

FEMININE FANCIES

THINGS OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

Providing for the Guest's Comfort.

THE first thing for the hostess to consider is the comfort of her guests. Where money is apparently no object this is very easy. But a woman of even moderate circumstances attempts to provide a lavish display for the guest she finds it difficult. On the other hand, judgment in the furnishing of the guest's room will allow a very pretty result which will cost but little.

After the selection of the room to be set aside for the guest's chamber there should be an ample supply of writing material placed at hand. The writing material is one of the essentials of this room, for guests are sure to appreciate good pens and writing paper. Besides these there should be a desk or flat table. A common wooden table, when given several coats of white enamel, will answer the purpose very well and will do away with the cost of the writing desk. A rack should be arranged to hold the writing paper and there should also be a tray for the penholders, pencils, knife and a paper cutter.

The top of the table should be covered with a large white or blue blotter, with several small blotters in a rack. A great convenience is a small calendar. This equipment need not be expensive, as all the articles can be purchased at a very low price at any stationery store. Very nice-looking boxes can be manufactured from common boxes and then covered with cretonnes or with wall paper to match the room. It is a very good idea to have the paper marked with the address of the hostess, and if she resides in the country the paper should contain the telephone and telephone address, as well as the number of the rural free delivery route.

Otherwise have paper of a good quality, purchased by the pound. The paper often proves a boon to the improvident guest who has forgotten her portfolio. Care should be taken to see that the paper does not run low. Stamp books are not necessary and can hardly be afforded by the average hostess.

Another good idea for the guest is to have a dainty silk kimono and a pair of bedroom "mules" in the closet of every guest room. Of course, nearly all guests carry these with them, but in case they are forgotten the thoughtfulness of the hostess will be appreciated. It is a very unpleasant idea to use the soap another person has used and in each room there should be placed individual cakes of soap. These are very small and are not expensive. The wrappers are left on the soap in order to show the guest that the soap has never been used.

Guests are supposed to bring their own toilet articles, but women pack in a great hurry sometimes and forget the minor articles needed for a few days' visit.

Many clever hostesses supply these articles by keeping on hand a small stock of tooth brushes, in their wrappers, and

also a half dozen fine nightgowns, which are used for the sole purpose of aiding the guest who has forgotten. The nightgowns are kept up in blue or pink tissue paper on the upper shelf in the guest's bathroom, where they can be easily found when needed. The information is laughingly given the guest in order that all embarrassment may be avoided.

A very useful necessity is a small box of orange wood sticks. The short ones can be purchased for 25 cents per box and they prove a very acceptable equipment for the guest's bathroom. A small nail brush is also very useful, but this need not be provided for each guest. It should be scrubbed with ammonia to be clean and white when the visitor arrives.

On the door of each closet should hang a laundry bag, and as these are made by almost all housewives there will be little expense connected. Unless there is plenty of shelf room a shoe bag should be added also.

In furnishing the room books and magazines should not be forgotten, as often the hostess's breakfast and retiring hours are not those to which the guest is accustomed, and her wakeful hours must be spent in reading. The books should be attractive both inside and out, and there should be an assortment of suit varied tastes—novels, essays, short stories and a good collection of poetry. In the country the books should always be careful to keep on hand a good supply of extra wraps and cloaks to be used in case of change of weather. Shawls and outling hats are also quite necessary for the comfort of the guest. It is the little things that count and that are never forgotten by the grateful recipient.

Beauty Hints.

SINCE the days of Cleopatra rain-water has been considered the best of cosmetics for the complexion and a walk in the rain is of more aid to the face than a quantity of medicines. Not only the contact with the fresh water, but also the dampness of the atmosphere, thoroughly cleanses the tissues, effacing from the skin all the dirt and grime of the day or week. Long naps and walks are also beneficial.

Many women have a wrong understanding of the bang, believing it is only for children and young girls. In this they are mistaken, as the bang softens features that are hard, conceals the little wrinkles about the temples and acts as a sort of veil to the heavy lines across the forehead. All women of mature appearance should wear the bang, but it must be treated artistically.

After a trying day nothing is more restful to the head than a cloth saturated in toilet-water and laid across the temples. A good toilet-water can be made at home with lavender water, rosewater and acetic acid.

Bicarbo-nate of soda when taken before the meals will reduce flesh. Take a small spoonful to a glass of water. Many physicians recommend soda, but the treatment must be persevered with and not taken for a while and then dropped.

COLLAPSIBLE PARASOL.

