

# WOMEN AT HOME

## A PLEA FOR THE HOME WOMAN.

**S**o few women realize the possibilities for exercising the most thoughtful energies in learning to be a home-maker. The opportunities for developing endowments, scientific, intellectual or executive to their fullest scope are as present here as anywhere else. The girl who never dreams of having a home of her own and some one at the head of it whom she can delight to honor and love is generally lacking in her feminine make-up. Mothers who, after their daughters arrive at a suitable age to instruct them upon the subject of love, marriage and the duties of home-keeping, neglect this part of training must some time awaken to the fact of what they have missed. And yet one would not cast a shadow over the bright dreams of youth and force a young creature out of her girlhood by emphasizing to her the sober realities of life before she takes up the duties that belong to a future experience. The girl must not be cheated out of one stage of her development; if she is, she will carry through her life a sense of having been defrauded of something that was rightly hers. If a girl is kept true and truthful and pure, she has the foundation qualities upon which to build the happiness of a home. But she needs direction in those habits that have a direct bearing upon her peace and comfort. The most thorough education, the most brilliant gifts, the most fascinating personality—these are not too much to bring to a home, and the investment of the wealth of mind and heart will insure rich returns to the sacred spot where love and service should go hand in hand.—Woman's Home Companion.

### Fruit as Medicine.

The acids and pectones in fruit assist in digesting the fats so abundant in food. At the end of a heavy dinner we eat our cooked fruits, and when we want their digestive action even more developed we take them after dinner in their natural uncooked state as dessert. In the past ages instinct has taught men to do this; to-day science tells them that fruit should be eaten as an aid to digestion of foods much more than it is now. Digestion depends upon the action of pepsin in the stomach. Fats are digested by acids and the bile from the liver. The acids and pectones in fruit peculiarly assist the acids of the stomach. Only lately even royalty has been taking lemon juice in tea instead of sugar, and lemon juice has been prescribed largely by physicians to help weak digestion, simply because these acids exist very abundantly in the lemon.—Popular Science Monthly.

### Jewels Button Fair Wrist.

Ballroom gloves this year are positively resplendent. Mention has often been made of the fact that gloves do not seem to receive the same amount of attention as other articles of dress.



PRECIOUS STONES ON GLOVES.

But no such complaint can be made this season. One of the most striking features of the gloves this year is their buttons. These are of diamonds, rubies, emeralds, sapphires, pearls and other precious stones. They are also of the semi-precious or imitation stones. Glove buttons can be obtained in sets of four each, with little gold chains as fasteners.

### Sweet Bags for Scenting Linen.

Take equal quantities of powdered cloves, mace, nutmeg and cinnamon. Powder the dried leaves of mint, balm, southernwood, ground ivy, laurel, sweet marjoram, hyssop and rosemary, so that they form an equal weight with the above. Then add half as much of chips of cassia wood, juniper, sandalwood and rosewood; also powdered root of angelica orris. The mixture will be completed by quarter as much of ambergris and musk. All these things should be well mixed and then put up in little bags of mace, which should be placed between the clothes in the clothes press.

### Great Men's Wives.

Wives of great men, as a rule, fail to secure their full share of domestic happiness, though it would be hard to assign any general reason for this not uncommon condition. Leaving out the ordinary minor monarchs, who have

but little choice in their partners, it is noted that a quiet home life is exceptional among actors, and even literature presents a surprising lack of compatibility between husbands and wives. From Socrates to Dryden, Shakespeare, Johnson, Addison, Milton, Mollere, Byron, Shelley, Dickens, Bulwer, George Sand and George Eliot, each has had a share in household woes.

It is often the case that the man who wins fame is apt to develop an abnormal sensitiveness, as if he stood on a higher pedestal than the smaller mortals, even in his own house. Then from them all he expects the uplifted, adoring eye and voice. As a rule, he does not receive this adulation at home. It ought to be considered a misfortune that the place for literary work is usually at home. Here a man cannot have the quiet, undisturbed sanctum, devoted only to the interests of his work, that the business man has in his office. Interruptions are apt to be constant.

