Feminine Fancies and Home Circle Chat

MANNERS MAKYTH MAN



EVER was there a time when it was more necessary to take to heart and ponder well the motto of William of Wykeham's famous school than in the times in which we live. We have had to admit sorrowfully the decay of the art of conversa-tion, and of polite letter writing, and following fast upon this the decay of fine manners. Thus much of the charm of the home circle and of social life is rapidly passing away, and older people think regretfully of the gracious women, and courtly men of

ner days. In view of all this, let us ask ourselves what are the true essentials of fine manners, and how that today so many lack these essentials?

that today so many lack these essentials?

The rules of etiquette and of society make it imperative for us to hide our real feelings. The social atmosphere is largely artificial and any display of the natural emotions strikes a false and jarring note. Thus anger, annoyance and grief are quite out of place. Unruffled, calm, varied only by signs of enjoyment, and even these in modified form, is the only wear in society, and the rash person who breaks this unwritten law will place him or herself very much in the wrong. One of the first lessons the wise parent teaches her son or daughter when first going into sothe wrong. One of the first lessons the wise parent teaches her son or daughter when first going into solety is to be agreeable. If you are bored do not show it. If your feelings are ruffled do not look annoyed; above all things do not sulk. If you have a dull partner at dinner you must make the best of a bad job; though you talk nonsense, talk you must. It is the height of bad manners to sit silently and show how bored you are—though I believe this is considered by some people to show great "smartness." Unless you are a person of considerable importance, you cannot make any impression as it were on soyou cannot make any impression as it were on so-ciety. No amount of sulking will improve the situa-tion; you have just got to suffer it, and if you are wise you will make the best of it, and thus you will get the reputation of being an agreeable person to ave at a party, whereas if you sit mum-chance, you probably will not be asked again. So you see you have everything to gain and nothing to lose by being amiable in the face of adversity. But if to look bored is bad manners, to show anger is an unpardonabl sin. You make other people uncomfortable; you create a scene and society washes its hands of you; in fact it has no further use for you. No! So long as you are "in the world" you must present a smiling face to the world. A little time ago I received a letter from a correspondent relating that she and her young daughters had been much pressed to go to a children's dance but when they got there they found a grown-up dance in progress and the lady was exceedingly hurt and indignant because she a still young and attractive woman was placed on the shelf as it were; no partners were introduced to her and she felt herself so much slighted that she wrote for my advice as to how she could show her annoyance. Apsin. You make other people uncomfortable; you creadvice as to how she could show her annoyance. Ap advice as to how she could show her annoyance. Apparently she left before supper as a sort of protest, and she wished to drop the hostess's acquaintance. This was obviously a case where no redress was possible; to leave before supper hurt no one, but the aggrieved parties themselves; as to dropping the lady's acquaintance, my correspondent was of course, quite at liberty to do so, though I should have thought to refrain from going to any more dances at the house would have met the case. The hostess in this case certainly did not behave in a kind or very tactful manner, especially as these guests were newtactful manner, especially as these guests were new-comers to the neighborhood, but it is a fact that those who go into society often meet with similar contre-temps and they must endure them with the best grace they can. Manners are acts and acts make character, which is the true man or woman. Good manners are the outcome of goodness of heart and simplicity of purpose. They are the natural expressions of nopurpose. They are the natural expressions of no-bility of mind. Let us cultivate those virtues which make the true

Let us cultivate those virtues which make the true gentlewoman, and each do our part to remove the reproach which has been brought upon us, by those who in over-estimating the cultivation of the intelect, have robbed us of the "old world grace," which was at once so beautiful, and so restful. If the highest work a woman can do is that of raising, resting, beautifying, purifying the world around her—and surely it is—then those who are rapidly becoming the women of the future should strive with all their might to cultivate those virtues which make that women of the future should strive with all their might to cultivate those virtues which make that loyal nature and noble mind from which gracious manners spring—and so do their utmost to restore to new times the grace and charm of what we now call old-world manners.

---LITTLE ECONOMIES

The question is so often asked-Are women good It is always supposed, and has repeatedly been said, that a woman has a natural talent for organiza-tion where matters of petty detail are concerned. Consequently she should be a good manager, for in the management of money there is no doubt it is the small things that count, and very often the tiny leakages that wreck the domestic ship.

