THE HOME, ITS PROBLEMS AND ITS INTERESTS

THE INFORMAL AFTERNOONS AT HOME.

This simple design is an excellent one for the inexpensive house frock, and now that cashmere is once more fashionable and other lightweight wools at moderate prices, the house frock should be an easy problem even to the woman of small dress allowance. In pale violet cashmere is a delightful suggestion with surplice bodice and flat collar of heavy ecru lace and chemisette and stock of finely tucked mousseline matching the material. A frill of lace edges the short sleeves, and black velvet bows at closing of bodice and on sleeves give a charming touch. The skirt is in fine tucks over the hips and has three deep nun's folds around foot.

Woman's Glory.

Give your hair a sunshine bath occasionally.

To do this, go sit in the sunshine, beside the open window, on the porch—sit wherever the sunshine floods the place.

Protect your face from the effulgence, but let your hair get the full benefit of the golden light.

Brush the hair, full length, and shake the tresses out, so the sunshine can sift through the locks.

This bath will freshen and brighten the hair, and will serve as a tonic for the scalp.

Try this bath for the hair—and you will repeat it.

WOMAN GIVES LARGE SUM TO INSTITUTE FOR BLIND

Catalina Juliana Mason Myers, by her will dated June 8, 1903, offered for probate, bequeaths $5,000 to the New York Institute for the Blind of the city of New York.

Among other bequests mentioned are $10,000 to her daughter-in-law, Edmonia T. P. Mason; $5,000 to her friend, Herbert Carpenter; $5,000 to Samuel Smith; $1,000 to her friend, Bernard Mimmack, and $1,000 to William J. Quinlan, jr.

The will of Adolf Cluss, dated July 14, 1896, offered for probate, leaves $400 to his daughter, Flora M. Cluss, and the remainder of his estate to his daughters, Lilian C. Daw, Anita Cluss, and Flora M. Cluss. The last named is designated executrix

By the terms of the will of the late William A. Meloy, dated June 13, 1898, with the exception of gifts to his children, his estate is left to his wife, Emily Josepha N. Meloy, for life.

PLANNING RECEPTION TO REV. DR. STAFFORD

A meeting of St. Patrick's Congregation will be held this evening in Carroll Hall to plan a reception to the Rev. Dr. Stafford on his arrival from Europe.

Dr. Stafford sailed from Havre Saturday and will arrive in Washington Saturday or Sunday. All adults of the congregation are requested to be present.

MARINE BAND CONCERT AT MARINE BARRACKS

The following concert program will be given by the Marine Band at the Marine Barracks tomorrow at 4:30:

March, "Our Glorious Banner," Santelmann
Overture, "Stradella" ..... Flotow
Idyl, "Hearts and Flowers" ..... Tobani
Clarinet solo, "Waltz Aria" ... Schreiner
Musician Jacques Louis Vanpoucke.
Caprice, "Italien" ..... Tschaikowsky
Character picture, "Whispering Flowers" ..... Von Blon
Descriptive fantasia, "In a Clock Store" ..... Orth
"The Star-Spangled Banner."

COMMISSIONER BLACK SICK AT MACKINAW

A report has been received here that Civil Service Commissioner Black is quite ill at Mackinaw, Mich.

His condition, however, is not regarded as serious. General Black had a severe congestive chill last week and at one time his friends thought the chill would prove fatal. But the general pulled through, although it left him in a weakened condition.

General Black is on his annual vacation. He is not expected to return to Washington for several weeks.

A CONFIRMED GAMBLER.

Gabe Jackson was a "cullud" gent,
To taking chances given;
A lottery was joy to him,
A crap game—it was heaven!

At last he swore to Mrs. Gabe
And Chancy—that's his neighbor—
That to reform himself he would
In future sternly labor.

Alas for resolution good,
Alas for Jackson's fancies!
He had some hens at home, but still
He kept on taking Chancy's!
—New Orleans Times Democrat.

Children's Teeth.

