

MAID AND MATRON

The Sensitive Woman.

Woman's whole character is formed by the endurance of necessary evils. Says a clever woman writer in Black and White. The little girl's wishes and predilections are set aside from earliest youth in favor of her brother's. It is he who decides the games, who makes her field, or bowl, or run; who, if they play horses, drives the team; who has most money, most presents, most audacity and most liberty. When they grow older, it is he who has the best masters, the finest education, for whom all is done, on whom the family pride and triumph center, and who scolds his sister for a milkop if she cries when he pinches her. The mother sets aside her happiness for her children; it is she who wheedles the paterfamilias out of the necessary money for boots and socks, hats and ribbons, who dresses the girls at the cost of her own toilette, and saves up her pin money to increase the sailor boy's allowance. If she is sensitive she conceals the fact, imposes violence on her nerves and bears as

scientific turn of mind interesting themselves in work of this kind. But for the presence of his wife Dr. Seligman would have been unable to secure many of the facts which he has accumulated. The Veddas, who live in caves, are extremely averse to having white men visit their families, but Mrs. Seligman was warmly welcomed among them, and among other things she collected records of the songs of the women and girls. They took the greatest delight in the phonograph, and hearing their songs and lullabies repeated by the instrument.

Banish the Feather Bed.

Do you still sleep on feather beds? You do, because mother gave them to you for a part of your wedding "set-out." Discard them. They are not sanitary, because they allow the body to sink down so deep that the air cannot circulate about it, and that is not for good health. The bed should be set out a little from the walls, so there will be a free circulation of air all

and plainer, with button trimming much in evidence.

Opossum fur is the latest cry in Paris for coat collars, cuffs, revers, linings and waistcoats.

The automobile is responsible for the array of long coats with which furrers are provided.

A feature of empire and directoire evening gowns is a fringe placed exactly on the edge of the hem.

A new combination is brown and gray, but these must have something in common and must not clash.

In slippers the tendency is toward lower cuts and trimmings of rosettes and cut steel or rhinestone buckles.

One of the prettiest novelties in shirt waists is an almost infinitesimal valencienne insertion in the yokes.

Though directoire styles still govern, they are much softened and toned down by strong forecasts of the early empire.

The long mosquitoire and leg-o-mutton sleeves are the most important characteristics of the newest fashion in shirt waists.

Dressy black coats come in directoire lines fashioned of ottoman silk, satin, velour, with large revers and rich braidings.

If you are in doubt about what kind of a waist to get to go with a good-looking coat and skirt, you cannot go

NEW IDEAS FOR WALKING SUITS.



best she can the noise and uproar that must never disturb father.

The uneducated woman has often the quickest perception, the finest tact, the most vivid sensibility; she will feel, without speaking, she understands your inmost thoughts, she is in rapport with you spiritually, she knows without being told. The supremely human woman, she who is most alive, most herself, is also the most sensitive. Who does not know at least one sweet soul to whom everybody turns when in difficulty, who receives the love confidences of the boy, the whispered worries of the woman, the diplomatic, political and social annoyances of the man, women who are accused of petticoat government, but to whose exquisite tact and unselfishness sensitiveness and delicacy are due the reunion of families, the blinding-up of broken hearts, the forgiveness of sins and the bright hopes of joy hereafter?

Thoughts.

It is very important to cultivate businesslike habits. An eminent friend of mine assured me not long ago that when he thought over the many cases he had known of men, even of good ability and high character, who had been unsuccessful in life, by far the most frequent cause of failure was that they were dilatory, unpunctual, unable to work cordially with others, obstinate in small things, and, in fact, what we call unbusinesslike.—Lord Avebury.

Women in Ethnology.

The recent investigations of Dr. C. G. Seligman among the Veddas of Ceylon, and the great importance of the aid which Dr. Seligman's wife was able to give him, led Mr. A. C. Haddon to point out the desirability of women of a

around it. And the mattress should not be too soft, if you would sleep comfortably. The covers should be light and not heavy and soggy. Heavy covers absorb perspiration and are not as warm as light ones, provided the latter are made of the right kind of material. I believe that many cases of tuberculosis can be traced to feather beds and heavy covers.

To Prevent Rusting.

It is better to use wooden pegs in bath rooms or kitchens where damp towels or cloths are apt to be hung, otherwise the linen may rust from the iron. If iron hooks are already in place and it is not convenient to change them, give them a coat of white enamel paint. It prevents danger of rusting and is much less unsightly against the paper. If the linen has already been rusted it may be removed by rubbing with lemon juice and salt.