No one likes to be considered rich at the present moment. It is quite unfashionable to be even well off. We must flaunt our poverty and brag of our economies; but whether the plea of "hard up" is always trathful or not there is no doubt that

ways truthful or not, there is no doubt that most people find they have not the "wasting" money they used to have, and stern resolution has to be called in to aid in retrenchments that often greatly affect

falls of taking care of the cents, and it is by no means easy to save cents in a household accustomed to easy luxury, without cutting down or cutting off something that causes remonstrance or outcry from something that causes remonstrance or outery from some member of it. Naturally the sensible woman begins with renewed efforts to check waste as regards food and firing, often, unless she be both firm and very clever, erring on the side of parsimony in one, if not in both. It is next to impossible, in spite of perpetual articles written in all seriousness, to watch the breadans and defining on the seriousness. watch the breadpan and dripping-pot, as so many writers on household management would have us do. It is only the privilege, if privilege anyone can call it, of the mistress of a very small household to know the exact fate of the toast trimmings, the derelict cold potato, and the abandoned brussels

we are told much of "raspings" for frying, and of dainty salads from cold vegetables "lightly tossed in a good mayonnaise," but we question what economy there is in the latter suggestion with eggs at five cents each. Absolutely unnecessary luxuries must be attacked first, and it seems hard to begin with flowers. Very few women can walk past a flower. flowers. Very few women can walk past a flower shop without being tempted to bring back with them some blossoms for their vases, even when those vases are fairly well supplied already. If a rule was adhered to—to be content to furnish the table with only some wild flowers, and some small pots of ferns, one leakage would be stopped that runs away with a good deal in the course of the week. A bunch of carnations to wear, a few lilies of the valley for the sake of the scent, must be denied to

There is the same kind of temptation about papers and magazines. It is so easy and pleasant always to buy a paper that takes the fancy, but how often are they looked at after the first glance at the special subject of interest? "Something to read in the train or on the boat" is the excuse for buying a 25-cent magazine, when it would be less trouble as a rule to take with one the book one has on hand at home. In stationery items, waste and extravagance can be checked. Paper of all kinds is extremely cheap, yet a fairly big sum is spent annually by the woman with a large correspondence, and who has very likely endless writing to do besides for charitable and probably literary or political objects. The modern practice of having half sheets stamped with the address is a good one, and half the quantity of paper for little notes is thus used. It is a far preferable economy to that of ordering an inferior quality when retrenchments begin. There is the same kind of temptation about pa

trenchments begin onomies in traveling, it is difficult to write. It is not always good policy to walk in bad weather instead of taking a cab. A dollar goes a long way, and yet a very short way in restoring good clothes that have been hopelessly splashed or really drenched.

The clothes themselves, and their management, with a view to reducing expenses, would open up too large a subject. And having arrived at so great a topic for discussion, it may be wise to restrict suggestions to reminding the would-be economist that here most of all, in her expenditure—the trifles tell. The woman who is always buying odds and ends is seldom well dressed. Ribbons, ties, laces, etc., are all necessaries, but they are often discarded without thought as to but they are often discarded without thought as to whether they cannot be washed or repaired. Nearly all good white ribbons will wash, and very many colored ones. Ironed carefully they make very nice ties for wearing under the up-and-down silk, or fiannel collars that are so comfortable for tennis or golf players, and such washed ribbons, if wide, will do very well for nice, soft waistbands. Where much sewing is done at home it is also a great economy carefully to preserve bones, buttons, linings, and it need hardly be said any silk foundations that have even a good breadth or two left. Perhaps it is a threadbare plantude to add: threadbare platitude to add:
"Whenever you have the money to do it, buy of the best."