There is another reason for this domestic unhappiness. The writer, if he is a literary man also, must grow in breadth of knowledge and ideas, while the wife, encircled by the small duties of home, has little chance for growth, and is fortunate if she does not become even more narrow. Shakespeare outgrew his wife, Byron and Bulwer outgrew their wives, and, like ordinary egotists, resented the fact that they did not hourly receive the praise they craved. Carlyle pranced ahead of his equally disappointed mate, but made bitter speeches because of her lack of speed.

**Quiet Screens.**  
In a great many houses where the occupants have artistic tastes charming screens are made from inexpensive



INEXPENSIVE FIREPLACE SCREEN.

materials. For instance, in the accompanying cut is shown a square fireplace screen of which a child's hoop forms the centerpiece. This is fastened to the frame by strong fancy cord carried through brass screw eyes, and over the whole is fastened a gauzy material through which the cord can show.

The centerpiece is, of course, covered just to suit one's fancy. One suggestion for those who can paint well in oils is to cover it on each side with a piece of cloth and paint some pretty scene or sprays of flowers upon it. Another pretty plan is to work a fantastic eastern design in bright colors upon a dark ground, which will give the screen a rich appearance. This screen will be useful to hide an unsightly fireplace.—New York Herald.

### Domestic Happiness.

Good housekeeping has far more to do with domestic happiness than young people dream of. These times need women whose most beautiful work will be done inside their own doors. Without good housekeeping the romance will soon go out of marriage. Of course, the man who prizes woman chiefly because she "looketh well to the ways of her household" does not deserve to have a good wife. He should merely employ a housekeeper and pay her good wages. But there are social, moral and spiritual uses proceeding from the wise regulation of the household which bestow a dignity upon what would be trifling. No matter what a girl's accomplishments may be, her education is incomplete if she has no knowledge of baking, bottling, roasting, stitcheology and mendology. Even if a girl should never be required to do the work herself, she ought to know whether it is done in the proper manner.

### Fans.

Fashionable fans are growing in size. The very small Empire fans, popular for so long, are being ousted by a breeze-creator that has at least a few degrees of usefulness. Ostrich feather fans, particularly those of a natural color, are again at the top of style.

### Summer Girl's Shirt Waist.



If your writing ink is too thick add a few drops of vinegar and shake the bottle well.

# GOOD ROADS

## Bad Roads Expensive.

General Ray Stone figures that there are 1,500,000 miles of public roads in the United States, over which 500,000,000 tons of freight is hauled every year. Putting the average haul at eight miles—though this is probably an overestimate—he figures the cost of carting at \$2 the ton, or \$1,000,000,000 the year. With uniformly good roads the cost of moving this freight would be only \$400,000,000, saving \$600,000,000 to the public annually. This is equivalent to the yearly interest on \$20,000,000 of 3 per cent. government bonds.

One-half of this almost inconceivably vast sum would rebuild every mile of road in the United States at an average cost of, say, \$4,000 per mile, and the other half would furnish a yearly income of \$200 per mile for their repair and maintenance. At present the people spend the vast sum of \$20,000,000 each year in the repairing of their worthless roads. This sum would build 4,000 miles of thoroughly good macadam road, sufficiently wide for rural purposes.

Experiments made in the Missouri agricultural experiment station show that in nearly all road conditions broad-tired wagons pull easier than those with narrow tires. On a macadam road a load of 2,518 pounds can be hauled on broad tires with the same draught as a load of 2,000 pounds on narrow ones. On gravel road, except when wet and sloppy on top, the draught of the broad-tired wagon is much less than that of the narrow-tired wagon; a load of 2,482 pounds can be hauled on broad tires with the draught required for 2,000 pounds on narrow tires.