Many of the new skirts are crossed in the front.

The neck outline of bodices is likely to grow higher.

Sleeves are all long, so long gloves are worn only in the evening.

Little neck pieces, composed of fur bands and ruffles, are the thing just now.

Tailored suits grow longer, tighter

wrong in choosing colored chiffon cloth to match the suit.

In spite of the powerful directoire vogue, tunic skirts and Grecian folds still have a distinct place in the styles of the day.

A loose coat of showerproof tweed should never be omitted from the school outfit. It will prove a boon when the weather is bad.

When Forced to Rest.

When one has a resting time forced upon her, is the psychological moment to get busy with the hair. Every woman knows the benefits of tonic treatments, but every woman knows equally well what a sight she is during the process. Therefore, instead of bemoaning when the baby gets the measles or Ruth and Bob come down with chicken pox, shutting you in the house, improve the opportunity to strengthen your locks. You can even resort to crude petroleum without adverting callers. Separate the hair into strands and apply tonics nightly without fear of flattening; rub in vaseline often, and let the hair hang for ventilation.

Prevent Dampness in Bed.

To prevent a bed which is left unused for a week or so becoming damp, lay a blanket on top of the other clothes when the bed is made. Take this blanket off before using, and you will find the bed quite safe to use.

Oil Lamps.

A small lump of camphor gum in the body of the lamp will greatly improve the light and make the flame clearer and brighter. Some say that occasionally a few drops of vinegar will give the same results.



Oh, brown-eyed boy, with hair of gold,
Ah, why this thoughtful pause
From games and toys and soldiers bold?
Laddie, is it because
They've tried to rob you of the faith
You had in Santa Claus?

Has all the blue gone from the skies,
The sunshine from the day?
Must sudden tears start in your eyes
At idle words we say?
Is childhood's faith indeed so sweet
That years would drive away?

Are there no reindeer champing still,
No dream-sleigh flying past?
No silver bells that throb and thrill
Adown the winter's blast?
Must every dream of boyhood days
Have waking time at last?

Ah, laddie, check the sob that chokes.
The doubt that overcomes.
The worldly wisdom that revokes
A faith in childish laws:
So long as there are loving hearts
There'll be Santa Claus.

HOLLY DECORATIONS.

How to Trim the House with Greens For Christmas.

These are the most time honored and the most handsome of all Christmas decorations, says the Chicago Tribune. The doorway into the dining room may be transformed with a long rope of evergreens and some holly berries. The rope may be draped about the door and perhaps carried over the framework of a window and brought down to the edge of a mantel-piece. The other end will perhaps be looped back and brought over a brass sconce, then fastened with a bunch of holly tied with a streaming scarlet ribbon.

From another doorway, also draped with hemlock rope, suspend a Christmas bell of holly, with mistletoe for a clapper, which will involve many entertaining complications during the festive day.

A coarse fish net tacked along the side of a stairway and stuck with branches of holly and laurel branches of laurel and cedar, becomes charming.

Wreaths of laurel and holly tied with scarlet ribbons are beautiful in the windows; one on the front door just below the knocker, when there is a knocker, is delightful.

A row of little pine trees breast high along each side of a wide wall is one woman's effective Christmas treatment of her home.

Anywhere and everywhere along the rope of hemlock and holly boughs, which are as appropriate to a 2 by 4 flat as to a twenty roomed mansion.

A Nuremberg Christmas tree is a distinct beauty on a Christmas drawing room or at a children's Christmas table. It is made of stiff green wire, covered with green, and comes in a wooden pot and measures three feet or less. It is a blaze of cheerful glory when lighted and can be folded and packed away and rise again for many successive Christmases.

FESTIVAL OF THE NATIVITY.

Was Observed at Very Early Time in History of Church.

The festival of Christmas was observed at a very early period in the church, as indeed it could hardly but be; for that which brought the joy of angels within reach of men's ears could not but have been devoutly and joyously remembered by Christians, year by year, when they came fully to understand the greatness of the event. It is most fit that the season so marked out by angels by songs of joy, such as had not been heard on earth since the creation, should also be observed as a time of festive gladness by the church, and in the social life of Christians. Christ Himself instituted this festival when He sanctified the day by then first revealing His human nature to the eyes of mankind. The holy angels witnessed to its separation forever as a day of days, when they proclaimed the glory that was then offered to God in the highest by the restoration of perfect manhood in the virgin-born Jesus, and the peace that was brought among men on earth through the reunion of their nature to God.

