

## A HINT TO HUSBANDS.

I think it is rather a pity that men do not more keenly realize the fact that women appreciate an outward display of affection as much after marriage as ever they did before it. Girls are for ever being told that they must not give up trying to please just because they are engaged or married, but no one has ever yet attempted to teach the opposite sex the same lesson.

It may be due to the trait so characteristic of man, that the devoted lover usually turns out to be a very ordinary husband—I mean, of course, the absurdly high value men always put on things out of their reach, and which, when gained, they care nothing about. I would not for a minute suggest that this rule applies to the married state, for what greater proof of a man's love can a woman want than the fact that his daily toil has but one end in view—that of making her life a happy one, by letting her want for nothing.

How many husbands think of saving their wives the little task which during courtship they would not have let them perform for themselves, but waited on them in a way that was almost absurd. Such small actions women value far above their true worth, considering them, and rightly, too, of more value than many caresses, and yet when the honeymoon is over, they get neither the one nor the other.

Of course a husband cannot always be making love, nor would it be quite desirable for him to do so, but there is nothing to prevent him smoothing one's life by various little courtesies and showing he appreciates one's efforts to please him. Instead, too often, it is only when they are displeased that husbands show they are aware of what is going on in their homes at all, while the house might have been redecorated from top to bottom, and look "too sweet for anything"—to use a very womanly term—and they would not take the slightest notice, though perhaps it has been prepared as a charming little surprise.

But seriously, if only men could once be made to see how much it smooths a woman's life to have her efforts openly and honestly appreciated, I think they would not be so chary with their praises. Then, again, troubles shared are troubles halved, and since it is now acknowledged that women have brains enough to understand business, I think men will find great consolation in talking their wives into their confidence. By this means, woman is carried out of her own pretty household troubles, and taught to see that it is more than mere grumpiness which makes her

husband smoke his pipe in silence, or renders him so irritable that ordinary conversation is impossible with him. But husbands, take care that you tell your wives the good news as well as the bad, and not be latter only.

## TO CARRY FANCY WORK.

A work hold-all is suggested for carrying large pieces of fancy work. Made in crash, linen, or cloth, it is quite sufficient protection for the work on a short journey, if not convenient to pack. The material should be 20 inches wide,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  yards in length. One deep pocket at the end, 15 inches in depth; a small flap of 5 inches is only sewn down at each end. Then make two side flaps, 18 inches long and 10 inches wide, to meet in the centre, with two ribbons to tie on the outside. Work the name in cross-stitch, done over canvas, the threads pulled out afterward. The handle can be made by covering a piece of thick wire with ribbon or braid binding, sewn on just clear of the name. Of course, other sizes may be made, but these measurements are in right proportion, and other materials can be used to make handsomer hold-alls.

A slight adaptation of this hold-all may be converted into a useful razor case, which is often a most acceptable present for a man. Though any material may be used as foundation, serge or Norwegian canvas is very suitable, and just the monogram is the best ornamentation. A case to hold six razors should be half a yard long and 10 inches deep. A piece of wash-leather forms the pocket, 24 inches by 10 inches, which is made separately. Turn up 6 inches and stitch six divisions for the razors, bind all round with narrow ribbon, and then sew it carefully into the case at one end; the remaining 6 inches are used for linen shaving tidies, kept in book form by a piece of ribbon sewn at each side. When finished fold the case in three; no strings are needed.

Wife (angrily)—"Yes, I gave you a pattern button, and asked you to get me a dozen to match it. It was the only one I had, and you go and lose it. I never knew such carelessness, and can't think what would become of the house if I were as careless as you are. Where did you put that button, I should like to know?"

Husband (meekly)—"No doubt I put it in the pocket with a hole in it, which I have been asking you to mend for the last three weeks."