

The Bowers' Troubles

Mr. Bowser Gets Somewhat Mixed On His War Record.

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"By George! but it reminds me of the old days of '61!" suddenly exclaimed Mr. Bowser, the other evening as he looked up from his newspaper. "The war?" queried Mrs. Bowser. "The war of course. I've been thinking all day that if I was only five years younger nothing should keep me from going to the front. It makes my pulses thrill to read of the booming of big guns—the screams of shells—the heroic indifference of men under fire. If I were offered a commission I believe I'd go anyhow."



"I'M GOING OUT—MAY NEVER RETURN."

death that I did not expect a man in my regiment to come out alive." Mrs. Bowser looked at him in a dubious way, but had nothing to say. This piqued the old warhorse, and he turned on her with: "Woman, did you ever wonder to yourself what a battle was like? How you can sit there like a bump on a log when they may be fighting and cheering and dying within ten miles of us is a puzzle to me. Why don't you swallow that end of gum and ask me some questions?" "I will," she quietly replied. "Were you in the late war?" "What! What! Was I in the late war!" "What regiment?" "The Eighteenth Ohio, of course. I've told you 50 times over. At the battle of Antietam we lost 130 men, and I was promoted from private to sergeant."

You seem to have set out with the deliberate intention of insulting me!" "Far from it," she soothingly replied. "You wondered why I was not shouting over the war, and why I didn't ask you questions. You eventually became colonel of the Eighteenth Ohio, didn't you?" "Of course I did." "Were the historians mad at you personally?" "I don't know that they were—why?" "Because none of them mentioned you as colonel of that regiment. Both Lossing and Headley give the colonel's name as—"



DOING UP CURTAINS.

Those of Lace Must Be Carefully Washed and Handled or They Will Not Last Long.

There are many and bitter complaints of the poor wearing qualities of lace curtains as compared with those that "lasted for years in the times of our grandmothers." Complainants often insist that the quality has deteriorated, and that there are no such goods made as those bearing date of 40 years ago, many of which are even yet in a more presentable condition than our own, that have passed through perhaps two or three cleanings in as many years.

When taken up they are almost if not altogether as good-looking as new, and have suffered little if any injury during the process. Treated in this way tattered lace curtains will last until the owners are wearied with seeing them around and get new ones for variety. The modern process is very different. The curtain is put into a large cauldron, with scarcely water enough to cover it, and boiled in the strongest bleaching chemicals. It is slightly rinsed and stiffly starched. If it is torn or the threads are broken, a section of net lace is dipped in thick starch or paste and laid over the broken spot, which has been partly closed by being drawn together with very fine thread. The net is then pressed upon the curtain with such force as to unite them like one fabric. The curtains are then dried, folded and sent home to be put up. There is sufficient strength in the starch and threads to hold the material together while the starch remains, but when next it is necessary to clean them they will be likely to drop apart by their own weight as soon as they are thoroughly wet. Very few curtains will bear the third cleaning of this sort. It has, therefore, become one of the dreads of the housekeeper's life to have the curtain-cleaning season come around. It is much better to have this done at home if possible, as a really good set of curtains ought to last at least until they are hopelessly out of fashion.—Decorator and Furnisher.

TALK ABOUT FRILLS.

Just How to Make and Arrange Them in Such a Way That They Will Lay Gracefully.

She is indeed an indifferent woman who dares to make up her trousseau without using frills as the chief decoration upon her gowns. Frills are used upon costumes for every occasion, even outing suits, for where braid is used as the skirt trimming the waist is almost covered with frills.

In making frills out of goods that have figures running through them—



HOW TO MAKE AND ARRANGE FRILLS.

especially flowers—be sure to have every figure running the same way; that is, unless they run up and down in the weave of the goods. Nothing looks so careless and clumsy as ruffles that are made with the figures running in all directions. After the strips for the frills are sewed together, if you do not care to head them with lace, hem the top and bottom, making the top hem much the narrower, and gather. Gather them with the fingers and stroke every stitch. This makes them much daintier than being gathered by machine. Divide the frills into four parts, sticking a pin at each quarter, and treat the skirt or waist in the same way. Sew a quarter of the frill on to a quarter of the skirt or waist and you will find that when completed the gathers will be evenly distributed and will set gracefully upon their foundation.

THREE PRETTY SLEEVES.

Here Are the Very Latest Models from Which to Select the One You Like Best.

The goods which enjoy the most popularity this summer are so light both in weight and color, that the designs for sleeves are necessarily dainty and airy to keep pace with the delicacy of the material. Puffs and ripples finish the shoulders while the body of the sleeves is very tight.