The trials on dirt roads give varying results. When it is dry, hard and free from dust 2,530 pounds can be hauled on broad tires with the draught required for 2,000 pounds on narrow tires. When the surface is covered with two or three inches of dry, loose dirt the results are unfavorable to the broad tire. In general the better the road the greater the advantage of the broad tire.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

## Michigan Roads in Spring.

This spring the following presentation of the state of the roads leading to a Michigan village appeared in the Detroit Free Press: The highways about this place are in a very bad condition, the clay mud being, in some places, from two and one-half to three feet in depth. This has injured travel to such an extent that in many instances considerable loss has been sustained. Farmers who are furnishing Detroit markets have been obliged to hold their produce until the roads become passable. To-day a German farmer, who was returning from the city, got stuck in the mud and had to finish his journey without the wagon. The butchers supplying commission houses with pork are also among the losers.

## Wide Tires.

The effect of wide tires on roads has been shown clearly in a street in Springfield, Mass., over which heavy quarry wagons are driven. The road was formerly badly cut up, but a number of years ago it was given a heavy surface coat of gravel, with the understanding that wide tires should be put on the wagons carrying the quarry stone. This was done, the tires being four to five inches wide, and since that time the street has been in good condition, although little has been done to it.—New York Times.

## Road Maintenance.

The only way by which a macadam roadway can be kept firm and compact and preserved through summer heat is to moisten it regularly. If macadam is worth paying for, it is worth caring for. But this is done only in spots, where private parties bear the expense, and, instead of keeping the roads always good and firm, it is customary to wait until the sun has disrupted the surface and then to spread on a quantity of earth, stones and sod to "protect" it.—Exchange.

## Voted for Good Roads.

Special elections were held in Greencastle and Warren Townships, Putnam County, Ind., this spring for free macadam wagon roads. The proposition carried by substantial majorities. The dispatch adds that people of that section believe in good roads.

## In Hyde Park with Carlyle.

In company with Mr. Froude, the historian, Col. Higginson joins Thomas Carlyle in one of his daily strolls in Hyde Park and tells us in the Atlantic: Nothing could well be more curious at that day than the look and costume of Carlyle. He had then been living in London nearly forty years, yet he had the untamed aspect of one just arrived from Ecclefechan. He wore "an old experienced coat," such as Thoreau attributes to his Scotch fisherman, one having that unreasonable high collar of other days, in which the head was sunk; his hair was coarse and stood up at its own will; his bushy whiskers were thrust into prominence by those stiff collars which the German students call "father-killers," from a tradition that their points once pierced the jugular vein of a parent during an affectionate embrace. In this guise, with a fur cap and stout walking-stick, he accompanied Froude and myself on our walk. I observed that near his Chelsea home the passers-by regarded him with a sort of familiar interest, farther off with un-

disguised curiosity, and at Hyde Park again with a sort of recognition, as if an accustomed figure. At one point on our way home some poor children were playing on a bit of rough ground lately included in a park, and they timidly stopped their frolic as we drew near. The oldest boy, looking from one to another of us, selected Carlyle as the least formidable, and said, "I say, mister, may we roll on this here grass?" Carlyle stopped, leaning on his staff, and said in his homeliest accents, "Yes, my little fellow, ye may r-r-roll at discretion," when the children resumed their play, one little girl repeating his direction audibly, as if in a vain effort to take in the whole meaning of his long word.

## THE CZAR'S EAR.

Russian Peasants' Remarkable Credulity.

In the western districts of the Cherson province of Russia there recently occurred a strike of peasants, who resolutely declined to do any more work for the local landowner. The police investigated the matter, and, according to our St. Petersburg correspondent, give the following extraordinary reasons for the outbreak:

A picture of the present Czar was recently sent to all communal councils in Russia, including, of course, those in Cherson. As the picture only presented a side view of the Czar, only one ear was visible. This led the peasants to believe that the Czar really possessed only one ear, and the loss of the other they thus account for:

When Alexander III. died (say these peasants), his widow and old advisers began to confer together, afterward inviting Nicholas II. to join them. As soon as Czar Nicholas entered the room he declared that all land in Russia must be equally divided among the peasants. One of his councillors replied: "As sure as you cannot see your own ear you won't divide the land." The Czar thereupon cut off one ear, and remarked, "As surely as I now see my ear I will divide the land."

