

## HOME CIRCLE COLUMN

Pleasant Evening Reveries dedicated to tired Mothers as they join the Home Circle at Evening Tide.

THE OLD, OLD HOME.  
When I long for sainted memories,  
Like angel troops they come,  
If I fold my arms and ponder  
On the old, old home.  
The heart has many passages  
Through which the feelings roam,  
But its mildest side is sacred  
To the thoughts of old, old home.  
Where infancy was sheltered,  
Like rosebuds from the blast,  
Where girlhood's brief elysium  
In joyousness was passed;  
To that sweet spot forever,  
As to some hallowed dome,  
Life's pilgrim bends her vision—  
'Tis her old, old home.  
A father sat, how proudly,  
By that old hearthstone's rays,  
And told his children stories  
Of his early manhood's days;  
And one soft eye was beaming,  
From child to child 'twould roam;  
Thus a mother counts her treasures  
In the old, old home.  
The birthday gifts and festivals,  
The blended vesper hymn,  
(Some dear one who was swelling it  
Is with the seraphim.)  
The fond "good nights" at bed-time,  
How quiet sleep would come,  
And fold us all together  
In the old, old home.  
Like a wreath of scented flowers  
Close intertwined each heart;  
Though time and change in concert  
Have blown the wreath apart,  
But dear and sainted memories,  
Like angels, ever come,  
If I close my eyes and ponder  
On the old, old home.

Every school boy knows that a kite would not fly unless it had a string tying it down. It is just so in life. The man who is tied down by half a dozen blooming responsibilities and their mother, will make a higher and stronger flight than the bachelor who, having nothing to keep him steady, is always floundering in the mud. If you want to ascend in the world, tie yourself to somebody.

Let us all remember that the higher and happier our home life, the more wisely and better we may hope to do the work that lies waiting for us beyond it. A pleasant place to "come home to" is the greatest energizer a man can have. Then let us strive with an earnest and constant purpose to make and keep the home cheerful, inviting and pleasant.

Praise your wife, man, for pity's sake, give her a little encouragement. It won't hurt her. She doesn't expect it; it will make her eyes open wider than they have for the last ten years; but it will do her good for all that and you, too. There are many women to-day thirsting for a word of praise and encouragement.

### Says German Spirit is Weakening.

Frederick Palmer, the American war correspondent, in a lecture in Massey Hall, Toronto, said he was convinced that some day the German western line will be broken and that it is on that front the war will be decided. As proof that the Germans are becoming discouraged Mr. Palmer cited the fact that the British have 38,000 prisoners, since the beginning of the grand offensive in July, while the Germans have taken 3,000 British. This means, he said, that the Germans surrender in batches when surrounded, while the British do not.

### A Promising Campaign.

The Xmas Seal Campaign of the National Sanitarium Association, now in full swing promises to be a greater success than ever before. Already thousands of Seals have been sold, and a large number of repeat orders are being received. Buying these little Seals is such an easy way to help. They may be had in any quantity from one up. Every Seal sold aids in the maintenance of Needy Consumptives.

Twenty-six women were killed by a munitions explosion in England.

The woman of to-day is a different being from the woman of fifty years ago. The shrinking, trembling, weeping heroines of Thackeray and Dickens have disappeared. It is better that it is so. Not only has she assumed a stern independence, which to some is well nigh disheartening, but she has made her determination known to the world, has waved it defiantly in our faces in the shape of certain signs and symbols which have a tendency to add emphasis to her emancipation.

The truest and most respected of all neighbors is the one who always speaks well of everybody, who devotes the largest share of her sympathies to her own affairs, is chary of administering unsolicited advice and who always waits until her social and useful capacities are requested, and never renders herself officious even in her most sanguine efforts of proving to be a good neighbor.

Labor is honorable, and the ignoble are those who will not work. Get you a home. Fence a field and plow it and plant it, and gather around you the comforts of home. And when you have made a character for energy and thrift, ask some young lady to share your home with you. We would say to every young lady, mark these men who are lounging around attempting to live by their wits, or on the interest of their debts; and when they ask you to share the lot of an aimless life, pass them on, for you cannot afford to marry a man without prosperity or business habits, unless you wish to sell yourself for a mess of pottage.

