouted the club in unison.
The conductor wilted and went hurriedly out. He came back in half an hour with the remark:
"Do you know what you made me do? I called Lancaster, and my head ain't exactly clear yet."

Several years ago, the same trick was played at one of the meetings. The director turned in his place on the stage and asked if some gentleman would kindly give them the time, as they had to catch a train. A man rose in the audience, drew forth his watch, doubtless with a thrill of pride, and told the leader the hour.
"Thank you, kindly, sir!" shouted the boys, and the man sat down as if he had been struck on the head with a maul.—Columbus Dispatch.

A Singular Incident.
Three weeks ago a well-known citizen dropped dead near the door of the National Bank of Troy, New York. A great crowd was attracted, and the rumor became current that the bank had failed. This precipitated a run, and the sum of \$125,000 was drawn out in a few hours. The bank was compelled to close its doors, but the bank examiner declares that the depositors will be paid 100 cents on the dollar.

Antiquity of Olympian Games.
The Olympic games were probably the oldest athletic sports, and their origin is lost in antiquity. They are said to celebrate Jupiter's defeat of the Titans.

A GARRULOUS MAN CURED.
The Ingenious Device of a Tortured Landlady.

He thought he was infallible, and would argue for hours with any one who had the impunity to contradict him. Everything about him indicated the man of iron will and unchangeable disposition. His features bore traces of the Indian warrior, while his towering form and grim mustache increased his resemblance to the man who knows it all. His name is Smith. He is a bachelor and lives in Ravenswood. But he has been cured of his ailment, and the good suburbanites wonder who caused the change. He does not argue any longer, but walks about with a dejected air, showing that his spirit has been broken.

The miracle was accomplished by his landlady, and this is the story of how she did it.

After the banks closed it was Mr. Smith's custom to sit each evening on the porch of his Ravenswood home for hours. Visitors would come and go, but Mr. Smith would hold the fort. He had opinions of his own and was to him who dared to dispute them. Any opposition to his views would be met with a flood of oratory which would cover the dissenter into obedience.

One evening he argued the folly of expensive dresses with his landlady. She laughed at him, and he became furious. "Now, don't excite yourself," she said, "for I have heard the doctor say you're subject to spasms, and we will let the matter rest for the night."

Mr. Smith, flushed with victory so easily won, retired for the scene. Imagine his surprise, however, the following evening, when he was engaged in conversation with an old friend, who assented to all of Mr. Smith's views.

"But why do you agree to everything?" asked Smith, after a pause.
"Well, confidentially, between you and me," whispered his friend, "I have heard you are subject to fits and that arguments of a violent sort are apt to bring them about."

Smith said nothing that night and went home. Several nights later a young woman came up to him and he began to talk to her. She appeared to be afraid of him and only nodded to his assertions. She kept a respectful distance all the time, and when he asked her if she was afraid of him she asked him somewhat pityingly:
"Have you had them today?"
"Have I had what?" blurted out Smith.

"Why, fits, of course, I heard you had them every time you were contradicted; isn't it true?"
Smith turned on his heel and left the young woman standing and wondering.

She does not know if the rumor is true, but Mr. Smith's landlady finds no trouble with her boarder. He does not argue any more, and now believes that others know just as much as he does.—Chicago Chronicle.

The French Boy.
Our boys do not take the social polish until much later. I have heard Americans express surprise at the childishness of big boys whom they saw playing at marbles or with tops at an age when their boys play football. It is because these boys allow themselves to be watched, restrained, and reprimanded by timid mothers much longer than theirs, and the boys themselves are not generally inclined to the daring undertakings that tempt young Americans.

Their affection for Robinson Crusoe is very Platonic; they do not long to run away to sea, nor even to get on the roof to learn their lessons, like a little fellow I met in the country out West while visiting his parents, and who, when I expressed my surprise at his perch, said, "Well, if I slip, I can hold on to the chimney by my legs!" And saying this, he made the gesture of clasping the big chimney between his bare and extremely short legs, under scratched than words can tell, under their torn knickerbockers. Our boys are evidently girlish in comparison.

