and unsatisfactory process—can only be avoided by working exactly right in the first place.

Have you read any report of what Senator Hoar said before the Massachusetts Club on the subject of annexing Canada to the U. S.? It was an interesting speech, free from claptrap. The good man does not look for any immediate union, however, so I cannot send you, as I would like to do, some of the pretty zephyr ginghams for yourself and the children without all the custom house formality and expense. This is the season of real bargains and the wise shopper who knows what she wants, and enough not to buy what she does not want, simply because it is cheap, takes advantage of the midsummer dullness in trade and reduced prices. The fancy cottons cost about half now what they did in the beginning of the season, and by selecting inconspicuous designs that will not go out of style, one can get her materials for next season's dresses and pinafores, if she is already supplied for the present. It is not advisable to buy pronounced patterns; they make one too conspicuous when they are no longer in vogue, but there are always refined, ladylike goods quite as desirable in one season as another so far as material goes. Making them up by the new season's styles keeps them in touch with the prevailing modes.

Why Caryl! Why should not Eloise improve her complexion? Fair hands and a fair face certainly lend added charm to a fine figure, and I am sure you believe that the temple of the spirit should be respectfully cared for. Every refined woman views with disgust the idea of covering up an unlovely skin with paints and powders and pastes, as she would using a fair cloak to cover a slovenly gown. You ought not to scorn Eloise's desire to improve her appearance, instead show her how to go to work to do it in lasting fashion. Coarse, oily skins do not need at all the treatment externally that dry skins require, but the important treatment in every case—because it starts at the source of every trouble—is the same. The face tells the state of one's body generally, and if it tells unpleasant tales then the causes must be removed. A fine complexion depends primarily upon wholesome living, that is eating wholesome food, taking regular exercise, bathing regularly and often, getting the required number of hours sleep and regularly, and so on. The machinery of one's body must be kept in perfect order to induce a fair skin. The wear and tear of this intemperate climate of ours can in a measure be effaced by using soft clean water to bathe in. A little cheesecloth bag filled with almond meal, powdered orris root and pure soap—white castile is always safe—in the bath water is beneficial to the skin. Glycerine and rose water half and half soften the hands, if a few drops are well rubbed into the skin at night. A handful of fine oatmeal in the water one washes them in whitens them. Wearing loose gloves when one is at work sweeping, dusting, etc., etc., helps to keep the hands in good condition. The nails should be filed, not cut, and cleaned with a brush and a dull instrument, never with a sharp edged tool, as that destroys the lining of the nail.

The skin should be pushed back from the nails with a dull point, and the nails polished with a piece of chamois. The more one uses her hands the harder it is naturally to keep them in nice condition, but the expression of refinement in well cared for hands is worth securing. A safe and easily obtained wash for the face to remove sunburn and freckles is buttermilk applied at night after bathing the face, and washed off in the morning. The juice of cucumbers is also excellent. Well kept hair has much to do with one's appearance. Brushing it night and morning and frequently washing the hair and scalp with soft water and a very little borax keep it clean and soft. There are, tell Eloise, several other harmless and useful applications for the skin. But one does not wisely try them all at once, or think anything can take the place of properly caring for one's body as a whole.

Private theatricals form the most fashionable form of entertainment at summer resorts. There are a number of little farces that do not require much dressing or scenery, that you could manage I am sure, if your girl friends and the youths about you have as much, yes, half as much, talent for that sort of thing as you have always had. It means a good deal of hard work, but it is a different kind of work from what the amateur actor or actress is usually engaged in, and it is really a relaxation. Howell's "A Mousetrap" is screamingly funny when well done. Suppose you try that?

Points on canning from Cora's book of jottings:—

Fruit should be just ripe—not overripe.

Washing fruit impairs the flavor. If actually gritty, float a few berries at a time in clear cool water, scoop them up with your hands, shaking off the drops.

Pare fruit with a silver knife, drop into clear cool water to keep it from turning black, and prepare only two jars full at a time.

Cook fruit for fifteen minutes evenly after it begins to boil.

In canning one need use no sugar, or may sweeten fruit to taste, as preferred. If sugar is used make syrup first and add fruit.

Cook fruit in porcelain lined or granite kettle. If tin is used let it be new.

Set cans when filling on two or three layers of warm wet flannel. Use a long-handled ladle for dipping fruit.

Tell the children that vacation is to use one, not rust one, and they must change occupations, not give up work altogether.

Yours devotedly,

Boston. DINAH STURGIS.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

HOMER & SON'S CONFECTIONERY FACTORY.—Mr. Andrew Homer and his son, W. B. Homer, have taken into partnership Mr. Fitz Homer. The firm will hereafter be known as Homer & Sons. Mr. Fitz Homer has spent several years in leading confectionery factories in the United States, and the new firm have gone extensively into the manufacture of all kinds of confectionery.

