

# WOMAN and HER WORK.

I promised to give you some good receipts for candy this week, girls, and I have kept my word, even better than my word, for I have given you some others besides, so as not to neglect the substantial altogether. By the way talking of substantial do you ever have stewed corn for tea, and if so how do you cook it? Take it out of the can, I suppose and warm it in a sauce pan the way most people do, with a little milk, and then complain that a can of corn makes such a small dish; I know that is the way we used to do at our house until we learned better, but now we do it this way:

## Stewed Corn.

Put half a pint of milk into a shallow saucepan, the frying pan will do beautifully, add a good sized lump of butter and let it come to a boil then mix a heaping teaspoonful of corn starch in a very little cold milk, stir it into the boiling milk and butter, and then turn the can of corn into the mixture, stir till thoroughly hot and serve. This is enough for one can of corn, double the quantity of milk, and butter, if a second can is used.

## Scalloped Corn

Is an easy and appetizing tea dish. Roll some biscuits very fine and put a layer in a deep dish, then a layer of canned corn, and continue until the dish is full. Then dot the last layer, which should be of the crumbs, with bits of butter, pour over it nearly a cup of milk, and bake for half an hour.

The following tid-bit is not only well worth reading and pondering over, but well worth eating also:

Many will recall the oft-repeated story of the young epicure, Brillat Savarin's son, who ordered thirty turkeys for his dinner. When his father reprimanded him for such extravagance on an occasion when he dined alone, the youth recalled the fact that there was one portion of the turkey which his father had always reserved for himself—the very tid-bit of the bird—and, as there were but two small portions of it in each bird, the order could in no way be called extravagant. This tid-bit is known as the "oyster" of the turkey; and probably not one carver in twenty can tell exactly where it lies. It is not, as many suppose, a piece of the white meat of the breast. The breast is composed of only two distinct layers on each side, the upper and the lower fillets. The "oyster," in fact, is a portion of exceedingly tender dark meat which lies in a hollow on each side of the backbone, near and just above the second joint. By examining the bare carcass of a carved turkey, the two hollows where the "oysters" lie will be easily perceived, and one will note that their shape is a long oval. Unhappily this tid-bit is often discarded by the carver, or is sliced with the second joint. It should be served intact to any one at the table who can appreciate the best bit of the bird.

I have often wondered, as I pensively carved this delicious portion from the otherwise denuded carcass of a turkey, why so few people knew about it, and I have always been careful to carve off that dainty morsel with an air of studied carelessness blended with resignation, lest the other members of the family should penetrate my motives for selecting it, and by and by enter the lists gastronomic as my rival.

## Butter Scotch.

Seven tablespoonfuls of molasses.  
Two tablespoonfuls of water.  
Two tablespoonfuls of sugar.  
One tablespoonful of butter.

Boil. When it will break easily after dropping in cold water it is done. Add a pinch of soda, stir once or twice, and pour upon buttered pans.

## Chocolate Caramels.

One-fourth pound of chocolate, grated.  
Two teaspoonfuls of sugar.  
One teaspoonful of molasses.  
Piece of butter the size of an egg.  
Boil fifteen or twenty minutes; pour into buttered pans until one-fourth of an inch thick, and just before cold cut into squares.

## Nut Candy.

Two cupfuls of white sugar.  
One cupful of water.  
Two tablespoonfuls of vinegar.  
Boil half an hour, and just before taking off the stove add the kernels of any kind of nuts you prefer, chopped.

## Chocolate Kisses.

Prepare the cream the same as for nuts; form into balls, and set aside for a short time to harden; then drop into Baker's chocolate, to which has been added one and one-half tablespoonfuls of pulverized sugar and beaten until smooth. Place upon greased paper until cool.

## Cocoanut Kisses.

Take the whites of two eggs and ten teaspoonfuls of powdered sugar to each egg. Beat until stiff enough for icing, and add half a teaspoonful of grated cocoanut. Drop upon buttered paper and bake a delicate brown.

## Pop Corn Balls.

Take the kernels that are popped out perfectly white; pour over them a little taffy before it is done quite enough for candy. Work very quickly into balls with the hands.

## French Candy.

Whites of two eggs, the same quantity of cold water; put into a bowl and stir well together, with a tablespoonful of vanilla; add very slowly, stirring constantly, two pounds of A1 confectioner's sugar.

