HEARTH & BOUDOIR.

PARISIAN EVENING GOWN OF BLACK LACE.

SOME WAYS OF THE WORLD

NOWADAYS GUESTS SHOULD ENTERTAIN THEMSELVES—ONE OF SUMMER'S PLEASANT PASTIMES.

Oh, never go to France
Unless you know the lingo—

counsels Thomas Hood in one of his comic ballads. A piece of advice which might be paraphrased by the recommendation, never visit Newport unless you know its customs—that is, to stop with what is known as the ultra smart set. Of course, the difficulty works its own cure in a way, for the members of "high society" are not apt to invite those who may prove an encumbrance or a hindrance to their own enjoyment. But it sometimes happens that they credit their guests with more acquaintances than they possess, and then it is awkward for both parties. An attractive young married woman who had quite a social success last winter in New-York was invited by a certain great lady to make her a visit of a week at Newport. Of course, she was very much pleased, and had several beautiful new dresses made for the occasion, expecting, as she said afterward, to have the time of her life. On her arrival she received a most cordial welcome from her hostess, who, after she had installed her visitor in a lovely suite of rooms, said to her:

"Now, my dear, you must make yourself entirely at home, and go where you please and do what you please. I hope you have let your friends know that you are here. There will always be a carriage for your especial use when we do not go out together, and a brougham for the evening set apart entirely for you. Now, just go ahead and have a good time. You can accept all your invitations except for next Friday night, when I shall give you a dinner here. Of course, like every one else, I am up to my neck in engagements, but between whiles we must manage to see a great deal of each other." And she sailed off, leaving her guest, who had never dreamed that she was expected to procure her own invitations, in a state of complete bewilderment and dismay—but she was quick and clever, and proved her capability to be a woman of fashion by grasping the situation and conquering the difficulty.

As her hostess was lunching out the day after her arrival, she announced that she would make some calls, and timing her visits well, she found at home several women of whose hospitalities she had partaken the winter before. To be stopping with Mrs. —— gave her the prestige she knew instinctively it would. She returned home with a sufficient number of invitations to prevent her seeming neglected, and on the whole her visit proved agreeable.

"But it might have been horrid," she said afterward. "If I had not been what my mother would have called decidedly pushing I would have been completely left out, and might have fared like one of my friends, who was asked by her entertainer after a few days of solitude if she had 'no friends,' and who in very self-defence dined twice at a restaurant during her visit."

"What kind of a visitor are you?" frankly asked an up to date married woman of a young man acquaintance. "Are you the kind that always sits around and expects to be entertained, or do you look out for yourself—join clubs, make your own engagements and take yourself about? If you are of the latter species you may come and spend a week with me in August at Newport if you have nothing better to do. I like to have people in the house to use them when I want them, but I cannot stand catering for their amusement."

STOCKING AN AQUARIUM.

There is no more fascinating occupation in the summer than stocking and taking care of an aquarium. The oldest as well as the youngest of the family take an interest in every new acquisition or development, while watching the queer antics of the inhabitants of the little tank is a continuous source of amusement. A protected and shady corner of the veranda is the best place for a summer aquarium, and an octagon glass inclosure nearly the size of the round table on which it is placed, makes a roomy as well as a pretty one. The pieces of glass of the size desired can be procured from the village glazier, and the frame made by a common carpenter. The glass is slipped into the frame, and then cemented. The following recipe makes a good waterproof cement: Fine, white sand, litharge and rosin, mixed with boiled linseed oil. Too much light is not wholesome for the strange little creatures, and it is therefore better to paint with pitch the side of the aquarium that is nearest the wall. The same cement may be used for the rock work, which should be built with one or more arches, as fishes love to swim under their shadows or chase each other through openings. If aquatic plants are desired they should be first planted in their native mud in flower pots. For a small aquarium tiny "thumb pots" will do. These can be concealed by the rock work. The best bottom for fresh water aquariums is river sand mixed with round pebbles, which should be washed perfectly clean before it is put in. A few pieces of charcoal mixed with it is a great purifier. When all is ready the water should be poured gently in with a watering pot, to avoid disturbing the soil. After this is done the aquarium should be left undisturbed for several days, to let the plants adjust themselves and give off oxygen, which will form in tiny bubbles, adhering to the sides of the tank. Then add first two or three water snails, that act as scavengers, and afterward a minnow or two and a newt. Do not go too fast, as the great secret of a successful aquarium is to preserve the balance between vegetable and animal life.