They have taken the Huestis building on Brown street and fitted the upper story with boilers, furnaces, marble tables, troughs, moulding frames, dies, presses, nut graters and all other mysterious machinery and appliances used in making confectionery. A representative of the *Times* looked in yesterday while the hands were at work. About 600 lbs. per day can be produced in the factory, from the choicest French mixture to molasses sticks. In penny goods alone one hundred and sixty varieties are made. The samples show that the manufacturers can turn out goods equal to the very choicest of the imported. The process of manufacturing all the various kinds can hardly be described at present as so many different processes are shown, but among the noticeable features was that tables, machinery and everything about the factory was scrupulously neat and clean. Then again the very best and purest materials used. The adulterants which enter so largely into much of the imported confectionery are not used here.

Mr. A. W. Homer, the senior member of the firm, is one of the oldest business men in Yarmouth and probably the oldest manufacturer of confectionery in the province. In the present enlargement of their business we wish them every success.—*Yarmouth Times.*

Few people, even in the same County, have an idea of the extent to which A. Robb & Sons have extended their business and the facilities they now have for accomplishing the quality and variety of work. More than this, their large practical experience has enabled them to decide just how to make the best machines, so that now their patent "Hercules" engines, patent inclined tubular monarch boilers, rotary saw mills, Hodgson's patent shingle machines, and saw grinders, Rogers, saw filers, monarch and other planers, barber-water wheels, lath and picket machines, acorn ranges, Maritime and other stoves, combination hot water and hot air furnaces, Walker hot air furnaces, Leviathan wood furnace and steel wood furnaces are the best, and the best value in America. To enable them to occupy and hold this first place they have extended their works which now include a very large and roomy moulding shop fitted with one of the celebrated Colliau Cupola, made in Detroit, Mich., a large travelling crane, a large core oven built of brick, and a platform elevator. Adjoining the moulding shop, and separated from it merely by a thin wall is the blacksmith shop, in which the firm have lately placed a steam hammer capable of doing heavy work. Then comes the large airy and well equipped machine shop which occupies nearly the whole front of the large building. This shop is fitted with lathes in a variety of styles and sizes, besides two planing machines, a large suspension drill of latest pattern, two other drilling machines, shaping machines, centreing machines, bolt-cutting machines, cutting off machines, etc., etc. Besides these tools, Messrs. Robb have lately added a large boring machine especially adapted for engine work, the only one in the Maritime Provinces, and a Hydraulic press, besides another lathe they have lately ordered, which is now on the way. Joining the machine shop is the stove mounting shop and engine room, boiler house, store room for machine parts, brass foundry and milling room, of which our space will not admit of a description. Ascending the stairway we come to the facing rooms through which we pass to the large erecting shop in the two departments of which we find two large wood planing machines, a drill, a pulley lathe and saw filing machine, besides the smaller tools, and necessary appurtenances of the paint room, etc. This erecting shop does not include, although it joins, the pattern shop, in which are found a number of men employed, and to facilitate their work, the firm have added another planer, a large band-saw, a wood lathe besides some smaller machines. Passing out into the yard which we find strewn with unfinished work, lumber, pig iron, moulding flasks, etc., we pass through two or three large pattern lofts in which we find countless patterns of every imaginable shape, sheds for anthracite and bituminous coals, coke, moulding sand, core sand, clay, etc., and pass the iron, steel and iron pipe racks, after which we arrive at the large new boiler shop, which is already fitted with powerful plate rollers, punching machine of great strength, forges, etc., all of which are driven by an independent engine placed in the building.

Passing the lumber sheds we come to the stove warehouse, which contains the stoves, ranges, furnaces, etc., which the firm ship to all parts of the Maritime Provinces, and for which they have had such a high reputation during the many years their foundry has been in operation. Adjoining this building we come to the large flat-roof salesroom on the front, which includes the spacious general office of the firm, and the private offices of the managing partners, Messrs. D. W. and F. B. Robb. In the salesroom we found exhibited a very large stock of Rubber, Leather and Gandy Belting, Rubber, Asbestos, Hemp, Excelsior patent, Garlock, and other packings, saws of all sizes, Rubber and Cotton Hose, brass and iron steam and water fittings, lace leather and emery fittings, lace leather, emery wheels of all sizes, leather board, Inspirators, Governors, low water alarms, sight feed lubricators, pipe cleaners, lifting jacks, steam guages, speed indicators, fence railings, crestings, school desks, church bells, etc. As an evidence of the confidence placed in the firm throughout the Maritime Provinces, we need only add that the present managing partners, who took charge of the business when they were 18 and 19 years of age respectively, have carried on the business, increasing it from 20 employees to 100 within 13 years.

A SUGGESTED NEW USE OF PHOTOGRAPHY.—Professor John Trowbridge, in the May *Scribner's*, calls attention to the importance, from an engineering point of view, of making careful photographs of steel and timber at the point of rupture under a breaking load, suggesting that in this way we may learn something important on the much vexed question of elasticity.

This is a suggestion worthy the attention of our metallurgists, some of whom have made a critical study of the behavior of iron and steel under strains.