FASHION'S FANCIES

I have always maintained that dress for the country should be extremely simple and to realise that you cannot wear except on very rare occasions your visiting dresses at country (or small towns) feativities is one of the surest roads to successful dressing. Incongruity in dress is always bad, and to appear in a trailing painted chiffon gown, which has been worn at some fashionable garden party, and has become perhaps a little "chiffony" at the small tennis contest, when everybody else is wearing linens, might quite decidedly be said to be in bad taste. It sounds perhans, somewhat of an anomaly, but there is no woman so badly dressed as she who is everdressed. Therefore let me impress on all women—and especially on-young girls—that the cult of simplicity will be their best asset for successful country garments. In pursuit of this admirable object we can combine a certain amount of economy. Not so much, perhaps, in real tailor clothes, but in delightful cottons, muslins, and delaines that look so fresh and charming on green lawns, and in the fields by the sea side. The experience of most people is that the only garment which cannot be dispensed with is the coat and skirt. People wear a suit everywhere and on all sorts of occasions, and it is more, and more evident that this form of garment has come to stay permanentity even experience of most people is that the only garment which cannot be dispensed with is the coat and skirt. People wear a suit everywhere and on all sorts of occasions, and it is more, and more evident that this form of garment has come to stay permanently, even in spite of Directoire gowns and separate coats of all kinds. Nothing is smarter than a costume in striped tweed and apart from its smartness it is just the sort of thing one wants for the smart country occasions, and also for the many days in the season when the tallored gown is the only possible attire. Here we are at the beginning of July and very few people I imagine have known this summer to feel really warm. As a consequence of the wretched coldness of the weather we have had to endure the coat and skirt has been very much in favor, and it is easy to observe that the jacket or otherwise, the fantastic and decorative coat of the hour is made in a hundred and one different materials, such as a year ago we should have scorned for the purpose. For instance a friend of mine who has to go about a good deal has a very smart mole-colored weollen striped taffeta suit, which is quite charming. The coat is cut in points at the side and the back and front is trimmed with satin buttons and loops. While the skirt is arrapged with a flat hip piece and pleats which hang quite straight to the knees and then fan out a very little round the feet. With this she wears a pretty net blouse, and a mole colored satin waistooat, cut in Directoire style, double breasted, while on her head she wears a large mole-colored chip trimmed with satin bows of Gobelin blue, and a couple of reddish pink reses. Her parasol is blue. Now the advantages of such a gown as this is obvious. The draggled-tailed appearance is threatening us on all sides, and these picturesque coats and skirts enable one to go anywhere in the afternoon and look smart and heat at the same time. Whereas chiffons of the evanescent description soon become hopeless in bad weather, and suffer mightly from the devastatin lines and every virtue but—the one thing which it is impossible to do is to forget that the figure of last year will not in the least suit the gowns of this year. There are no more small waists and there are no hips; everything is done to make the neck look long, the sleeve small, and the shoulder flat, though be it remembered, it is no longer the kimona shoulder line which is in vague, but marely the unobtrusive shoulthe sleeve small, and the shoulder flat, though be it remembered, it is no longer the kimona shoulder line which is in voque, but merely the unobtrusive shoulder effect of the eighteenth century. Thanks to the daily papers the sheath like skirt is the most talked of thing of the hour. Do you aspire to a skimpy drapery, a la Venus or a la Juno, according to your proportions? I trow not! At the same time neither you nor I are fond of being left out in the cold as regards the fashion, but I really think we all have the wisdom to assume a fashion, even if we have it not in its entirety. Girls of all ages look very nice in the straight skirts and the soft drapery of a crossover bodice and one of the prettiest girls I have seen for a long time wore at a party the other day a frock of very soft, and fine blue shantung made crossover, but with very large pointed Directoire revers of blue satin, and a very pretty gathered tulle chemisette with a falling ruffle coming over the top of the collar band. Her hat was of brown chip trimmed with a long blue feather—not the mountains of feathers one sees so much—but one long plume set in by a big knot of brown tulle. Another pretty girl wore a very fine grey silk voile set in pleats round the waist and trimmed with a garniture of embroidered grey filet. Her hat was a mob of oreamy lace trimmed with a large bow of nattier blue velvet and a huge cluster of oleanders. And I must say I never saw anything more attractive than the appearance of these two "jeune filles" To be unprovided with ruffles of various shapes, sizes and color, is tantamount to admitting a disregard for one of the most insistent fashions. With the afternoon gown, and especially the gown which bespeaks a Directoire origin, the collarette of net, or tulle or satin ribbon is an accessory which adds the finishing touch to perfection.