THE late fad for women who motor is the collapsible parasol, a novelty which originated in England some time ago. The umbrella will soon become indispensable for automobilists. It is claimed. It is very light and can be adjusted to almost all points of the compass, yet it can be condensed into a mere handful. It is merely a little sunshade which at the snap of a spring folds itself together and slides out of sight into a little wooden case, which looks like a policeman's club. This case is as light as a hand-bag and when not in use can be slipped anywhere for safe-keeping.

Mr. Justwed Makes Up His Mind To Be the Head of His Own House

IT was not a sudden outburst of wrath and protest that brought Mr. Justwed to the momentous decision. Nor was it an overt act of tyranny on Mrs. J.'s part that precipitated it. Of slow growth, it had rankled and rankled in Homer-dear's breast until his courage finally reached the sticking point. He had made up his mind to speak of it before—to expose it gently but impressively, as he phrased it in his own mind. Somehow, though, he had never done it.

A remark of Mrs. Justwed's, however, gave him an opportunity which he seized with avidity.

"The Gordons are coming tomorrow, remember, Homer-dear," said Mrs. J., "and I do hope you will be nice to them. They'll be here a whole week with you, you know. Just to please me, won't you come home from the office early and add."

"I'll be there," cried Mr. J. in a tone meant to be self-possession and compelling. "Don't go any further; I know exactly what you are going to say about coming home with a grouse, falling to hand out a lot of small talk at the table, jumping

"Suppose you remember," interrupted Mrs. J. spiritedly, "that you're talking to your wife for a moment, that no gentleman would use a word like that."

"Humph!" snapped back Homer-dear. "There you go! You've lost your temper! Can't you reason and discuss a thing logically without flying at me and handling forty ways from Sunday? Why don't you?"

"I'll not listen to you!" cried Mrs. Justwed, in tears. "I'll go straight back to my mother, and I'll—"

"You'll do nothing of the sort!" retorted Mr. J., losing his self-possession entirely. "You'll agree right here and now that I'm the head of this house! I've been mollycoddled and be-apron-stringed long enough!"

And he brought his fist down on the table with a bang!

The Gordons arrived just before dinner the following day and thereafter began the enlightenment of Mr. Justwed.

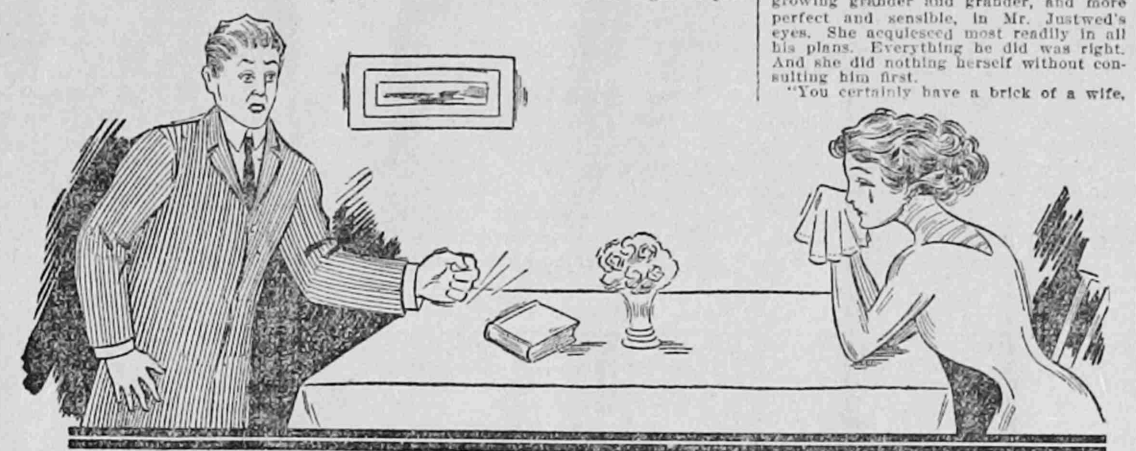
Mrs. J. had consented fully that he be head of his own house and added, as a further concession, that he might do just

what he pleased with manifest pleasure and enthusiasm. But when his wife cross-examined him with the idea that she didn't think it right for him, Percy, to chase off down town and leave their hostess the very first evening, he promptly lost all interest in the matter.

Mr. J. began to make mental comparisons between his own and Percy's state of bondage. And he couldn't help doing it the entire rest of the week every time Percy's wife opened her mouth.