Not all mothers realize the necessity of caring for the teeth of very young children. Knowing that these first teeth must soon go, they are often neglected unless they call attention to themselves by persistent aching. That this course is a mistake many persons have found to their cost in later life. The first teeth should be treated with as much care as the second set. Cavities should be filled, not, indeed, with gold, but with amalgam or some such substance. When the second set is coming, close watch should be kept to make sure that the first teeth are not allowed to interfere with their successors. Where a first tooth does not come out at the right time the second tooth often comes up back or to one side of it, thus making irregularity. Children should be trained to use a tooth brush from the time they are able to wash their own faces. For some reason or another most children dislike brushing their teeth, but a mother who insists upon its being done will have her reward in their gratitude in later life.

Burns and Scalds.

Equal parts of linseed oil and lime water, beaten until they are an emulsion, is the finest remedy for burns and scalds. The mixture should be spread evenly on linen with a knife and bound on the injured spot. It is a sure cure.

TO CLEAN PEARLS

Care Must Be Taken Not to Injure Other Gems Set With Them.

According to the gem experts in the largest jewelry establishments in the city, the only way to clean pearls is to wash them in lukewarm water with a light suds made from white castile soap, and then dry by shaking in a box filled with jewelry sawdust as soon as the dirt is removed, for if left wet the gems may be injured. To free the setting around a pearl from dust, a soft brush should be used, for nothing but fine hairs can get around the small corners and clean the prongs, without danger of loosening the jewels.

In cleaning a pearl ring or stickpin surrounded by a cluster of diamonds the best plan is to put them in a bowl of clear lukewarm water. Then dip the brush in the water, rub it over a pure toilet soap and make a thin suds on the hand, then brush the jewels and setting carefully, until they look clean. Care must be taken that no bits of soap get on the gems. Occasionally they will have to be soaped several times to make them bright. The moment the dirt is removed rinse them in lukewarm water and blow it off quickly so the pearl will dry more rapidly when put in the sawdust. Drop them in a bowl filled with jeweler's sawdust and shake them gently for several minutes. When taken out if any fine particles of wood cling to the setting they should be whisked off with a small, soft, dry toothbrush, leaving the pearls and diamonds bright and lustrous.

Some women prefer using alcohol instead of boxed sawdust to dry the stones, but unless a person is exceedingly careful with it the setting may be loosened. Dip the ring just once in alcohol and blow or brush it dry at once. The whole process of cleaning pearls should not take more than from six to ten minutes, and should be done every two or three weeks when they are constantly worn.

With half pearls or those that are pierced not more than three or four minutes should be allowed for this cleansing, because the outer layer or surface has been cut, and the water, which in time causes discoloration, is readily absorbed by the inner coats. If the setting holding the pearls has become tarnished, as it frequently does, the best plan is to have a jeweler brighten and polish it, for it is difficult to brighten without the proper tools.

A pearl necklace should be carefully brushed between the beads with soft hairs, but never dipped in water, for as a rule there is nothing to prevent the inside from getting wet, and perhaps darkening the surface or making spots.

When brushing no longer brightens the pearls the necklace should be taken to a jeweler, who will restring and clean them for a trifling cost.

Purely American.

Women are by no means of one mind about the necessity of going to Paris for style. It is pointed out that, first of all, Americans want to be free and independent of fashions that may please the French women. And it is likewise true that the manner of life of American women necessarily gives them figures quite different from those of their French sisters, who from their childhood are squeezed into corsets designed to give them unduly long waists and narrow hips. The American girl, on the contrary, shares her brother's games, is an adept at outdoor sports and develops an expanse of chest that quite unfits her for the confines of the corset affected by the Parisienne.

Bottling Lemon Juice.

To keep lemon juice ready for use squeeze out the juice in the usual manner, strain free from pulp and pits, add white powdered sugar in the proportion of one pound to a pint of the juice, stir it until the sugar is quite dissolved, then put it away in very small bottles. Put a teaspoonful of salad oil in the top and cork it close. When wanted for use take out the cork carefully and take up the oil with a bit of cotton wool. To use for lemonade, add one large tablespoonful to a gill of water.