If the body of the sleeve is made of figured goods the ripple or puff is made of plain goods trimmed with velvet,



THE LATEST SLEEVE DESIGNS.

baby ribbon or fancy buttons. If the puff or ripple is of plain goods then the body is, of course, figured.

The butterfly puff is both new and popular and is made by folding the cloth in a large butterfly bow and tacking it over the sleeves so that it can be removed if desired.

The sleeve which consists simply of a large puff is trimmed with lace and caught just above the elbow with a band of ribbon which fastens upon cut steel or pearl buttons. Long gloves are worn with these puffed sleeves as they are only half the usual length.

FLOWERS IN A BOWL.

A Simple Arrangement for the Artistic Display of Plants and Vines of All Kinds.

"I like flowers in a bowl," said a woman of an inventive turn of mind and an artistic taste; "they have such a generous effect, as if they had been picked in great handfuls—but I do not like them packed in a solid mass—so I have taken malleable copper wire (No. 20) and made frames to go over all my bowls and wide-mouthed vases, and now I can arrange my flowers with great ease and artistic effect. The wire frame is very easily contrived. With a pair of pinchers bend a ring of wire the size of the edge of the bowl, hooking the ends of the circle together. Then across this stretch lengths of wire, allowing about half an inch over the diameter, the circle to bend down and fit over the edge of the bowl. Twist the wires together where they cross each other, and give a firm twist around the circle of wire, and that is all. Where the wires bend over the edge of the bowl they are entirely hidden by the leaves and flowers, and the whole thing can be removed for cleaning."

"When arranging flowers with this frame I first make a light foundation with sprays of green to conceal the frame. Common garden asparagus is delightful when filling jars with sweet peas and many other blossoms. Nasturtiums I use with their own foliage, often sticking the flower stems right through the leaves. On this foundation flowers throw themselves into the most fascinating attitudes without any constraint or unnatural heavy massing, and you can hardly avoid making them look light and graceful. Anyone who has once utilized this simple device will never be willing to struggle with the arrangement of flowers in the old way."—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

AFTERNOON REST.

No Period of Sleep is Quite as Refreshing or Gives More Rest to Brain and Brawn.

The necessity of a rest hour for a busy mother and housekeeper cannot be too strongly insisted upon. All other women are apt to take this rest except the woman whose "work is never done," and who needs it the most of all. It is not necessary to take a full hour's rest, but as much time as this should be allowed in the early afternoon after the work of the dinner is over, for the simple object of resting. The habit should be acquired of going to one's room and of shutting out the outside world as much as it is possible, together with all worldly care and worry. Bathe the temples, loosen the dress, and, if possible, put on a loose wrapper and lie down. Sleep may not come at once, but the habit is soon acquired, and in a short time the tired woman who adopts this remedy will fall asleep almost as soon as she touches the pillow. Even if her enforced nap does not last over half an hour, no period of sleep in the 24 hours covering the same amount of time will be so refreshing or give so much rest to tired brain and muscle.—N. Y. Tribune.

To Brighten a Copper Kettle.

Fill the kettle completely with boiling water, to which has been added a small quantity of soda, and while the water is in the kettle rub the outside over briskly with a flannel dipped in quite sour milk. As a final measure wipe the metal dry and polish it with a wash-leather.

MRS. PINKHAM'S WARNING TO WOMEN.

Neglect is the Forerunner of Misery and Suffering—A Grateful Husband Writes of His Wife's Recovery.

Nearly all the ill health of women is traceable to some derangement of the feminine organs. These derangements do not cure themselves, and neglect of the sensations resulting from them is only putting off trouble.



Pathetic stories are constantly coming to Mrs. Pinkham of women whose neglect has resulted in serious heart trouble and a whole train of woes. Here is the story of a woman who was helped by Mrs. Pinkham after other treatment failed: DEAR MRS. PINKHAM—It affords me very great pleasure to be able to state that I believe my wife owes her health to your medicine and good advice. For three years her health failed rapidly; she had heart trouble, often falling down in dizzy and fainting spells, shortness of breath, choking and smothering spells, bloating of the stomach, a dry cough, dyspeptic symptoms, menses irregular, scanty, and of an unnatural color. She had been treated by physicians with but little benefit. She has taken your treatment according to your directions, and is better in every way. I am well pleased with the result of your treatment, and give you permission to use my letter for the benefit of others.—CHAS. H. and Mrs. MAY BURCHARD, Fort Meyer, Va.

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