

**FOR THE HOUSEHOLD.**

**REKNITTING OLD YARN.**—A lady writes the *Ohio Farmer*, that raveled yarn can be reknit to good advantage if when reknitting there is added a thread of spool cotton, thread of like similar color to the yarn. Yarn thus knitted will last nearly if not quite as well as if new, and knit without the thread of cotton. When knitting the heels or toes to stockings it is advisable to knit in the thread of cotton, even when the cotton is not used for other parts; heels and toes thus knit will wear twice or three times as long as those knitted without the thread. "Germantown yarn" when thus knitted will be made durable and lasting, even if knit into mittens, when if such yarn should be used without the thread it would hardly pay for the time consumed in its manufacture. Such yarn is meant for scarfs, neckties, or garments made for ornaments rather than wear and tear; yet if used with the thread, it can be made very serviceable, even when much worn. Raveled yarn of fancy colors can also be used for lamp-mats. Select several strands of harmonizing colors, gather in loops and fasten to a circular piece of covered cardboard.

I wonder if it wasn't an infinite relief to the wives and daughters of Washington officials to find that the wife of the new President had her ideas about dress, and meant to abide by them; that she would not outrage her matronly instincts by wearing low-necked dresses, nor parade expensive jewelry, newly brought for Presidential display. It is something new to find a President's wife with a mind and opinions of her own, and especially sensible opinions, on the dress question, and it will be a blessing to the whole country if she continues to carry them out in the same judicious manner, dressing in a rich, yet simple, style, as becomes her station, with no exaggeration of either fashion or severity. Not that there is any harm in beautiful dressing, but the first lady of the land stands towards other women somewhat as the hostess stands towards her guests, in a position which should not allow her to shame the poorest of them by extravagant display when she receives them as the nation's guests. Besides, our Presidents are seldom rich, or in the possession of a private fortune that would enable their wives to indulge in luxurious tastes; and if under these circumstances an example of modesty and moderation is set, it exerts an influence which can not be otherwise than beneficial upon the whole country.—*Cor. Globe Democrat.*

**AN INDUSTRY WORTH CULTIVATING.**—Mr. Clarence Cook, writing on house-furnishing in the April number of *Scraper*, makes some suggestions in regard to American decoration of china. We quote the paragraph entire: "Since writing about china in the January number of *Scraper*, it has occurred to me to say a word about the home decoration of porcelain, which is at last getting started after having been for years discouraged by the indifference or mild hostility of the dealers. It has long been plain that it was idle to hope for help from the importers and decorators of porcelain and earthenware, because they could not be made to see that their interest lay in getting to be independent of the foreign workmen. The decorative arts in our country have become the dealers in wall-papers, china, furniture, and printed and woven stuffs, find it cheaper to "copy" foreign designs than to employ men who could invent fresh designs and patterns. The only way apparently in which these arts can be given an American impulse is by people outside these decorative trades making their own designs and getting them executed. Perhaps the easiest of these arts to make a beginning with will be the decoration of porcelain, and as one of the main difficulties, the getting it baked neatly, is now put out of the way, there is no reason why everybody who has any liking for dabbling in colors should not buy a few earthenware plates and some colors and begin to decorate china. Of course, many of those who make the experiment will fail and give up trying, and many of those who fail at first will up and do it again, and will succeed at last. But if the occupation can be fairly set on foot, and enough people can be induced to give up working in worsteds and painting wall mottoes, and to try their hands at decorating china for their friends or for the public, a beginning may be made of waking up the dealers to some interest in supplying the home market with home work."

**COOKING FISH.**—The following hints on this subject are taken from an article by the culinary correspondent of the *London Agricultural Gazette*. "Fish should be washed as little as possible, and white fish, after being cleaned and wiped with a damp cloth, should have the stomachs stuffed with salt for an hour or two before cooking. Fish should be put on in cold water, so that the inner part may be sufficiently done, and also it is less liable to break. This rule holds good, except for very small fish, or for salmon boiled in slices, when boiling water should be used. The time will depend on the kind and the size of the fish, but it may be easily known when it is ready by drawing up the fish-plate and trying if it will separate from the bone. Here, as in other things, practice is better than all directions that can be given, as so much depends on the strength of the fire and the size of the fish. A little salt and vinegar should always be put into the water, and some prefer their fish boiled in what is called a *court bouillon*, and this is how it is done: Lay the fish in the fish-kettle with enough cold water to cover it, add a glass of wine or vinegar, some sliced carrot and onions, pepper, salt and a laurel leaf, a bunch of parsley, a faggot of sweet herbs, or some of the same powdered and tied up in a muslin bag. These seasonings impart a fine flavor

to most boiled fish, excepting salmon, and for fresh-water fish it is considered very useful for getting rid of the muddy taste they often have.

