

TRAINED TO BUSINESS.

"You may laugh as you please over my notions," said Mr. Ashley to his two bejeweled sisters-in-law, "but this little girl is to be trained up into a smart little business woman. She is to be just as efficient in that line as if she were a boy. Everybody despises a young man who has no sense about business, even if he is heir to a fortune, and there is no reason why a young lady should grow up in idleness any more than her brother. There are a great many up and downs in social life, and I want my little 'Goldie Locks' to be armed against reverses. She may not always have her father's purse to draw on, and I want her to be able to earn money for herself, just as her brother would have done if he had lived."

The two ladies were perfectly shocked at such sentiments from their rich brother-in-law, but they felt that remonstrance was useless. If he would spoil poor, dear Alice's little girl in that way, it was no fault of theirs. For their part, they could better train the child how to spend her father's large income; but the idea of her learning to "earn money," with such expectations as were hers, was beyond ridiculous.

Mr. Ashley pursued his own course, regardless of the comments it awakened in the two households near his own.

One of little Effie's birthday gifts, when only eight years old, was an elegant little account-book, done in green and gold, and as handsomely gotten up as the daintiest autograph album.

He gave her some very simple directions about keeping her small accounts, and then told her he should give her an allowance on the first of every month, on the condition that she should put down every penny of expense in an orderly way and state clearly for what she spent the money.

Effie was a bright little girl and was much pleased with her "new play," and entered upon it with great spirit. She spent several of her dimes that very afternoon, more for the fun of putting down the account than because she was absolutely out of pencils and stationery for school uses. She thought that pencils and such like articles had a very respectable look to start her little account book with. "So much more business-like than just candy and doll's slippers." These articles came in, however, in due season, for what little girl with money in her purse could well withstand such temptations?

So great was the pleasure of spending, that long before the month was up Miss Effie found herself bankrupt, and just then her necessities began to press upon her. But it was an understood thing that her very liberal allowance was to supply all these small matters, and make many drafts on father's purse quite unnecessary. Here was a bad dilemma, and Effie went straight to her father with it, as she did with all her troubles. Father smiled, well pleased at the chance of teaching a good financial lesson.

"Now if father should hand out the money for these new wants, Effie, the lesson would all be lost. As far as I can see, they are all things that can wait until next month. Of course, anything you need at school I must advance the money for and take out of the next month's allowance. But that would have its disadvantages, you know," and he gave a kiss to the sober, turned little face. "Business was business," she found, and may be the road would wind up hill at times. She thought and studied considerably over her puzzled problems, and finally asked father if there was not some way by which she could save money, as Jane, the little waitress, did, to supplement her allowance. This was the very point her father desired to gain, and he was quite ready to open the way.

"You see my dear, what a sad state my papers are in after mail time every day. I read them and throw them down, too busy to put them in order. If you will take this task upon yourself, and perform it faithfully every forenoon after I go down to the office, I will pay you fair wages; in fact, I look forward to the day when my little girl can take the entire charge of this room. I greatly dislike having any house-maid enter it. A little disarrangement of my papers might occasion great trouble."

Little Effie was delighted with her commission, and set about her first task of earning money with a wonderful zest which would never have come to her without having first felt the want of it.

So step by step was the child induced into various little financial schemes, and long before she had laid aside her dolls had she learned to calculate with her father questions of profit and loss, with a view to various investments he was making. To make the impression still deeper, he never sent out a vessel without giving her some little "venture" of her own, in which she learned to take the deepest interest. She studied the peculiarities of the various foreign markets where her father traded, looked out the countries on the great map in the office, and traced out the vessel's course. She learned to take a watchful interest in the reports of arrivals and departures, and, indeed, could have instructed many much older than herself long before she was in her teens.

At nineteen she was her father's book-keeper, with a fair salary, and had an elegant little office fitted up luxuriously for her especial accommodation. It occasioned a good deal of talk, this eccentric way of bringing up an heiress, but Effie felt that she was "father's boy," and they two were all the world to each other. Her education had been carefully attended to, and her social nature not neglected, but the world of fashionable dissipation she had not entered, nor did she sigh for it.

