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# THE WOMAN'S SIGNAL

A Weekly Record and Review devoted to the interests of Women in the Home and in the Wider World.

Edited by  
**MRS. FENWICK MILLER.**

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**FACTS AND SCRAPS.**

**A CLIMBING LADY.**—An American lady, Miss Annie S. Peck, has succeeded in climbing the Matterhorn. The summit was reached in six hours from the Hut, the weather being fine and clear. Miss Peck now shares with a Miss Brevoort, of New York, and a Miss Carrel, the daughter of a Swiss guide, the honour among women of having climbed the Matterhorn. Miss Peck is a Providence lady, a graduate of the University of Michigan, and widely known as a scholar of rare attainments in archeology. For years she has been an enthusiastic climber. When studying at Athens in 1885-86 she ascended Hymettus and Pentelicus. Two years later, during a trip to California, she rode 4,000 ft. up to the snow-line of Mount Shasta, and then climbed the remaining 14,000 ft. to the summit. Her subsequent ascent of the Cloud Rest Peak in the Yosemite Valley also attracted some attention.

WASHING hair-brushes must not be done in very hot water, or it will injure both bristles and backs. To free them from all grease without this disadvantage, take lukewarm water, and to a pint add a teaspoonful of ammonia, which, having an affinity for grease, removes it easily and quickly. Then hold the brush in the hand and shake it in the water so as to keep the back as much as possible out of the water. Then shake the brush well in the air, to free it as far as may be from the wet, wipe the back quite dry, and stand it up on its end, so that the remaining water will run down, in a soap dish with holes.

**WAR BURDENS.**—One constantly hears the argument that war must come soon, because the continued burden of preparedness is becoming unendurable. The truth is that the armed Powers stand in awe of war, not only because of its crushing cost as now conducted, but because of the realisation that, whatever be its issue, one inevitable legacy will be the enforcement of increased armaments, not only on each and all of the combatant Powers, but also on those which shall not have shared in the strife.  
*Archibald Forbes.*

**WOMEN CLERKS IN FRANCE.**—There is no European country in which women clerks are more employed than in France. Indeed, it is rare to enter a French shop and find a man serving as an accountant. Book-keepers are paid from £40 to £120 a year, and accountants much the same. In the commercial houses, where women clerks are also employed, they often have an interest in the business.

**ARCHDEACON WILSON,** the valiant Broad Church man of Rochdale, tells a pointed story of how the sale of souls is sometimes carried on in the Church. A patron of a living was arranging to sell the next presentation, but the incumbent died before the negotiations were finished. The solicitor managing the affair wrote and told him that owing to the law against simony, he could not now take money for the presentation, but must do so gratuitously. "I will bet you £1,000 you do not present the living to my son-in-law," the solicitor added. The bet was taken and, needless to say, the son-in-law got the living.

In South American waters mullet are taken in enormous quantities by boats, which go out with wire baskets at the bows filled with blazing pitchpine. For the purpose in view, the craft is so loaded as to bring the gunwale on one side down nearly to a level with the water, and the fish, attracted by the light, jump on board by hundreds.

WITHIN the last two or three years French engineers have undertaken the sowing of railroad embankments with poppy seeds, as, when once established, that prolific plant covers the soil with a network of roots that prevent it from washing away during heavy rains, or from upheaval when frost is coming out of the ground in the spring.

**THE WOMAN'S SIGNAL**  
A WEEKLY RECORD AND REVIEW FOR LADIES.

VOL. VIII., No. 199.] OCTOBER 21, 1897. One Penny Weekly.

**PROFESSOR F. W. NEWMAN ON WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE.**

*A Lecture delivered in Bristol Athenaeum, Feb. 24th, 1869.*

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.**—The placards and advertisements have told you that this lecture is to be delivered under the auspices of the society which has been formed in Clifton to support the cause of Woman's Suffrage. Yet I must warn you that the society cannot be responsible for all that I say. It desires not to identify itself with either party in politics, and in this sense it is not a political society. But it aims at a political object, and therefore cannot forego political reasonings. A few years back it might have seemed that to urge extension of the Parliamentary franchise touched the sorest place in party controversy; but all this is now changed. Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli have called into the exercise of the franchise so many new voters as to make ladies on all sides inquire why they also may not vote. Happily the arguments needed in the discussion of the question have no longer a party colour.

There are intelligent persons who think all Parliamentary elections a great nuisance. I have heard it seriously urged as decisive against them that they produce too much local ill-will, too much excitement, too much rudeness and coarseness: that they do not really select the best men, but either rich men, men of noble birth, or great talkers. Perhaps a well-known philosopher of Chelsea will tell us that the whole thing is a mistake. I have read an elaborate discussion to prove that what is called political freedom always makes a nation ill-mannered, whether surly or disagreeably smart; that nations under despotism become polite and graceful; that even negroes, while they are slaves, gain smoothness and polish from a constant anxiety to please, but under freedom become self-pleasing and rude. If it be true that the Law and the Executive Government are neither better nor worse, be the legislators and be the ministers who they may; or, if good law and wise faithful administration are very small things in comparison with graceful manners; I do not expect that men who have made the discovery will be in favour of Woman's Suffrage. I expect them rather to say: "Is it not enough that these notions of constitutional rights have converted nearly all the male sex into snobs and ruffians? and do you want to spoil the women too? Do leave us men to take all the dirty work." But I do not pretend to be so self-sacrificing. Instead of gaily undertaking dirty work, I would rather study how the work may be made clean. I see that women are great lovers of cleanliness; that they are not naturally fond of tumult, of fights, or of dangerous fun. I know also that men will do and say in the presence of men what they shrink to say or do in the presence of women; that when our grandfathers were used to get drunk after dinner, they did not dare to begin the carousal until they had sent away the ladies. It is therefore worth inquiring

WHETHER THE GENTLER AND PURER SEX MIGHT NOT IMPROVE SOME OF OUR WAYS, if we would let them, in politics and in morals as well as at dinner?

Have men really been so successful in the government of the world that our great maxim of prudence ought to be to LET WELL ALONE and beware of change? What is the testimony of history in this matter? History is regarded as a very improving study, especially for politicians; but I confess that when ladies ask my advice about studying history I hardly know how to refrain from replying, "Well, if you want to make your heart ache study history." It is a book like the little book of the Apocalypse, it may for a moment be sweet in the mouth, but it is bitter in the stomach. And why is this? Simply because the male sex have so frightfully mismanaged their rule that the burden of the past is lamentation and woe. Of the past do I say? But the present is still more alarming; for we see precisely in the richest, cleverest and most advanced countries of Christendom, under all our knowledge and science, the same evils growing up as marked the decay of Rome. Is, then, perseverance in routine all that we want? When, under one physician and one theory of physic, patients one after another run through the same career of wasting disease, does not prudence always suggest to call in a second physician of a different temperament and school? Each historical failure is attributed to a separate cause; but amid their diversities a general sameness reigns. Briefly, I express my belief to be that—after full allowance for the inevitable martyrdom to be endured by the scrupulous who fight against the unscrupulous, a deeper cause of failure remains—there is more enthusiasm on the side of evil than of good, though good men far outnumber the bad. Ever-burning enthusiasm animates the adherents of injustice, but enthusiasm is seldom or never allowed to lead the side of right. Politicians, even of the best sort, dread too much justice lest it subvert society, dread enthusiasm lest it carry them off their balance. They say with Talleyrand: "Hark you, my friend, no enthusiasm!" Few politicians seem to feel that justice is not only the glorious path, but the only safe path. Now, in my belief, women know this truth by instinct more keenly than men. Their very weakness perhaps aids them to it. The strong can thrive by violence, the scheming by chicanery; but justice is the only support of the weaker. This may be in part the reason why, in a case of clear right, women do not argue and prate of expediency like men. However, be the cause what it may,

THEY SEEM TO ME TO HAVE MORE FAITH IN RIGHT, as they have more of religion than has the male sex. That is why I believe that men need their joint action in politics.

Our society is not proposing to claim the Executive Government for women, nor seats in Parliament; all that we ask is that women may be able to give a vote, which recurs at the average interval of five years, and may be but once in seven years. Nevertheless, considering

that the first personage in the realm is a Queen, and that no sane mind in the three kingdoms would willingly exchange her for any of her male predecessors of the House of Brunswick, I should not find anything paradoxical or rash in wishing that the law would let the two sexes, like other things, find their own level, instead of elevating one sex over the other.

In the middle of the last century the Italians had in the Chair of Mathematics in the University of Bologna, a lady—by name MARIA GAETANA AGNESI. Why not, if she excelled in the study? Not many mathematical professors in England have any ostensible right to claim superiority over MARY SOMERVILLE. If a woman have high gifts from God, and have improved them by assiduous culture, what wisdom or what justice is there in shutting our eyes to the fact, or trying to make her gifts as little useful as we can? I cannot adequately set forth the rightfulness of the cause which our society supports, if I refrain from showing how much more some women have done, and done well, than they are ordinarily allowed to do. Not all the nations of Europe allow a female to be queen; and not many queens have reigned; yet among the more celebrated of European sovereigns female names are found. Since PETER THE GREAT, Russia has had some considerable and active emperors; we must not judge their characters by any other standard than that of royalty and public success; in this sense none stands higher than

**THE GREAT EMPRESS CATHERINE.**

In the Austrian line of sovereigns none is higher than the Empress Queen MARIA TERESA. On our English throne Queen ELIZABETH will compete with the best of our EDWARDS or HENRYS.

It is not to modern India that we should go to find wise, just, gentle and firm rulers. From the break-up of the Mogul dynasty to the present day anarchy, misgovernment and tyranny have been so common as more than anything else to have facilitated and called for the rise of the British power, yet if you ask, of all Indian sovereigns in that calamitous period whose name stands highest in the estimate of British historians, I believe the reply is—the name of a woman, ALIAH BAE, who, as widow-queen, governed the Mahrattas for more than twenty years about a century ago. Sir JOHN MALCOLM, writing of her in an official state paper, where we expect what is cold and cautious, seems hardly able to qualify his admiration. You must allow me to quote his words. He says:—

"A female without vanity, a bigot without intolerance, a mind imbued with the deepest superstitions yet receiving no impressions but what led to the benefit and happiness of those under its influence; a being exercising in the most active and able manner despotic power not merely with sincere humility but under the severest moral restraints that a strict conscience could lay upon human action; and this combined with the greatest indulgence for the weaknesses and faults of others. To sum up all: she was goodness in its most comprehensive sense personified."—(Report upon Malwa.)