The peasants in Cherson were so convinced of the truth of this legend that they believed a strike against the landowners would be followed by the intervention of the Czar and the division of the land among themselves.—London Mail.

## The Child at the Play.

The 6-year-old son of a newspaper man occasionally goes to the matinee with his mother, but the trouble with him is that he becomes greatly excited, and is apt to express his feelings in words, to the amusement of the audience, but somewhat to the annoyance of the actors. At a recent play one of the actors was in the act of choking another whom he suspected of being guilty of a crime. As the actor went toward the supposed villain with his hands outstretched, the boy became greatly excited, and as the men clinched the boy stood up and called out: "Say, let him alone, he didn't do it!" There was a laugh from the audience and a surprised look from the stage.

At another time, in a play where a husband suspected his wife, and she was pleading to be taken home and given an opportunity to prove her innocence, the boy could not stand the woman's pleas and the husband's cold reception of her entreaties, and he called out: "Please, mister, take her back!" The boy has not been taken to the theater recently.—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

## History Some Time Hence.

Teacher of history—Wille, what was the main thing which hastened the Spanish-American war?

Wille—The destruction of the Maine, mainly.  
"What happened then?"  
"A battle on the main."  
"The Spanish main?"  
"No."  
"The American Maine?"  
"No; just outside Maine-la."  
"Did the Americans fight well?"  
"With might and main."  
"What remained?"  
"Not much of Spain."  
"What caused the war?"  
"Spanish do-main."  
"On the main-land?"  
"No; on the island of Cuba."  
"Very good, Wille; always remember the Maine."—Boston Times.

## Canada's Mineral Wealth.

Canada's mineral wealth is gradually being developed, and in the near future this development is likely to be carried forward much more rapidly than in the past. The reports received from the Cheticamp gold districts of Nova Scotia lately are to the effect that very rich ore has been uncovered in large quantities. The assayed value is over double that first found and it was considered rich. Sinking on the lead continues and the footwall has not yet been reached, although the company has penetrated eighteen feet of ore body.

## Proved His Title.

"I hardly think you are entitled to a pension," said the state official to the Billville applicant. "Your name does not appear on the war records. What battles were you in?"  
"Well, colonel," replied the applicant, "ter tell the plain truth, I wasn't in any battles, but I lost my voice a-hole-lerin' when Gin'ral Lee surrendered."

Whenever a woman can't find anything else to do, she makes doilies, and gets her neighbors to take chances. A man, when all other avenues to employment are closed, becomes a land agent for the Pittsburg & Gulf, or goes into the insurance business.

You have heard the mule abused all your life. Did you ever know a mule to run away, or kick anybody?

A young man with a slender salary should marry a girl with a small waist.

## MONKS OF HIGH DEGREE.

In the German Monastery There Are Devices Born in the Purple.

The Pope has received in private audience the abbe of the famous Abbey of Benzon, at Seckau, in Germany, one of the best known and celebrated monasteries, especially because of the high station of the monks who are gathered there. The abbe spoke separately and in detail of each of his dependent brother monks, and Leo XIII. heard with interest of their welfare. The monks of the abbey include Prince Phillip of Hohenlohe, who has bidden a definite adieu to the world; Father Charles, under which name is concealed the identity of a brilliant ex-cavalry officer, belonging to an illustrious house; Prince Edward Schonburg-Hartenstein, and Father Benedict, Father Sebastian, once a major in the Saxon army, bearing the name of Baron von Ors; Father John, who was Baron von Drafa, and ran away from the court of Baden to embrace this career; Father Nicholas, who was Baron von Salls-Soglio; Father Hildebrand, who before assuming the cowl and gown was a brave captain, by name of Count de Mempo-stune, and many others too numerous to mention.