Alas! the lesson of usefulness had not come too early. Sad financial disasters all through the land swept away many still larger fortunes, but that was not the

saddest blow to Effie. Her father, too, was taken from her, and no wonder that for a time she was crushed by the blow.

But there were duties closely pressing on every side, and she could not yield to idle grief. She set herself faithfully to work to carry out the principles of life that her father had been instilling through all the years of her existence.

An orphaned cousin, like herself financially stranded, she took into her counsel. Their plans were soon matured, and in a new fast growing town they opened a small provision store with the limited capital they could command. Their store soon became noted as the neatest grocery store in the place. Everything was fresh and tidy, and there was always room for a blooming flower-pot in the window. It was something rare and beautiful, and often changed for another which had been perfecting itself in the small back room where the brave girls kept house. A hired boy was all the help they had at first, but with their bright, cheery ways they managed to "make much" of him. Cheerful folks are always the best served by those in their employ.

Effie was the business manager, and she conducted their financial affairs admirably. And Saturday night she could tell you exactly how the firm stood, and as it was a cash store there were no bad debts to bother about. Now all her former education came in play. She was most thankful for that early drilling which had brought her to handle money wisely, and turn it over to the best advantage. The business grew with a steady, healthy growth, like a snowball in deep snow. Better still, her worth was known and valued in the community to which her presence was a blessing. The poor and the suffering knew always where to turn for a helper and a sympathizing friend.

Effie, too, found a new and happy home at last, and not unwillingly laid off the cares of the large establishment on the strong young shoulders of Cousin Dell and an industrious young merchant who proposed to unite the interests of the two concerns in a very emphatic manner. Indeed, henceforth Dell seemed to take fully as much interest in Arthur's success in business as her own. Whenever the wheels got into a tight place, Cousin Effie was willing to leave her handsome home and its precious ties, and come down for a day or two, if need be, to help straighten affairs.

Indeed, in all the relations of life she never found it of the slightest disadvantage that she had enjoyed the benefit of a thorough business training, and she fully carried out her plans of making her own girls efficient, practical working women, as she wished her only son to be an industrious, intelligent business man.

If more daughters were trained in the same way, this would not be such a hard world for women to make a living in, when reverses come. There are a great many poor people in almost every community, but few are so poor or so hard to help as useless women who have been reared in idleness of both brain and hand.

A Fiend's Confession.

[Pittsburgh Commercial Gazette.]

The mystery connected with the murder of the three persons near Wheeling the other day, has been partially cleared up by the action of John Wallace in confessing the crime. Wallace on Friday sent word to the jury that he desired to make a clean breast of it. He was brought before them and cautioned that what he said would be used against him. He then told his story, as follows:

THE CONFESSION.

"I will tell it all. Some time ago I was down in Littleton and met Henry Villers and fell in conversation with him. He asked me what I thought of brother George's wife. I told him I thought she made George a good wife and was a mild and gentle woman. He wanted to know if I thought her overbearing and abusive to people. I told him that I thought she was and was kind of deceitful. He said she had insulted him when he worked for George last fall, and I told him of how she had spoken lightly and slightly of both me and my wife. He told me that day in Littleton that he would give me, or anybody else, \$30 for killing George Wallace's wife, and said he would help do it. I told him I didn't like her, but nothing more was said about the matter until last Tuesday, the 19th inst., when I was in Littleton, and again met Henry Villers. He spoke of a fight he had with Enoch Roberts, and said to me: 'Will you help me to do that to-day what we talked about some time ago?' I know he referred to killing George's wife; I said I would, but said nothing more to him about the matter until after night. I saw Mr. Conway in the afternoon; he asked me up to supper and I went. After supper, about dark, George and I started for Littleton; we walked into town and stopped at the post office; we stayed there until about 7 o'clock; we then went up the railroad toward Mr. Conway's, walking on up as far as the water-tank, and there sat down and talked; at 8 o'clock George went on to Conway's, and I went back to Littleton.