Percy was forever and a day doing something that he should not have done, or leaving undone some trifling thing, in his wife's eyes, was of great importance. She acquiesced most readily in all his wishes to do, not what Percy preferred. In fact, for all Mr. Justwed could see to the contrary, Percy let "Mrs. Percy" dictate his acts, his thoughts, his diet and his present condition of servitude. And couldn't Mrs. J. say! Whew! Blossom was perfection itself on that point compared to her, Mr. Justwed had to admit.

All the while Mrs. Justwed had been growing grander and grander, and more perfect and sensible, in Mr. Justwed's eyes. She acquiesced most readily in all his wishes to do, not what Percy preferred. In fact, for all Mr. Justwed could see to the contrary, Percy let "Mrs. Percy" dictate his acts, his thoughts, his diet and his present condition of servitude. And couldn't Mrs. J. say! Whew! Blossom was perfection itself on that point compared to her, Mr. Justwed had to admit.



"I've been mollycoddled and be-apron-stringed long enough!"

at your beck and call and all the rest of it!"

"Why, Homer!" gasped Mrs. J., aghast and injured.

Mr. J. walked over to the table, laid his cigar on an ash-tray in a quiet, determined manner that betokened something of grave importance to be attended to and stepped back a few feet from his wife.

"Now, Blossom," he said, after regarding her steadily and impressively for some time, "I want to talk to you. We might just as well have a clear understanding here and now. I don't intend—"

"Clear understanding?" questioned Mrs. Justwed.

"I don't intend," Mr. J. went on, unheeding the interruption, "to be henpecked any longer! I've stood it long enough! I'm going to be head of my own house—and the sooner you understand it the better!"

"Oh, Homer!" cried Mrs. J., half-sob, half-laughing.

"Now wait!" insisted Mr. J. "Let me have my say. I'm tired of being cross-examined every day as to where I've been and how I've done. Suppose I don't come home from the bank immediately after it closes? What difference does it make? Suppose I do play billiards once in a while and lose 50 cents? Suppose I am quiet thing tired at dinner instead of being an animated, giggling chatter-box? Suppose I do want to read the evening paper instead of listening to what Mary said to you this afternoon about Jane and what Jane had to say about the cat? Suppose Mary said about her? Suppose I—"

as he pleased about any old thing he pleased. In this way Mr. Gordon could never get the idea he was henpecked. So all was serene, with Homer-dear at the helm.

At the table Mr. J. chattered and chirped to the best of his ability. He managed to add something to the conversation every three minutes, at least.

Gordon proved to be a regular magpie. He buzzed and rattled in any periscope that fairly made Mr. J.'s head whirl.

"Oh, Mr. Justwed," gurgled Mrs. Gordon, recovering from her laughter at Mr. J.'s one and only brilliant reply, "you are too funny for anything! I haven't laughed so much since I don't know when. Percival, you know, is so grim and grouchy. Never has a thing to say—worth listening to. After you, Percy!"

The head of the Gordon household hesitated a moment, but dutifully admitted that he was.

Mr. J. began to sit up and take notice. Available later, when the maid served the liquor—Percy obediently agreed not to drink it because his wife insisted that the doctor had advised him not to touch anything alcoholic for a month. And Percy had wanted that cream de menthe badly, too!

After dinner Percy suggested bridge. But Mrs. Gordon wanted to talk over old times with Mrs. J.—whom she hadn't seen since her marriage—so there was no bridge.

Mr. J. then suggested that, since the two women had many things to discuss in confidence, he and Percy take in a vaudeville show. Percy hailed the suggestion with manifest pleasure and enthusiasm. But when his wife cross-examined him with the idea that she didn't think it right for him, Percy, to chase off down town and leave their hostess the very first evening, he promptly lost all interest in the matter.

Mr. J. gave it, seeking vainly for adjectives sufficiently adequate to do the subject justice.

By the end of the conversation Mr. J. was beginning to believe what he had been saying. By the end of the week he was sure of it. And by the time the Gordons returned to their home he was thanking his lucky stars again and again that he'd married a woman like Mrs. Justwed.

The afternoon after the Gordons left the phone rang in the Justwed apartment.

Mr. J. picked up the receiver and heard, with astonishment, that almost rendered her speechless, the following in Mr. J.'s most humble, apologetic tone:

"Do you mind, dearest, if I don't get home until 4 o'clock? This tooth of mine has been giving me fits all day. I must see a dentist right away. But if you feel lonely, why, please just say so, dearest, and I'll manage to stand it until tomorrow."

