The Watchword of the Stars

Night—and the cool soft air
And of the murmurous sleep of the sea;
And moving up the purple east
Orion's splendid three.

Night—and the silentness,
And the shadow-brooding lea,
And moving through the mellow south
Orion's constant three.

Night—and the loneliness,
And the eyes that wake and weep;
But calm sits Christ in the West
The stars that never sleep.

What is your watchword, stars?
Tell me, Orion's three!
What is your message?" Love.
Patience and Constancy."

—Ella Higginson.

FOR LAW AND ORDER

BY J. C. PLUMMER.

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Mr. Bowly walked up the main street of Hemley. If ever a good man walked up that street he was doing it then. Goodness lay in every fold of the fat smooth shaven face. Immovable virtue was expressed by the tightly tied white cravat under the double chin. Mr. Bowly was prominent in the synod of the Wesleyan chapel of Hemley and when he was not doing his best to improve this sinful world he was selling ropes and groceries in his ship chandlery on the wharf.

When he came to Captain Crabbe's house in the Square he knocked at the door and was admitted. Captain Crabbe was also a good man and he was also prominent in the chapel. The captain was a Londoner and had retired from the sea and settled in Hemley. In the old days he had been a shrewd man, he said so himself in the experience meetings an' at times in a world that he would recount the deeds of his unregenerate days with a grin about his lips and a leer in his eyes as if the calves and he still had a device on his palate. But those days had passed, he was really under the influence of religion and conducted himself like a member of the church.

"Brother Crabbe," said Mr. Bowly, shutting himself with a grunt, for he was fat, "I have heard a rumor, a bad and alarming rumor." He watched Captain Crabbe's face closely as he said it.

"What are you 'eard, Brother Bowly?" asked the captain. He also regarded Brother Bowly's countenance with interest.

"There is a rumor," replied Mr. Bowly, "that a prize fight is to come off near Hemley. That the peace and order of this quiet town is to be profaned by such a rowdy gathering is horrible."

"Hi 'eard the rumor too," remarked the captain, looking out of the window, "and I was just coming to see you about it."

"I am president of the Law and Order Society and you are the vice president. It is incumbent on us to stop this insurrectio' affair," said Mr. Bowly.

"You must surely stop it," agreed the captain. "Are you 'eard where it's to come off?"

"At Oldham's Woods," replied Mr. Bowly, "at least that's my information."

"That's where Hi 'eard it 'd be," said the captain. "Hi'll see Mr. Grotch, the magistrate, and you'd better see Mr. Peanut, the constable."

"I'll do it," asserted Mr. Bowly. "Oh, that such a beautiful spot as Oldham's Woods should be defiled by such an illicit assemblage of sinful men!"

The guardians of the peace and order of Hemley shook hands and parted. Then Mr. Bowly had some the captain took from his pocket an illicit spirit.

"Cap'n Crabbe—The Southward Kid and the Sheffield Gamecock are going to have a little fist scuffle near your town Wednesday. You used to like this sport once and if you want to see this fight you can get the ticket spot and time from Ben Hughes at the Rods and Sword in High street. Eastward. Yours truly,

"Sam."

This note had been received by the captain the Saturday previous and on Monday rustiness had taken him to London.

As became a vigilant member of the Law and Order Society Captain Crabbe had not failed to discover by diplomatic inquiry the time and place where this most unseemly infraction of the peace quietude and honor of Hemley was threatened.

This was Tuesday and the fight was appointed for the next day. Prompt action was necessary.

"You were right," said he to Mr. Bowly that evening. "Holdham's Woods is the place and daybreak is the time."

Mr. Bowly eyed the captain closely while he spoke.

"I have already ascertained as best way to Oldham's Woods is past the mill and over the footbridge going due south. The captain beat his way due north. He crossed the Spring Farm, rolled through the bracken, becoming dew sodden, and then veered into a sequestered vale surrounded by woodland.

He was not the only one in the vale. Some hundred rough looking men were there and there was a ring being roped off.

"Hi guess Bowly's tramping towards Holdham's Woods by now," muttered the captain, taking deep interest in the proceedings.