CONCOCTING THE PLAN.

"I went to White's store, and in a few minutes was joined by Henry Villers and some others who came in. I sat on the counter; Henry Villers stood close by me, and said: 'Will you help me to do that to-night?' I said I would. He then said: 'I'll go with you and we'll do it to-night,' and asked me who was staying with George's wife. I told him Mary Church. Then he told me to go first and take one or the parties out of the house and kill them, and he would kill the remaining ones; and said, 'You will find a half pint flask of whisky at the corner of the coal-house, near the water station.' The 9 o'clock train then passed and we all went to the door. Villers, myself, and some others walked to Pendergrast's store, but Villers stopped there and went back to the doctor's. I walked on up to George Lemaster's house, but did not go in. I then went to the railroad and went

directly out into the country, and up to George's house, expecting Henry Villers to follow me. When I got to the house I knocked at the door, but no one answered, and then I went around to the window and knocked at it. George's wife asked 'Who is there?' I told her it was me, and she said come round to the door and come in. I went in the house and she asked me what I wanted. I told her that Henry Church's wife was very sick, and wanted her to come over as soon as she could. She got up and dressed herself and the baby. I asked her if there was a hammer about the house, and said I wanted one for Henry Church. She said there was one in the chicken-house, and went to get it, and gave it to me.

THE MURDERS COMMITTED.

"We started for Church's, I carrying the child, and she following. I carried the child until we got to a point about half way between the house and where she was found dead. She took the child here, and carried it to where she was afterward found. When we got to the fence and went to cross it I took the child on my left arm, and as she was crossing the fence, I struck her on the back of the neck with the hammer. (He cried here, and said: 'Have mercy on me!') She fell on the side of the fence I was on, and I struck her twice more with the hammer on the head. I laid the child down, and when it cried I struck it on the head once with the hammer. Then I started to go away as fast as I could, but was afraid Villers had not gone to the house, and I went back there. I got to the house and found Villers was not there, and asked Mary Church to get me something to eat. She got up to get me something and went to the shelf where the dishes are kept, and then passed around behind me, between me and the door, and then stood facing the fire. I struck her on the back of the head, with the same hammer, and then passed out the door and turned back and took the hammer in my left hand and struck her twice, striking through the half-open door. I then shut the door and went home as fast as I could go. Whether Villers was there or not I don't know; I didn't see him. I came down past Henry Church's on my road home; got there twenty minutes before 12; it struck 12 before I got to bed. I took two drinks in Littleton. I have nothing more to say."

WALLACE'S CRAYEN FEAR.

During the recital of this terrible story, Wallace frequently covered his face with his hands and sobbed, while he frequently ejaculated, "I must tell all," "Have mercy on me," and like expressions. Notwithstanding Wallace's statement, Dr. J. S. Reager, of Littleton, says that Miss Church had certainly been outraged, and his opinion was that Mrs. Wallace had been too.

VILLERS' PERSONALITY.

George Villers, the person implicated by the above confession of John Wallace, is a young man about 23 years old. He is by no means prepossessing in appearance, and yet bears a tolerably fair reputation. Drinks a little occasionally, but is industrious. People generally discredit the story implicating him in the murder. He is ignorant, slow of speech, and has an awkward way about him. He says that, in his opinion, the part in the conspiracy charged upon him by John Wallace, was the part played by his brother George in the affair. In answer to a question as to why George should enter into such a conspiracy, he replied that the general opinion was that he wanted to get rid of his wife, as was shown by his letter to her father and his habitual conduct toward her. He said that he had often been at George's house, and was on good terms with him and his wife, and that nothing disagreeable had ever occurred. The story was made up by John Wallace to help his case.

English Grain Market.