She raised the agricultural classes out of misery, re-established property, re-organized the finances, introduced courts of arbitration,



was herself accessible to appeals, and unwearied in administering justice. She constructed roads over difficult hills, built resting-places and dug wells for travellers; kept her country in peace and her taxes light, being as forbearing to the rich as she was tender to the poor. While her own chieftains were proud of her, she was wholly proof against flattery, which she checked by extreme coldness to it. This is not written concerning one who lived in distant legendary times, one whose virtues might be held fabulous, but in a very recent period, within the full cognizance of our able and wary statesmen. Who dares to say, or can say at all plausibly, that the sex which produced such a woman in a land of heathenism has any natural incapacity for understanding public affairs?

What is peculiarly instructive in this account is the fact that ALIAH BAE had no marked superiority of intellect. She was narrow-minded, but large-hearted, tender-hearted, and tender of conscience. There is plenty of cleverness in male politicians—too much, one might say. The deficiency lies in the moral, not in the intellectual part, except in so far as narrowness of heart contracts the mind by limiting aspiration and directing it to ignoble ends. It is an old saying, "Where there is a will, there is a way." Where a ruler, male or female, longs for the public welfare as a mother yearns over her children, very moderate intellect is more fruitful of good than any subtlety of diplomatists.

Allow me to read a few words written in 1841 by a plain-spoken statesman of vigorous and original thought:—

"Half the follies, half the brutalities committed by nations, and for which they have paid the price in long arrears of punishment and suffering, would have been prevented if they had been presented to the ordeal of the

#### RIGHT-MINDED AND CLEAR-HEADED WOMEN

of the land. When real necessities occur to nations, women have never been found deficient in the virtues which such times demand."—(General T. Perronet Thompson.)

There are people who say: "Do not seek to give political power to women, be satisfied that they have that influence which their fascination naturally gives them, and beware of lessening that fascination." I interpret such doctrine to mean: "Refuse to women responsible public power, and yield to their irresponsible secret influence. Let them be as the sultana who sells the offices of State, or as the freemen of a Roman emperor. Let the backstairs flourish." Nay, but rather, look at France. France has forbidden women to be queens, but cannot help their being queen-mothers; and in history we see what a curse they have been as intriguers or as royal mistresses.

If my limits of time permitted, it might be instructive to review several theories concerning the female sex. But I must pass to the modern English theory. It goes upon presumptions, which, unhappily, are not always true. It presumes that women of full age are well married, and have not to support themselves; that they need not be taught any other trade or art than the art of keeping their houses clean and tidy, if the husband is poor, or superintending it gracefully, if he is richer. Husbands are never to be sick and infirm, bad, profligate or cruel; they are never to die and leave widows destitute. If any women are unmarried, they are either to receive adequate life-support from wealthy parents, or to become valuable domestic servants in substantial families.

But in contrast to this theory, what are the stern facts of life? In the last census it appeared that nearly three million and a half of English women and girls work for their own

subsistence. They are distinguished as follows: nearly 839,000 wives, above 487,000 widows, and 2,110,000 spinsters. The laws and customs of England do not count upon this. We pretend to

#### GREAT CHEVALRY TOWARDS WOMEN,

but it certainly does not reach to females of the lower ranks. I do not wholly blame my sex that the actual life of our poor women is so wretched, their toil so degrading, their occupations sometimes filthy, their work terribly hard. We have in general been ignorant how widely spread and how intense the evil. Who could reasonably expect our legislators to know it all? The law did not make any of them the women's protectors; the law was to blame, and is to blame. But I cannot equally exculpate the male sex for the fact pressed home by the *Dublin National Review*, that men do not care at what the women work, *provided only it be not something lucrative*. If any occupation be pleasant and well paid, it has been reserved for men, even though it be naturally and obviously a woman's function. Well may the writer deride the sentimental pretence that men keep women out of the franchise from tenderness to the sex lest it lose refinement by having political protectors.

Now I am coming to the point. What I maintain is this. Women, as a sex, are cruelly wronged both by our laws and by our customs. They never would have been so wronged if they had been represented in Parliament. To deny such representation to them is now, more than ever, a wrong; because now, more than ever, they are cast on their own resources. Our young men emigrate to the colonies, become sailors, or go into the army, perhaps are sent to India. Our mechanical industry is in factories, on railroads, in fisheries, coasting trade and general navigation. Male life is cut short by numberless accidents and diseases; women are left widows or unmarried; even those tenderly brought up have to struggle for themselves against the competition of men. Not to give them full equality of law, of education and of trade, is a grievous injustice.

It is very hard to please opponents, and I suppose it is best not to try to please them. On every side come warnings to me from women that it is unwise

#### TO CLAIM RIGHTS FOR WOMEN,

because they find that many men laugh and scoff the moment the rights are mentioned. Well then: I talk of woman's wrongs—"On no account!" cry ladies to me, "say nothing about our wrongs; for it only makes men angry, and then there is no reasoning with them." Now let me ask the audience, what is contained in such a statement? Does it not imply that the women are slaves, and the men have the heart of slaveholders? A slaveholder ridicules the idea of a slave's rights. "Coloured men have no rights which a white man is bound to respect" was the utterance of Chief Justice Taney some ten or eleven years ago. But what if the wrongs of the slave were spoken of? The mention of the word set his whole nature on fire. If men do indeed laugh down woman's rights, and scold down the mention of her wrongs, it affords a far completer proof than is desirable that she needs political power for self-protection.

I call on the audience to ponder the fact—for it is a fact—that the law of these three kingdoms is more unjust to women than that of the historically despotic countries. The United States inherited our common law; they have much improved it in many States, and especially of late, yet the women there complain greatly

of it, and the more so the better the community is educated. History explains how these results came about. In particular, where royalty has been strong, the Roman law has been made a basis of the new legislation; in England, dread of it as something despotic made the barons cling to our more barbarous common law. Where learned lawyers, and judges with a greater breadth of cultivation, had the main influence in legislation the despotism of the Crown might be noisily increased, yet the general basis of the law was wiser; equitable consideration might be shown, and sometimes was shown, to the weaker classes of the community, especially women and colonial slaves. But when legislation is shaped by the influence of privileged classes, those classes get, if not all, yet nearly all the benefit. The unrepresented are not heard; their wrongs are either unknown, or unthought of, or are selfishly tolerated. Such is the outline of truth; but when we go into details, nation differs greatly from nation. In England the law has been signally tyrannical to women by playing fast and loose with religious theory.

Under cover of the mystical, poetical or religious ideas that husband and wife are one person, the common law has not admitted the wife to equality and to real union, but has absorbed and exploited her, and in the most important senses has made her

#### THE HUSBAND'S SLAVE.

To speak first of property—that great oracle of common law, Lord Coke, laid down: "Marriage is an absolute gift by the wife of all her chattels personal, whether the husband survive the wife or not." Observe the last words. They come to this. If a rich woman marry a poor man, and the man die the day after marriage, his children by a former wife, or his other kinsfolk, despoil the woman of the greater part of her own property, and leave to her at the utmost only a widow's fraction, and that a mere life interest. The law insists on treating the property as though it had never been hers at all.

If, instead of a male English judge, the Mahratta Queen, ALIAH BAE, had sat on the bench, I cannot doubt that the decisive word would have been widely different. Marriage is a voluntary contract. Does a woman in it give away her property? Does she not merely share it with her husband but alienate it from herself? Why, there is not a word in the contract about her property! On the contrary, the bridegroom says to the bride: "With all my worldly goods I thee endow." The common law, if it arbitrarily reverses a contract, becomes common lawlessness—so, I am disposed to believe, any female judge would decide. Yet it is asserted that the male sex has no interests against the female, and cannot be biassed, while the iniquity of male law stares us in the face. The law pretends to found marriage in religion, and gives to the man the out-and-out advantage of that theory; yet the moment that it favours the woman the law tramples the marriage service under foot.

Now, remember that, according to a high authority, the law is not made for a righteous man but for the ungodly and sinners, and when it sanctions iniquitous deeds, men will be found to perform such deeds. The opinion of large numbers gravitates down to the level of what the law permits. I am ashamed at the power which English law gives me over my wife, and so, I think, ought every Englishman.

[The speaker next detailed other unjust laws—some of which, like the Married Woman's Property laws above referred to, have since been amended—and continued—]

I earnestly trust that Parliament is already becoming aware of the cruel wrongs which our law does to married women. I hope that the worst of them will be soon removed. I rejoice to see so many young lawyers eager in law reform. Yet if the

#### LEGAL WRONGS OF WIVES

were all swept away this week the history of those wrongs would remain as a cogent proof that injustices will fall on any class which is politically depressed. Wives, moreover, have ever been the majority of the sex. Yet I must not leave it to be inferred that only married women are sufferers by the selfishness of men; on the contrary the whole sex is wronged, alike by law, by its administration, and by custom. Where funds have been left for education without distinction of sex, girls have been excluded by the male trustees; and when public money is voted, girls have been generally forgotten. To such injustices the Right Hon. Lord LYTTLETON pointedly referred, with great indignation, at the last meeting of the Social Science Association. But how long have such things gone on unredressed because uninvestigated, and uninvestigated because women have no legislative spokesman? Nor do we easily learn the many forms which injustice takes, and will take, while things are thus. We have but lately learnt that widows are often ousted from farms by landlords because they have no Parliamentary vote. At the bottom of all lies the noxious fixed idea, generated in society by the long injustice of the law, that women have unequal rights, as an inferior race, who ought not to be paid as much as men for the very same service; and that men have a natural claim to all lucrative appointments. Time does not allow my opening that important subject.