A well balanced aquarium needs no water added to it except what is lost by evaporation, but in the mean time it should be carefully watched and the conditions regulated. If the water becomes greenish it is due to minute vegetation caused by too much light, which should be subdued until the evil is rectified. If fishes gasp on the surface it shows there is not enough oxygen. The remedy is sunshine and fresh air, and the fish affected may be taken out and put in a temporary glass, in which water plants are growing that give off oxygen. People who are successful with aquaria often keep such a tank as a hospital. It is best not to feed the inhabitants of a tank, but let them find their own food. A quantity of snails not only keeps the water pure, but their spawn is excellent fish food. That with the fresh shoots of aquatic plants gives all the sustenance that is necessary. A marine aquarium is started in much the same way as a fresh water one. In collecting seaweed, which takes the place of water plants for the production of oxygen, choose those that have been rooted to rocks or pebbles, taking great care not to bruise them. The common periwinkle, or sea snail, is as good as a scrubbing brush for keeping the glass clear, and they should be left with the seaweed and sand and rocks a few days to "clean house" and get ready for the other inhabitants. Where salt water is easily accessible it is better to change the water once or twice a week, but the "balance" may be found and kept as in fresh water aquaria, only it is more difficult. A syringe to inject air is a good thing to use in salt water, which evaporates more rapidly than fresh, and should therefore be added to oftener.

BORROWING OTHER PEOPLE'S OPINIONS.

It is not only in literature that there are plagiarists who appropriate and thrive on other people's ideas. Brilliant conversationalists often flaunt borrowed plumage, which they have cleverly plucked from persons who have studied the questions discussed far more deeply than those who express themselves so glibly.

"It is hard," said an intellectual girl, "to have Maud, who never does more than skim over a book, calmly kidnap all my ideas about any new publication and produce them in company as her own. She dresses them up in lighter vein, which makes them all the more acceptable to society, and talks as if she had read and thought about the whole thing. Of course, I cannot claim the ideas, and, indeed, they are so twisted and altered that I would not want to own them, but all the same, they were mine originally, and she gets a cheap reputation of being a clever, well read woman which she does not deserve in the very least."

"Oh, I am not proud," said Maud, philosophically, not denying the impeachment brought against her. "You read, and I talk; that is the difference between us. 'Twould be a pity to let so much good material go to waste for the sake of a little squeamishness. Besides, it is all in the family. What I do mind, however, is to take people's ideas and then be found out—that, I admit, is rather disagreeable. I don't think it happens to me often, but it does sometimes, and the other day I had a bad quarter of an hour at Mrs. B——'s dinner. I heard our dear, clever Ethel here tell of a man's witty account of a play which ended up with a little joke neatly expressed. So I thought I would get the whole thing off on the person who had taken me into dinner. He listened with great attention, smiled politely at my little fireworks at the end, and never for one instant betrayed the fact that he was the author of the remarks.

"Like a flash the consciousness of who he was came over me a few moments afterward. How could I have been so stupid! I knew he was a man who hated shams, and that it behooved me immediately to retrieve myself in his good opinion. So I began: 'My conscience is troubling me,' I said, presently. 'Indeed?' he queried, looking amused. 'That little description of Mr. ——'s play was not original,' I proceeded. 'I wish' (I went on, suddenly seeing an opportunity of still making capital out of the blunder) 'that I could only say anything half so witty!' (My neighbor smiled complacently.) 'It was told me by some one last week, but I could not find out who said it. Whoever it was he must be very clever. I should like to meet him.' 'You need not go far,' said my flattered partner, positively beaming. 'I do not agree with you about its cleverness, but I happened to say it.' 'Now, isn't that extraordinary!' I exclaimed. 'How odd that I should have said that to you of all people! What unexpected coincidences happen sometimes!' "

Another awkward happening is to repeat some story or remark of one's own over more than once to the same individual, using the same well turned phrases and small witticisms, and then in the midst of it to become suddenly conscious of what you are doing. Such reiteration is embarrassing enough for young people, but to those who are middle aged there is the added annoyance of feeling that the act of forgetfulness may be ascribed to the lapse of memory of advancing years—a subject upon which people of a certain age are most sensitive.

HINTS FOR THE BATHER.

The sea water bath has a rival in the increasingly popular air or sun bath. A medical man said recently on the subject: "The majority of people bathe in the sea because they have a notion that it is healthful, but more often than not quite the contrary is the case. For many constitutions the shock of contact with the cold water is absolutely hurtful, particularly when there is any weakness of the heart.

"A sun bath, on the contrary, is always beneficial when the heat is not too extreme. Nature certainly intended that our skin should be brought into more frequent contact with the air than our clothing permits. This unnatural covering is a prime cause of disease in kidneys and lungs that are compelled to do double duty.