GYMNASIUM SUIT FOR THE SCHOOL GIRL.

Navy blue serge or sicillienne is usually chosen for the gymnasium suit, with sometimes a touch of red or white to brighten it up. The sailor blouse is open at the throat, and filled in with a shield which may be in any of the colors mentioned. The broad collar is interlined with princess haircloth to hold the shape, and the sleeve may be either a simple puff at the shoulder or follow the regulation blouse pattern sleeve. The bloomers are adjusted with pleats at the band, and elastic bands in the hem hold the fullness in place at each knee. Sometimes a skirt is added to the suit, and this is usually of the divided variety. Black kid shoes, with rubber or deer hide soles, accompany the gymnasium suit.

More Heat From a Radiator.

There are a good many rooms where the radiator is either too small or the steam pressure is too low to maintain a comfortable temperature in severe weather. If the tenant is enjoying the station electric lighting service the matter can easily be remedied. Take the fan that keeps you cool all summer and set it where it will blow against a large part of the radiator's surface. Turn it on at a low speed, or at high if necessary, and your cold room will soon be thoroughly warmed. The philosophy of the thing is that steam at a low pressure carries much less latent heat than steam at a high pressure and therefore warms the radiator so poorly that only a slight draft of air rises around the pipes, and condensation is slow. With the fan in operation there is forced a draft against the radiator that conducts a great deal more heat away from the iron, cooling it so that much condensation of steam occurs inside it. The heat thus snatched from the reluctant radiator is held in the circulating atmosphere of the room, which is soon changed from cold to warm at a trifling cost for electric energy.

Graham Pudding.

Graham pudding is a favorite dinner dessert in New England. To make it, stir a batter of a cupful of molasses, a cupful of sweet milk, two cupfuls of graham flour (not sifted), a tablespoonful of melted butter, a scant teaspoonful of soda, half a grated nutmeg and a cupful of raisins, currants and citron mixed. Turn into a mold and steam three hours.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Edward D. Perkins, 40, and Emma M. Shea, 35.

William White, 31, and Carrie De Lacy, 27.

Charles J. Dexter, 28, and Anna M. Williams, 24.

Claude Kitchin, 22, and Anna Orton, 20.

Max F. Foerster, 31, St. Paul, Minn., and Winifred S. Osburn, 22, District of Columbia.

Martin C. Thompson, 23, and Sarah B. Beaty, 35.

William A. Parker, 45, and Alice L. Crotes, 38.

Arthur F. Ronziz, 35, Fredericksburg, Va., and Margaret Wheat, 28, Baltimore, Md.

James H. Knox, 43, and Mamie McGinnis, 25.

Samuel Carter, 20, and Maggie McDonald, 18.

Eugene Lomax, 28, Fairmont, W. Va., and Olive Wright, 21, District of Columbia.

Clifford Watts, 23, Westmoreland county, Virginia, and Marion Thomes, 34, District of Columbia.

A series of letters that form part of a genuine romance.

They were written by a talented woman to the man she wished to marry, but to whom her family objected, and the correspondence covers several years.

Without being over-sentimental they have sufficient of the dramatic element to make them quite the best reading of the year.

They are uniformly bright and interesting, with here and there a touch of delightful wit. Woven into them is a tone of pathos—the subdued grief of a genuine woman who is crossed in hopeless love.

Recently a situation was created which forever made impossible the marriage that both had hoped might crown their long romance. The woman asked for the return of her letters, to which the man agreed on one condition—that they be published anonymously and then destroyed. He thought their literary excellence deserved a better fate than destruction.

Because of this condition The Washington Times has secured the letters in confidence and will publish one each day until the series is complete.

PREFACE

A broken heart and a package of love letters are all that remain to indicate that I, like many others, have loved and lost. The heart, by the laws of human anatomy, I must retain; the letters I give to the public. Only those have been omitted that would lead to the identity of the writer.