#### I will not pretend to expect

#### QUICK AND EARLY RELIEF

to women from Woman's Suffrage, except in so far as the passing of it will denote a repentant state of the public mind. Far more important than political equality to the female sex is the full possession of social equality—equality in education, and equality in the market; so that those who must work may work healthfully and happily. This, I say, so far as women's interest is concerned. The political franchise cannot be to them an end, but only a means, and as such it is less valuable than the end. But hitherto we nowhere see social and political degradation separated. The same influences which exclude a class politically are sure to depress it socially. It is always found impossible to win equity from society while equality is refused in law. Thus even on that head I find full reason for desiring this stigma of legal inequality to be swept away.

But a far greater reason lies behind, in the essential immorality which has hitherto stained the male government of the world. Ambition is very inhuman, very unscrupulous, and to this imperial vice, under every form of government, may be traced the worst enormities of history. Notoriously, even in England politicians think much of talent, much of crooked expediency, little of morality. Justice is talked of when convenient, and set aside when inconvenient. It has been said that the corruption of what is best becomes worst, and that a bad woman is worse than a bad man. I am disposed to believe it. Yet I believe that the sex collectively has more of the

#### MILK OF HUMAN KINDNESS,

and more shrinks from the characteristic cruelties of Imperial Governments than does

the male sex, and that the impurities which corrupt and disgrace Christian cities would become impossible if women held equal rule with men. Women who have compassion for their sex have no right to despise the franchise for themselves.

It is selfishness to say: "I have a good husband, therefore, I do not care that my sex is legally subject to oppression, and thousands of them are trodden under foot."

Moreover, I beg the male part of the audience to remember that, if an attempt were made to disfranchise us men, a bloody civil war would be the inevitable result, now as once before. We should sacrifice human lives by the ten thousand rather than be despoiled of the vote. Now there are women, not a few, who claim this same vote as their equal right, who tell us that we have no right to withhold it. They see it to be vital to the interests of their sex. If we do not see it, well, perhaps we do not see that they need luxuries or money any more than a vote; but, they tell us we are not arbiters of either matter. To say that women do not want it is like slaveholders who say that slaves do not want to be free. The plea is partly false, wholly irrelevant. If we can justly claim the franchise for ourselves, we cannot justly refuse it to women.

But of what sort are the women who claim it? I am made peculiarly ashamed of my sex when I hear men in derision call them *strong-minded*. Let me take an example—rather an extreme example—it shall be HARRIET MARTINEAU. One who judged her severely from a spiritually philosophic point of view, remarked of her that all her talents were practical and political. Is a woman to have no political voice because, being strong-minded, she is

#### AN EXCELLENT WOMAN OF BUSINESS

and has high political talent? Quite different in womanly qualities, but also strong-minded, is the aged MARY SOMERVILLE, the astronomer, who is described as a lady of the gentlest and most courtly dignity. Quite different also is Miss BURDETT COURTTS. Where shall I stop in mentioning the names of Englishwomen who claim the suffrage? I will add but one, FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE. In the United States it is a fact, against which it is vain to scoff, that the women who are politically most enlightened are also eager for Woman's Suffrage. I say it is a fact, because there we have an easy test of what is political enlightenment. Prejudice against colour has made more than half the white community cruelly unjust to the coloured race. Precisely those women whose justice, truth and mercy made them take the lead, in spite of odium, and in spite of danger, as abolitionists of slavery, are at the head of the movement for equalizing women with men politically. That all go all lengths I do not say, but at least they go so far as desiring the vote for women. Such is Mrs. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE, and, let me remark, that the other HARRIET—HARRIET MARTINEAU—was first to call all England in 1837 to sympathise in the Martyr Age of the United States when abolitionists risked their lives and ruined their worldly prospects for negro freedom. To say that a woman is eminent in America for zeal on behalf of justice to the coloured race is almost equivalent to telling us that she is an advocate of Woman's Suffrage. And in this country, I may say boldly, it is not the more ignorant, the more narrow-minded and narrow-hearted part of either sex which claims the enfranchisement of women, but the same class as energetically seeks improved education.

## "A CITY BEHIND A FENCE."

By Mrs. A. NORTHAM FIELDS.

THE above is the title of a lecture advertised recently. The city referred to is at Chautauqua, New York, where is located the greatest "summer school" in the world.

Chautauqua, a village or township chiefly built of wood, is literally surrounded by a fence on three sides, with the beautiful lake on the fourth side.

The great evils of the great world (barring tobacco) are shut out, thus making it a dream of what the world might be if drink and gambling and impurity were done away with, and everybody had a fair chance of happiness, culture and daily comfort in life.

We recognise England as the garden spot of the world for scenery, and the whole look of the surrounding country here is quite like England.

The city nestles in a native forest. No one is allowed to cut down a single tree. Even the streets remind one of England; they are not at right angles!

Although far from any large city or town, we have thousands residing here for the season, and other thousands constantly coming and going.

Nearly all communication with the outer world is by boat to the towns across the lake. As one nears the city three buildings attract special attention—the pier, power house, and palatial "Hotel Athenaeum." The latter has many verandahs, commanding the finest view to be had of city, lake and country beyond. The source of our electric light and water supply is the power house, which reminds one of an old castle. The pier serves as landing place, also contains a bazaar, fancy shops, art and music schools, and the chimes, which at ten o'clock each night ring out some dear old hymns or tunes, calling all to rest and quietness.

Starting as a Camp Meeting and Sunday School Assembly, Chautauqua has become a University centre for the people. During the summer months classes are held in all possible subjects. "Circles" for reading are established in most of the great towns, where the students carry on their studies in company during the rest of the year. Thus, its students are not only those who succeed in visiting this "C.L.S.C." (Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circles) Mecca, but thousands all over America, and many in more distant lands. Snatching moments in their busy lives, these students secure not only enlarged interests and a larger pleasure field for themselves, but increased usefulness and a higher average of intelligence for the world.

A young woman, her mother and grandmother, have been known to study in the same class, and graduate together.

In the beginning, all teachers and students ate in one common dining-room. So democratic is this place that it has been called "the most American thing in America."

To-day one may secure board to suit the purse—from a very cheap room and self-board, to 28 dollars per week charge at the "Hotel Athenaeum." But, in every way, class distinctions have reached the minimum.

In the great choruses you may find the prima donna and waitress or janitress.

Many of those who serve in domestic affairs are intelligent young men and women from our colleges.

The recognised nobility is that of mind and soul only.



Is there any line of study desired? You'll find it here.

The Old Testament or the New, in English or the original languages; normal course for Sunday School teachers, methods of teaching, and all subjects taught, from the kindergarten to the college; training of the muscle, from the most graceful Delsarte to the most vigorous gymnasium practice. Music, vocal or instrumental. Arts, fine, practical and liberal.

In short, anything and everything that ministers to the highest development—physical, mental, moral and spiritual, is taught at Chautauqua.

Among the religious instructors, Prof. Rush Rheese, of the School of Sacred Literature, is a favourite. In fifteen lectures (one hour each), he gave "The Gospel of St. Paul."

With deep and scholarly research, he united such fire of enthusiasm, such love and tenderness of spirit, that every heart was melted as he unfolded the mystery of the Gospel.

The gymnasium is not a place for haphazard exercise, but a school of "physical correction, remedy, guidance, development, training and culture," so that the "mind may have a fine tool for its work."

In the collegiate department fees are required, Chautauqua has, however, reached a high and ideal condition of municipal control. The lighting, water supply, sewerage-transfer are all well managed by the city.

Musicians, readers and lecturers, over one hundred of them, the finest specialists in the country, contribute to the entertainment and education of all who will listen, and their services are furnished free by the city for visitors.

Several times a week grand concerts, which would delight even a critical English audience, are given.

Suffrage day, Temperance day, Humanitarian day, Mission day, Parents' day, Young People's day, are a few of the special days.

Every phase of philanthropy and reform is represented on this platform.

The great Amphitheatre, seating 8,000, the Hall of Philosophy (Hall in the Grove), seating 800 or more, both with floor and roof, but open at the sides to every breeze that blows, are well filled, often crowded, many times a day, with no end of smaller meetings in smaller halls.

We practically live out of doors. The ladies sigh as they leave, "Oh dear, must we go back to the world, and hats and gloves again?"

Chautauqua is not only a great educational centre, a wonderful nerve centre for reform, but an ideal summer home.

The sand piles and recreation grounds, the Kindergarten and Boys' Club, Girls' Junior Outlook Club, delightful excursions for study of bird, insect, and plant life, with the absence of evil influences, make it a children's paradise.

A small boy said, on leaving, "Mother, is heaven like Chautauqua? If it is, I'm ready to start to-morrow."

Wide open doors, the kindly smile and pleasant chat without formal introduction, suggest the perfect confidence of each in all—a real brotherhood that makes us long for twelve instead of two months of this ideal existence.

The accuracy of "finger prints" as a test of personal identity is well shown by some recent photographs by Mr. Francis Galton. In a case of twins, their photographs and measurements were closely alike, but the minutiae of their finger prints were quite different. An enlarged photograph of the print of the hand of a child eighty-six days old shows the development of the distinctive little ridges on the skin even at that early age.

## DEBORAH.

JUDGES IV. and V.

(FOR RECITATION.)

EHUD was dead—I vow throughout the land  
Was found no judge: and so the people turned  
From truth and right—forgot the Lord their  
God,  
And worshipped idols. Then the Lord was  
wroth—

For He was jealous of His people's love—  
And sold them to the heathen—to the hand  
Of Jabin, King of Canaan, him whose host,  
Countless in multitude as desert sand,  
Driving five hundred chariots of iron,  
Was led by Sisera, beneath whose rod  
The people trembled. Lo! for forty years  
He mightily oppressed the chosen seed.

Then was Jehovah's name in small esteem—  
The people cried unto the heathen gods  
(They worshipped Baalim and Ashtaroth),  
They cut themselves with knives, they maimed  
their limbs,

They gave their very babes in sacrifice,  
Saying, "For ye are strong! Our God is weak!"  
And so they wandered more and more astray.