It is to the nativity of our Lord that all the pages of the Bible point as the center on which everything there recorded turns.

Fortune Telling on New Year's Eve.

Fortune telling obtains in rural Germany on New Year's eve. The young people, who gather to peer together into the future, melt a little lead in a long handled ladle. The person who grasps the handle then pours the molten metal into a pail of water, standing well back so as not to be scalded by the splashing water and steam, for the striking of the lead upon the water produces almost the effect of an explosion. If the lead congeals into any shape that can be construed as like a star it is a good augury. If a film gathers on the surface it means money. Any old woman who is an expert sure can see to the metal and water sure signs of coming marriage, long journeys, sickness or death. The ability to read these riddles is supposed to descend by inheritance from mother to daughter.

Changed History of World.

The history of the world prior to Christ is a history of barbarism, cruelty and bloodshed. Read the history of Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome and you read a history of vice, degradation and crime. A history that is written in blood and iniquity. The classic Greeks and tenacious Romans

worshipped a multitude of gods. Even the inhabitants of Syria had gone astray until it was declared by the prophet. Our worthy ancestors, the Teutones, were a semi-barbarous people, without literature, without government, without refinement and without religion, but when they received the glad tidings of the gospel of Christ their habits were changed, their manners refined and their civilization improved. Wherever this gospel is proclaimed it is as a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

CAN BE MADE AT HOME.

For the deft fingers and quick eye of the practical woman who can sew there are many pretty devices that can be made in the evening at home, that are beautiful as Christmas gifts, and are generally prized more highly by their recipients than those bought in



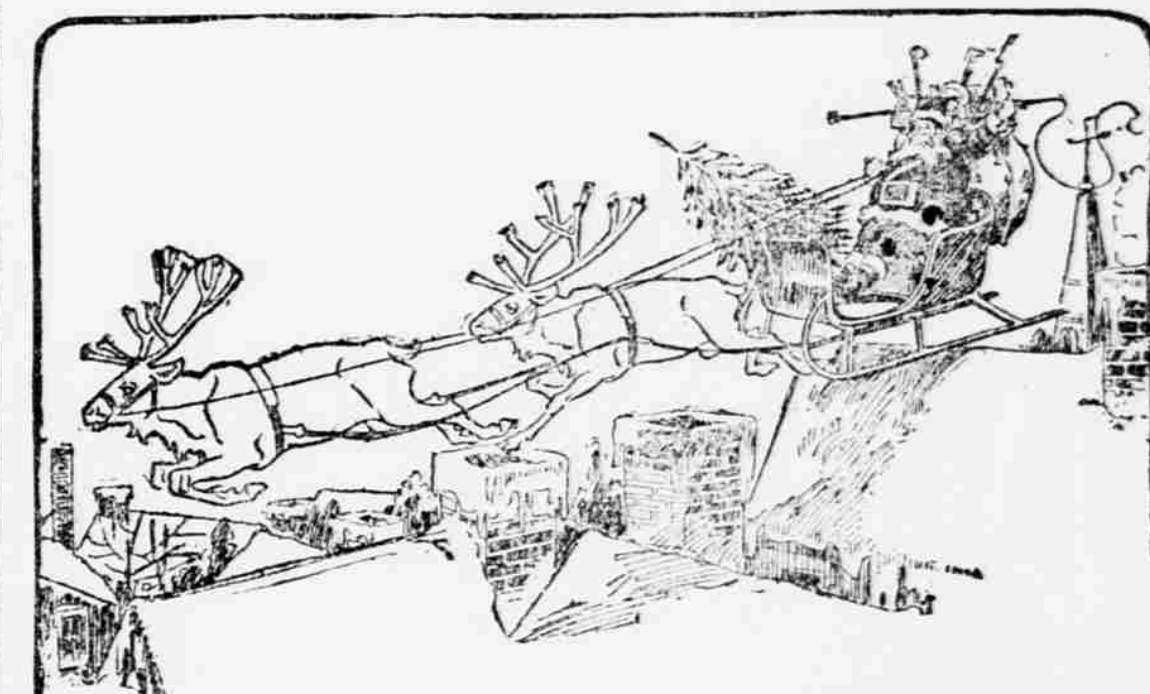
GIFTS ACCEPTABLE.

the stores. Besides this, they are very much less expensive than the store-made articles.