CARVEL CALVERT HALL

Here and There Around the House.

IT is indeed a pleasure to eat at a table that has dainty touches in the appointments and a pretty floral decoration in the center. Many housewives insist on the floral decoration, and the fern frond is one of the most popular methods of introducing a touch of green. Pansies are also among the flower favorites for the table, and a novel way to arrange them is to tangle the blossoms with fancy moss in a flat dish of some kind.

The ice box is a necessity in the winter as well as in the summer, and a good way to keep this immaculate is to use borax. This is especially desirable in small refrigerators, where but little food is stored and where ice is kept more for the preserving of butter and milk.

Few women have a place to keep their ironing-board. The following plan was used by one woman. She had a carpenter remove a number of boards from the kitchen floor, the exact length and width of the ironing-board, put one end of the floor boards on springs or hinges, and then have the ironing-board laid down in the kitchen basement. The boards closed up like a safe door and the ironing-board folded up as it went down. When the board was needed all that was necessary was to touch the catch or spring and the boards flew back to the wall and the ironing-board stood ready for use, acting on the same plan as a drop-head machine.

The housewife, in laying the table, must have an eye for preserving the balance with everything that is put on. Extra knives and forks, as well as extra dishes, add refinement to the table.

One of the problems of the housewife is the removal of ink spots from white linen, and one of the best ways to get rid of the stains is to dip the goods in buttermilk. If it is convenient, other articles in sweet milk. This dipping should be repeated until all signs of the spots have disappeared. This applies to the fresh stains. If the ink has hardened there are several eradicators purchasable. But the latter compounds often cause holes to appear in the linen. The woman who fears to use acids on valuable linen can fasten on lemon and wash, with several hours in the sun.

Canned goods should never be left in the cans after they are opened. Metal spoons should never be left in the fruit or vegetables. These are two household regulations that should always be observed.

Half a lemon will remove match marks from paint. The scratches can also be removed with a piece of very fine sandpaper. The housewife should never put water on gilt frames. They should be wiped with a dry cloth or chamois. This also applies to all metal and lacquered articles.

For lunch or dinner the finger-bowl is used at the close of the meal, though occasionally it is used earlier if grapefruit in their rinses is the first course.

Few housewives are aware that alcohol will remove grass stains, unless they are of too long standing.

Sour milk should never be thrown away, as it is good for hot cakes and waffles. It is also desirable for boiled salad dressing and many other dishes.

Vanilla extract should be kept in a very dark place, as it is apt to lose its strength when exposed to the light.

Overstirring of food is very often counteracted by using a teaspoonful of vinegar and one of sugar.

Ivory knife handles that have become yellowed by constant washing may be whitened by a good rubbing with emery paper and then polishing with chamois. After washing the lamp chimney polish

it with dry salt. It makes the glass bright and will prevent breaking. A vanilla bean kept in the sugar box will impart a delicious flavor to the sugar.

The careful housewife preserves all her paper bags for future use. The demand for the bags comes often so they should be placed where they can be found when needed.

One of the best ways to get rid of cockroaches is to scatter the parlors of a cucumber about the hiding places. This is much cheaper than borax, which is also a good remedy for the pests. Cornmeal dough mixed with borax and then scattered about the hiding places of roaches will cause them to disappear almost instantly.

For Elderly Women.

IT can be admitted that there are not as many fashions for elderly women as there are for the younger ones, yet the fashions for the former are exclusive and carefully made. Among the serious considerations for elderly women are the necks. There is no comfort in a high-necked stock and the stiff collar can not be considered. Very soft Spanish lace for the lower neck line is a delight to the elderly woman, who must have ease and comfort. One of the latest creations is a soft lace stock, which will take the place of the more youthful arrangements. The stocks are folded once around the neck and tied in front over a pleated jabot of net.

The same lace ties are arranged in the same way, or in soft folds with a V shape at the throat. For the elderly woman folded tulle is also a very pretty finish and one very much worn at the present time. The white lace cap is one of the prettiest creations and is usually a very small affair, frilled and beribboned with white, black or lavender.

Cap and neck very well on snow white hair and they must sometimes be worn with the hair is quite thin. The latest night caps have lace rosettes above each string. They are made of pure white muslin and are worn a great deal by elderly women who cling to the old-time custom of wearing the night-dress.

RUSTLESS NEEDLEBOOK.

THE best way to keep needles from rusting is to place them in booklets made from the waxed paper that comes around crackers. Damp weather almost always causes needles to rust, and the above method will prevent it. It is a simple matter to make the booklets and they will last a long time.