When the brawny champions entered the ring the captain had no difficulty in getting an excellent position to view the fight. In fact, he seemed

Had been a sinful man.

marvelously familiar with the whole proceedings and spoke to one or two sporting looking men by their first names, being familiarly addressed by them as "Cap."

Greatly relieved to see that none of Hemley's citizens were present the captain gave himself up heart and soul to the fight. The Sheffield Gamecock had much the best of it at the start and baulked the Kid as he pleased.

"Five ten to four on the Gamecock," called a spectator, hoarsely.

"Hoo," yelled the captain, "hand doubled if you've the grit."

"Doubled it is," replied the man.

The Kid then dealt the Gamecock a blow perilously near that point of a man's physique beneath which a blow is barred by the rules of manly sport.

"Foul, foul," shrieked a voice wondrously familiar to the captain.

He peered past a bulky gentleman by his side and there stood Mr. Bowly, red faced and angry, shaking his fist under the nose of a man who was in a deep voice denouncing him as a liar.

The captain shrunk back behind his bulky companion and remained hidden until the Kid with a fierce rally had transformed the Gamecock's face into a mass of bruised and bloody flesh and was hailed victor.

Collecting his bet the captain slunk away with the certainty that he had not been seen by Mr. Bowly and entering the woods drew out the parcel from his pocket and took a long cram of spirits. Then he hastened home and informed his spouse that he had taken a walk for indigestion. That afternoon the captain walked down the street with that pleasant feeling that is the concomitant of a bet of ten pounds won by keen knowledge of "form" when he met Mr. Bowly.

That gentleman's usually benign countenance was ruffled as if some unpleasant circumstance had happened to him during the morning.

"I regret, captain," he said, "that we were misinformed as to the place where the fight was to be held. It occurred, I am told, somewhere to the north."

"Hit was a great pity," remarked the captain. "Hi couldn't go with the constable this morning. Hit's a great pity."

"I couldn't go, either," said Mr. Bowly, "and I regret greatly this miscarriage of justice."

And the captain continued his walk slowly shaking his head.

Goodness lay in every fold of the smooth-shaven face.

comes a vigilant officer of the Law and Order Society both time and place, Oldham's Woods at daybreak. You are right, captain, and I compliment you on your co-operation. The officers are notified and the fight will be prevented."

The sun had not thought about shining upon Merrie England when the captain left his couch on Tuesday morning. Like a thoughtful husband he put on his clothes quietly so as not to disturb Mrs. Crabbe's matutinal slumbers and putting an odd looking package in his pocket sallied out. If it was the captain's purpose to aid in the prevention of the fight he went about it in an odd fashion. Everybody in Hemley knows that the shortest way to Oldham's Woods is past the mill and over the footbridge going due south. The captain beat his way due north. He crossed the Spring Farm, rolled through the bracken, becoming dew sodden, and then veered into a sequestered vale surrounded by woodland.

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President's Greeting to Old Friend.

When the Washington's birthday exercises at the Philadelphia Academy of Music had closed President Roosevelt was leaving the stage at the side of Provost Harrison, followed by the other distinguished guests with stately mien and solemn air, each profoundly impressed with the dignity of the occasion. The president suddenly espied Prof. Samuel McCune Lindsay of the university, modestly ensconced behind one of the wings. Breaking away from the astonished provost the president rushed up to the professor with the exclamation: "Hello, old boy. By Jove, I'm glad to see you!" and gave him a handgrasp which made him wince with pain. He then returned to the side of the provost and the procession proceeded.

Where Eggs Are Currency.

Eggs are current coin in Mayo, Kerry, Donegal and Leitrim. They are everywhere received over the counter in payment for tea, sugar, meal, oil, bread, tobacco, patent medicines and general haberdashery. Accounts are kept open and goods supplied on credit in eggs. Predatory agents traveling through the wilds with worthless teas, itinerant tinkers and musicians, Polish Jews hawking tinsel jewelry and holy pictures, all accept this current coin, generally unloading it at the nearest railway town.—Dublin Lady at the House.