LONDON, March 26.—The *Mark Lane Express* review of the British corn trade the last week says: A large breadth of spring corn has been planted under favorable conditions, and the seasonable weather of the last few weeks has strengthened the wheat planted without unduly forcing it. In spite of the present winter weather we have every reason to hope for a more prosperous season than for three years. In many districts the sowing of barley and oats is nearly completed, that another week of dry weather would nearly end the spring sowing. Some reaction in favor of higher prices is noticeable in the wheat trade, but the improvement has only in a few instances extended to home grown grain, which has been marketed in a very short quantity and somewhat defective condition. Foreign wheat, of which the imports into London were very moderate, is met with an improved demand at an advance of a shilling per quarter, chiefly on American descriptions, but more business is passing than of late in all varieties, and the tendency of prices is in the sellers' favor.

There has been some continental demand, which has tended to advance values for cargoes of the coast. It is probable France will require seven hundred thousand quarters of fine wheat for mixing purposes between this and harvest. Judging from the dullness of trade at the close of the week it is doubtful whether last week Monday's advance will be maintained, as arrivals of wheat from America and Russia the next few months will be on too large a scale to admit of much enhancement of values. France will probably relieve us of some portion of the accumulated stocks in southern Russia, but allowing for this it is scarcely likely the ordinary consumptive demand will be sufficient to support the present currencies.

Some attention is directed to Indian wheat, of which the stocks in London are worked down to comparatively a narrow compass, and a slight improvement in the value of Calcutta produce appears probable. Maize, although quiet, is fairly steady. Both old and new corn is in moderate request at late rates, but other sorts of feeding corn are dull. Grinding barley and inferior sorts of oats have given way one shilling and six pence per quarter, respectively, with moderate arrivals.

Russian Losses During the War.

Official returns state that the Russian losses in killed and wounded during the late war amounted to 89,304 officers and men. Among these there were ten generals killed and eleven wounded. One prince of the imperial family and thirty-four members of the higher nobility of Russia fell on the field of battle. Of the wounded, 36,824 are already perfectly recovered, and 10,000 more will be able to leave the hospital during the next few weeks. The proportion of killed and wounded to the total number engaged was very large, one out of every six men who went into action being either injured or left dead on the field of battle. In the great actions of the late Franco-German war the proportion of killed and wounded to men engaged was very nearly the same, being one-sixth in the battles of Worth and Spicheren, and one-eighth in the battle of Mars-la-Tour. The returns also show that one out of every eleven wounded men received into the Russian hospitals died from

the effects of the injuries received. During the whole campaign only two men were punished with death; one for the crime of desertion, the other for robbery, accompanied with violence. On the other hand, \$20,000 rewards were given in the form of decorations, promotions, or rewards of money, the eighth corps, which so long held and defended the Shipka Pass, receiving the greatest proportion.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE, March 25.—Mr. Windom reported the consular bill. Mr. Wallace submitted an amendment to the bill to repeal the resumption act. The bill to provide for expenses of the district government passed. The deficiency appropriation bill passed. Mr. Howe addressed the Senate in support of his resolution calling on the President for information relating to the alleged defalcation by Judge Whitaker, of New Orleans.

HOUSE, March 25th.—A large number of bills were introduced under call of the house and referred to suitable committees. A motion to suspend the rules to take up Stephens' supplemental silver bill was defeated, 140 to 102. A similar motion to take up the bill suspending the action of the sinking fund was lost, 122 to 112. Motion to make the Stephens' bill the special order for April 4th was also lost.

SENATE, March 26.—The House joint resolution to extend the time for the payment of tax on whisky in bond was concurred in. Mr. Blaine made some remarks upon the correspondence between the British and American governments in relation to the Halifax fisheries commission, after which, on his motion, it was referred to the committee on foreign affairs. The claim of D. G. Corbin to the seat from South Carolina, occupied by Butler, was referred to the elections committee. Mr. Morrison spoke in favor of the judiciary committee's Pacific railroad funding bill. Mr. Matthews moved the railroad committee's bill as a substitute.

HOUSE, March 26th.—The tariff bill was reported and referred to the committee of the whole. Resolutions were passed for printing public documents. The senate bill increasing accommodations for the library of congress was concurred in. Mr. Wood reported a resolution making the tariff bill the special order for Tuesday, April 4; after debate adopted—137 to 114. The Field-Dean contested election case of Massachusetts was discussed. The senate bill for District of Columbia government was passed.