The busy housekeeper.

A CORNER FOR MEN

Mr. A. Good Fellow on Marital Interference With Business.

YOU'VE heard that old adage, "Bo, about a man's troubles beginning when he marries?" asked Mr. A. Good Fellow, as he reached for another ham sandwich over the lunch counter. "And you've heard me express a few choice and apparently prejudiced sentiments against this benighted business before? Well, for the past few years I've had another peep-behind-the-curtain sight on the matter, and you can take it from me, Bo, that there isn't a bum nickel's worth of bigotry in the sentiments I've expressed of the subject.

"This is a happy time of the year for us bachelors, old sport, don't you think? Hot weather gone. Places around town crowded with old pals who've just gotten back from their vacation and are ready to buy when their turn comes. All the shows open. Things comfortably fixed for the winter. Credit good again at your tailor's and all those sort of things. Well, it isn't a happy time for the poor married men—not by a jugful! Of course, they're in trouble all the time, but just at this season their load is big enough for a dray and four horses. If I've heard one chap in the office talking the past few days over the phone to his wife about bundling a fat and wanting to fuss and fume about it—but not daring to do it—I've heard a dozen. Every last married man in town seems to be bucking the dastardly nuisance.

"One of the funny things about it, Bo, is the fact that every last one of them tells his wife plainly to suit herself—provided the rent is within his means—and he'll be satisfied with the result. But does wife do it? Not for a minute! Every new flat she sees she must call

hobby up about it right in the busiest time of the day and keep the office workers tied up for a quarter of an hour while she describes the exact location of gas stove in the kitchen and the general 'open effect' of the living-room and dining-room thrown into one.

"Hobby—the ones I've heard express the sentiments of the office—says that's fine and to go right ahead and engage the apartment. He is on the point of jamming up the receiver when a scream from his wife at the other end of the wire makes him pause. Wife has bad news. Didn't she tell it before? How strange! He thought she mentioned it the very first thing. Isn't it too bad, dear, dear, dear-dear! The flat suits both of them so thoroughly, but that mean old real estate agent wants \$42.50 for it and they've never paid over \$40 for a flat!"

"Well, hubby hastens to urge her to let the old flat go and get another one. He simply can't pay \$42.50 more rent—that's all there is to it. And does that convince wife? Never! Won't he just drop his work for fifteen minutes and come up and look at it? He'll see for himself what a perfect love of a flat it is. Two-fifty dollars isn't so much—and maybe he'll get that raise he expects the first of the month. Why mustn't she talk about a raise over the office wire? Why not? Suppose one of the firm did happen to overhear? It's about time anyway that they should tell them what skintails they are with their employees—so there!"

"Hush! No she won't hush—unless he comes right up to look at that flat and see what a bargain it is. She can't

do it all herself. It's a man's work anyway. The flat suits her and she's worked so hard to do it and now he has to object and—Bang! And hubby jams up the receiver, grabs his hat, gets excused from the office for an hour and beats it to his waiting wife and the forty-two-fifty flat.

"Now if that happened once, Bo, it wouldn't be so bad. But to my personal knowledge Smith and Brown and Jones

and that new man with the book nose have been out of the office three afternoons this week hunting him. When Jones left about ten minutes ago, he was a long confab over the phone with the head of his household. I whistled a bar or two of that classic ballad that uses the words 'My wife in the country and 'Hoony! Hoony!' But poor old Jones couldn't see the joke. He just awkward and beat it for the apartment."

Mr. J. then suggested that, since the two women had many things to discuss in confidence, he and Percy take in a vaudeville show. Percy hailed the suggestion with manifest pleasure and enthusiasm. But when his wife cross-examined him with the idea that she didn't think it right for him, Percy, to chase off down town and leave their hostess the very first evening, he promptly lost all interest in the matter.

A Pretty Colonial House, Costing \$3,500.

DESIGNED BY CHAS. S. SEDGWICK, ARCHITECT.



A PLAIN, economical Colonial design for a square two-story house. The size is 32 feet front by 28 feet deep, with broad piazzas the full width of front and eight feet deep. This house was recently built for \$3,500, exclusive of heating and plumbing. The exterior of the first story is cemented, and the upper portion of the house is shingled, the shingles stained a reddish brown and the corbel and eaves painted white and the roof stained red. The combination is good and makes a very pleasing home.