"Every person would be healthier if he could or would, since he generally could, pass ten or fifteen minutes every day in absolute nudity in a room thoroughly aired, with open windows. Following this the body should be briskly rubbed with a rough towel. It might easily be done at night before retiring and would be an effective remedy for insomnia in most cases.

At the seashore the bather shauld have the thinnest costume possible in accordance with propriety. Fabrics wholly unsuited to the water would be appropriate for the sunbath. The sunbath suit should be loose and flowing, with ample material to permit of its being wrapped about the form when going from bathhouse to beach. Several of my patients have followed a design something like this: The undergarment is made like the corresponding garment of a bathing suit, except that it is not belted at the waist but cut in one piece from shoulder to knee. It is made of the thinnest, most loosely woven alpaca, and is cut low in the neck and with sleeves that are mere puffs. The outer garment is a large circular cloak of the same, gathered full all around to a neckband. It is really a Spanish cloak, and wraps easily around the wearer until she is ready to drop it, having thrown herself on the sand. Any woman can so dispose of its folds when seated that it drapes gracefully about her while leaving her torso completely exposed to the sun and air, except for the thin undergarment.

"It is a good plan at the same time to loosen the hair and let sunlight and fresh air vivify and beautify it. It is better than any hair tonic ever invented, and women won't like it less because it gives a picturesqueness to the entire pose that no water soaked nymph can hope to attain."

Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, sea bathing will hold its place in the affections of the masses, and people will continue to "take a dip" whenever they find it possible. For them a few hints will not come amiss, as the average person is startlingly careless in his methods, going into the water at any time and remaining an unlimited season.

It is better to bathe in the morning, when the tide permits, as the vitality is stronger to resist the shock. One should not go into the water in less than an hour and a half after eating, as the chill drives the water to the head and retards digestion. One should not remain in the water more than twenty minutes, except when the day is excessively hot, and the water correspondingly warm. It is better not to enter the water when heated by violent exercise or by sitting in the sun, as cramp is likely to ensue from the sudden change of temperature. Few people should take a sea bath oftener than every other day, and fewer still more than once a day.

After the bath most women would be benefited by lying down for an hour with a cloth saturated in a solution of boracic acid powder in water laid upon the eyes to relieve from the strain produced by the glare of the sun.

Especial care in diet is necessary at the seashore, as the bathing and even the salt air seem to affect the digestion and other internal organs. Hot breads should be avoided as religiously as poison ivy, and one should note carefully the effect of fish, shellfish and fruits upon the system during the first week.

NURSING IN DAWSON.

THE VICTORIAN ORDER OF NURSES DISCONTINUES ITS WORK IN THE YUKON DISTRICT.

Probably all those who were interested in the work of the four heroic women sent to the Klondike a little more than two years ago by the Victorian Order of Nurses will be sorry to learn that the order has now definitely withdrawn from the Yukon district.

The conditions of life have so much improved in Dawson during the last two years, and so many private nurses are now practising their profession there, that there is no longer the same need for the presence of the Victorian order, and in view of this and other circumstances it was thought best to discontinue the work. It was the hope of those who planned the expedition and the earnest desire of the superintendent, Miss Georgia Powell, that a permanent service might be established in Dawson, and some disappointment was felt, particularly by Miss Powell, at the failure to do so. But the conditions of a mining town made it quite impossible to organize a local association to assume the responsibility of carrying on the work, and the Board of Governors felt unequal to the task of directing it any longer from such a distance. House to house nursing, moreover, was found to be out of the question in such primitive dwellings as those of Dawson, and if the work had been continued it would have had to be on a somewhat different plan from that adopted at home.

But though the expedition failed in part of its purpose it accomplished more than was even hoped for in other ways, and its work constitutes a brilliant chapter in the history of nursing, the good done during the first year being quite beyond computation.

LADY ABERDEEN'S IDEA.

It will be remembered that the Victorian nurses were sent to Dawson on account of the terrible outbreak of typhoid fever which occurred when the rush to the gold fields began. The Victorian Order was not even organized at that time. Its affairs were being managed by a provisional committee, and the work had not been started in the Eastern cities. But as soon as the news of the typhoid epidemic was received Lady Aberdeen conceived the idea of sending nurses to the Klondike. It seemed the most fitting way possible to inaugurate the work of the new society, and was cordially indorsed both by those connected with the order and by the country at large. A special fund to cover the expenses of the expedition was speedily raised, and on May 18, 1898, the nurses left with the troops under the command of Colonel Evans, reaching Dawson just as the typhoid epidemic was at its height.