**Letter Box.**

**WEeping WATER.**—March 20, 1877.

DEAR LETTER BOX.—I have seen no letters from Weeping Water in the "Box," and thought I would write one. Business is brisk. Politics are done with. Some farmers are at work, hoppers or no hoppers. Weather is variable. Seedable land Wednesday night at Representative Heardsley's. Where are "Dan D. Lyon," and "Sophiar" gone? Would like to see their names in print again. "Biddy B. O'Brien" and "Sneezer" also. As this is my first letter I make it short. Hurrah for the Letter Box. M. ZUZZETTE.

P. S. I forgot to say I am a sincere admirer of "Sophiar." Admire her spunk. M.

**WEeping WATER.** April 3, 1877. EDITOR HERALD.—I have been a constant reader of your excellent paper ever since I have been a resident in the State. I think that the "Letter Box" is a great improvement. As I have never seen any letter from here I thought I would write one. We have a very pretty town here with three hundred inhabitants or more, there are two dry goods stores which do a lively business. Two hardware stores. One drug store run by Mr. P. S. Barnes, a very good man. One blacksmith shop owned by Messrs. Jones & Fanning, the latter has gone to the Sabie Hills. One Jewelry Store owned by Mr. T. L. Potter. One boot and shoe shop run by Mr. Marshall. One harness shop, one furniture store and one milliner's shop. I have filled my space. I will finish next week. UNCLE BEN.

**Detective Ingenuity.** The old proverb, Murder will out, is constantly justified, and it is curious and interesting to see how, as the craft of crime deepens with the progress of civilization, the ingenuity of discovery keeps equal pace with it. Out-fancied robbery, the foot-pal and the highwayman riding by as in the last-century English novels, and presenting a blunderbuss at the coach window while the company aight and are relieved of their purses by the masked Robin Hood, who leaps into the saddle, and touching his hat, with a round compliment to the ladies, gallops away—all this has passed away with the balliffs and sponging-houses the Fleet and the Marshalsea. The garrote and the masked gang of burglars are the familiar form of robbery in our day, while for great and difficult crimes the wits of rascals are matched with those of detectives, and the rascals are very sure to go to the wall.

A recent capture of nail robbers well illustrates this, and is a signal proof of the skill that follows the most careful crime. Merchants and others in Philadelphia who had dealings with Boston found that the most valuable and important letters constantly disappeared. They disappeared without a clow, and the correspondents soon complained at the Post office Department, which, upon full information, applied itself with its most skillful detective force to the discovery of the thieves, but in vain. But similar detective skill, differently employed, struck the clow. The detective agency of an express company was hastily engaged in the search for valuable baggage that had been stolen, and some of the agents, who had been "shadowing" two suspicious persons, followed them from a house in Prince Street to the office of the American Express Company, at the corner of Broadway and Fourth Street. The suspicious persons here left two packages addressed to Canada. When they had left, the detectives entered the office and told the agents of the company their suspicions that the packages contained stolen goods. The packages were at once opened. One was found to contain a mail-bag, and the other a traveling-bag or satchel in which were the stamps of a mail-route agent's outfit. This discovery was at once made known at the Post-office, and its agents carefully examined the contents of the two bags. The mail-bag contained mutilated letters which had evidently been mailed at York in Pennsylvania, and the satchel the working tools of a route agent upon the Pennsylvania Railroad. Here was the long-sought clow, and the post-office and the express detectives followed it closely to the end. The satchel had been stolen from a mail wagon while going from the New York post-office to Jersey City. One of the drivers was arrested and his capture led to that of a man named Kelly, the apparent leader of the gang, and a woman with whom he lived, and other confederates. The woman's house was searched, and in a trunk obtained by her were found letters mailed a few days before in Philadelphia, containing checks payable in Boston. Other letters were found from which the inclosures had been taken, and it appeared that money had been paid upon forged indorsements of signatures obtained in this way. The last man who was arrested was found to be the important confederate. He was a mail driver who allowed the bags to be taken from the wagon. When the bags had been thoroughly rifled, they were carefully done up in packages and sent by express to various distant cities addressed to fictitious names. All traces of the bags thus disappeared. It was a clever scheme, but not clever enough. Corruption was not more than honesty. As Pidding is fond of saying, such ingenuity turned to honest industry, would not only suffice to carry

the world far forward toward virtue but would make the knaves prosperous and respectable citizens. In the meanwhile, it is comfortable to see the constant evidence that sharp as crime may be, justice is sharper.—*EDITOR'S Easy Chair, in Harper's Magazine for March.*

**Jokelets.**

Springins says that he once prevented a severe case of hydrophobia by simply getting on a high fence and waiting till the dog had gone by.