Have ready one-half pound English walnuts, carefully cracked, so that the kernels will be whole; also one-half pound of almonds and other varieties of nuts you may desire and one-half pound of dates. After molding the paste stiff enough to roll, place upon a molding board. Cut small bits of the paste and press a half kernel of walnut on either side, and drop into granulated sugar. Mold a portion around the almonds and drop into granulated sugar.

Remove the pit from the dates and press a bit of paste in the centre.

It may seem at first sight, quite a long step between cookery and fashions, but don't you remember that what to eat and what to drink came first, and "where-withal shall we be clothed," afterwards, so I am only following the natural sequence. We must be clothed, and we may as well denote a reasonable amount of time and consideration to the shaping and fitting of our garments, that we may appear as beautiful as possible to those who love us, though I am very much afraid we spend a good deal more time in dressing for those who don't love us at all; neither do we love them, but we merely wish to outshine them if possible.

I once knew an artist who said it was "every woman's duty to be beautiful, accomplished, and cook well." Now we can't all be beautiful, only a few of us are accomplished to a very marked degree, and cooks, like poets, are born, not made. But still most of us can succeed in being at least a little fair to look upon if we will only take the trouble, since no one is wholly ill-favored, and a proper attention to dress is a valuable aid to the art of being attractive, because the girl who is not pretty may yet succeed in being charming, on account of her trim figure, her dainty dress and her general air of neatness and freshness. The person who first said that "fine feathers make fine birds," was wiser than he knew, for a plain woman prettily dressed is a far more charming object than a pretty one badly dressed.

The well-dressed woman has long discovered the fact that it she could get the full amount of wear out of each dress in her wardrobe, she must always have two bodies for it, as constant wear is fatal to a close fitting bodice causing it to become shiny and wrinkled, even if the sleeves do not give out, or the seams fray, long before the skirt is shabby, that is if the skirt is taken reasonably good care of, and held out of the mud in walking, not dragged through it as so many do when one hand is engaged, and the other too cold to be of much service.

To return to the bodice, every woman who likes to look well dressed, has a blouse made for each skirt, in addition to the tight bodice. Sometimes this blouse is made of goods which contrast in color, and material, with the skirt, but frequently it matches, to a certain extent. Thus for a black serge costume, the blouse may either be of geranium red cashmere, poppy red chins silk, or any of the figured tennis flannels, so fashionable now, or again it may match the skirt by being made of black tennis flannel, with large polka dots of white, yellow, or red. A blue serge dress would have a blouse in any of the colors mentioned above, or one to match of blue flannel, spotted in cream, or white, red spots are also worn, but they are not so pretty.

Never were the accessories of woman's dress so pretty, and dainty, as they are now, frills and jabots without end, are worn; they are usually made of chiffon, as it is so much softer, and more graceful than lace, besides it drapes better. Bright colored vests are worn with all sorts of costumes; they are generally made to slip in and out easily, so they can be readily changed.

What do you think of the Empire styles girls; I hope you like them, because I really think they have come to stay; but I cannot honestly say I admire them myself because I do like to see people have a waist. I think a trim waist is the prettiest thing a woman can have, and the idea of disguising it by trying to move it up about six inches, is most absurd and, I think most ungraceful. However it is the fashion, and it is as well to be out of the world as out of the fashion. As yet the Empire gown pure and simple is only seen in the evening, for the excellent reason that low necked dresses would be decidedly uncomfortable this time of year, for general, or street wear, and the real Empire dress must be low-necked, all high necked dresses supposed to date from the period of the first Empire, are merely imitations. Here is a lovely Empire gown I saw the other day; it was of fine cream colored cashmere, made with a slight train, and finished at the foot with three narrow ruffles, the bodice which was so short as to be little more than a yoke, was slightly low in the neck and finished with a wide frill of lace, which fell over the shoulders like a berthe. The sleeves were merely great puffs of cream colored velvet made bias, and from under the arms a long, very long sash of soft cream colored silk started, crossed just below the bust, and tied between the shoulders in a large bow, the ends falling nearly to the hem of the skirt. Somehow it does not look as well in writing as I thought it would, and I have a suspicion it is going to look worse in type; but the dress itself was really very pretty, and so quaint that it was very distinguished looking; but of course one would require a clear complexion and a pretty neck and arms to look well in it, as the utter absence of color is rather trying.