Miss Powell arrived first, on August 8, 1898, with the advance guard of the soldiers, without her assistant nurses, and practically without baggage or necessary provisions. She immediately assumed charge of the Good Samaritan Hospital, an institution consisting of two log buildings 25 feet long by 50 wide, built on an ill drained bog and only partially completed. The furnishings of the hospital were as primitive as its construction. There were a few mattresses, which were reserved for the very sickest patients. The others were thankful if they could get a sack of shavings, and often a patient lay for days with only a blanket between him and the boards. Blankets were also scarce, and the patients generally used their own, which oftener than not were alive with vermin. To get a blanket washed cost $4, and the laundry bill ranged from $50 to $57 a week. There were no sheets, no night clothes and no pillows. Each man rolled up his Mackinaw coat or his overalls for a pillow, and slept in the underclothes he had on, which were often all he possessed.

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED.

There were no disinfectants, no materials for dressings and only a few towels. The dishes consisted of a few cups and plates which had to be used in turns. The cooking was done in a tent, on a stove so small that it could easily have been carried under the arm, and the utensils consisted of two baking pans and some butter cans. The ground was covered with shavings to keep the cook's feet from the dampness, and here many a patient threw himself down to wait till a place was prepared for him, or to be told, alas! that he could not possibly be taken in. Another tent served as a sleeping room for Miss Powell, the bed being a postal sack filled with shavings and boards—chiefly boards.

The disease which Miss Powell had to nurse under these conditions was called typhoid, but it was such typhoid as she had never seen before, though she thought she had seen it in its worst form. The men had in many cases walked five, nine and twelve miles from some of the creeks in the broiling sun, with their temperature ranging from 101 to 103 degrees, and in two or three instances to 104 degrees.

Their strength often failed before they reached the hospital. Many of them lay down to rest, often to their own undoing, in a pile of stumps and roots that had been cleared from the building place, and it became necessary to visit this stump pile and the surrounding tents daily for stray sufferers.

There were seven patients in the hospital on Miss Powell's arrival; by the end of the week there were eighteen, and at the end of another week there were thirty-six. All these she had to nurse and cook for, with no assistance but what the miners could give and under the conditions described. But at the end of four weeks, worn out for want of rest, sleep and nourishing food, she, too, succumbed to the fever.

At the end of three days the other nurses came, and two, Miss Payson and Miss Scott, were immediately placed in charge of the hospitals, while Miss Hanna remained with Miss Powell. Miss Scott was sent to the barracks hospital, which was well equipped, and where she had the assistance of an orderly and a sergeant of much experience in fever nursing.

TRIALS OF A NURSE.

Miss Payson went to the Grand Forks Hospital, where she had some laughable as well as trying experiences. Leaving Dawson on September 1, after the first fall of snow, she tramped twelve miles through slush and mire, accompanied by the Rev. R. M. Dickey, a Presbyterian missionary.

In the hospital, if the miserable building could rightly be called so, she found ten patients—bad cases—and simply no conveniences. The beds were pole frames with blankets thrown over them. There were not enough blankets to keep the patients warm, and there were no sheets, no towels or cloth of any kind except a few flour sacks. The furniture consisted of a pail, a hand basin and a soap box, the first two borrowed from the butcher. Bread, bacon and rice were the only edibles obtainable, a bill of fare which dwindled generally to rice and gravy in the case of the patients. And yet they recovered.

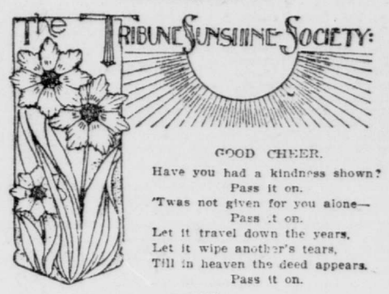
The nurses' bedroom was a corner of a corner called by courtesy the doctor's office. Here behind a little curtain, in an atmosphere thick with tobacco smoke, Miss Payson rolled herself in her sleeping bag, lay down on the floor and slept the sleep of the just. Being tall, her feet reached beyond the prescribed limits of her corner, to be trampled upon by the doctor as he stumbled about in semi-darkness.

Miss Payson remained six weeks at this hospital.