"Exploring waist places," said John Henry, as he put his arm around the pretty chambermaid. "Navigation of the air," said Mrs. Henry, overhearing him, and sailing into his raven curls.

An Irishman wrote a letter to his friend but having no stamps, and knowing that his friend refused unpaid letters, wrote on the outside of the envelope: "For the letter carrier. Should the letter be refused, tell my friend it is from me."

"My darling," said he, "you have a hundred thousand dollars, and I worship you." "And you have two hundred thousand dollars, my pet, and I adore you." That was her response. The printer is respectfully requested not to make that *re-spon-du-ticks*.

A Clergyman in this city went the other day to call upon a poor woman living a little distance from the church. She was a new-comer in the vicinity, and the clergyman had heard that she was very pious. "I trust the Lord sustains you in your afflictions," said he; and she answered, "The Lord! Who's he?"

A three-year-old little girl, at Rochester, N. Y., was taught to conclude the evening prayer, during the temporary absence of her father, with, "And please watch over my papa." It sounded very sweet, and the mother's amusement may be imagined when she added, "And you'd better keep an eye on mamma, too!"

A finely-dressed lady, and very intellectual-looking slipped on a piece of orange-peel on Fifth Avenue yesterday, and sat down awfully hard. "My," she exclaimed, "the velocity of that descent unnerves me!" "I beg pardon," said the gentleman who assisted her to rise, "you are a Bostonian, I fancy." And she was.

Nervous gentleman—"Now be careful how you drive, cabby, and go slowly over the stones, for I hate to be shaken. And mind you pull up at the right house, and look out for those dreadful railway vans." Cabby—"Never fear, sir, I'll do my best. And which 'orspitall' would you wish to be taken, sir, in case of an accident?"

She was fond of conundrums, and when she learned that *muller* was Latin for woman she thought she had a good one. So she asked her husband what was the difference between herself and a mule. And as he had been married several years, he was too thoughtful to trouble her by guessing but kindly remarked he had never been able to see any.

An enthusiastic son of the Emerald Isle was making rail fence on his way down Main Street shooting at the top of his voice, "Hurrah for old Ireland!" when a passer-by pushed him aside, at the same time exclaiming, "Hurrah for b—!" "That's right, me by," said the Irishman; "let every man shout for his own country!"

A jurymen was summoned at a county court. After replying satisfactorily to the several questions propounded by the solicitor, he was accepted, and in the usual way commanded to look upon the prisoner. After scanning the man closely the unprejudiced juror turned on the judge, and, in a firm, solemn voice, he said, "Yes, I think he is guilty."

Curiosities Never Seen—A fence made from the railing of a scolding wife; a plate of butter from the cream of the moon; the original brush used in painting the signs of the times; the hammer that broke up the meeting; the animal that drew an inference; eggs from a nest of thieves; and a bucket of water from "All's well."

Conversation near a marriage license clerk's desk, between a clergyman who had come to make a marriage return and a middle-aged man waiting to see one of the clerks. Clergyman—"Good-morning, my friend; where is that pair of boots you promised to make me instead of the fee which you had not the money to pay when I married you." Oh, I'll make them the first chance I get; but I'll make two pairs if you'll unmarry me again!"

Lovers are an imprudent lot. One of them sings:

"On the terrace a moment we linger; The woodlands are hidden in mist, And unnumbered are my lady-love's fingers, Her lips are too red to be kissed."

The plea of "poetic license" should not excuse the man who keeps a girl out on a terrace until her fingers are numb and her lips are coated with ice. Such an indiscreet act was enough to give the young lady a cold which would finally settle into consumption; and her lover should have been kicked off the terrace with vigor and dispatch.