Now close beside Mount Ephraim there dwelt  
A prophetess, "the wife of Lapidoth"—  
His name alone is all that history tells;  
And when she saw that no man dared to judge  
Among the people, or to read the law,  
Which she held sacred in her very heart,  
For every man would say within himself,  
"If I should seem a ruler or a judge,  
Jabin would say, 'Aha, he makes himself  
A king!' and so would slay me. Life is  
sweet!"

Then took she counsel with her soul and said,  
"A woman I—no man in power or might,  
Yet God can give a feeble woman's arm  
A giant's strength, and to a woman's brain  
Foresight and wisdom. Here am I, O Lord!  
Do with me as Thou wilt, to live or die,  
But let me be a voice to speak for Thee."

Then she arose, and left her tent, and stood  
Beneath a spreading palm, midway betwixt  
Ramah and Bethel, where the road ran by.  
And there, as any passed, she prophesied,  
And bade them turn unto the Lord their God.  
She said, "Jehovah is a jealous God,  
And strong, not weak. He sold you for your  
sins.  
RETURN! REPENT! that He may come again  
And bless the land." And all the tribes came  
up

To her for judgment; but the heathen mocked  
And said, "They choose a woman for their king,  
Because the men have grown so very weak.  
Long live King Deborah!"

So the years rolled by:  
But the people cried unto the Lord,  
And mourned and wept full sore for all their  
sins,  
And ceased to offer gifts to other gods.  
Barak, the son of Abinoam, dwelt,  
As at this time, at Kedesh-naptali;  
And not far off was pitched a lonely tent,  
Heber the Kenite's—there, with Jael his wife  
He lived at peace, though alien to the land.  
Then Deborah sent word to Barak, "Come!  
Thou art the man whom God the Lord doth  
choose

To wreak His vengeance on the nation's foes.  
'March! Taking with thee twice five thousand  
men,  
And draw towards Mount Tabor,' saith the  
Lord.

'Then to the brook of Kishon will I bring  
Both Sisera, and all the mighty men  
Of Jabin's hosts, and all his chariots;  
There will I give them up into thy hand.'  
But Barak doubted, and he dared not go,  
But said, "O Deborah, for twenty years  
Here hast thou dwelt, and judged the people  
well,  
And taught—they love thee, they will follow  
thee—  
Come thou and I will go—if not, not I."  
So Deborah arose, and went with him:  
"Nevertheless," she said, "the Lord this day  
Hath taken back the honour He designed  
To give thee—by a woman's hand shall fall  
The mighty Sisera." And Barak deemed

Her hand should strike the blow and free the  
land.

So Barak, with ten thousand men, went down  
From Tabor—wildly, fiercely raged the fight  
From Kishon to Harosheth, even there,  
The Gentiles' stronghold, and the day was won;  
For every man of Jabin's host was slain,  
But Sisera: lighting down, he fled on foot  
And hid him in the tent of Heber's wife,  
Jael, the Kenite: Barak followed fast,  
But faster still the dread avenger, Death;  
For when he came to where his foeman hid,  
Lord Sisera lay dead within the tent,  
Slain by a woman's hand.

Then Deborah and Barak sang a psalm  
Of praise to God, who gave the victory.  
And so the land had rest for forty years.

ANNIE C. HOLDEN,  
New South Wales.

## FAULT-FINDING AT MEAL-TIMES.

It is a practice in many households to reserve the scoldings of the day till dinner-time. Then each culprit will receive the parental lecture, and in nine cases out of ten will, consequently, sullenly or brokenly gulp down the food, and take the first permitted opportunity to escape from the table.

There are, perhaps, rare occasions when such censure may be necessary and beneficial, but in the majority of cases, more harm than good is accomplished.

Few people care to be dictated to about the training of their children. At the same time, however, the true parent will always be ready to give any practical suggestion a fair trial, and it may be observed that meal-times ought to be occasions of rest and peace and gaiety, not of trouble.

The average child is extremely sensitive, notwithstanding the fact that he may appear otherwise; and harsh fault-finding before others tends to embitter him against the person who indulges in this form of rebuke. Scoldings, which take the form of reasoning wherever possible, and which the child receives when no one else is around, not even his brothers and sisters, are far more apt to appeal to his better nature, to his sense of right and wrong, than reproof delivered openly. In the latter instance, the child will almost invariably make every effort to harden his feelings and features, in order to keep from giving vent to tears.

I do not assert that this is the best way to manage all children, I simply say that it is the best for many; and the wise parent, who may perhaps, have grown a little careless in his or her methods of reproof, will do well to give this side of the question a fair trial.

Outside of the sometimes lasting harm done to the feelings and dispositions of your children, you also deprive them of that part of the day which should be passed in pleasant social intercourse. It is almost the only time that all the family are gathered together; and happy voices exchanging pleasant words, bright faces seeing their brightness apparently reflected, and parents and children fully enjoying each other's company, should be made a distinct feature of every home.

I am confident that there would be fewer "stray ones from the fold" if there were more social hours between parents and children. At meal-times this can be accomplished better, perhaps, than at any other time of the day; then why mar it when some other time for chiding can be chosen just as well, and with far more satisfactory results?

## A VEGETARIAN'S PLUM PUDDING.

By A MAN.

SOME people deny that there is any self-denial in going without what injures one; but when the articles do not injure, and are abstained from solely on humanitarian grounds, I contend that it is a very great self-denial.

To sit at the table with one's united family and abstain from everything on it, and make one's dinner entirely from the dessert of raw fruits, requires great command of one's self, particularly if all the persons present are opposed to Vegetarianism and make occasional saucy remarks.

Last Christmas I resolved that I would have a pudding of my own make, although I had never made any puddings or pastry. It is useless to ask a woman to make vegetarian articles when she is opposed to the subject and has an opportunity to make her predictions of failure come true.

There has always been a doubt implied or expressed in vegetarian recipes about Christmas puddings without suet, and my better half, as usual, predicted that it would not hold together, &c.

I said, "Well, let it go to pieces, then, if the ingredients will be just as good. I'll make it myself." In looking over sundry cookery books I found that there was no uniformity in the mixture of the various ingredients even in such a simple mixture as bread; one advises double, treble, and quadruple the quantity of yeast to the same quantity of flour that another advises.

I finally made a pudding of the following materials, doing everything myself except stoning the raisins, which I could not do on account of an injured thumb.

One pound Hovis flour, half pound currants, quarter pound raisins, quarter pound desiccated cocoanut, half a bottle of Lucca oil, quarter pound of peel.

I put it in a pudding basin, and it was boiled several hours.

It turned out better than I expected; in fact, I could not have wished for a better in every respect. It looked, smelled, and tasted like any other pudding, and instead of falling to pieces it was suitably firm, to the annoyance of those who wanted their predictions to come true.

When cold I could put it on the side and cut a thin slice without it falling to pieces.

I decided to improve on it, or rather try a different mixture.

One pound Hovis flour, half pound currants, quarter pound raisins, quarter pound peel,

quarter pound pine kernels, quarter pound mixed nuts.

This turned out as satisfactory as the first one.

This year I shall make one of ingredients obtainable everywhere, so that any Vegetarian residing in a village may obtain the materials and have a thorough vegetarian pudding.

It will be noticed that I did not add sugar, as I did not use it, but shall do this year.

The following will be my mixture:—  
One pound flour of fine meal, half pound currants, quarter pound raisins, quarter pound desiccated cocoanut, half a bottle of Lucca oil, quarter pound peel, quarter pound sugar.

The oil does not give any unpleasant flavour. Butter, eggs, and milk are obtainable everywhere and could be used, but it would not be so thoroughly vegetarian as if they were not used.

Cocoa butter I shall most likely try, it is cheap and obtainable by post; and if banana or chestnut flour is used it would be acceptable to anti-starch Vegetarians, which theory I always practise when I have no physical labour to do, but without departing in the slightest degree from Vegetarianism; nothing would induce me to do that.

I can eat largely of our English fruit raw, with less discomfort than I experience from baked cereals, but use the latter freely when at physical labour.

Looking upon the Christmas festivities as a festive festival, the pudding is a mixture of fruits and cereals, and who has greater right to rejoice for these than the Vegetarian? It is a rejoicing for the rebirth of the sun, a fact which indisputable natural fact, I have no doubt, the customs originated.

## MASSACRE OF THE INNOCENTS.

A CORNISH DOCTOR'S EXPERIENCES.

In his annual report to East Kerrier Rural District Council, the Medical Officer of Health (Mr. J. Blamey) says:—"The ignorance that exists with regard to the proper feeding of babies is simply lamentable, and it is a well known fact that through such ignorance thousands of little lives are sacrificed. In my own practice every year I come across instances where children's lives are lost solely through improper feeding, and many, many other instances of puny, unhealthy, and rickety children, who, having survived the ill-effects of improper feeding whilst they were babies, yet carry about with them, as the results of such feeding, the

germs of some constitutional weakness, which in after years, under slight exciting causes, come into activity and wreck lives that would under better circumstances in baby-life have been useful, healthy, and happy.

"I grant that there are some people who will not be taught, and who, if you tell them the right thing, will always know better than you. Their obstinate ignorance almost amounts to criminal neglect, and no good can be done to such.

"But there are many others, I find, who, had they not been told what to do, would have taken a wrong course with their little ones, and who will gladly carry out all your directions when the thing is explained to them. Of course, many of this latter class—those who would do right if they only knew how—cannot be got at by ordinary means, and so they go on in their ignorance, to the detriment of their little ones; but if they could only see, read, or hear something of what they ought to do, they would act differently. I have but little doubt that if all the mothers knew how to properly feed, dress, and bring up their infants, our rate of infantile, and even general, mortality would be considerably diminished; less children would die, and at the same time less subsequent ill-health would be produced.