After her attack of typhoid Miss Powell was unfit for duty for the remainder of the winter, and was only able to keep house for the other nurses in the cabin which they had built for themselves at ruinous expense, logs being $10 apiece and labor $10 to $15 a day. The soldiers, however, assisted them to the extent of $367, every man being anxious to have a hand in it, so greatly were the services of the nurses appreciated. The soldiers also helped them to build a cabin at Selkirk. In December, 1898, Miss Scott was obliged to give up work entirely, and in August and September Miss Hanna and Miss Payson resigned, leaving only Miss Powell in the service of the order. This continued till the spring of the present year, when the Board of Governors decided definitely to discontinue the work. At the last meeting, held in July, the final settlements were made, and the nurses' cabin was transferred to Miss Powell, who intends to remain in Dawson for a time at least, and to continue the work in which she is so much interested.

Miss Payson and Miss Hanna are also remaining in Dawson, Miss Payson having taken a position in the postoffice and Miss Hanna being in charge of a private hospital.

Miss Payson and Miss Powell are graduates of Waltham Hospital, Massachusetts.



GOOD CHEER.

Have you had a kindness shown?
Pass it on.
'Twas not given for you alone—
Pass it on.
Let it travel down the years,
Let it wipe another's tears,
Till in heaven the deed appears.
Pass it on.

T. S. S. MEMBERS VISIT BERMUDA.

Two Sunshine members who have been visiting Bermuda have jotted down their impressions of this delightful place, with the hope that the little sketch may please some of the "shut ins" who must necessarily take their vacation trips by proxy. If it prove interesting, even to a few, it will have served its mission.

When the seven hundred miles separating the United States from Bermuda had been nearly passed land was sighted, and we became deeply absorbed in watching the approach to what seemed a mound of earth dropped down in midocean. As the ship took its roundabout course among coral reefs, sunken rocks and small islands a good view of the cedar covered hills dotted with white houses, bristling forts and Government buildings was obtained. Everybody on the island seemed to be on the dock when the ship arrived. There were the pretty Bermudan and English girls, in cool, white gowns or bicycle dresses; hotel proprietors, shopkeepers, visitors, boarders, small boys, colored people of all ages in bright attire, and here and there a British soldier with his scarlet coat and queer head covering—all making a picturesque and decidedly foreign looking group.

After reaching the hotel the consciousness of still being in a new and strange land was not dispelled, despite the fact that only our own language was spoken. On nearer view the low, white houses, two stories high, proved to be unique. The walls, the roofs, grooved to catch the rain which serves for drinking water, the verandas and even the chimneys are made of the soft stone, sawed in blocks from quarries lying just below the surface nearly all over the island. Being coated with limestone cement they have the appearance of marble dwellings. The houses of the rich and poor are made of the same material. Unlike other places, in this ideal spot there are no beggars, no squalor, no accumulation of dirt and rubbish, no tenement houses and back alleys, no one in actual want.

No agitation from the outside world seems to reach this tranquil spot. No clanging bell of trolley car, no shriek of locomotive, no noise of loom or factory disturbs its serenity. Many of the poorer natives have never been beyond the islands, and to them all the wonders of modern invention are unknown. Gas, the telephone and an ice plant, in operation two years, represent the practical innovations on old traditional methods.

While walking one day under the beautiful shade trees that border the streets of Hamilton, musing on the Arcadian simplicity of the scene, we were almost startled to read a sign, "Woman's Exchange and Tea Room." It seemed to represent a progressive idea, incongruous with the surroundings. A visit to the interior, however, showed that the methods of similar institutions in the States and elsewhere are here carried out, only on a much smaller scale. The fancy and decorative work shown is not so varied or exquisite in design and finish as it is with us, but there are useful and ornamental articles not seen elsewhere, made from the native palmetto and bamboo. These are unique and serve as admirable souvenirs. Some rare old blueware, in odd pieces, brought from beyond the sea in times long past, is frequently to be seen here. The tearoom is most attractive. The small tables are covered with the daintiest of hemstitched linen, while the delicately tinted china service and choice flowers invite one to taste the tea, rolls and cake—the only things served. A glance into the well kept garden reveals the usual array of tropical plants everywhere visible.

Driving further out of town we were constantly charmed with new beauties. On some rising knoll, or half hidden in some quiet dell, an aristocratic house was seen amid palmetto groves, pomegranates, banana or pawpaw trees, while curious cacti, gorgeous hibiscus and gigantic begonias adorned the driveways. Romantic little bays, with houses close to the shore (as shown in the illustration), the ornamental gardens shut in by a sea wall of gleaming limestone, formed charming pictures. Sometimes on our drives we passed a wooded dell where the mangrove flourishes, under huge rubber trees or beside the hedges of oleanders, from ten to fifteen feet high, in luxuriant bloom—red, pink and white. Through this vista of loveliness we caught sight of the ever changing ocean, with its myriad shades of color, or some picturesque bay dotted with islands, some of which are utilized for gay picnic parties and turtle suppers.