On the other hand, a French youth of eighteen is stupefied, on making the acquaintance of English or American youths of his age, to meet with something that seems to him another kind of childishness; I mean that boyishness which, up to a certain point, lasts for life in all Anglo-Saxons. He finds himself much more of a man, because he really has a greater intellectual fund, more general information, a more highly developed critical sense, a riper mind already much refined, and quite enfranchised from the simple instruction given at the lycee.—Century.

Novel Punishment for Theft.
Yesterday happened the first act of theft on the trip. We camped within a quarter of a mile of the village; groups of natives brought meal, peanuts, eggs, etc., and traded with my men with the greatest confidence. One of my men was bathing in a pool near by, and left his cloth and knife near the trail; a party of natives passing seized the knife and ran away; hearing of this, I quietly took from a man in the boma a very fine spear, and refused to return it till the knife was brought back. The natives saw the justice of this, and trading went on as if nothing had happened. This morning the knife was returned, and so I handed back the spear.—Century.

Lion-Hunting an Ancient Sport.
To hunt the lion was kingly sport from the earliest times, and the Egyptian monuments show that all kinds of hunting, as well as fowling, was followed for pleasure.

What a great deal we have to be thankful for at this time of the year that we haven't a sense of smell so fine that we can detect the odor in a dead fly!

There are some people who regard it as a proof of a poetical soul to feel sad when the leaves begin to fall.

WOMAN'S REALM.

GOTHAM SOCIETY QUEEN.

MRS. WILLIAM C. WHITNEY will soon succeed to the vacant throne of queen of Gotham's society. Such at least seems to be the understanding among those who are familiar with fashionable intelligence. Since the decline and fall of Mrs. William Astor Gotham society has been queenless. It was thought for a time that young Mrs. John Jacob Astor would be elevated, but the fact that she is a Philadelphian ruined her hopes. Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, recently Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, aspired and was crushed. She will live abroad hereafter. Mrs. Cornelius Vandervilt cannot



MRS. WILLIAM C. WHITNEY.

assume the headship of the butterflies on account of her husband's illness. Mr. Whitney's new wife is just the lady for the crown. She is 36, entrancingly beautiful, and as the wife of Captain Randolph had entree to the very best drawing rooms of aristocratic England. She is eminently fitted for leader of the smart set by reason of her wealth, family and experience. As mistress of the big Whitney mansion at the corner of Fifth avenue and Fifty-seventh street she will be brilliant.

Chop Wood for a Husband.
There was a novel wood-cutting contest in the Seventh Ward of Williamsport, Pa., the other day, in which five young women took part. The girls are all employed in the Lyeomling rubber factory, and, having a holiday, they turned their time to good account, besides settling a much-disputed question as to which was the most entitled to a husband. The girls are Bess Mayers, Flora Mahl, Lillie Mahl, Lillie Dunlap, Belle Gouly and Mary Russell, all pretty, vivacious young women, who earn their own living and make good wages in the rubber factory. In a banter the other day one of the girls proposed that they have a wood-chopping contest, and the one who proved



WOOD-CHOPPING MATCH.

herself to be the champion cutter should be entitled to a husband, while the others, it was agreed, must wait two years before joining fortunes with her best bean.

The girls, each with a brand-new ax, bedecked with red, white and blue ribbons, marched into the back yard of Widow Hartman's home and made an assault on the woodpile. Widow Hartman is a helpless invalid, she having fallen and hurt herself quite badly last winter. Her daughter Lou works in the rubber factory, too, and she was one of the movers in the wood-cutting scheme, although she took no part in the contest.

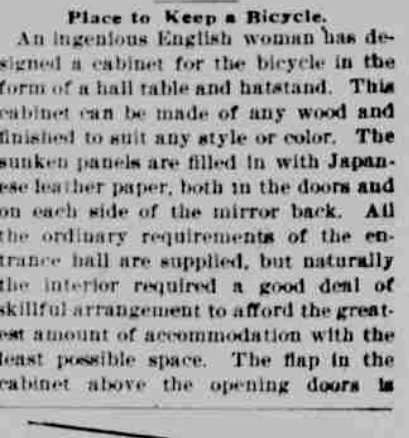
Five loads of hemlock slab wood, cut to stove lengths, had been delivered at Widow Hartman's place the day before—the girls paying for it—so there was plenty of material for them on which to test their strength and skill. But the way the ribboned axes flew and tongues wagged was only equalled by the shower of split sticks that gradually piled themselves up around each chopping-block. William Baskins and Joseph Sebel were there as referees. One of the young men, however, had a more direct interest in the contest than being judge, for one of the girls was his sweetheart, and, according to the compact, if she proved one of the losers in the contest he would be compelled to wait two long years before she could become his wife. For four hours the wood-chopping went on; the girls got red in the face; they rolled up their sleeves until their plump, pink arms were bared almost to the shoulders, and whacked away at the hemlock blocks as though their lives instead of a husband depended upon it.