"If what I have said has any grain of truth in it, then I think it behoves this authority to do all it can in its power to educate the people over whom they are set in authority, and who look to them to guard them from everything that may affect or deteriorate their general health from the day they are born to the day they die. I know we cannot stand by and see the children fed, but we can teach those who are willing to learn what they ought to do. I have spoken strongly on this matter before, and it is the tremendous importance of it which makes me speak again. I have before advised, and I again do so, that a pamphlet containing instructions as to how to feed, dress, and rear children should be given by the registrar, with the vaccination form, when the parent comes to register the birth of a child. The parents can then take the pamphlet home and read it or not, as they like; if they do not, then it is no fault of this authority, which will have done its duty at any rate.

"Of this I feel sure, whatever some may say to the contrary, that such a dissemination of knowledge upon a subject on which there is at present such widespread ignorance must in the long run bear fruit. I can only say that I shall be glad to help this authority in any way in framing any rules they may like to lay down on this subject, and in drawing up such rules and instructions in pamphlet form."

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If a stamped and addressed wrapper be attached to a manuscript offered for publication, it will be returned if declined; but the Editor cannot be responsible for the accidental loss of manuscripts, and any not accompanied by a wrapper for return will be destroyed if unaccepted. Space being limited and many manuscripts offered, the Editor begs respectfully to intimate that an article being declined does not necessarily imply that it is not considered an excellent composition.

### SIGNALS FROM OUR WATCH TOWER.

Without, perhaps, having any opinion on the politics of Spain, all sympathetic women must feel for the Queen in the difficult and anxious position that she now occupies. The recent discharge of the Ministry, and the withdrawal from Cuba of the General under whom atrocities have apparently been committed that remind us of the Middle Ages rather than of to-day, are both understood to be the personal act of the Queen, who is, of course, far more of a despotic sovereign than an English monarch. A leading Madrid journal gives, "from an authoritative source," the following as the reasons why the Queen has made the recent changes:—First of all, the treatment of the Anarchists by officials has been uppermost in her Majesty's mind for a considerable time. While the Queen is of opinion that those who have caused the death of numbers of innocent people should be rigorously punished, and has in conformity with her convictions approved the special laws for the suppression of anarchism, she has been anxious to put a stop to the abuses of which the Spanish police have been guilty in imprisoning inno-

cent persons on charges of being Anarchists. The Queen was much shocked by the statements that got public as to the cruel torture of the Anarchists in Spanish prisons, and ordered an official investigation into the truth of the charges, but the Ministry neglected to obey her commands on this matter. Next, the Queen is distressed as to the management of the war for the suppression of the Cuban revolt. She has declared over and over again that the Cubans are as much Spaniards as those born in the Peninsula, that they are on the whole loyal and orderly, and that the treatment to which they were subjected by General Weyler is extremely painful to her feelings. Against this and the depletion of Spain to carry on the war she had protested to Señor Canovas. The third reason had reference to charges of corruption which many newspapers had levelled against the late Ministry. Finally, all these things put together have led her Majesty to dismiss the Administration.

Her position is full of danger, for representatives of rival dynasties are the watch for any token of her unpopularity to attack her (or rather her boys' seated throne. Then the feeling in the United States on the Cuban question is growing so strong that it is any day possible at the intervention of the President may jumble the Spaniards to cease to try to control Cuba in the future, and such intervention, and the establishment of Cuban independence, might be damaging or fatal to the Queen's position.

In this connection, it is interesting to learn that Senorita Cisneros, the young lady who was confined in a filthy prison in company with the vilest criminals, on a charge of conspiracy, has now escaped and has arrived in New York. The United States Government declined to make her case an international matter of remonstrance, as they could not get accurately at the facts. The girl asserted that the Spanish General had made an attack on her virtue, and that it was to defend herself that she had called in her friends; the General, on the contrary, asserted that she had entrapped him to her house, and had confederates ready to murder him, but that he fortunately just escaped. The version of the young lady gained perfect credence in America, and the touching tale, told by the Cuban correspondent of the *New York Tribune*, of her honourable and refined past life, and the cruel treatment and degradation to which she was then being submitted aroused so much feeling that the leading American statesmen's wives were permitted to send a remonstrance to the Queen of Spain on the subject. The memorial, that gained its importance by being signed by the ladies of the households of the American statesmen who may any day have to decide on the question of American intervention in Cuba, was further signed by ten thousand other American women. The correspondent who sent over the story to his paper has now been permitted to rescue the young lady; the bars of her cell were broken out, and the chivalrous journalist took charge of her and got her on board a vessel and safely to New York. It seems highly probable that her escape has been connived at by the authorities, as a means of avoiding the dilemma in which the Queen of Spain was placed by having to either dis-

regard the American statesmen's wives' memorial, or else to convict her own General of false witness.

This is only one trifling incident in the many perplexities and doubts that surround the poor Queen at present. It must be allowed that her success as a ruler so far, under such difficult conditions, deserves our admiration. It will be remembered that she is not a Spaniard, but an Austrian Princess, and that she was left a widow before her little son, the present King, was born. On the day of his birth he was proclaimed King, and his mother was declared Regent, and through many thorny paths she has since walked, bearing her burden of royal motherhood amidst the alien race over whom she has been called to rule.

Our German "exchanges" are warm in their regret for the loss of the respected President of the "Lette Verein," Frau Schepeler Lette. This "verein" was first described here a year ago by Miss Emily Hill, in the course of the interesting report that she supplied to us of the Women's Congress in Berlin. Frau Schepeler Lette was the daughter of the founder of that German Society for the training and employment of women. How large a share she may have originally had in helping and inspiring her father's efforts we do not know, but certain it is that at his death she was fully prepared to succeed him, and has filled an important and responsible post ever since with credit to herself and benefit to thousands of other women. The Society conducts classes of all kinds for girls, lends money for the purchase of tools, or the starting in business of selected candidates, and carries on a woman's boarding-house, a home for governesses, and a restaurant for women only. Part of the cooking needed for the latter enterprises is supplied by the housekeeping school, that trains both girls who are going to service and those who may expect to be at the heads of well-to-do households, in domestic duties. Such varied activities in the Society mean much organizing power and ability of different kinds in the head, and for the greater part of the time those needful qualities have been supplied by the lady who has passed to rest at the age of sixty-seven, regretted by all who knew her and her work.

A rather interesting point to notice is that the deceased lady, though married, retained her father's well-known and honoured name, placing her husband's before it. We are so accustomed to hear that German women are still in the dark ages in all matters relating to their individuality, and personal work and "rights," that it is rather surprising to find that it is recognized as neither improper nor very singular for a married woman to retain as her final appellation that which has been hers from infancy, instead of being absorbed in her husband by entirely giving up her name for his. At the Women's Congress in Chicago I met a well-known lady artist of Berlin, some of whose pictures had been chosen to hang in the Woman's Building, and who was taking part in the Congress. Her husband, a well-known Berlin advocate, accompanied her, and was addressed as Herr Bieber, while his wife was invariably Frau Bieber-Boehm. I sat next

to her at a luncheon party, and asked her to explain this to me; and she told me (what is confirmed by the name of Herr Lette's daughter remaining the same as her father's) that it is by no means unusual in Germany for a woman who may have made some degree of celebrity for her name before her marriage to place her husband's name in advance of her own in married life, and use the combined one, with her own last, instead of giving up her own altogether. In Alsace-Lorraine, so Mr. Woodall, M.P., once told me, it is quite the usual custom for the names of husband and wife to be joined on marriage, and for both of them to use the combined name. Obviously this cannot go on from generation to generation, or the family name would soon need a beast of burden to carry it; the father's name, presumably, is chosen for the bride to carry into her new family. This is a detail of no importance, however; what is interesting, and in cases where a woman as a spinster has made her name known in some sort of honourable way really important, is that the individuality should not be blotted out and extinguished by the union with another family.

I cannot understand how a man with a proper respect for the woman he marries, and the family he marries into in choosing her, can feel any objection to the name of the wife's family being in some way more or less clearly retained. In fact, I do not think that any objection is ever raised when the wife desires it or any inducement is offered. The widow of a peer, or even of a knight or baronet, usually retains the name of the dead husband in a second marriage, and the couple go about as Lady Smith and Mr. Jones. Where an exceptional distinction attaches to the name, too, a man is usually found willing to take his father-in-law's name after his own; thus, the lineal descendants of Sir Walter Scott, and heirs of Abbotsford, have, as it chances, been in each generation since his death females—the descendants of his daughter Sophia, neither of his sons leaving children. In each generation the gentlemen who have married the heiress of Scott have taken the name of "Scott" after their own. "Hope-Scott" was one case, and "Maxwell-Scott" another, and I believe there was yet a third. It is a pure matter of custom, and the custom should be based on convenience, which may differ in different circumstances. Now that women are doing so much individual work, probably it will be recognized ere long as most convenient and sensible that the German custom shall be adopted, when the wife is engaged in art or business: let the husband keep his own name and the wife add it to hers in front of her paternal cognomen.

Sir George Grey, the veteran of Australasian self-government, who was Governor of New Zealand almost a lifetime ago (in 1845), and settled in the colony afterwards, and became one of its Parliamentary leaders, has been very ill, and as he is now 84 years of age, his condition caused some anxiety; but he seems to be recovering. He was one of the earliest advocates of the suffrage for women, which our New Zealand sisters now enjoy. Though New Zealand women have the vote they are not eligible for seats in Parliament. Sir George was recently asked if he thought that the right to a seat in the

lower or upper House would ever be gained for women, and he replied that he thought it "more likely that they will have a House of their own, in which they alone will sit, and that all matters dealing with family life and with women will come before them, and will require the consent of their House before passing into law. The creation of such a House is quite within the region of possibility, and would, to my mind, be more satisfactory than their sitting in the Chamber with the men."