An excursion to the submarine gardens, so called, proved a fascinating experience. At a distance of ten miles from land we descended from the launch into rowboats, which were allowed to drift slowly over the reefs. The water was perfectly transparent, and looking through water glasses a fairy realm of beauty was brought to view. There were wonderful and fantastic creations of white and red coral, airy sea fans of lavender and deep purple hues, delicate pink and blue lined shells of many curious shapes and coral sea roses of all sizes as perfect in shape as a white rose by the garden wall. Marine flora, variously colored, waved in the current as though touched by a gentle breeze, and in and out of these marvellous formations fish of the most brilliant hues of blue and gold darted gracefully.

The Bermudans are not wealthy, according to the American value of things, but they possess the still greater treasure—contentment. The natives are conservative in all the methods of work. The three chief crops raised are lily bulbs, onions and potatoes. The lily fields are by far the most extensive and productive, the bulbs forming an important article of export. These are carefully sorted; only the largest are sent abroad; the small ones are used for the next year's planting. It is when the lily fields are in bloom and the air is filled with delicious perfume that this "beautiful isle of the sea" becomes an enchanted spot.

"And the stately lilies stand
Fair in the silvery light,
Like saintly vestals, pale in prayer;
Their pure breath sanctifies the air
As its fragrance fills the night."

HOME OF DR. SAMUEL A. SMITH,
A T. S. S. member, of Hamilton, Bermuda.

A PICTURESQUE STREET BAND OF BERMUDA.

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

INSECTS OF MIDSUMMER.

When the noisy August day has been hushed to sleep by the gentle twilight and the silver stars begin to twinkle, then is heard the echo of the "musical elves." The dewy grass swarms with them, while their shrill notes come from the bushes and the trees above; the very air resounds. Now can be heard the soft, contented "cheep, cheep," and again the shrill discussion as to whether Katy did or Katy didn't.

Strive as we may, we cannot discover their hiding places, but in the daytime they cannot escape us so easily, for they are too large or too long legged not to be seen as they skip over the grass and we hear their merry music in the fields.

The most familiar of these "musical elves" of the daytime is the grasshopper, or "the old man of the meadow," as he has been called. Watch him closely and you will see how much his face, with the big, solemn eyes and straight mouth, looks like an old man's face. He wears a gray coat like a loose duster. He has on a wrinkled, greenish vest, and wears kneebreeches with long, red stockings. He has another name, "the murmurer." This is given because of the song he sings to Mrs. Grasshopper, and it is loud and shrill.

He has a little piece of skin like a tight drumhead set in each wing. As he moves his wings this tiny drum vibrates or trembles and makes the shrill sound.

Mrs. Grasshopper does not have this drum in her wings. She has, however, at the end of her body a little sword, which opens into several blades. She uses it to place her eggs snugly in the ground, where they lie until the young grasshoppers hatch out.

All grasshoppers do not live in the grass; some spend most of their time in the trees, and this is why their front legs are shorter than the others. They cannot walk so well over a level surface, but it helps them in walking up a tree or small plant or wall. As the grasshopper is an insect, like the rest of his kind, his body is made in rings, in three parts, with four wings and six legs set on the second or chest part.

There is one grasshopper, a little green fellow, that has no drum; he is silent.

Grasshoppers prefer vegetable food, but will sometimes eat animal food.

A Greek poet once wrote a song to the grasshopper, and called him the happiest of living things. He does nothing but dance and sing. He eats fresh leaves and drinks cool dew. When the glad summer of his life is done he dies, and does not live to be sick or hungry or cold.

The garden grasshopper has very small wings, and its color is brownish gray. It likes to live in the garden walls, or under the leaves in the borders. Both Mr. and Mrs. Grasshopper sing in this garden family, and one answers the song of the other.

The great green grasshopper which lives in the trees has wings of a gray green. He has a little bronze or russet color on his feet and on the under part of his body, while the rest is a fine leaf green. As this great green one in the trees is hidden by his color, so is the great gray one hidden in the grass.

The "old man of the meadow" has a fierce cousin, who is a great robber and a kind of land pirate, by the name of locust. The locust is much more greedy, and destroys all plants that come in its way. It will eat the bark off the trees.

Locusts live and move in swarms, and they migrate like birds. The locust's coat is of light brown or sand color. There is a delicate green tinge on the wings. The breast has a soft vest of down, and the legs are often striped in bands of brown and yellow.