A girl who is brought up to earn her own living never will "just settle down to nothing." She will understand the value of money, having earned it, and can give her husband wise counsel and sympathy in his business difficulties. She can take entire charge of the money expended for the house and do it in such a business-like way that will give her husband infinite satisfaction. She can earn a little something for herself, perhaps, and at least she will have the comfort of knowing that whatever happens, she will fall on her feet.

There are men defeated in life because they have at home an unsympathetic or un congenial wife. And many a man has passed safely through a financial crisis because he knew that at home was a cheerful, sympathetic woman who was thinking of him all the day long, and would be ready and willing, if worse came to worse, to give up her handsome house, take a room in a back street, and play the "Song of the Shirt" on the sewing machine.

### An Immortal Story.

"The story of the work of the Scottish Suffrage Societies' hospital in Serbia and Rumania is immortal. The biggest factory in France which supplies an article most necessary to our armies is under the sole charge of a woman under thirty, who was formerly a Suffrage organizer. One could cite many such cases.

"And one doubts that women would have gone into the dangerous high-explosive factories, the engineering shops, and the fields, and worked with quite such fidelity and enthusiasm if it had not been so vigorously affirmed by the Suffragists in the last few years that women ought to be independent and courageous and capable."—Rebecca West.

### Tumplines from Sudbury.

The people of Sudbury are delighted to hear of the success of the Canadians at the front by the use of the timpline. The 500 used in the dash on the Germans were sent from this town last August at the request of Capt. E. B. Archibald, to whom is due the honor of introducing them into the Canadian army.

## FOR YOUNG FOLKS

Sleepy Time Story About the Fairies of Faraway Denmark.

### BLACKSMITH'S QUEER WIFE.

Strange Thing That Happened to Her Neighbors When They Refused to Be Sociable—Some Things of Interest to Little People—Girl on the Beach.

Now, kiddies, said Uncle Ben to little Ned and Polly Ann, I am going to tell—

### A DANISH LEGEND.

Once upon a time the daughter of one of the underground people, the Bergmen, was married to a smith who lived in Moss.

Kirstin was a good and most patient wife, although her husband, the smith, was cross and surly and sometimes even beat her when he was in an ill temper.

Kirstin did not like this at all, and one day when he had taken up a stick intending to strike her she seized a great horseshoe which was lying on the anvil and broke it in two without any difficulty.

The smith was astonished. "Are you that strong?" he asked. "Then why have you never resisted when I struck you?"

"Because I love you," said Kirstin. "I'll strike you no more!" said the smith, and he kept his word.

The people of Moss, however, were not friendly to the Bergman's daughter and in spite of her desire to be on pleasant terms with them avoided her and would scarcely even nod to her when they met.

One day, as she and all the people were standing in the churchyard, waiting for the arrival of the minister, Kirstin said to her husband:

"Listen to me—my father is coming to see me, but he is angry."

As she thus warned her husband the Bergman appeared, and a most awe inspiring person he was! Indeed, he was so terrible to look at that the people would have liked to creep into the earth to avoid him.

"My dear daughter," said the Bergman, "I hear the people here will have naught to do with you, so I have come to remedy that!"

"Yes, father," replied Kirstin. "I'll toss them up in the air a bit," said he. "Will you pitch or catch?"

"I'll catch," said Kirstin, for she feared the Bergman would handle the people very roughly.

Then began a merry game. The Bergman stood on one side of the church, Kirstin, his daughter, on the other, and the Bergman tossed all the people in turn over the roof of the church to Kirstin, who deftly caught them.

No one was injured, but every one was badly scared. But the plan worked to a charm, for so long as Kirstin lived she was treated with the greatest respect and consideration.