THE VOICE CHARMING

Of the many cults indulged in by women to add to their charms how few, if any, include that of the speaking voice. The indifference shown in this connection is extraordinary and tempts one to the belief that the fair sex lacks that nicety of sense which can distinguish between a jarring and a soothing intonation.

To broach the subject of the speaking voice in any social circle is to find but one opinion—that a beautiful voice is rare, none being ventured that it is only rare for the reason that culpable neglect of a delicate organ exists in this civilized age. It is unfailr to accredit nature with niggardliness in this connection, for she is no more sparing of pleasant tones than she is of the other personal charms which women are quick to recognize and eager to preserve.

The voice being ultra-sensitive to any abuse of its functions, should always have its cuit, the first step in which must be a resolution to curb the feminine habit of pitching it too high. As with a musical instrument, it is the highest-sounding chords which are the most delicate, that are subjected to the severest strain in proportion to their strength. A violinist has always a new E string with which to replace the one that is so often strained to breaking point, but there being no extra set of upper vocal chords in reserve for us, it is of the utmost importance that we should use those we have sparingly and tenderly. The voice which is already harsh either by nature or wrong usage, can be quite transformed by using a middle pitch habitually and the woman who adopts it will be astonished to find how easily her voice carries with a minimum of effort. She will experience too, that conversing in a car or train, is comparatively easy, little strain being imposed on her vocal organs. In giving directions from a distance in a lower key the carrying and saving of the voice is especially induged in for this destroys in time, the most perfect intonation. "Like a low voice calling from the wood," is a bewitching line, and if a poet could write this, it is proof that there is beauty To broach the subject of the speaking voice in

in the middle key, the possibility of actual enchantment when woman calls from afar. The voice is always softened by bringing it forward from the throat to the lips; nor does it easily tire when this dourse is adopted. It is the perpetual vibration in the throat which is to blame for that frequent desire to clear it on the part of singers and speakers, a process which does lasting harm to the vocal chords besides fatiguing them in the actual present. To bring the lips into more mobile play over the pronouncing of vowels and consonants than is usual with English speaking races, is another means of helping the voice to more musical intonation; for it is just these little subtleties of pronunciation which help in the fatiguing task of sustained conversation. To speak foreign languages is excellent for acquiring this mobility and by choice with foreigners themselves, for to converse with French, or Italian women is to get a lesson in musical articulation and in the winning arts of feminine speech such as no conventional training musical articulation and in the winning arts of feminine speech such as no conventional training could possibly provide. Too much talking will always harden the voice. To soften it, this custom must be dropped. It is no mistaken view that women tear their voices to pieces with their inordinate chatter. They talk at meal times and over their work. They go out in twos and talk again. In whole parties they go up to town, their voices knowing no rest in the train, car, restaurant or shops. Men retain a melodious voice longer than women for the reason that they pass the greater part of the day in silence. To win one back a woman must do the same and further than this she must watch for the tricks of speech she has dropped into which are always in wait for our garrulous sex.

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One of these is the habit of declaiming in and out of season, a shrill emphasising of remarks, impertant or otherwise. Another is the forced, unmirthful laugh which runs all through each ferked out sentence, and these talker and listener alike. It is a certain tence, and tires talker and listener alike. It is a certain underlying hysteria which calls for control in regard to all these mannerisms—a control not easily exercised in an age which favors an overstrung excitable pose. The woman who is in earnest over her cult, however, will realise that the harsh voice can never become the musical voice while she allows such habits to rule her speech, and to blur her sense of a cultured mode of expression.

THE PROPER WAY TO COOK A JOINT

Although the roasting, boiling, baking, or braising of a joint of any sort is simplicity in itself, it is extraordinary how very few "plain cooks" seem to be able to accomplish the feat with any amount of suc-

able to accomplish the feat with any amount of success.

As often as not, in the average household, the joint comes up tepid, flabby, and greasy, and floating in a miniature ocean, whose component parts are principally grease and hot water, with an undue preponderance of pepper added thereto!