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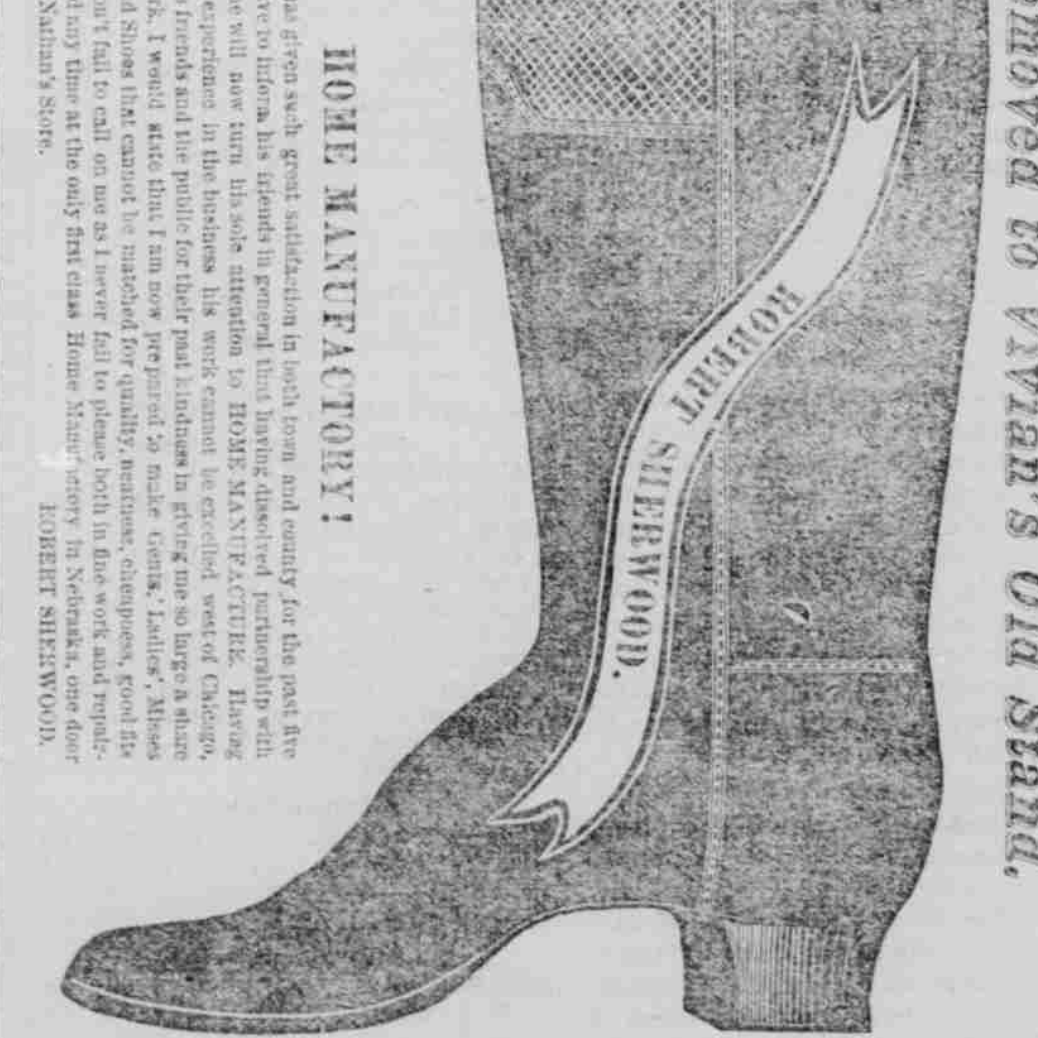
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  - Matt Shades, one dollar.
  - Table Linen, one dollar.
  - Crash Toweling, one dollar.
  - Summer Shawls, 75c up.
  - Handkerchiefs, 3 for 25c.
  - Ladies Silk Handkercher, 35c each.
  - Ladies Hose, 3 pair for 25c.
  - Men's Socks 5c up.
  - Cuffs and Collars, 25c a set, and up.
  - Bed Spreads, one dollar up.
  - Corsets, good, 50c up.

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**MEN AND BOYS' HATS AND CAPS.**

Hats, 75c up; Caps, 10c up; Boots, \$2 per pair up; Shoes, \$1 per pair up; TRUNKS and VALISES, a good assortment. We do not keep a little of everything, from an Axe Handle to a barrel of salt, but what we do carry we have in full and complete stock. JEWELRY, PLATED WARE, CLOCKS, TABLE and POCKET CUTLERY, etc.

**Our Millinery Department.**

We would inform the ladies of Plattsouth and vicinity that we are in receipt of the finest

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