### Size of the Ark.

In Genesis vi, 15, we have the measure of the ark to be as follows: "The length of the ark shall be 300 cubits, the breadth of it 50 cubits and the height of it 30 cubits." We find that authorities differ somewhat as to the exact length of a cubit. It may be from eighteen inches to twenty-one inches. If we take twenty inches as the length of a cubit the ark would measure 500 feet by 83.3 feet by 50 feet. A slight variation, one way or the other, will make no material difference in the final measure.

### Romping on the Beach.

Hanging on the ropes at the bathing beach, the girl in the picture is safe from a wetting because the tide is



Photo by American Press Association.  
KICKING UP HER HEELS.

low. She is having a jolly time and kicking up her heels gayly. The little girl's name is Aubrey Davies, and she lives at Southampton, N. Y.

By Way of Illustration.  
It happened in the court room during the trial of a husky young man who was charged with assault and battery.

Throughout an especially severe cross-examination the defendant stoutly maintained that he had merely pushed the plaintiff "a little bit."

"Well, about how much?" queried the prosecutor.

"Oh, just a little bit," insisted the defendant.

"Now," said the attorney, "for the benefit of the judge and the jury, you will please step down here and, with me for the subject, illustrate just how hard you mean."

The defendant descended as per schedule, and approached the waiting attorney. When he reached him the spectators were astonished to see him slap the lawyer in the face, kick him in the shins, seize him bodily and finally lift him from the floor and hurl him across a table.

Turning from the bewildered prosecutor, he faced the court and explained mildly:

"Your honor and gentlemen, about one tenth that hard!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

James Murphy and his wife, an aged couple at Tamworth, passed away within a few hours of each other.

## When You Feel It Coming

—When that old Headache sends its warning that you are going to suffer—take ZUTOO. When you feel a Cold coming on take ZUTOO. At the first sign of a pain—at the first feeling of sickness—take ZUTOO. You will be all right in 20 minutes if it's a headache, or the next morning if it's a cold. Pain all gone, and the whole body refreshed. Don't wait—don't take chances. Get ZUTOO Tablets today—and have them ready to take at the first sign of a Headache or cold and TAKE THEM. 25c a box—at dealers or by mail postpaid B. N. Robinson & Co. Regd., Coaticook, Q.

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## This Christmas

Let us Give Moderately to Each Other and Generously to the Soldiers' Families.

Nineteen hundred and sixteen years ago came the very first Christmas, and for all these centuries there has recurred the Great Anniversary with its message of good will to men.

And so we give gifts.

Men and women of Ontario! We who stand for good will among men and nations; we whose men fight that there may at last be real peace on earth—let us make this a Christmas worthy of the day it commemorates—let us lay aside a generous proportion of our Christmas money for the families of those who are fighting the good fight.

## Give to the Canadian Patriotic Fund

the fund that guards the soldiers' families from want.

Great as the result will be among the families of our soldiers, greater yet may the blessing be among us, the givers. Christmas will have a more vital meaning for us than perhaps ever before, and as for the children, who can measure the impression they will receive and keep of that Christmas Day when they shared their Christmas with the loved ones of the men who saved their country!

Let each Canadian boy and girl get a lesson from this historic Christmas which will go with them all through life.

Good men and women of Ontario! Can the need of our soldiers' families cry in vain for the relief which this Fund alone makes possible? Can we—can we, in the face of it all, again give lavishly among ourselves? Shall we not this year, with hearts full of the spirit of Christmas, lay aside a generous proportion of our Christmas money for the cause which so urgently needs it?

"Somewhere in France" he is fighting the good fight.

Somewhere in Ontario all that he holds dear is depending upon our decision.

Truly "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Ontario will be asked in January to assure the Canadian Patriotic Fund that it can depend on having six million dollars in 1917 for the families of Ontario's soldiers.



Four million of these dollars must be secured from individual subscriptions. If there is no branch of the Fund in your town or county send your subscription direct to the Head Office, Canadian Patriotic Fund, Victoria Street, Ottawa.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

We desire to return our best thanks to our patrons for past patronage, and wish One and All a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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