Now the cooking of a joint of beef, or for the matter of that any other joint, is like the cooking of a potato easily accomplished; but the modern cook, who will spend hours of valuable time in decorating an uninteresting entree (so called) with bought macedoine, would think it quite beneath her dignity to trouble over a "simple joint."

So the poor joint is relegated to a badly regulated oven where it more or less cooks itself, with the aid of an occasional "haste," and then when "done" (and "done for!") it is immersed in the miniature ocean aforesald, and sent to the table to spread disgust and dyspepsia for all who partake of it to the destruction of their gastronomical organs. Yet, as with most things, there is a right and a wrong way of cooking a joint. This is the right way:

To begin with it is, or it should be, an exploded fallacy that it is bad for the meat to wash it before it is cooked.

That may have been an ecessary in "times gone by," when every butches killed for himself, and the joints travelled no further than from the slaughter house, at the back of the shop, but when one considers the various vicissitudes through which the modern joint has to pass before it reaches the table, the idea of cooking it, much less of eating it, in an unwashed condition, is one to inspire disgust in the minds of any nice thinking person. No injury whatever will be done to the meat if washing is sufficiently rapid.

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Take the joint, place it in a large colander. Let the seconds, then turn the joint and repeat the rinsing as before. Dry very thoroughly (this is most important as if imperfectly dried the joint will be sodden and unappetising) on a soft clean cloth. Rub over with unappetising) on a soft clean cloth. Rub over with flour and sprinkle with salt, Place a large lump of good fresh dripping on the baking tin and place the joint on this. Now spread the joint with dripping, and put still more round the sides of the pan. (If possible use beef dripping for beef and mutton for mutton). The temperature of the oven is very important. For the first few minutes it should be very hot. This is to prevent the juice from escaping. Put the baking tin, then, in the hottest part of the oven for ten minutes—time this then draw it to a cooler for ten minutes—time this, then draw it to a cooler place. If you wish for a joint in perfection it should be basted every six or eight minutes. The time to allow for cooking varies with the joint in question. Thus, for a large thick piece of ribs of beef, or sirallow for cooking varies with the joint in question. Thus, for a large thick piece of ribs of beef, or sirloin, twenty minutes to the pound and twenty minutes over should always be allowed, while for a tiny joint from fifteen to eighteen minutes to the pound and fifteen minutes over should be allowed, and will be found usually to be enough. For a large thick piece of mutton allow from twenty-three to twenty-five minutes per pound and twenty minutes over. For a thin piece of mutton, neck, or breast, sixteen to eighteen minutes per pound and fifteen minutes over. For veal and pork always allow a full twenty-five or thirty minutes to the pound, and from thirty to thirty five minutes over. This is for the average taste. Of course where meat is liked specially underdone these remarks do not apply, with the exception of veal and pork. An inexperienced cook may like to note that veal and pork should never on any account be underdone—as they are both unsafe unless thoroughly well cooked. Joints should always be carefully timed according to the above directions, and should, when done, be dished up on a very hot, really hot, not merely warm, dish. The superfluous fat should then be poured off from the gravy and the remainder worked up over the fire with the addition of a very little stock or hot water, the former for preference. Pour round the meat and serve at once. Although, perhaps never quite so appetising, a properly boiled joint can in this way be quite as nice as a roast one, provided the boiling is properly done, and for the housewife who does her own cooking this way has a great deal to recommend it, as it does not require quite such close attention as a properly roasted joint provided the boiling is properly done, and for the housewife who does her own cooking this way has a great deal to recommend it, as it does not require quite such close attention as a properly roasted joint demands. To begin with, for beef and mutton the time required is exactly the same as for roasting, while for pork and veal a little longer should be allowed. Now as to the proper method of boiling. If fresh meat, wash as before. Place sufficient water in the pan to well cover the joint. Bring the water to the boil, and when it boils add two tablespoonfuls of salt to each gallon of water. Let it boil up once more, add the meat, bring to the boil again. When it boils, time it and let it continue to boil for exactly five minutes. Then draw the pan to the side of the fire and simmer very gently till cooked. The vegetable should be added when the pan is drawn to one side, and it should be remembered that never should meat be put on to boil in cold water. The best vegetable for beef are carrots, turnips and onions. For mutton, onions, turnips, parsnips and celery, for pork, table for beef are carrots, turnips and onions. For mutton, onions, turnips, parsnips and celery, for pork, onions and boiled unpeeled apples, and pease-pudding if liked. For veal, onions, celery, beets if liked, and turnips. When done, dish up the joint on a very hot dish. Garnish with the vegetables in neat little groups. Pour some of the liquid over, and send to table at once. If these simple rules are carefully followed out, the result will be that joints, which are to most the staple food of life, will be the delicious and appetising dishes they are intended to be.