HOUSE, March 27.—A bill to establish a national quarantine, to prevent the introduction of infectious diseases into the United States, was reported and referred. The Massachusetts contested election case of Dean against Field came up, and the minority report, declaring Field entitled to his seat, was defeated by a tie vote. Without coming to a vote on the majority report, the house adjourned.

SENATE, March 27th.—A resolution was passed paying the contestant for Kellogg's seat from Louisiana in the Forty-third congress. A bill was introduced calling on the war department for information relating to the operation by government of the Atlantic and North Carolina railroad in 1865. Mr. Hill addressed the senate upon the Pacific railroad funding bill. The consular diplomatic appropriation bill was then called up, and the amendments of the committee on appropriations restoring the salaries reduced and stricken out by the house agreed to. Other amendments were made, and the bill passed.

SENATE, March 28.—Mr. Teller reported with amendments, the bill to incorporate the National Pacific railroad company. The bill providing for the sale of certain Indian lands in Kansas and Nebraska, was passed. Several pension bills were passed. Mr. Bailey spoke in favor of the judiciary committee Pacific railroad funding bill. Mr. Teller reported with amendments, the bill for a railroad from Bismarck to the Black Hills.

HOUSE, March 29.—A bill was passed appropriating \$420,000 for the payment of claims allowed. Mr. Stephens introduced a bill to promote the general use of the metric standard. The rest of the session was spent on the private bills calendar.

"Just Dropped In."

Neighbors are an excellent institution, if they only keep their places. But neighbors out of their places are quite another thing.

The Bible enjoins it upon us to love our neighbor as ourself, and then pertinently inquires, who is our neighbor? If anybody can love a meddlesome, envious, prying back-door neighbor, he must have more grace and patience than the most of us.

In large cities the inhabitants know very little about neighbors; but in country villages and in the rural regions it is altogether different.

Every neighborhood has one or more of those troublesome people who are continually dropping in. They are of both genders, and equally disagreeable. Your female neighbor comes over while you are at breakfast and begs you won't mind her, and she sits down in the dining-room, and stares at you while you eat, and fixes her eyes on the patch on the table-cloth, and shows by her expression that she knows your forks are plated. If you have bacon for breakfast, she tells you she dislikes pork and insinuates that it is unfit for Christians to eat, but she will add, as a sort of qualifier, that, if you like it, it is all right.

Then she will want the pattern of little Joe's apron, and she will go into your parlor to get the last fashion magazine, to save you the trouble of going, when you know she only does it for an excuse to pass by your bedroom door, to see if the bed is made.

You never can have anything or do anything without your back-door neighbor's cognizance. She is as keen on the scent as a blood-hound. Your new spring suit, that you have vowed she should not see until you appeared in it at church, she spies out by a piece of trimming carelessly left in your work-basket, and she guesses at its cost, and asks where you got it, and how many yards you had, and who cut it, and if you made it yourself, and says she likes blue but then green is all the style. But she supposes you got blue because green is so trying to a sallow complexion.

When she finds out that you purchased the material at Smith's she says that she always shops at Jones'. Jones is to be relied upon, but then Smith tells a good story, and knows just how to handle customers who do not understand goods. And then she asks again what you paid for your dress, and you dare not tell her a cent more on a yard than it really was, for you know she will go directly and

ask Smith all about it.

And this brings us to wonder why it is that women in general, and nearly everybody else, are prone to represent the price of articles they purchase a little higher than the actual facts will warrant? Why is it that we all want to have it thought that our twenty-dollar suits cost thirty? and our hundred-dollar parlor sets cost a hundred and fifty?

Our back-door neighbor sees through all our little shifts to appear better than we are, and she lets us know that she does. She knows that the handsome rug was put before the sofa in our sitting room to hide that thin place in the carpet; she knows that we use brown sugar to sweeten pies and doughnuts, she knows that our Tom will swear when he is out of humor, and that Mr. Brown slams the doors when things do not suit him.