My bachelor days were brightened by the devotion of which these letters are a record; my old age will be filled with sweet memories of the noble woman who won my love in boyhood, my repect and admiration in youth, and my loyalty in manhood. She has been a "guiding star" to many a wanderer in the desert of life, and it may be that, through these letters, she will again influence somebody somewhere.

In the sweet simplicity that so characterized her younger life, she is still toiling in a Massachusetts school room. Her hair is gray and her face wrinkled, but to me she is still the fairest woman on earth.

We have separated; but no earthly power will ever extinguish our love. We have separated, but her sweet influence will guide me on to the grave. We have separated; but when her life work is ended she will find awaiting her in the "Bright Beyond"

"SOMEBODY FROM SOMEWHERE IN MAINE."

(Copyright, 1905, by Elsie M. Dearborn.)

Dear Loved One:

When I was with you I thought of nothing but the present. The whole world contained nothing I desired more than to be by your side. Now I am three hundred miles away from you, and the present has no charm except now and then a momentary ripple of pleasure that vanishes like fog at sunrise. But oh, dearest! the past seven years are an inexhaustible fountain of riches. How I love to think of the countless hours of unutterable happiness we have spent together. So entirely consumed by the love of each other, we little thought or cared what transpired around us. When my school duties are less arduous than now, I am going to chronicle in rhyme all the events of our courtship. I shall dedicate the volume to you as one of the play-actors in the romance. Won't you enjoy seeing yourself written up in all the phases of passion that young manhood is heir to?

Do you remember the time we made a bluff at quarreling? I can almost see you now holding me closely in your arms, and the great three-cornered fragments of grief trickling down your cheeks. Then you coldly said "Good-night," and turned to go without giving me that which woman prizes above all other tokens of affection—a kiss. It was my turn to weep then, and oh my! I wonder that old Penobscot didn't overflow its banks. But an hour later as we sat in the hammock, the old man in the moon smiled at us, and the gentle evenings zephyrs murmured sweetly "All is well."

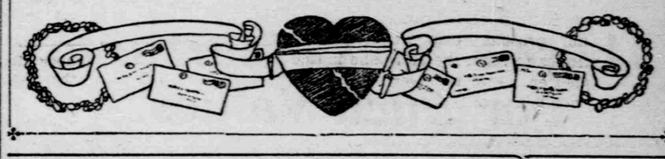
I think it was later than usual when you departed that evening, and you left behind the happiest woman in all the world. I knew that the possession of your heart was no partnership affair, that I owned it all. Isn't it so strange that every little ripple of discord, every objection of my people have only wedded our love stronger and stronger? I think these words can be said of us:

He was warned against the woman,
She was warned against the man,
And if that won't make a wedding,
There isn't anything that can.

But you say that your people will have a most royal welcome for me. That may be true, but I can't help thinking that your maiden sister will be sorry to lose her guardianship over you. Perhaps I will allow her to continue the exercise of some sweet duties, such as sewing on buttons and mending stockings. But I must reserve for myself the one pleasure of mending your coat. Do you know why? Ah! I will not let you forget. It was while I was mending the coat you tore when we were blackberrying that you first declared your love for me. You watched me in silence while I was plying the needle and thread. When it was finished I remarked that it was an ugly tear, but I had mended it the best I could. Then you clasped me in your arms, coat and all, telling me that your heart needed mending and no one but I could do it. I was but a child then, sixteen years old, and you a gallant youth of twenty-four. If I were an artist I would surely paint that picture. The tall young man in his shirt sleeves, with straw hat tipped back, showing a mass of brown curls that barricaded the forehead; the bashful maiden in print wrapper and apron, with heart too full of bliss to speak, looking shyly downward because she dare not trust herself to meet those mild eyes in which, for many weeks, she had seen the beams of boyish love. I am sure such a picture, with the words we uttered, would sell well as a valentine.

Yes, we did a bungling job of our early love, but it was all the sweeter. We know it was not masqueraded in flowery English, but bubbled, in genuine country dialect, from the depths of rustic hearts.

Still yours most sincerely,



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