The locust does not make his music as the grasshopper does, but when he wishes to sing he stands on his front legs. Then he lifts his hind legs and draws them over his wings. The inner sides of the hind legs have rough, file like edges, and the wings have thick veins, which stand like cords above the wing surface. The file parts of the legs rub on these cords and produce the sound, which takes different tones. When we hear the locusts singing early in the morning then we say, "It is going to be a hot day."

Another cousin of the grasshopper, and a right jolly little fellow he is, too, is the cricket, of which there are three kinds—the house cricket, the field cricket and the mole cricket. Mr. Cricket has three strong veins under his left wing cover, and the largest of these is rough, like a file, which he uses as one uses the bow of a violin. When this rough vein is drawn across the right wing cover it trembles or quivers like the strings of a violin. The field cricket will sing all day, while the house and mole crickets sing only at night. It is very pleasant and cheery to hear the "chirp, chirp," of a "cricket on the hearth."

The stoutest and largest of all the cricket family is the mole cricket, which takes its name from the fact that it burrows in the ground. The mole cricket is lighter in color than the other crickets, and a curious thing about it is its front feet, which are broad and short and have toes, made for digging. The mole cricket eats the roots of vegetables and flowers, and is a plague in a garden, while at evening he tries to comfort himself by a low, jarring song.

Other insects which are interesting to know about are the numerous beetles and those "stars of the earth," the fireflies and glowworms; the wonderful busy bees, the "walking sticks" and the katydids, which tell us that summer is on the wane and frost not so many weeks away. But these must wait till another time. There is much, too, to learn about the housefly and its enemy, the spider, both of which have their uses in the world.

LETTER FROM RUMANIA'S QUEEN.

The following letter has been received from the Queen of Rumania, expressing her appreciation of the dolls sent to her collection by the readers of the Children's Corner:

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Her Majesty the Queen of Rumania has charged me to tell you that she has been highly gratified by the present which you had the kindness to forward to the exhibition at Earl's Court, London. Her Majesty thinks the choice of costumes in which the dolls are dressed such a very good one that she is sure they will increase the interest of the exhibition immensely, the more so as there are but few American costumes represented. Her Majesty was also much interested to hear of the two dolls made entirely of husks of corn and silk, as they certainly will be the only ones of this kind in the exhibition. Her Majesty hopes to see your dolls after the coming back of the exhibition from England, and she looks forward to this with great pleasure. Yours truly,

BARONESS MARGARET LOE.

Segenhaus, July 24, 1900.

A recent communication from Earl's Court gives a further description of some of the royal dolls displayed. The entire collection numbers fifteen hundred dolls, and its value is estimated at £35,000. Their intense interest lies in the fact that not only are they beautiful works of art, but that the student of history has there an opportunity of noting the peculiarities and vicissitudes of fashion since 1500 B. C.

Among the royal women who contributed to the collection are the Empress Frederick, Queen Victoria, the Queen of Sweden and Norway, the Queen of Italy, the Queen of Servia, the Crown Princesses of Sweden and Greece, the Princess Alexandra of Prussia and the Grand Duchess of Baden. But to "Carmen Sylva," Rumania's Queen, and her mother, the Dowager Princess of Wied, the exhibition owes its largest display of historical dolls.

One of the most striking dolls to attract the visitor is one representing an Egyptian princess of 1500 B. C. Her long draped dress is of white cloth and she wears the distinguishing emblem of royalty over her long, flowing hair, the headdress being in the form of an ibis, with outspread wings, the bird's head projecting over the forehead, and the wings falling on either side, with the tail extended behind.

An Assyrian king of the twelfth century before Christ claims more than passing notice. His flowing rich red robe is edged with a thick white silk fringe, and opens over an underdress of white silk, edged with gold fringe. A gold embroidered turban, with bright yellow lapels falling over his ears, which are adorned with earrings, his bracelets, magnificent sword and gold charm complete a perfect picture of a barbaric king.

Germany in the third century is represented by a man and woman, taken from a scene in "Urlanda," a drama by "Carmen Sylva." The man wears roughly fashioned gold bracelets, his solitary garment a magnificent bearskin, with the bear's head reposing on his own. His sandals are of fur. The woman wears silver bands on her wrist and upper arm, and a long, flowing white robe. She carries a dagger, and drooping from her shoulders is also a bearskin.

The Byzantine Emperor Justinian is dressed in the gorgeous costume of the period. Close to him is his wife, Theodora. She is surrounded by his Court. From his jewelled crown fall long strings of pearls. His rich purple silk cloak is lined with pale blue and fastened with jewelled clasps. The under robe, of a darker shade of blue silk, is embroidered heavily in gold, and he wears an under petticoat of white silk, trimmed with gold braid. He carries the sceptre of the East Roman Empire with the cross of St. Andrew.