In the carrying into effect of such an idea as his, much depends on whether the women's House would have only a suggesting power, or an actual legislative one; and if the latter, whether the men's House would have an absolute veto on the women's bills? In either case the result would probably be unsatisfactory. If the women were to be absolute in their legislation, the men would be reduced to the position that we now occupy—poor things; i.e., in the matters referred to the women's House, the men would be "governed without their own consent," and that is not a practical, not a defensible plan from any point of view. If, on the other hand, the women's House were only authorized to veto Bills that had previously passed the other Houses, or to make suggestions for laws that could be absolutely vetoed by the House that represented both men and women, the separate House of Ladies would be engaged in the most futile labour imaginable. It is interesting to see the difficulty that even men whose just and right instincts place them essentially on our side in granting absolute equality, and the funny shifts and evasions that they will imagine as substitutes for exact and even-handed equality for the sexes before the law and in the State.

This difficulty in going the whole way at one step is seen in men's minds in each change of the law. Thus, the first Married Women's Property Act, in 1870, as explained in our columns last week, was content to give wives only the legal right to own the money that they earned, and continued to confiscate what was their property at the time of marriage, and what was bequeathed to them, and give it over to the husband, unless specially protected by some legal deed. By the time 1881 came round, Parliament was ready for the really just and only equitable step of giving married women perfect freedom in possessing and acquiring property. Every other law that is changed shows the same history—it is "tinkered at" first; in a good many cases, we are still standing looking at the tinkering; but the final coming of equal justice is being made for by circumstances and by experience. The thin edge of the wedge is still preferred to the sturdy cleavage of the straight-going axe.

The same partial and gradual process of enfranchisement is proposed in our own Woman's Suffrage Bill. It proposes only to enfranchise such women as are heads of houses in their own persons, whether they be widows and single women occupiers, or (perhaps, for there is a difference of opinion as to whether the Bill as now worded would do this) married women if they be carrying on businesses or otherwise living and paying taxes independently of their husbands. The women thus

included would be but some one in seven of the male voters even as now qualified. It is therefore very disingenuous for a member of Parliament to give as his reason for voting against the Woman's Suffrage Bill that the female voters would outnumber the male ones. This not very creditable appeal to prejudice by means of a *suggestio falsi* was indulged in by Mr. Robson, Q.C., in addressing his constituents at South Shields. The report of the meeting in the *Shields Daily News* says:—

A question was handed up. "Will you vote for the Woman's Franchise Bill?" (Laughter.) Well, he had already explained his views on that subject, but did not object to do it again. They had already on the register a large number of persons who did not care very much about politics. He did not think that not caring about politics was any sign of intellectual inferiority, but he thought it was undoubtedly the case that the great bulk of the female population—he did not by any means include those who were present: on the contrary—(laughter)—did not care so much about politics as to justify him in adding them to the register, where they would outnumber the men. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) There were something like five million of them (*sic?*). They were more numerous than the men, as, he was sure, they were much better in most respects. (Laughter.) A lady on the platform here rose and said that she had asked the question. Since women had had the honour of bringing men into the world, she did not see why men should not attend to them. (Loud cheers, applause, and laughter.) Mr. Robson: My lady friend has proved too much for my logic. (Laughter.) I cannot answer her. Of course I would give votes to all the ladies present here. (Laughter.)

In our "Current News" columns will be found the record of some instances in which men's Liberal Associations have voted in favour of making our Suffrage a party plank at the next election. It appears that some of the Associations that have voted the other way are of very small importance. Mr. Doxat mentions that at the grand and imposing-sounding "Meeting of the General Committee of the Devon Liberal Federation," a train of titles that makes one feel respectful at once, there were fifteen men present, "dropping to twelve before the arduous two hours' sitting was over"! Mr. Doxat concludes his letter with this practical advice:—

I hope at the meeting at Devonport in November a resolution in favour of Woman's Suffrage will be proposed from the hall at the Conference, and that the women delegates will take care to be present in force, attending their own meeting afterwards, when they will be able to consider the action of the Devon Liberal Federation.

Once again I would venture to ask my readers to send for free copies of the SIGNAL to distribute when any large women's meetings are taking place. No fewer than seven different friends were good enough to send me reports of the north-country meeting of women Liberals, but no one of them had thought beforehand to ask for a supply of copies to be sent for her to distribute at the meeting. It ought not to be possible for a large meeting of this kind to take place without at least one person who attended caring enough about the SIGNAL to do it this valued but costless service.



## MARY WOLLSTONE-CRAFT'S

"VINDICATION OF THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN" (Published 1793).  
CHAPTER IV.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE STATE OF DEGRADATION TO WHICH WOMAN IS REDUCED BY VARIOUS CAUSES.

I SHALL not go back to the remote annals of antiquity to trace the history of woman; it is sufficient to allow that she has always been either a slave or a despot, and to remark that each of these situations equally retards the progress of reason. The grand source of female folly and vice has ever appeared to me to arise from narrowness of mind; and the very constitution of civil governments has put almost insuperable obstacles in the way to prevent the cultivation of the female understanding; yet virtue can be built on no other foundation! The same obstacles are thrown in the way of the rich, and the same consequences ensue.

Pleasure is the business of woman's life, according to the present modification of society, and while it continues to be so, little can be expected from such weak beings. Inheriting the sovereignty of beauty, they have, to maintain their power, resigned the natural rights which the exercise of reason might have procured them, and chosen rather to be short-lived queens than labour to obtain the sober pleasures that arise from equality. Exalted by their inferiority (this sounds like a contradiction), they constantly demand homage as women, though experience should teach them that the men who pride themselves upon paying this arbitrary insolent respect to the sex, with the most scrupulous exactness, are most inclined to tyrannize over and despise the very weakness they cherish. Often do they repeat Mr. Hume's sentiments; when, comparing the French and Athenian character, he alludes to women. "But what is more singular in this whimsical nation (France), say I to the Athenians, is, that a frolic of yours during the Saturnalia, when the slaves are served by their masters, is seriously continued by them through the whole year, and through the whole course of their lives; accompanied too with some circumstances, which still further augment the absurdity and ridicule. Your sport only elevates for a few days those whom fortune has thrown down, and whom she, too, in sport, may really elevate for ever above you. But this nation gravely exalts those, whom nature has subjected to them, and whose inferiority and infirmities are absolutely incurable. The women, though without virtue, are their masters and sovereigns."

Ah! why do women—I write with affectionate solicitude—not discover, when "in the noon of beauty's power," that they are treated like queens only to be deluded by hollow respect, till they are led to resign, or not assume, their natural prerogatives? It is true they are provided with food and raiment, for which they neither toil nor spin; but health, liberty and virtue are given in exchange. But, where, amongst mankind, has been found sufficient strength of mind to enable a being to resign these adventitious prerogatives; one who, rising with the calm dignity of reason above opinion, dared to be proud of the privileges inherent in man?

The passions of men have thus placed women on thrones, and, till mankind become more reasonable, it is to be feared that women will avail themselves of the power which they attain with the least exertion, and which is the most indisputable. They will smile, yes they will smile, though told that—

"In beauty's empire is no mean,  
And woman, either slave or queen,  
Is quickly scorn'd when not ador'd."

But the adoration comes first, and the scorn is not anticipated.

I lament that women are systematically degraded by receiving the trivial attentions, which men think it manly to pay to the sex, when, in fact, they are insultingly supporting their own superiority. It is not condescension to bow to an inferior. So ludicrous, in fact, do these ceremonies appear to me that I scarcely am able to govern my muscles when I see a man start with eager and serious solicitude to lift a handkerchief, or shut a door, when the lady could have done it herself, had she only moved a pace or two.

Mankind, including every description, wish to be loved and respected for something; and the common herd will always take the nearest road to the completion of their wishes. The respect paid to wealth, or to beauty, is the most certain and unequivocal; and, of course, will always attract the vulgar eye of common minds. Abilities and virtues are absolutely necessary to raise men from the middle rank of life into notice; and the natural consequence is notorious, the middle rank contains most virtue and abilities. Men have thus, in one station, at least an opportunity of exerting themselves with dignity, and of rising by the exertions which really improve a rational creature; but the whole female sex are, till their character is formed, in the same condition as the rich; for they are born, I now speak of a state of civilisation, with certain sexual privileges, and whilst these are gratuitously granted them, few will ever think of works of supererogation, to obtain the esteem of a small number of superior people.

When do we hear of women who, starting out of obscurity, boldly claim respect on account of their great abilities or virtues? Where are they to be found? "To be observed, to be attended to, to be taken notice of with sympathy, complacency and approbation, are all the advantages which they seek." True, my male readers will probably exclaim; but let them, before they draw any conclusion, that this was not written originally as descriptive of women, but of the rich. In Dr. Smith's "Theory of Moral Sentiments," I have found a general character of people of rank and fortune, that, in my opinion, might with the greatest propriety be applied to the female sex. I refer the sagacious reader to the whole comparison, but must be allowed to quote a passage to enforce an argument that I mean to insist on as the one most conclusive against a sexual character. For if, excepting warriors, almost no great men, of any denomination, have ever appeared amongst the nobility, may it not be fairly inferred that their local situation swallowed up the man, and produced a character similar to that of women, who are *localized*, if I may be allowed the word, by the rank they are placed in, by *courtesy*? Women, commonly called Ladies, are not to be contradicted in company, are not allowed to exert any manual strength; and from them the negative virtues only are expected, when any virtues are expected, namely, patience, docility, good-humour, and flexibility; virtues incompatible with any vigorous exertion of intellect. The same may be said of the rich; they do not sufficiently deal in general ideas, collected by impassioned thinking, or calm investigation, to

\* The Editor again reminds readers that these essays were written a hundred years ago. Such a passage as this is interesting as showing how far we have advanced, for though women such as are referred to are still comparatively the few, yet they are now many.

acquire that strength of character on which great resolves are built. But hear what an acute observer says of the great.