The first floor has one large living-room 12 feet by 25 feet, with a wide columned

archway entering from the center hall. The vestibule is in the center. The dining-room is at the right in front, with a wide window, and the living-room has a similar wide front window. The stairs are opposite the vestibule entrance. The dining-room has a recessed sideboard, counter white and the roof stained red. The kitchen has a pantry, cupboards and store closets. There is a rear grade entrance under the main stairs. The main stairs are well arranged in the center of the house, with one large platform and a staircase to the attic and windows lighting the stairs. The second story hall, being central, has no waste

floor space and opens at the head of the main stairs directly into four chambers and a conveniently located bathroom. Each room is provided with a closet. This floor is finished in pine and enameled white, and the floors of birch stained red. The attic space is left in one large room. Being ample in size, it can be divided into two or three rooms to suit the desire of the owner. This design illustrates the fact that the largest amount of floor space can be obtained at less expense in a square house built with few angles. The basement is under the entire house, with good laundry and furnace room.

Correct Stick Pins.

IT is always interesting to note the fashions in stick pins for men. It is the fad at the present time to wear the very large variety and the pins that are quite startling. The latest style for the more correct men is not to wear any stick pin at all in the morning or to business. If they do, however, they should be of a very simple design. It is not considered "correct" to wear any kind of a pin with certain styles of four-in-hand ties, being considered out of place with all "knotted ties."

The Indian population of the United States at the present time is a little over 300,000. This includes all the Indians of the United States.

There are 11,600,000 acres of irrigated land in this country.

The largest transmission line in the world is that of the Niagara-Syracuse-Albany line, which transmits 26,000 horsepower over a distance of 102 miles. Parts of the line are calculated to carry 60,000 horsepower.

The fleet of the Dead Sea consists of only one boat, and this single vessel does not amount to much.

The District of Columbia holds the record for density of population of all the states and districts.

The petroleum area of the United States is 8,550 square miles and the gas area is 1,055 miles.

About Hair.

THERE are about 30,000 hairs in the average human head and a single hair will support a load of six ounces without breaking. The total tensile strength of a woman's long hair is about four and one-half tons, and it is a great deal stronger when twisted. In the old days the Romans made use of the hair of their slaves by making cords for the catapaults. When the City of Carthage was besieged it is claimed that the women in the city offered their luxuriant tresses for the catapults in the aid of the defense.

AT THE FANCY BALL. I AM going to a fancy ball tonight and want some costume to represent my employment," said the customer. "What business are you in?" "I am a milkmaid."

"Well, you'd better wear a pair of pumps."

Interesting Facts and Figures.

LOS ANGELES has a school in which meals are served for one cent; that is, to the pupils, and they get a big brimming bowl of a thick, delicious soup, with two cold buns, all for their penny.

The Government Printing Office, in Washington, employs over 4,000 persons. It is said that sunlight is a cure for influenza epidemics.

The annual supply of water to London, England, is \$2,125,000,000 gallons.

One of the latest Panama inventions is the trackless trolleys and they threaten to be taken up in America within a few years. The new cars are a good bit on the order of the present electric vehicles, but they have rubber tires and run on any of the streets. They are much cheaper to operate, do not interfere with other street traffic and can be constructed in a short time.

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Railroading in China.

DURING the past few months there has been much complaint about the railroad traffic in China. It seems that if a Chinaman meets with an accident while he is trespassing on the railroad's property it is the custom of all the others in the village where he resides to bombard the train which comes through with rocks. This has been especially noticed on the Shanghai-Nanking Railroad. The wily Celestial who worships his ancestors is not above making the pecuniary profit out of his dead when he sees a corpse has been placed on the rails in order that it might be mangled and compensation claimed from the railroad company for the alleged fatality.

MAN AND HIS SOCKS.

IT is said that by a man's socks you may read him. They exploit his taste and indicate his temperament. At times they indicate that he is color blind and yet sometimes they show he has a very pretty taste.

For their Convenience

THERE'S a story going the rounds that presents an excellent example of wit on the bench. There is some doubt as to who was the presiding judge that delivered the witticism, but the story is good enough to stand on its own legs. An undertaker, it seems, was suing for damages and the point came up as to whether or not he had called upon the defendant. In his testimony, he produced his card by way of substantiation. On it was a telegraphic address. The defendant's counsel wanted to know why the undertaker had a telegraphic address on his card.

TO READ INSCRIPTION.

TO read an inscription of a silver coin which by much wear has been obliterated heat a poker red hot and place the coin upon it. The inscription will plainly appear, of a greenish hue, but will disappear as the coin cools.