FARM ORCHARD AND GARDEN

[Mr. Wragg invites contributions of any new ideas that readers of this department may wish to present, and would be pleased to answer correspondents desiring information on subjects discussed. Address M. J. Wragg, 300 Good Block, Des Moines, Iowa.]

THE CRISIS WITH NURSERY TREES.

It is something of a science to transplant trees that have been received from a distant nursery and have them live. It used to be thought that there must always be a large percentage of loss anyway—even under the best conditions. Both the nurserymen and the planters have now learned that trees of all kinds can be handled in a way to insure their living when placed in their new locations. A well-packed tree has its roots kept moist by being rolled in damp moss and tied up in bagging. The old scheme of pulling trees out of the ground, exposing their roots and sending them away, without any protection, was the cause of many a tree proving a failure. When these trees arrived at the distant station they were thrown out on the platform and left there exposed to the heat of the sun and the drying effects of the wind. In the course of time the purchaser drove around and got his consignment, perhaps a couple of days after their arrival. By that time their roots were good and dry. He drove home and set out his trees in any old way. Even had he set them in the best possible way it is altogether likely that a good many trees would have perished owing to the drying out of the roots. When a large part of his trees failed to grow of course the nurseryman was to blame—so the buyer said. He was right to some extent, in that the trees were sent away with roots not properly protected. In setting trees long or short distances the roots and their moisture supply furnish the key to the situation. Proper treatment of the tree from the time it comes out of the nursery row to the time it goes into the place assigned to it in the orchard will insure a good healthy tree. In setting a hundred or these there need be no failures.

The agricultural colleges are evidently growing in favor with the farmers. No public enterprise can now so readily secure the necessary support from legislatures at these institutions. The legislature of Illinois granted $270,000 for two years. Michigan has a permanent annual appropriation of $100,000. The states which are not up and doing in this matter will certainly be left in the race.

SIDE LINES.

The lines of demarcation between farming and trucking are rapidly vanishing, and to-day it is difficult to say where the former leaves off and the latter begins. On a trip lately through a country formerly entirely devoted to the raising of cereal crops and stock growing the changes were amazing and crops for the canning factories were largely taking the places of the old enterprises. What is implied in these changes? Simply that the old line farming will more and more take up these side lines and thus the changes will come.

The canning industries have come to stay and are calling loudly for these changes. Not only this, but the ever-increasing city demands for the raw vegetable crops must in some way be met, and it is up to the tillers of the soil to be alert and active, and so be able to successfully meet these new conditions.

We too often read without thinking. There are stories and hundreds of farmers who know better who will go to the granary and get seed from the bins to sow in the fields, without selection, cleaning or in any way trying to improve. There is too much at stake to risk seed selected in this manner.

THE HORSE.

Blanket warmly and make the skin active by a vigorous, thorough brushing from head to heels every day. The health and thrift of the horses will be improved in this way.

Keep a stubby broom in the stable to brush all the mud and ice from the horses legs. Then rub them dry with a wisp of straw.

This is the time to train the colts and young horses.

Give a horse a chance to drink often and he never will take enough to injure himself.

It is the low-voiced, sympathetic, self-controlled, firm person who should train colts.

Stay with your horse while he is being shod.

The horse knows that it is not best to eat when one is really sick. He understands the laws of health well enough to know that rest will do more than medicine sometimes. Wish we all knew as much. He knows when his master is proud of him, and when out on parade will do his best to show off to advantage. Finally, the horse knows a true man whenever and wherever he sees him. When he looks at you does he see one?

It is necessary that all the farm machinery to be used now be in perfect order. Every hour lost in making ready after work begins will be equivalent to two lost. There are two times when machinery can be put in repair to advantage; one when the tool was used the last time and just before it is to be used for the first time of the season. A person is in a better condition to note repairs when the tool is put away than at any other time. We are prone to neglect things and then we are also liable to forget.

CARE OF SMALL PIGS.

Let the small, weak pigs of the litter stay with their mother for two weeks after the large ones are weaned. The increased supply of milk will make them grow very rapidly, so that in a few weeks they will often surpass the largest and best of the litter. In this way small weak pigs that would otherwise not pay for their keeping can be made to become large and thrifty hogs.