HOW TO FURNISH A PRETTY HOME

Half the young housekeepers intent on purchasing furniture for their new home, are too apt to be taken with the actual outline of the furniture without giving due consideration to the effects of its construction and good wearing properties. For this purpose, a little knowledge of the class of wood employed is necessary, and care should always be taken to pur-

chase furniture of solid wood in preference to that which is merely veneered.

First of all, in making a selection of the furniture suitable, let it be clearly understood to what use it is to be put, and after deciding this make sure that the construction of this chair or that table is such that it will admit of its satisfactorily carrying out the various duties that will be required of it. Oak, mahogany and walnut, are the three woods which are used for a purely constructive purpose, by which I mean the article is solid all through.

Satin wood articles, and such like dainty trifles, which are usually purchased for drawing room or bedroom use, are usually veneered onto a foundation of pine or sycamore.

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Now-a-days there are some very delightful sultes shown in new tints of color, this being produced by a process of staining, and sycamore and pine being the woods most frequently employed for this purpose, as they are fairly strong, and the wood absorbs the strain very quickly and easily and is capable also of taking a beautiful polish. The newest tints are delicate greys, greens, and blues, some being ornamented with inlay work in a most effective fashion. Mahogany which is chiefly utilized for dining room and bedroom furniture is a very beautiful wood, and is much to be commended when a real solid article can be purchased, but it must be borne in mind that such wood is not a cheap investment, and the unwary must guard against a low priced article being given them as solid mahogany, as in all probability it will be merely veneered.

Oak, both dark and light, goes to the composition of delightful diningroom suites in a variety of artistic modern designs, and in good reproductions of old models, which when fitted with bright backt.

of delightful diningroom sultes in a variety of artistic modern designs, and in good reproductions of old models, which, when fitted with bright hued leather seats, or even in the more inexpensive rush, is certainly particularly suited to this style of furniture. I have seen too many charming little drawing rooms fitted with light oak, a scheme which is both novel and artistic, and therefore in point of novelty may be adopted by the bride-elect with the assurance that her room will be the admiration and envy of her friends. Just at present there is a deassurance that her room will be the admiration and envy of her friends. Just at present there is a decided tendency to employ inlaid mahogany, and satinwood furniture for drawing rooms and sitting rooms, and this, when the inlay is of a delicate nature and the design good, goes to the construction of many very charming apartments. In the matter of bedroom suites, oak still plays an important part, and together with mahogany is the most popular form of furniture, for this room of the present day. Bedsteads are frequently made of wood to match this suite, but whatever kind of furniture be chosen, whatever wood selected, take particular care that the workmanship is good, the edges and joins well secured, and in the case of upholstered furniture, see that the webbing on the under portion is tightly strained across, and that the edges of the seats are well covered.

A very pretty little room furnished with mahog-any, might have small twin brass bedsteads, these go remarkably well, but must be solid and well put Personally, I am very fond, as I think I have men-tioned somewhere before, of white suites for bed-

They are so very inexpensive; of course you want to see that they are strong, and that the workmanship, etc., is good, as before, but the kind of wood, so long as it is strong, is immaterial, as the suites are usually enamelled with a good polish on them, though painted with a dull white paint, i.e., without a class they are very very restricted.

a gloss, they are very pretty and more uncommon.

Here again brass bedsteads look so well, or else one could have them of enamelled iron (to match the

furniture.)

This kind of suite could be carried out in deep cream or even pale tints, but nothing, to my mind, is so dainty or so fresh as pure white.