The distinguishing feature of his Queen's apparel is her gorgeous cloth of gold collar, which is heavily jewelled; also a jewelled band, which, crossing over her chest, is bound at the waist with a jewelled gold belt and falls in long ends as far as her knees.

France in the sixth century is represented by some dolls dressed in the ancient Merovingian costume. Their peculiarity consists mostly in the extraordinary manner in which their legs and feet are swathed in white linen bandages, held in their places by leather straps, the sole of the foot being protected by a leather sole strapped on.

A beautiful group is formed of the three children of Charles I of England, while near by is the Princess Sophie of Hanover, the connecting link between the Houses of Stuart and Hanover. The Queen of Sweden sent dolls representing King Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden and a Swedish officer of 1715.

Perhaps one of the most charming items in the whole collection is the exquisite little miniature post chaise of the seventeenth century, perfect in every detail, down to the delicate peach colored satin upholstering inside, which is none too fine for my lady going to the ball in her fancy dress Watteau costume, with a mask over her dainty face. She is escorted thither by four stalwart domestics clad in bright blue swallow tail coats with yellow facings and peaked caps somewhat resembling the caps known as "deerstalkers."

A doll of great interest is probably the one representing the Crown Princess of Rumania, who wears the exact counterpart of a gown worn by Her Highness at a royal garden party in 1891. The pale blue silk is embroidered all over with sprays of violets, and a beautiful jewelled belt is worn. The hat is composed of violets and real lace.

Queen Margherita of Italy contributed some charming dolls. Among them is a lacemaker in a simple cotton gown and apron, a folded 'kerchief on her head, and sitting by her stand which holds her pillow for lacemaking.

Not to be overlooked are two interesting figures of Rumania's Queen herself, one at the age of seventeen, in old fashioned dress with a hoop skirt, and the other clad in a present day tea gown of pale gray silk, edged with fur, opening over a front of pink silk covered with white chiffon. Two large figures also show the magnificent coronation robes worn by the Crown Princess of Rumania at the coronation of Nicholas II.

Touching elbows with all this royalty in doll land stand the contributions from America sent through "The Children's Corner." They have a bearing of independence and wear an expression of happy pride in representing this glorious "land of the free and home of the brave."

SPEAK KINDLY CLUB.

As an additional reminder to members of the Speak Kindly Club, who wear the bow of forget-me-not blue ribbon, it is thought that a pledge would be helpful, and so the following has been adopted:

I pledge myself to speak kindly to every one and of every one, at all times and in all places.

This should be fastened up in some conspicuous spot, where it may be seen the last thing at night and the first thing in the morning.

A MEMBER OF THE CLUB.

Dear Children's Corner: I send my picture, and when I return from my visit to grandma and auntie at Portland, Me., I am going to form a chapter of the Speak Kindly Club of the children where I live in Hastings-on-the-Hudson. I am having a fine time up here, but I miss my Kit-Kat and my dog, Pete, and I often wonder if they are lonely without me.

ALICE MELVILLE BREEN,
A member of the Speak Kindly Club.

ALICE MELVILLE BREEN.

PUZZLES.

Square word.

A river.
An amount of paper.
Part of a church.
A sign.

METAGRAM.

I am what comes to us in summer; change my head, and I am to ill-treat; change it again, and I am something we eat; change it again, and I am a resting place; once more, and I am tidy.

A SINGLE ACROSTIC.

Part of the face.
A precious stone.
A relation.
A girl's name.
A title.
Not old.
The initials, read downward, form the name of a cunning animal.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

Riddle-Me-Ree—August.
Puzzle—Beatrice.

Correct answers were sent by Alberta Robinson, Easton, Penn; Gladys Van Deventer, Brewster, N. Y., and Helen L. Edgar, Brooklyn. Hildreth Adams, Middletown, N. Y., sent a correct answer for the puzzle in July 28, but too late to appear in last Sunday's column.

PLAYGROUNDS IN CHICAGO.

The University of Chicago has given a playground to the Small Parks Commission of that city, for the use of the children, and in other ways has given substantial help to the fresh air movement. The Civic Federation continues its interest in the development of the small parks system, which it helped so materially to establish. It is aiming now for the appointment of a board of control over the small parks, as a whole, with a view to their better management.

SHADOW SWIMMING.

One of the champion swimmers of England is a young woman, Lady Constance Mackenzie. She swims under water for a length and a half, waltzes and excels in the extremely difficult feat called "shadow swimming," which consists in swimming under water and keeping perfect time with another swimming above. Lady Constance is pretty, petite and sweet sixteen.