Next to a clean shirt is a clean lantern.

WHY AND WHEN TO CAPONIZE.

The chief reason for caponizing cockerels is to get a larger profit out of them. Good capons generally sell for a higher price per pound than other poultry. They also weigh more and are marketed at a time when the flock is bringing little return. A flock of capons are quiet, do not crow and are easily taken care of.

The best breeds to caponize are the medium sized varieties, such as Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds, etc. The Asiatics do not give as satisfactory results unless kept until they reach maturity, when they are so large as to be beyond the reach of private families. It does not pay to caponize smaller breeds, for they do not produce dressed fowls of the highest quality. Capons are usually marketed at from six to twelve months of age, and the market for them opens soon after the holidays.

The best time to caponize is when the cockerels are three to four months old. At this age the operation can be performed with less danger than when the birds are older and larger. A bright sunny day must be chosen for the operation and the birds must have been fasted for at least twenty-four hours previous. A special set of instruments are necessary for this purpose, and the work requires skill and care. One may easily acquire the skill by practicing on a few dead birds.

The cost of keeping a horse for a year on a farm is much more than many persons usually suppose. An estimate of such cost was made at the New Hampshire Experiment Station. It was found there that a horse weighing 1,000 pounds and kept at moderately hard work would cost $74.01 per year for board. Foods, of course are higher in New England than they are in the Mississippi basin. In the west it would not cost so much. Taking one horse with another as kept on a farm and allowing for the period of idleness with many farm horses in the winter season, the cost of keep would not be more, probably than $50. Larger horses would, however, cost relatively more than those of the weight referred to.

SUGGESTIONS THAT MAY FIT THE SEASON.

A farmer's helper said to him recently, "I wish you would go over the farm with me and let me know what is to be done. There is a whole lot of work ahead of us and I want to get an early start."

That man has a good deal of ginger in his make-up and is likely to bring "a whole lot" of things to pass before the season closes.

The man who waits until the sap begins to run before he orders spouts and buckets for his sugar bush is likely to lose a good deal of sap and have little sugar to sell. "Shiftless" would not be a bad name for him. We once knew a very good man, a kind and neighborly man, we will call him Smith, who was always tardy. His neighbors called him "the late Mr. Smith." When his estate was settled it was insolvent. It does not pay to be late.

The farmer who went to sleep ten years ago, waking up now, has to learn many new things. He is ten years behind the times. The farmer of to-day is ten years behind the farmer who will be engaged ten years hence. For this reason it behooves every man to be awake to present opportunities and to look as far into the future as he is able to do. The automobile plow and mower are almost in sight.

WOOD ASHES FOR FRUIT PLANTATIONS.

Where wood ashes can be obtained they will usually be found to be of considerable value as a source of potash and phosphoric acid. They are especially good on the strawberry patch, if used in moderate quantities. Their value will depend on a number of things chief of which is the kind of wood from which they were made. Some trees have only five or six per cent of potash in the ash, while trees like the elm are very rich in potash, the ash being sometimes as high as 25 per cent in potash. One ton of wood ashes would contain not less than 100 pounds of potash, which at five cents per pound is worth $5.00, while the phosphorus it contains should be worth in the neighborhood of another dollar. This makes a value of $6.00 for the ton of ashes. This, of course, applies to unleached ashes. Leaching very materially decreases the value of ashes as it removes a large proportion of the potash. Ashes also contain lime, which is of value on many soils.

Sometimes an automobile will cause an old stiff horse to act very much like a colt. I don't blame a horse for getting frightened at some of them, for they are regular scare machines. Some of the occupants dress in a hideous manner, and the machine is constructed to imitate "this satanic majesty," and the whole outfit has a frightful appearance.

HIVING A SWARM OF BEES.