While speaking of wood, it is perhaps advisable to mention that parquet inlaid floors are very desirable, and those who are building houses or cottages, or are in despair over the condition of the floors in their halls and reception rooms would do well to consider carefully the advisability of having the entire floor surface covered with parquet—the cost of this in the plainest "herring bone" is a mere trifle this in the plainest "herring bone" is a mere triffe per square foot, and though at the outset the sum total may be rather alarming, one must consider that such rooms are always in good taste, and that rugs to cover them need not be purchased at once, but bought one by one as funds are available. The panelled dado, is another form of wall decoration in which wood is employed very largely just now, and here again I would urge the advisability

of a little extra outlay at the start, with a view to the benefit and effect which one obtains for the ex-penditure.

Ordinary pine wood treated to ivory white enamel makes a most delightful panel treatment, and to-gether with pine veneered with oak can be furnished and fixed for a very small sum. Solid oak, of course, is extra expense. Although it is straying from the is extra expense. Although it is straying from the subject of wood, I want to add just one or two words subject of wood, I want to add just one or two words about these most necessary articles to the comfort of a household—cushions. To start with, one frequently sees too few in a room, far more frequently than too many! And yet they are so dainty and pretty to look at, and—breath it not—so very "comfy" to sit on. Now there is no reason why one shouldn't have heaps of pretty and quite inexpensive cushions. Chentz can be obtained for a reasonable sum, and makes the daintiest coverings for cushions (as well as being very pretty for making loose covers for furniture; either to cover up solled upholstery or to prevent it from becoming soiled). This material, too, washes so well—then a good plain-colored sateen is most serviceable for every day cushions, being too, washes so well—then a good plain-colored sateen is most serviceable for every day cushions, being pretty and wearing well. Also for a drawing room, plain-hued Japanese silk is lovely, but as it is not very thick it will probably necessitate a plain white covering, if your cushions are encased in an ordinary striped ticking—then for more expensive kinds brocade is lovely, and of course for the housewife whose fingers are skillful at the craft of needlework, there is no end to the beautiful and varied designs for covers which can be wrought by her head-timely or covers which can be wrought by her handlwork.

WITH THE POETS Five Little Foxes

Among my tender vines I spy A little fox named—By-and-by.

Then set upon him quick, I say, The swift young hunter Right-Away.

Around each tender vine I plant, I find the little fox—I can't.

Then fast as ever hunter ran, Chase him with bold and brave—I can. No use in trying—lags and whines The fox among my tender vines.

Then drive him low, and drive him high, With this good hunter, named—I'll try.

Among the vines in my small lot Creeps in the young fox—I forgot.

Then hunt him out and to his den With-I-will-not-forget-again.

The little fox, that, hidden there Among the vines is—I don't care.

Then let I'm sorry—hunter true— Chase him afar from vines and you.

The Five:
What mischief-making foxes! yet
Among our vines they often get.

But, now their hunter's names you know, Just drive them out and keep them so.

CHARLES AUGUSTUS FORTESCUE

Who Always Did What Was Right, and So Accumu-lated an Imagense Fortune. The nicest child I ever knew Was Charles Augustus Fortescue Was Charles Augustus Fortescue,
He never lost his cap, or tore
His stockings or his pinatore;
In eating Bread he made no Crumbs,
He was extremely fond of sums,
To which, however, he preferred
The parsing of a Latin Word.
He sought, when it was in his power,
For information twice an hour.
And as for finding Mutton-Fat
Unappetising, far from that!

COURTING IN IRELAND

(Before Michael's Cottage.) "There, now, that's me cottage, Kitty."
"Is it, Mike?"
"Yis; an' isn't it pretty?" "H'm!-lones

"Lonesome!" (Now's y'r minute! Michael strike!) "Sure, if you wor in it—"
"Arrah, Mike!"

Elsa D'Esterre Keeling A SONG OF PRAISE

Let my voice ring out and over the earth, Through all the grief and strife, With a golden joy in a silver mirth; Thank God for Life.

Let my voice swell out through the great abyss. To the azure dome above.

With a chord of faith in the harp of bliss;
Thank God for Love.

Let my voice thrill out beneath and above,
The whole world through:
O my Love and Life, my Life and Love,
Thank God for you! -James Thomson

THEY ALSO SERVE

They also serve who only stand and wait."