"Do the great seem insensible of the easy price at which they may acquire the public admiration; or do they seem to imagine that to them, as to other men, it must be the purchase either of sweat or of blood? By what important accomplishments is the young nobleman instructed to support the dignity of his rank, and to render himself worthy of that superiority over his fellow-citizens to which the virtue of his ancestors had raised them? Is it by knowledge, by industry, by patience, by self-denial, or by virtue of any kind? As all his words, as all his motions are attended to, he learns an habitual regard to every circumstance of ordinary behaviour, and studies to perform all those small duties with the most exact propriety. As he is conscious how much he is observed, and how much mankind are disposed to favour all his inclinations, he acts, upon the most indifferent occasions, with that freedom and elevation which the thought of this naturally inspires. His air, his manner, his deportment, all mark that elegant and graceful sense of his own superiority which those who are born to inferior station can hardly ever arrive at. These are the arts by which he proposes to make mankind more easily submit to his authority, and to govern their inclinations according to his own pleasure; and in this he is seldom disappointed. These arts, supported by rank and pre-eminence, are, upon ordinary occasions, sufficient to govern the world. Louis XIV., during the greater part of his reign, was regarded, not only in France, but over all Europe, as the most perfect model of a great prince. But what were the talents and virtues by which he acquired this great reputation? Was it by the scrupulous and inflexible justice of all his undertakings, by the immense dangers and difficulties with which they were attended, or by the unwearied and unrelenting application with which he pursued them? Was it by his extensive knowledge, by his exquisite judgment, or by his heroic valour? It was by none of these qualities. But he was, first of all, the most powerful prince in Europe, and consequently held the highest rank among kings; and then, says his historian, 'he surpassed all his courtiers in the gracefulness of his shape, and the majestic beauty of his features.' . . . These frivolous accomplishments, supported by his rank, and, no doubt too, by a degree of other talents and virtues, which seems, however, not to have been much above mediocrity, established this prince in the esteem of his own age. Compared with these, in his own times, and in his own presence, no other virtue, it seems, appeared to have any merit. Knowledge, industry, valour, and beneficence, trembled, were abashed, and lost all dignity before them."

(To be continued.)

MAN'S EXTRAVAGANCE IN DRESS.—Lord George Bentinck was usually attired in a green cut-away coat, buckskin breeches and top boots. Round his neck he wore a costly cream-coloured satin scarf of great length, knotted under his chin. Although his scarfs cost nearly a pound a piece, nothing would induce him to wear them more than once. They were then put away, and many drawers were full of them when he died.

Ah yet, though all the world forsake,  
Tho' fortune clip my wings,  
I will not cramp my heart, nor take  
Half-views of men and things.

Tennyson.

## ECONOMICAL COOKERY.

By KATIE OULTON.

(First Class Diplômée in Cookery.)

FISH COOKERY (Concluded).

### FISH PUDDING.

Mix together one pound of cold cooked fish, half-pound cooked potatoes rubbed through a wire sieve, one ounce of butter, two table-spoonfuls of milk, two beaten eggs, reserving a little for brushing over the top, pepper and salt. Bake in a well greased tin or dish for about fifteen minutes, brushing over with egg.

A fish omelet requires some care in the making of it.

### FISH OMELET.

Take three eggs, separating the yolks from the whites. Put the yolks into a bowl, and beat them, adding a little salt, cayenne, nutmeg. Mince very finely one table-spoonful of dried haddock. Whip the whites to a stiff froth and stir to the yolks. Melt one ounce of butter in the omelet pan, pour in the mixture and when the eggs are beginning to set, add the fish and stir all together. When the underneath part is done, hold the front part before a clear fire, or if a gas stove is used, under the griller. Turn out on a hot dish, folding the omelet in two, with the top-side out.

Potted fish is a useful dish to have on hand, as it will keep for some days. Herrings are much the best for this, though mackerel will also do.

### POTTED HERRINGS.

Clean the herrings, remove the scales with a damp cloth, cutting off heads, tails and fins. The fish may be split and the bones taken out, when it should be divided into two fillets, seasoned with pepper and salt, and rolled up. Place the rolls in a pie-dish. Put in two bay leaves, two cloves, cover with vinegar and water in equal quantities. Lay a greased paper over, and bake in a slow oven from one and a half to two hours. Should be eaten cold. It is not absolutely necessary to bone the fish. The vinegar seems to dissolve the small bones in a wonderful manner.

Kedgerie and fricassee make nice dishes of the remains of cooked fish.

### KEDGERIE.

For this nice breakfast or luncheon dish, take equal quantities of cooked fish and rice. Melt one ounce of butter in a saucepan, stir into this the rice and fish, one whole hard boiled egg and the white of another chopped up, add some seasoning. Mix well together. Pile on a dish and sieve over the yolk of the other egg.

### FRICASSEE.

Make a nice white sauce, seasoned properly. Stir into this the fish cut into nice little pieces, all bones and skin being carefully removed. A little coralline pepper may be sprinkled over the top, and the edges may be garnished with neat little sippets of toast.

A very palatable dish may be made of fish fried in batter.

### FISH FRIED IN BATTER.

First of all make the frying batter, as it is the better for standing before it is used. Pour one ounce of melted butter or oil into four ounces of flour with one gill of tepid water. Stir in lightly the whites of two eggs beaten to a stiff froth. Prepare the fish by taking it off the bones and cutting it into nice pieces. Dip them in the batter, taking them out with a skewer, and fry in a bath of fat. Be sure that the fat is a proper heat, and strain it carefully afterwards, as little pieces of the batter will be sure to remain in it. Serve with fried parsley.

A very good soup may be made from fish as follows:—

### FISH SOUP.

Take three pounds of fish, say hake, which is a cheap and very well-flavoured fish. Wash well, cut up into pieces, and put bones and all into a saucepan with two quarts of cold water and one teaspoonful of salt; allow it to boil and strain it, then one onion, one carrot, two sticks of celery, a bunch of parsley, tied in a muslin bag; a blade of mace, two cloves, eight peppercorns and a pinch of herbs.

# A SALVATION ARMY LIEUTENANT

AND

# DR TIBBLES' Vi-Cocoa

Day by day testimony upon the value of Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa as a Food Beverage increases, people of almost every class and occupation showing its wonderful restorative powers in cases of the greatest variety. It is alike invaluable as a food-beverage for children who are outgrowing their strength, for labourers exposed to all atmospheres, and for soldiers undergoing long marches; and above all, it has been heartily approved and welcomed by brain-workers, literary men, and by those whose occupation necessitates indoor imprisonment and lack of ample exercise.



More sterling qualities than these could not possibly be advanced for any food beverage, nor, we believe, have they ever before been attained by any other product until Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa was put upon the market. It is the Food Beverage of the People, and Lieut. F. W. Read, of the Salvation Army, writing from 8, Grove Place, Acton, London, W., confirms it. He says: "I am glad to add my testimony to that of hundreds of others to the

## STRENGTHENING & SUSTAINING PROPERTIES

of Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa. It is almost twelve months since I tried it, and since then I have dispensed with the use of tea altogether, and use Vi-Cocoa in its place. I can honestly say that I feel benefited in every way by so doing. I recommend it to all I come in contact with, and sincerely believe in a very short time it will become

## THE NATIONAL BEVERAGE.

Merit, and merit alone, is what we claim for Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, and we are prepared to send to any reader who names the WOMAN'S SIGNAL (a post-card will do) a dainty sample tin of Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa free and post paid. There is no magic in all this. It is a plain, honest, straightforward offer. It is done to introduce the merits of Vi-Cocoa into every home. Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa as a concentrated form of nourishment and vitality is invaluable. Nay, more than this: for to all who wish to face the strife and battle of life with greater endurance and more sustained exertion it is absolutely indispensable.

Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa is made up in 6d. Packets, and 9d. and 1s. 6d. Tins. It can be obtained from all Chemists, Grocers, and Stores, or from Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa (Limited), 60, 61, and 62, Bunhill-row, London, E.C.



Let all boil gently for two hours. Then strain, rubbing the fish through a wire sieve and adding it to the liquid. In the saucepan now melt an ounce of butter, stir in an ounce of flour, and add gradually one pint of milk, and then the rest of the liquid. Season with pepper and salt. See that it boils.

Before serving put into the tureen a nicely shredded cooked carrot and a teaspoonful of chopped parsley.

I think I should here give a recipe for oyster soup, as it certainly belongs to this class of soups.

OYSTER SOUP.

Make a good fish stock, about two quarts. Blanch and beard three dozen oysters, add the beards and oyster liquor to the stock; allow this to boil for half-an-hour, and while it is boiling keep the oysters steeping in one pint of milk which will greatly improve them. Now strain the fish stock. In a saucepan make a binding mixture of two ounces of butter and two ounces of flour, adding gradually the milk in which the oysters were steeping; next add the fish stock. Allow this to boil, then add the oysters and take the saucepan immediately off the fire and pour into the tureen. The oysters must not be allowed to boil for a second or it will destroy them.

WHAT TO WEAR.

GLOVE FITTING.  
BAZAR AMERICAN PATTERNS.

Head Office: 130, 132, White Street,  
New York, U.S.A.

(Hints by May Manton.)



7180—Ladies' Blouse Waist with Sailor Collar.  
7181—Ladies' Seven-Gored Skirt with Fan Back.

The trimmed skirt and the blouse basque make the prominent features of all autumn styles. The costume shown in the illustration is so simple as to be well-suited to the shopper's needs at the same time that it is correct for the afternoon call or promenade. The model is made of diagonal chevrot in the new shade known as castor, the contrasting material being plaid in shades of brown and tan, with a sufficient number of bright yellow and red lines to enliven the whole. The buttons are of metal in a rich bronze tone, and the loops of brown silk cord. With it is worn a hat of castor-

coloured velvet, trimmed with plumes of varying shades of castor and brown, together with loops of ribbon showing a plaid design in the same tones.

The bodice proper is full, and falls slightly over the belt, but the foundation is fitted snugly and is composed of the usual pieces and seams, closing at the centre-front. On it is arranged the plastron of plaid, which is stitched to the lining at the right and hooks over on to the left side. The blouse is fitted with shoulder and under-arm seams only, and turns back from the front in pointed revers, which reveal the vest beneath. Beneath that, on the right side, the blouse is stitched fast, while the left serves to conceal the closing, which is effected by hooks and eyes. At the back, falling over the shoulders to meet the revers, is a deep, square collar of the plaid, and loops of cord passed over large buttons serve to hold the blouse well in place. The basque portion is circular, and seamed to the blouse beneath the belt of brown leather. All the free edges are stitched by machine. The sleeves are snug fitting and finished with cap-shaped epaulettes, which fall over the shoulders and relieve the otherwise plain effect.