Where bees have an abundance of blossoms they are thrifty and several swarms may come from the same hive in the spring. Have extra hives on the premises so there will be no delay in saving the swarm after it has left the mother hive. When hiving swarms on hot days if the bees cluster on front of the hive and hesitate to go in, do not hurry them too much, they are excited and hot and want plenty of air. Raise up the front of the hive an inch or two and shade them with a board, and when they get cooled off they will go in all right. Always make it comfortable for swarms; it is the only holiday they take in the whole year.

The time of year is approaching when some over-enthusiastic road worker gets into the roadway to scour his plow. Such men know the least about road working of anybody and they should be looked after by the grand jury. One lesson of this kind will teach them to take proper care of their plows another year. We want no road working of this character.

LOCATION OF GROVES.

During the storms of winter is one of the best times we know of to locate the grove. One can then see where the storm strikes the house and barn the worst. The lay of the land has much to do with the drifting of the snow, and any good farmer or stock raiser, by studying the effects of the last blizzard that we have had, will know just where to put his grove in order to give the greatest protection to his house, barn and feed-lots. This should certainly be an eye-opener and a lesson to every owner of a farm that is not properly groved. During the winter one should form an accurate idea as to what his needs are along these lines, and to make provisions for planting out that much needed grove in the spring. There are few farms in the west that could not be moved from 100 to 200 miles south by making the proper investment of evergreens in the spring. At most it would not take over 100 evergreens to make the proper protection, and even if they do cost from $10 to $15, just think what added value such a grove will make to your farm, besides being a great saver in grain and fuel, for wherever protection is given it requires less heat to warm the home and less feed to keep up animal heat.

As to the proper tree to plant, we always advise planting evergreens. We think Scotch, Austrian and White Pine are the best trees to use, and the most satisfactory size is 18 to 24 inches, that have been at least twice transplanted in the nursery. Plant in double rows, 16 feet apart, and the trees 16 feet apart in the row, breaking the joints, as we say, and in five years they will make a perfect barrier against the wind.

The business of fruit growing can be made profitable near a small town. The small towns are not flooded with fruit of all kinds like the cities, and the prices are better. The writer lives near a small village to which large quantities of fruit are shipped every season. The express companies and merchants get the money for fruit that some enterprising farmer might have.

SWINE NOTES.

Be sure that there are no lice on the hogs. Spray them and their nests with kerosene emulsion occasionally.

It will pay to grow pigs for bacon. They must not be the thick, fat hogs. The fat and lean must be evenly distributed.

They must be bred and fed and grown with this in view.

They must have range in pasture in summer, forage and succulent food in winter.

Make a lot of portable shelters now so they will be ready. They should be changed frequently to get as much out of the pastures as possible.

They enrich the pasture; this will be shown the next year by the strong grass.

Look out now for the brood sows. If you expect the arrival of a litter of pigs early in the spring, do not fail to have the quarters made ready early enough to turn the brood sow into it at least a couple of weeks before the pigs are expected. Whole litters of pigs are often lost simply because the brood sow is not turned into suitable quarters before farrowing. The quarters should be made warm enough to keep the small pigs from suffering from cold if they should happen to arrive on a cold, windy day.

In speaking of methods of conducting farm operations many fail to note the character and condition of the soil and climate. One may succeed in the pursuance of a certain method and another fail, all on account of a difference in soil conditions. In some soils it will be well to plow the ground before sowing small grain in the spring of the year; on others it may be done by disking or cultivating. Some soils are benefited by fall plowing and other soils will not permit of any but spring plowing. The man who plows under undecayed straw, strawy manure and heavy coatings of cornstalks should understand that his soil condition is being benefited by it.

SEASONABLE SUGGESTIONS.

When training a tree, bear in mind convenience in gathering fruit, spraying and cultivation, also the admission of enough light to secure well colored fruit.

Look over the seed potatoes and remove every one that shows the slightest symptoms of disease. A single diseased tuber may cause disease to spread among the whole.

Burn all cuttings of the black and red raspberry as soon as you can after trimming. By so doing, no matter how early in the spring, you will kill the insects that infest the wood.

The trimming of grapevines should be done while the ground is cold. The portions cut away, as well as the refuse around each vine, should be burned if there are evidences of rot last season. It will also be an advantage to scatter air-slacked lime around the base of each plant.