She just drops in two or three times a week, sometimes oftener, and is only going to stop a minute. She never takes her hat and shawl off because she can't stop. And there she will sit and talk, and hinder you with your work, and spoil the whole forenoon for you, and, ten to one, she stays to dinner, and protests that she wouldn't have stopped for anything in the world but because she was afraid of hurting your feelings.

She only just dropped in a moment, and never thought of stopping.

No, indeed!

Nothing of your family affairs is safe from her observation. She knows just how often your oldest girl has gentlemen to call on her and who they are, and how late they stay nights, and who their grandfathers were, and all the other particulars.

She is a perpetual thorn in the flesh, and it is better to live by a school-house, a kerosene refinery, a cotton mill, a piano salesroom, or a bone-boiling establishment than to live next door to a woman who is always dropping in.—*Kate Thorn, in N. Y. Weekly.*

Fashions.

Satin is above every thing for trimming.

Sea-weed is much used for dress trimmings.

Black lace points or shawls are no longer worn.

Dress goods of all kinds will be cheap this season.

Sacques in new light tints divide favor with the dolmans.

The yoke of the kilt shirt should fit the hips like a glove.

Golden brown-tinted hair is the fashion at present in Paris.

Drab or mode shades are the fashionable ones in kid gloves.

Velvet and fringe galloons are the latest for dress trimming.

Very young girls will wear Scotch plaids of dark colors for spring.

Light drabs and stone colors are much used for the short suits.

Bonnet coronets are very high, and turned very far back at the sides.

Plush striped grenadine gauzes are used in trimming spring bonnets.

The new dolmans in cream shades are elegant, and are very handsome.

The new styles of dressing the hair are as varied as the bonnets and hats.

Colored embroidery is appearing on the broad cuffs and collars for spring wear.

Square necks, formed by long and high shoulder-straps, are seen in opera toilets.

Elbow sleeves are still in favor for the house, but light coat sleeves for the street.

Dolmans, French sacques and Carrick capes will all be fashionable spring wraps.

All kinds of white goods for children will be trimmed with gay-colored embroidery.

Very high Spanish combs in silver filigree, ivory coral, jet and shell are very fashionable.

Jewelry for the summer will be of filigree silver, sometimes gilded. It will be extremely fashionable.

Chemise petticoats, combining both garments in one, are among the new things in ladies' underwear.

The correct length for the kilt skirt allows it to escape the sidewalk two and a half inches all around.

Silks of light quality with raised figures are offered for spring costumes, or as parts of combination suits.

There is little doubt but that coronet fronts will be the most popular for spring and summer bonnets.

For early spring, fine black chip bonnets, trimmed with narrow black satin ribbon and lace, will be much worn.

Shoes are made with the uppers of the same material as the dress. Nobby and stylish with the kilt skirt.

White goods in various materials will be the prevailing style for evening toilets during the coming summer.

Bourette is a term applied indefinitely this season to all irregularly woven all wool and cotton and wool dress goods.

Short walking suits for the street are meeting with great favor. They consist of a short kilt skirt, vest and cutaway coat.

Double-face satin ribbons about five inches wide are used for ladies' and children's sashes, instead of the very wide ones lately worn.

Chinese green, Mexique blue, Mandarin yellow, orange, cardinal red, scarlet, crimson and clear rose, are among the popular colors.

Ostrich tips, with marabout ends tipped with pearl beads, and with the central stem ornamented with tiny sea shells, are among the novelties in millinery.

The new ornaments for bonnets are in the shape of golden feathers, gold and silver filigree flies, bees and beetles, with steel pieces scattered over the wings and bodies and forming the eyes.

Ladies seem, sometimes, puzzled to know how to dress when invited to an entertainment. If the invitation be printed or formal, full dress is almost always expected; if verbal, the demi-toilet is suitable.

The hair at present is dressed high on the head, around a Spanish comb, narrow in the back of the head, and dropping low on the nape of the neck—in a short chataleine and one or two short curls, and banged and waved on the forehead, or made to look more natural than nature itself with a Mercedes coquetette, which is an artificial banged and curled front.