The skirt is cut in seven gores and embodies the apron idea, so conforming with the demand for trimming without detracting from the apparent height of the wearer. The lining front is cut wider than the material and to it are stitched the narrow sections of plaid. The edges of both the front and sides are machine stitched and the buttons and loops serve to hold them in place. The back gores are laid in deep backward-turning plaits and so form the fan back. Zibeline, covert cloths, all chevrots and drap-d'ete are all eminently appropriate and in the height of style.

To make this costume for a lady in the medium size will require six and one-half yards of 44-inch material with one yard of plaid of the same width. The blouse alone calls for two and one-half yards with one-half yard of plaid. The pattern, No. 7180, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure. The skirt requires four yards of 44-inch goods, with one yard of plaid, but the one length of the latter will also cut the vest and collar if the complete costume is to be made. The pattern, No. 7181, is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30-inch waist measure.

WHAT TO WEAR.

If any of my readers want to secure an autumn outfit at small expense, I would advise them to pay a visit to Messrs. Garrould's handsome establishment in the Edgware Road, for it is quite cheering to see how nicely one can set oneself up at small expense. The silk counter is full of bargains, both for day and evening wear, beautiful brocades, fit for teagowns, can be had for 2s. 11d., and English washing silks at 1s. 4d. to 3s. 4d. Charming serges and fancy cloths are to be seen amongst the woollen materials, one of the prettiest being Russian green shot with purple. When the material of the dress is decided on, one has only to go upstairs to the dressmaking department and consult with the clever manageress as to how it shall be made up. Most charming dresses are turned out of this department, novel in style and excellent in fit. Those happy people who have figures of a medium size can easily find something to suit them in the ready-made dress department, where jackets and skirts of good melton cloth can be had made up in the very latest style, at £3 3s. The newest jackets fasten up to the throat, and are finished off with a high storm collar. One style fastens invisibly down the front, trimmed with reverse V's of black braid, the other is in the Russian style, with which we are becoming so familiar. The mourning department is well worthy a visit, and here we find capital ready-made skirts at 28s. 6d., with material and trimming for bodice; the skirts are fashionably cut, and are trimmed with rows of tubular braid either at the hips or near the hem, or midway up the skirt. In the mantle department a brisk trade is being done in charming jackets and capes, from a guinea upwards.

A warm blouse for morning wear is a perfect necessity at this time of year, and we shall find every variety of model in the blouse department, beginning with black and scarlet or black and white striped flanellette at 2s. 6d. Blouses in corduroy velvet look very seasonable in various pretty shades, light fawn being much favoured by bicyclists, and these pretty bodices may be had at 7s. 11d. A Russian blouse in red and black velvet looks sufficiently dressy for a house dinner, and the same may be said for a blouse in light blue glacé silk veiled in black checked gauze.

Many bewitching garments for children are also to be found in this department. The new coats are long enough to cover the dress, the back is let in four box-pleats, and the neck is usually finished off with a fur collar. One of the prettiest models of this description was a pale fawn camel's hair cloth, with a vandyke collar of royal blue velvet, edged with fawn-coloured mouflon. A neat little Dutch bonnet was made to match this coat.

The millinery at Messrs. Garrould's is surprisingly good and cheap; very attractive-looking felt hats for cycling, trimmed with a twist of plaid ribbon above a band of velvet being offered at the low price of 7s. 11d. A brown felt hat with a befeater crown in velvet of the same shade, trimmed with a pelican's quill, is cheap at 9s. 11d., and there are plenty of the new bonnets, low in the crown, but trimmed with a high panache of feathers. French artificial flowers are a great speciality at Garrould's, amongst the novelties being hips and haws in mauve or green or any other shade of colour, and bunches of Russian violets, which imitate the original flower both in aspect and in fragrance.

A GOOD DRESSMAKER.

So many people ask me if I know of a dressmaker who will make up their own materials, that I am sure my readers will be interested to hear that I have found a perfect treasure in Mrs. Enfield Price. Her establishment at 35, Kempsford Gardens, Earl's Court, is like a fairy workshop, where old things are made new and fat people are turned into thin ones. There are very few dressmakers who are so ingenious as Mrs. Enfield Price, and far from despising "your own materials," she will do wonders in utilising your bit of old lace, or your short length of old brocade. She fits extremely well, and has excellent taste, and she will do wonders in the way of renovations for her regular customers. I remember a friend of mine sending a black brocaded silk tea gown three times over (at long intervals) to Mrs. Enfield Price. On each occasion this tea gown looked hopeless, yet it regularly reappeared in the most charming condition, having attained a new lease of life. It was done up once with rose-pink, and once with pale blue, and yet a third time with orange silk veiled in black Russian net. The orange silk had once figured as a cloak lining, and I believe the black net was the best part of a discarded ball gown, so that the garment was renewed with almost no expense.

I found a number of pretty new gowns on hand on the occasion of my recent visit to Kempsford Gardens, some of the smartest being prepared with a view to the Scottish Gathering. Amongst these was a dress in electric blue fancy cloth trimmed with galons of steel beads. The bodice was pouched all the way round, and also set in tucks kept in place by rows of the trimming, the said tucks being arranged upwards in front and downwards at the back. The waistcoat was in white moiré, striped downwards with the steel galon, and a long white moiré sash was tied at the back of the waist. The sleeves were slightly puffed at the top, and cut square at the wrist, so as to fall over the hand. Another dress for the same occasion was in yellow fancy silk figured with a tiny black ring. The bodice was arranged in perpendicular tucks, each one edged with a pleating of white velvet. There was a large stock collar with a white velvet one appearing above it; the cuffs were also finished off to correspond. A mauve silk was made

somewhat in the same style, with a pouched bodice set in tiny corded tucks.

A very handsome dress was being made in a mixture of black bengaline and steel-grey poplin. The front of the bodice was in the poplin, veiled by a handsome garniture of jet falling in careless curves. The skirt was slashed over a robing of the poplin, and kept in place by more festoons of jet. A very ornate blouse was carried out in blue-striped brocade, figured with sprays of pink roses and pale forget-me-nots. The front was made with three box-pleats formed entirely of blue stripes, whilst the roses came in prettily in the collar and cuffs. The bodice fastened at one side with three tiny blue satin rosettes.

Mrs. Enfield Price's charges are most moderate. She makes up "your own materials" from 25s. inclusive, and turns you out a nice tailor-made gown from two guineas. She may safely be trusted to buy any extras required, for her many accomplishments do not include the unpleasant art of running up a bill.

CHIFFON.

Current News  
FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

WOMEN'S TOTAL ABSTINENCE UNION CONFERENCE.—Lady Elizabeth Biddulph presided at the sittings of the Women's Total Abstinence Union, assembled in Bristol for the annual meeting. The visit is the first to Bristol which the Union has paid during the five years of its existence, that period having elapsed since it was formed by previous members of the British Women's Temperance Association, who objected to the "do-everything policy" and wished to work for temperance only. Nearly 100 lady delegates had gathered from all parts of the country. Several gatherings were held, and at the chief of these Lady Elizabeth Biddulph, in her presidential address, pointed out the urgent need of temperance work, notwithstanding what had been done in the last 65 years. She advocated Sunday closing. Miss Vase (London) made a special plea for children, saying that there were hundreds of little ones in courts and slums who went to bed

drunk every night. There were also drunken babes, and in this land of ours were to be found babes drunk from the hour they were born; babes who never knew what it was to be sober; and they had parents who for the sake of drink were willing to place their children in the care of people really unknown to them, and themselves intoxicated. In London alone, out of 80,000 persons who went into publichouses one Saturday night in the course of three hours, over 30,000 were women. The awful amount of drunkenness among women must cause deplorable wretchedness and suffering. Mrs. Down, worker in North London, indicated a plan based on long experience of practical work among drunkards. In the evening there was a reception at the Victoria Rooms, and representatives of 20 local societies delivered addresses of welcome.

The Council met again last week, the Hon. Mrs. Yorke presiding. Papers were read on temperance work abroad. Mrs. Finlay (Hampstead) dealt with the progress of temperance on "The Continent," pointing out the lessons which the prevailing laws in different countries taught. Belgium, she remarked, was the most drunken country, England being next. In the discussion special attention was directed to the evils of spirit drinking and the large increase in lunacy. Mrs. Caine sent a paper, which was read by Miss Wright, reviewing temperance work in India. Two points were—that all missionaries should be abstainers for the sake of example, and that care should be taken to keep temptation from little girls, lest the evils of intemperance should extend to women. The conference's attention was directed by Mrs. Minshall (Hampstead) to the evils of the liquor trade on the West Coast of Africa, and, on the motion of Mrs. Minshall, seconded by Mrs. Whittaker, a resolution was passed urging upon Government the imperative need of confirming and still further extending those prohibitive and restrictive measures at present in force among native races on the West Coast of Africa. Home work occupied the afternoon sitting, at which Mrs. Lionel Mundy, of Barnes, presided. Miss Doewra (London) gave an elaborate review of the progress of temperance in the Queen's reign,

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indicating the modest beginnings from which women's share had sprung. Mrs. Atkinson, in a practical paper, offered hints for increasing the membership of total abstinence societies. The gatherings concluded on Wednesday with public and drawing-room meetings.

ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.—A largely attended meeting, convened by the Members' Rights Defence Committee of the Royal British Nurses' Association, was held on October 13th, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing-cross, "for the purpose of drawing public attention to the grave mismanagement of the Royal British Nurses' Association." The chair was taken by Dr. Hugh Woods, President of the Incorporated Medical Practitioners' Association, who was supported by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Dr. Eady, Mr. G. Brown, Miss Baggart, and Miss Breaux. The chairman explained that matters had now come to such a condition in the association that they could not be allowed to continue. There was the strongest discontent with the way in which the association was managed. What was now demanded was a public inquiry into the whole matter, so that things could be put upon a satisfactory footing in order that the association might properly do

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