Every farmer should have enough pride in his operations to conduct them so each passerby will make remarks of commendation as he passes along. The farm surroundings ought to be such as to call out the declamation, "I'll bet a good farmer lives here!"

PRUNING TOOLS AND HOW TO USE THEM.

Provide yourself with a good pruning saw, a strong, sharp pruning knife, a large and a small pruning shear, and a small pruning shear, and a suitable ladder. In pruning make your cut so as to leave a small shoulder below, inclining the cut inwards so as to come out even above. Many orchards are ruined by cutting the branches too close to the body below, making a large and ugly wound which seldom heals over. When large branches are cut off, paint the wound with white lead paint to prevent cracking.

If an evergreen appears to be dying it does not follow that it should be destroyed. It may be brought out all right by a thorough mulch.

WHAT SMART WOMEN ARE WEARING

The Paris Gowns.

From Paris comes word that the new gowns for the elegantes who have fled to the Mediterranean, which compares to our Florida, are practically all made with the fullness of the sleeve pushed quite up to the top of the arm. The lower part is very often, it is true, gathered or ganged or made essentially full; but all this folding is caught in to the shape of the arm, so as to outline it, and in many cases the fullness left loose at the top is practically a deep epaulet and no more. Skirts are also made to sit closely to the figure at the top and flow in full folds below the knee, the length all round being as nearly the same as the necessity for walking allows—that is to say, in the front the skirt is made to lie as much on the ground as it can do without tripping up its owner constantly, and then the sides and back are alike three or four inches on the ground. Such skirts are unsuited for the promenade, for which cloths are provided. Many of these have short jackets, or boleros, over deep silk belts, and in no case are the sleeves exaggerated in any fashion, but generally are simple coat sleeves. French women who dress well do so by exercising common sense in such matters; nothing can be too "fussy" for the smart costume; but the simple, everyday frock is a practical affair before all.

White Lace and Ribbon.

New lace waist, trimmed with pale green satin ribbon, the ends of which pass through silk rings to match and are unlined in little ears.

The full sleeves and deep cuffs are trimmed to correspond, the latter finished at the wrists with lace ruffles. The girdle is of satin, matching the ribbon.

Colors to Be Popular.

Velvet will be worn late, and all shades of mauve and violet will be especially popular. For the late spring and summer white will be the thing, just as white satin reigned supreme this winter. Modified redingotes will be worn this spring, but so many cheap ones have already been seen that their popularity has rather waned. Made by a good tailor and on simple lines, worn over a plain skirt and by a woman who holds herself well, they are extremely good looking.

The Louis XVI. and XV. coats are holding their own, and are economical and in good taste always, and for hotels and moving about from place to place, either here or abroad, a couple of these jackets would be just the thing, say, a light, low-necked one of flowered silk, to wear with light skirts, and a black one of silk or satin, with lace jabot and light waistcoat.

Pansy Is a Modish Color.

Pansy color will be popular this spring. It is a color that is better a purple nor a lavender, but which suggests the full blown pansy in its softest, richest tones. One can get a great deal of wear out of a pansy cloth gown, as it can be trimmed with one of many colors and frequently changed. Green, white, black, corn color and violet all go well with pansy color.

There is a perfect fad for trimming a gown in such a way that the trimming can be taken off and other trimmings put on. A pansy-colored gown can be trimmed with new green. This makes a very dressy suit with its gorgeous green vest, while the hat has its shaded green plume.

Later in the season the green can be removed and white satin can be applied in its place. Now there comes the white mull, or the white lawn shirt waist, or the shirt waist of white nainsook, or of any delicate washable material.

Russian Blouse Suit for Little Boy.

The illustration shows a suit of brown holland, opening shirt fashion in front, with a lap and three buttons. A white linen "Buster Brown" collar and red tie, with a red enameled leather belt held in place by straps of the material sewed to the side seams, give the necessary color touch to the neutral tint of the garment. The full sleeves are held in place at the wrist by backward turning tucks. The bloomers extend a short distance below the skirt of the blouse. This suit would be very serviceable made of dark blue or brown cheviot.