The Abbey Seckau is situated among the mountains of Steiermark, in a thick, wild forest, and in thirty years has united together Benedictine monks belonging to the best-known families, celebrated for nobility or riches or distinguished in the arts. This monastery, where the rules are most rigorous, was founded over thirty years ago by two brothers, Maurus and Placidus Wolter of Cologne, two learned monks sent by Pius IX. to Prussia to reorganize the monasteries there, which were degenerating. The pious Princess Catherine of Hohenzollern offered them the ancient Abbey of Benzon to establish a new house, which came into existence in 1803. Around the two brothers there soon gathered literary men and artists, especially from Dusseldorf, in love with the splendors of the Black Forest, who there continued their work, so that there is now an artistic school of Benzon, which may be said to rival the famous one of the Italian Abbey of Monte Cassino. But at Benzon they not only go in for the higher arts, but they make and provide everything for themselves.—Pall Mall Gazette.

## QUER STUFFS

There are more public holidays in Honolulu than in any other city in the world.

All the towns of Sweden are connected by telephones owned by the government.

During the last century one hundred lakes in the Tyrol have subsided and disappeared.

At the present moment the British empire is fifty-three times the size of France, fifty-two times that of Germany, three and a half times that of the United States of America, thrice the size of Europe, with thrice the population of all the Russias. It extends over eleven million square miles, occupies one-fifth of the globe, contains one-fifth of the human race, or 350,000,000 people, embraces four continents, ten thousand islands, five hundred promontories and two thousand rivers.

Sixteen thousand dollars is said to be the record price paid for a cablegram, that price having been paid for a message sent by Mr. Henniker Heaton to Australia in behalf of the British Parliament. Reuter's account of the murderer Deeming's trial, four thousand words, cost \$8,000. An 1,800-word dispatch from London to Argentina cost \$7,500. The most expensive private message so far is that sent by the King of Italy to the Duke of Abruzzi at Rio Janeiro, informing him of the death of his father, the late Duke of Aosta, which cost \$2,670.

## The Money-Making Game.

The first of all English games is making money. That is an all-absorbing game; and we knock each other down often in playing at that than at football, or any other rougher sport; and it is absolutely without purpose; no one who engages heartily in that game ever knows why. Ask a great money-maker what he wants to do with his money—he never knows. He doesn't make it to do anything with it. He gets it only that he may get it. "What will you make of what you have got?" you ask. "Well, I'll get more," he says. Just as at cricket, you get more runs. There's no use in the runs, but to get more of them than other people is the game. And there's no use in the money, but to have more of it than other people is the game. So all that great foul city of London there—rattling, growling, smoking, stinking—a ghastly heap of fermenting brickwork, pouring out poison at every pore—you fancy it is a city of work? Not a street of it! It is a great city of play; very nasty play, and very hard play, but still play. It is only Lord's cricket ground without the turf—a huge billiard table without the cloth, and with pockets as deep as the bottomless pit, but mainly a billiard table after all.—John Ruskin.

## Longest Canal in the World.

The Chenab irrigation canal in the northwest provinces, India, is 200 feet broad. It is doubtless the largest canal in the world. Its main channel is 450 miles long, while the principal branches have an aggregate length of 2,000 miles, and the village branches will extend, when completed, for an additional 4,000 miles. Apart from irrigation the longest canal in the world is that which extends from the frontier of China to St. Petersburg and is 4,472 miles in length. Another Russian canal, from Astrakhan to St. Petersburg, is 1,484 miles long; both the last

named canals were begun by Peter the Great. The Bengal canal, connecting with the River Ganges, completed in 1854, is 960 miles in length and cost £2,000,000 sterling, or £2,200 per mile. The total length of canals in India for irrigating 8,000,000 acres is calculated at 14,000 miles. The Canal Du Midi, connecting the Atlantic with the Mediterranean, is 148 miles long. The Caledonian canal in Scotland has a length of sixty miles. The Suez canal is eighty-eight miles long, and the Erie 360; the Ohio canal, 332; the Miami and Erie, 374; the Manchester ship canal, 35½ miles.—Tid-Bits.