Take comfort from the thought in lonely hours
When naught seems set aside for you by Fate
To do, while others have far richer dowers.

With days brimful of hope and work and love; Full to the brim and haply running o'er.
The angels, watching from their homes above.
Can see how sad the waiting is, how sore.

But if the waiting is not all in vain,
If those who wait are serving truly, too—
Oh, then they need not mind the nameless pa But think it is the part they are to do.

And peace and rest will fill the lonely days
That once were filled with naught but pain
and woe. For though we cannot understand His ways, Enough to know our Father wills it so. THE SKY FOR YOU

Oh, the future sky is the bluest sky,
With never a cloud in view;
But the sky today is the truest sky,
And that is the sky for you!

For the work you have to do; For the lives that lean on young grown Or gold, or grey, 'This the sky today, And that is the sky for you!

There's a bird that sings to the future sky. Where the blossoms drip with dew; But the bird today makes the song of May, And that is the song for you!

For the work you have to do; For the hearts that cling to you, 'Tis the sweetest song
As it trills along
And that is the song for you!

FENIANS ONCE PLANNED CAPTURE OF WINNIPEG

The Buffalo Courier says:
Former Police Justice Thos. S. King, of this city is firm in the belief that had the Fenian leaders, after the failure of their descent upon Canada from Black Rock in 1866, acted upon the plan proposed to them two years later by the late William Wilkerson, at one time a prominent citizen of Buffalo, they might today be in possession of Manitoba, the whole Northwest territory and perhaps all of the Dominion from the Atlantic Ocean westward. Instead of accepting his advice, they made another invasion, this time from St. Alban's, Vermont, and scored another ignominious failure.

Atlantic Ocean westward. Instead of accepting his advice, they made another invasion, this time from St. Alban's, Vermont, and scored another ignominious failure.

"But for the stubborness of General John O'Neil, the Fenian leader, and the majority of his associates in the Fenian senate," declared Justice King she other day, "Manitoba would almost, beyond the possibility of a doubt, have become the realization of that Utopian dream, an Irish republic."

The story of the Wilkerson proposition as developed by Justice King is an interesting one.

"I've a scheme which beats O'Neil's pet idea all bollow, and is sure to win," said Wilkerson to King, in 1865, who was then associated Press correspondent in Buffalo. "It's to assemble all the Fenians we can at St. Paul and from there march on to Winnipeg and take that place, and the capture of the rest of Manitoba will be easy. But before the Fenians are concentrated at St. Paul I want you to go to Louis Riel, the revolutionist, who is itching for trouble, and give him \$10,000, which I will hand you. Have Riel promise his direct co-operation in the taking of Winnipeg, and when that is done to issue bonds in the name of the new Irish republic, as well as his own. Send the bonds to me and I will dispose of them to the end that the new republic will be well financed, so that it will have no difficulty in finding the necessary arms and munitions with which to defend itself.

"Wilkerson told me that he had selected me because of his friendship for me and the knowledge that I had gained through my life in California, on the plains, and with the Indians—a knowledge of human nature which ought to stand in good stead in dealing with a man of the type of Riel. I was also honest.

"Saturated with the impression that everybody interested in the success of the Fenian movement must look upon his project with theyes the same as his own, wilkerson proceeded to the room where the Fenian senate was in session. He tapped lightly, Frank Gallagher answering the call. When the door was opened

or Confederate armies in the Civil war, ended but two years before.

"Wilkerson assured them he would furnish the \$10,000, and had a man who he knew could secure the co-operation of Riel telling them about me. Many, if not all knew me, and wanted my opinion. I seconded what Wilkerson said, as did Gallagher.

"Some of them doubted the practicability of disposing of bonds issued by Riel, so that at last the determined opposition of O'Neil won, and Wilkerson's proposal was defeated."



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Grea The distance tral lake is ten m right through all town. At the lake cabin in which vi gasoline launch t the discoverer and Interior mine, a v The lake is about averages a mile i lake is another ca owner. Two sm at the head, but t

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Bainbrid two small lakes tively from the to plenty of good tr