Cream Puffs.

In a pint of scalding water melt a half-pound of butter, and when this boils stir in three-quarters of a pound of flour. Stir steadily for a minute or until the flour does not stick to the sides of the pan. Take from the fire and when cool beat in, one at a time, eight eggs beaten very light. Set on the ice for an hour. Line pans with buttered paper and drop the mixture by even spoonfuls at regular intervals—far apart from each other—on this paper. Have the oven very hot and bake the puffs to a golden brown. When cold, cut a slit in the side and fill carefully with the cream filling.

For Hat Ornamentation.

In hat materials hair braid, woven usually without regard to any pattern, but fine and narrow, leads for dressy hats. The glace effect is the most fashionable. The hair braid comes in all colors. Some of these braids show as many as five tints in the mother-of-pearl. Others show but two. One beautiful effect is produced in silvery green, or pale green changing to silver in different lights.

Spring Styles in Suits.

The street suits which are being turned out from the Paris workrooms are handsome, but it can truthfully be said, even after a study of their best points, that they are no better than those of homemake. They are not as neat as the English tailor-made suits, nor as elegant as the American tailored garment. True they are chic. But that is a quality which is fast being acquired here.

One of the prettiest of the spring styles is the coat and skirt style. This is immensely popular and what is better grows more and more so. It is very convenient to purchase a little coat and skirt and more than convenient to wear the suit with a pretty shirtwaist underneath.

"For spring," said a modiste, "I look forward to the coat and skirt idea almost exclusively. True there is a great deal of talk about the old-fashioned basque and the bodice. But I look for a Renaissance of the two-piece suit, the coat and the skirt. And I am sure that it will be twice as popular as ever."

Kitchen towels should be washed out every day after the dinner things are washed and boiled at least once a week.

Wooden spoons should be used always when making sauces and beating cakes. If metal spoons are used they become ground down at the point and also wear out the saucepan.

An egg whisk made of wire set in a wooden handle is a necessity in every kitchen. It is required for clearing soup, beating whites of eggs or cream and to make chocolate froth.

Directly a saucepan is empty and taken from the fire fill it with cold water. When time allows, add a piece of soda and boil out the vessel. Saucepans treated like this are easy to wash and always in good order when wanted.

Peacock Eyes.

The iris in the superb tail feathers of the peacock is the model for a beautiful design in spring materials. Peacock "eyes," so-called, are sprinkled upon the lustrous surface of a changeable silk, where green and blue are interchangeably woven.

Peacock "eyes" with high metallic luster are achieved by using the changeable bluish-green paillettes, either on lace or velvet. These are truly superb.

Th paillettes are used on a bodice, in yoke and on girdle, and occasionally on the cuffs of the sleeves. The fashionable gauntlet cuff affords abundant opportunity for applying these paillettes spangles. The paillettes girdle is a feature of new spring gowns.

Wedding Cake.

One cup of butter, 2 of sugar, 3 of flour, 4 eggs, 1 pound of raisins, 1 pound of currants, ½ pound of citron, 1 teaspoon of cloves, cinnamon, nutmeg, and 2 teaspoons of baking powder well mixed with the dry flour. Flavor with lemon. The fruit should be chopped fine and well mixed with flour. The cake will seem very stiff, but it is all right. Bake in slow oven.

Boudoir Confidences

Rice cloth in pale colors is a pretty and inexpensive fabric for home frocks.

Something new are the deep collar and cuff sets striped horizontally with pale blue or pink.

Chiffon voile comes in pale cheeks and is very like the real voile, only much less expensive.

A new black veil is sprinkled with white dots and bordered with three rows of valenciennes.

Among silk ginghams are dark shaded effects that will make up almost like a soft shaded silk.

Chiffon Washable.

Good chiffon can be washed again and again and used until literally worn out, looking "as good as new" each time. Use tepid suds made with a pure white soap, and add a teaspoon of alcohol to each quart of suds. Rub gently between the hands, applying the soap directly to very soiled places. When clean, squeeze in the hand, instead of wringing, as wringing or hard rubbing is liable to separate the threads of the fabric. Rinse in tepid water, with alcohol, as before. Squeeze again, this time in a clean towel. Pull gently into shape and iron while wet, letting the iron, which must be very clean and smooth, go right on the chiffon with no intervening cloth.