The prophets who predicted the fall and utter annihilation of the neat and convenient bell skirt seem to have been greatly at sea in their calculation, as it is positively announced now that the bell skirt will last for another year, and more power, to it, for it is the most convenient, economical, and easily made garment that has been in fashion for years. Health and long life to the bell skirt.

There is a terrible rumor current in fashion circles that an effort will soon be made to revive the crinoline that abomination of our mothers early years. I hope it may be only a rumor, but yet after the empire what can we expect but a regular rotation of fashion which will in time bring us to the crinoline! but let us make the bravest fight we can against it girls, in the name of beauty, grace and symmetry let us inaugurate an early crusade against the crinoline.

HOMERLINDEN, St. John.—Yes indeed, 93 will do just as well, and as it has only just begun, we shall have a grand opportunity of getting acquainted before it is over, and you know new comers are always welcome to our column. (1) I am afraid I cannot be of much service to you, as it is something I know very little about. Suppose you make inquiries through your friends in the different offices you have on your list of "calls," or else your friends in the profession, and ask them to keep a bright look out for vacancies and remember you when they hear of any. I believe you could send your name in to the head office and have it placed on the list of applicants for vacancies, and perhaps that would be the best way after all. (2) Yes, I think so, they are supposed to be thoroughly respectable you know, and on a level with yourself, so you would probably make yourself very unpopular if you did not do so, and after all, the acquaintance need not extend beyond business hours, if you wish. (3) Not only extremely rude, but utterly ill-bred and boorish. I would not let them imagine I cared sufficiently to refuse to speak to them, but would take as little notice of them as possible in future. (4) No, it is probably no fault of hers. She may be coming home from church, and you know one cannot always count upon an escort. Many things may happen to detain him, even if it is his duty to be on hand; and if a girl walks quietly and quickly home and attends to her own concerns, no one has the least right to make any remark. (5) I do not think so at all. They sometimes look a little awkward dancing together, but nothing to equal the awkwardness of the position reversed—the height on the wrong side. Thank you for the kind wishes, both on Geoffrey's behalf and my own.

The following letter is, I think worth publishing.

MICHIGAN, Jan. 12, '93.

DEAR ASTRAL: I am a young and unprotected man, and in a case of deep anxiety and dire distress I come to you, the friend of the defenceless, for aid and counsel.

The case is this:—A young man who is innocent of any matrimonial intentions whatever, was in company with a number of young ladies one evening lately, when one of them suddenly announced that she was making a quilt for him, and then all the others laughed and said it was easily understood what that meant. And then they all began to congratulate me—for of course you will divine that I was the young man—now dear Astral, what I want to ask you is this, can that young lady really hold me to a promise I never made, and is it customary for a young lady to make a quilt for a young man, who never asked her to do so? And if she does, would it constitute an engagement? I did think that timid young men not matrimonially inclined, were safe now for another four years, but somehow leap year does not seem to have made any difference, and the path of the timid youth is beset with dangers all the year round, and try as he will he cannot avoid them. By answering these questions you will confer a great favor and, perhaps, set at rest the troubled mind of an anxious one.

Now my dear boy, don't be frightened! Pull yourself together and look matters firmly in the face. You are living beneath the spreading shadow of the eagle's wings in a land that is free; and no dandel, however bold and strong, can capture you and carry you off struggling and protesting to hererie. You are safe if you will only be calm and let things take their course. Just wait until you have a good opportunity when the same company are together, if possible, and then remind your friend of her promise. Say you have left the cold lately, and would be glad of her present, thanking her at the same time for her kindness in alleviating the miseries of a poor lonely bachelor who has not even the most distant prospect of being able to marry—with an aged mother and thirteen spinster sisters, all over 40, to provide for. If that does not frighten her off, nothing but a dynamite cartridge or a cage full of live mice will succeed. But I think it will, all the same. One spinster sister would be enough for me, I know, so I think you will go home laughing in your sleeve and at the same time showering blessings on the head of your friend.

ASTRA.

Detective—Your suspicions in regard to your cashier are groundless. He has no expensive tastes and lives quite respectably. Banker—That's just the reason why I suspect him. On the salary which I pay him it is impossible for him to live respectably.

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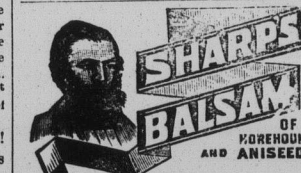
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