## Unwittingly a Robber.

During Aubrey de Vere's visit to Naples, he heard this warning given: "Do you chance to have a hollow tooth stuffed with gold? If so, do not yawn in the street! Some one will whip the gold out of it, and be off before you have time to close your mouth." The warning did not prevent the Irish gentleman from losing his handkerchief, though fully on his guard, five minutes after leaving his hotel. "Why did you not keep it in your hat?" was the answer given to his complaint. In his "Recollections" he tells this story:

In a hotel frequented by the English, a burly, hot-tempered man used to denounce the pickpockets, and declare that they were no match for him, as he knew their ways. One day he came late to dinner, exclaiming, "They will let me alone for the future!" and then he told his story.

In the best street of Naples, the Toledo, in broad daylight, he, while passing through a crowd, was pressed upon and felt a hand pressing his waistcoat pocket. The next moment a man pushed past him and fled. He felt for his watch; it was gone!

He pursued the robber, shouting to the crowd to stop him. They, on the contrary, facilitated his escape. The villain rushed through a by-street to the left. He pursued him—next through a by-street to the right; there he closed upon him, and knocked him down.

"The coward," he said, "prayed me to spare his life, and I in turn demanded my watch back. The villain surrendered it to me. I pushed it down to the bottom of my pocket, and dismissed the rogue with a parting kick."

As soon as he had eaten his dinner, he ran upstairs, and rushed to his toilet-table, and there was his watch. He returned to the dining-room and confessed his blunder, saying, "I shall return the watch at once to its owner." "Do not trouble yourself about that," dryly replied an Italian nobleman. "The watch is a gold watch, and its owner must be a gentleman. He will neither claim the watch, nor accept it back, for that would be to confess that he had run away, thinking that his assailant was mad, as all Englishmen are supposed to be by our ignorant common people here."

## A Church Buried in Sand.

There are several instances where lighthouses have been increased in height because of the sand which had engulfed them, writes John Gifford in the Engineering Magazine. In one place on the New Jersey coast I once stumbled upon the corner of an old mill fence which had been buried and exposed again on the ocean side. It marked the site of an old field. On the North Carolina dunes, chimneys projecting above the sand belong to the houses of an old fishing village. In France and other parts of Europe villages have been buried. At Soulaire in Gascony a cross was discovered projecting above the sand. Further investigation showed that it was attached to a steeple, and later a well-preserved church of the thirteenth century was excavated. The church is now in use.

## Our Seat of Government.

A London writer says that Washington is the most beautiful and symmetrical city in the world. "Washington was born, while Vienna and Paris were made. London only grew, with no center and no shape, all parts and no whole." To look like a capital, a city wants order, unity of plan, the impression of stately completeness. The men who "laid it off," as their expressive phrase is, put the Capitol on an eminence in the middle, and grouped everything symmetrically round it. The streets were arranged in the national gridiron, with the Capitol as center, the monotony of the plan being relieved by broad avenues cutting the gridiron diagonally. The "city of magnificent distances" may be proud of this praise.

## Sacrificed for the Cause.

Consistency may be a jewel, but that is no reason why it should be reserved for special occasions, and thereby hangs a tale, not to mention several pairs of wings.

A young woman of some prominence in social circles was seen one morning removing four stuffed humming-birds from her hat.

"What are you doing that for?"  
"Because," she answered, with a little sigh, "the annual meeting of the Society for the Preservation of Birds is to be held to-day."  
"Well, what has that to do with it?"  
"Why, I'm the secretary."

## Asylums for the Homeless.

Paris has, apart from two places where paupers can spend the night, fourteen asylums for the homeless, which last year lodged 144,037 persons; of whom 15,557 were women and 2,204 children. Among the lodgers were 246 professors and teachers, 18 students, 5 authors, 5 journalists, 120 actors and singers, 30 musicians and 16 music teachers.

## Rabbits as a Stimulant.

A well-known physician says that when fagged out by professional work he recruits his strength by eating rabbits, and not by drinking wine or spirits.