Omelets That Never Fail.

An omelet would oftener be served if there were not the general experience that it is apt to fall and be heavy. This danger may be entirely obviated if the eggs are beaten separately and very light, the yolks folded daintily into the whites, salt and pepper added, and the whole transferred to a pan where the butter is already heated sufficiently. The omelet may be doubled into half its dimensions and sent to the table, a puff of lightness, all in a moment's time. Of course it should not "stand and wait," or it will hardly be like those who "also serve" in Milton's famous sonnet.

Stiff Collars With Tailor Suits.

Embroidered linen collars—stiff, mannish, straight linen collars, their character utterly belied by the graceful little designs with which they are embroidered—are worn with tailor suits, and finish in a soft silk tie. They make a pretty change, too, to the stocks you've worn all winter.

Short Evening Coat.

The above coat is white broadcloth, with lining of heavy white silk. The shaped yoke of unique design is of Russian lace, the rounded scallops outlined with a biased fold of cloth and white braid. Similar treatment is given the deep cuff on sleeve.

Two Pretty Effects.

Very fetching is a gray plaid costume seen in one shop. It is made with a three flounced skirt, edged with plain gray cloth. The blouse bodice is full, with seams only under the arms. It is trimmed with a round sailor collar and chemisette of lace. The short sleeves are made of two ruffles corresponding to the skirt effect.

Another smart frock is carried out in very lightweight velvet. Tucks and pointed bands of stitched cloth trim the skirt. The short coat has lapels of stitched cloth, a tiny vest, and a wide upper portion to the sleeves. The cuffs are finished with stitched cloth.

Pretty Kimonos.

There is nothing prettier nor more girlish in the way of dressing sacques than a short kimono, especially when its Japanese character is brought out by the material of which it is made.

If a plain color is used, let it be of some soft pale shade, with the bands that border it of a contrasting color.

If there is time and work to spare, a design of scattered blossoms, embroidered in natural colors, makes up charmingly and makes it still more Japanese. Drapery silks, well covered with chrysanthemums or cherry blossoms, are the next best substitute, and are both wide and inexpensive, although a number of cotton stuffs, which will bear repeated washings, are much less expensive and almost as effective.

New Walking Coats.

The newest thing in a walking or tramping coat is made three-quarter length and worn with a very short skirt. It is a great improvement on the old time rain coat, as it is much easier to walk in. These are made to match the skirts or of Scotch tweeds in big or little checks. A number of them have hoods similar to those on the Irish peasant's cloak.

ADVANCE SPRING STYLES.

The gown at the left is of wood-brown satin-finished cloth. The sides of the bolero are slightly gathered to the fronts and back, which form a sort of stole crossed in front, and ornamented with four buttons. The shawl collar is of nile green velvet ornamented with bottons of embroidery and false buttonholes of cord, and finished with a plaiting of brown taffeta. The chemisette is of lace, ornamented with pendants, or motifs of passementerie. The girdle is of nile green kid. The full sleeves are finished with turnover cuffs of the green velvet, ornamented with the buttons and buttonholes and edged with brown velvet. Below these cuffs are puffs and frills of lace like the chemisette. The skirt is made with two double box-plaits in the middle of the front, forming a narrow tablier, and is ornamented at the bottom with stitching. The other gown is of olive cloth, trimmed with braid of the same shade. The habit bodice is plaited at the shoulders, gathered in front, where it crosses over a waistcoat of apple green cloth, fastened with two rows of enamel buttons. The revers are of white silk, embroidered with green, and the chemisette is of plaited white linon, with cravat of lace. The sleeves are full at the top, where they are plaited into the armholes, then are draped below, and finished with braid-trimmed cuffs of the material and little puffs of linon. The skirt is plaited over the hips, and has groups of fine plaitings at the bottom. It is elaborately trimmed with e braid.