Finally 12 o'clock came, and at the end of that time there were five weary, perspiring girls and five big piles of nicely split hemlock wood for Widow Hartman. But for the life of them the referees could not decide between the piles of wood cut by Miss Dunlap and Miss Russell, as to which was the larger. And, indeed, after raking over all the sticks and counting them separately,

the discovery was made that the two girls had cut exactly alike. The contest was declared a draw. And now all the marriageable young men of the seventh ward are casting their eyes with favor in the direction of these fair young women who so gallantly demonstrated their ability to cut firewood.

Danger in Mock Marriages.
Not a few giddy girls think it is a huge joke to participate in a mock marriage, yet such events have often led to serious embarrassments. Marriage is a matter too serious to be trifled with. Judges in the courts have frequently been called upon to dissolve the ties thus thoughtlessly entered into, sometimes, it is sad to relate, with the connivance of ministers of the gospel and magistrates who ought to know better than to play the part they do in these affairs. If a clergyman were to announce that a baptizing pool would be opened some evening, either in the church or elsewhere, and that he would perform the rite of baptism as a public entertainment on the fattest woman or the tallest man in the neighborhood, there would be no more sacrifice than there is in a mock wedding gotten up for a public show.

Place to Keep a Bicycle.
An ingenious English woman has designed a cabinet for the bicycle in the form of a hall table and hatstand. This cabinet can be made of any wood and finished to suit any style or color. The sunken panels are filled in with Japanese leather paper, both in the doors and on each side of the mirror back. All the ordinary requirements of the entrance hall are supplied, but naturally the interior required a good deal of skillful arrangement to afford the greatest amount of accommodation with the least possible space. The flap in the cabinet above the opening doors is

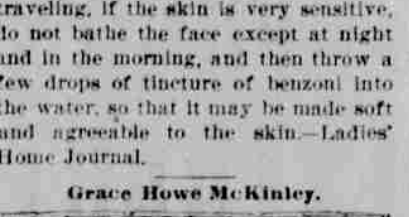


CABINET FOR BICYCLE.

hinged, to throw back, so that the bicycle can go in without any alteration of the handle bars. Then the floor is fitted with grooves and draws out altogether, to be used as a "home trainer," while in its proper place in the cabinet it serves to keep the bicycle in position. There is plenty of room inside for all the bicycle belongings, as well as the cleaning apparatus.

How to Keep Wrinkles Away.
A simple preventive against the appearance of wrinkles is this: Saturate a soft towel in very hot water, wring it and apply it to the face, keeping it there for at least twenty minutes. Then dry the face very gently. This must be done just before going to bed. When traveling, if the skin is very sensitive, do not bathe the face except at night and in the morning, and then throw a few drops of tincture of benzoin into the water, so that it may be made soft and agreeable to the skin.—Ladies' Home Journal.

Grace Howe McKinley.



Niece of the President-elect, who will take a prominent part in Washington society during the next administration. —Boston Post.

Waistcoats for Fair Wearers.
Vests of cream lace over white satin are very drowsy, and are particularly chic with the all black braided tailor made gown.

Pretty serviceable vest fronts are made of gay plaid silks or striped velvets. These are finished with the full puff, which is held in place by small enameled buttons.

For morning shopping excursion nothing is smarter than the bright little scarlet waistcoat of smooth cloth, buttoned high to the throat with dull gold or old silver buttons.

Any sort of excessive decoration is not considered too much for the little vest, which seems to be a necessary part of every gown, whether it is made with or without a jacket.