One very simple and inexpensive little affair is a hair receiver, made of white lawn or dimity. It is tucked in clusters, and takes one yard and a half of satin ribbon run through the top.

Warm bedroom slippers have for time out of count been a favorite holiday present to be made at home. The

KRISS KRINGLE'S TANDEM.



Last year my carriage ran by steam,
The year before by air,
And then I used the trolley cars,
To take me everywhere.

But now I'm old and mean to use
My old-time sleigh and deer
To carry presents far and deer
And scatter Christmas cheer.

cut shows a pair made of double faced elderdown flannel, pink and white. Motives of point de Venice lace are used to trim the slippers, in connection with tiny blue ribbon bows.

Wash-rags made of Turkish toweling either white or colored, are another suggestion to the home-worker for Christmas. These are finished with a crocheted border or edge, made of a small shell stitch, either of cotton or zephyr. The accompanying illustration shows a white wash-rag, with edge of variegated blue cotton thread.

An all-the-year-round useful gift is the housewife, or needle case, made of silk or velvet. Striped stuffs or Dolly Varden ribbon are both pretty to make these of. Pale colored silk or satin is used for the lining and very narrow ribbon to tie it with, for the binding of the case.

The needle case in the cut shows a pocket for thread, made of satin like the lining, and the emery roll and needle book of gray flannel, brier stitched with silk. Straps, buttoned with silk, are made to hold the thimble and scissors.

Dainty little accessories for the general costume can be made at home. Something of the milliner's skill would be required to make the pretty sash bow shown here. The stock shown in the cut illustrates very acceptable gifts for any dainty maid or matron to give or receive.

A Reminder for Papa.

The children were making their plans for Christmas, and their mother was helping them, while their father was deep in his evening paper. But he could hear, and this what he heard:

"What are you going to give papa?" asked the mother.

"I think," said the eldest, thoughtfully, "that I will give him an alarm clock."

"An alarm clock!" exclaimed the mother. "Why do you want to give him an alarm clock?"

"Because," answered the child, with an earnestness that showed she had given the matter some thought, "if he

has an alarm clock at the office maybe he will know when it is time to come home to dinner."—Chicago Evening Post.

THE NEW YEAR IN JAPAN.

The Day When the Mikado Has to Get Up at 5 o'Clock.

Quaint and curious New Year customs exist in Japan, where the 1st of January commences with a religious festival celebrated at 5 in the morning. At this time the Mikado, dressed in Japanese costume, proceeds from the palace, followed by his deputies arrayed in ancient style and the foreign diplomats in regalia dress. He enters a small building or temple, prostrates himself to the east, west, north and south, and all present pray for the prosperity of the nation.

Later at a ceremonial breakfast the Emperor and Empress receive their family and court for three hours, the rooms being thronged. At the expiration of that time the real year begins, and a formal luncheon is served from which each guest is expected to take a cup and saucer as a souvenir.

Among the people the earth and heaven are propitiated by offerings of rice and vegetables, and strips of red paper are pasted on the doors as a sign of good luck. This color is used exclusively save in cases where a death has occurred within a year, when blue paper is used instead of red. The day ends with people still saluting each other and attending the plays at the theaters, where gorgeous robes and monotonous voices are the distinguishing features. — New York World.

Has Three Christmases.

Bethlehem is the only place on earth which celebrates Christmastide three times each year. The inhabitants of the city are almost all Latins, Greeks and Armenians. The Latins keep the festival on December 25. The Greek Catholics celebrate it 12 days later, maintaining the old style calendar. The Armenians observe Epiphany in place of Christmas. Thus the people of the "Holy City" enjoy a prolonged fete as the old year is ending and the new beginning. But the processions of pilgrims of each of the faiths alike repair on Christmas eve to the hallowed traditional fields where the angelic hosts saluted the shepherds.

Talking of Christmas.

They're talking of the Christmas—"How long is it, an' when will Santa Claus be comin' down the chimney place again?" For the toy stores are open—their glit-

TIME IS MONEY.



Chimmie (of Bleeker street)—"Wot's dis I hear 'bout yer joinin' a Sunday school class, Sloby?"

Sloby (of Baxter street)—"Dat's all right. See? Chris'mus is a-comin'. See?"

Chimmie—Yes; an' wile yer wastin' yer good time in a church waitin' for a candy-cane yer might be makin' two dollars in col'd cash sobbin' on a street corner.