EN PASSANT.

BY H. C. MERIVALE.

An April sun, a silver wave
That laughs and breaks upon the shore—
Such span to us Dame Fortune gave,
One week—no mare.

Two barks upon the summer foam,
That meet and greet and part at sea—
One outward bound, and one for home;
Like them were we.

A flower that blossoms in a day,
And dies even there where it was born—
Such was our story, you may say
To-morrow morn.

The how, and when, that first we spoke,
I do not, and I would not, know;
Dream-like the mutual fancy woke
And perished so.

Yet sometimes, in this world of ours,
The wave will drop behind,
The dream will leave a thought, the flowers
A scent in mind.

So may of mine abide with you,
As ever shall of yours with me,
A word, a smile, a look or two,
A memory.

THE FORGET-ME-NOT.

BY MARGARET COX.

Mark the forget-me-not by yon brookside,
Its roots the mud, its stem the waters hide;
Its blossoms seek the sky.
So, though thy feet be rooted in earth's slime,
Raise thou thy head above the waves of time—
Look up on high!

See how the blossoms, earthward bent awhile,
Turn as they ope to meet the sun's bright smile,
And, as they upward gaze,
First flush with pink, then mirror heaven's own blue,
And every flow'ret bears, of sunny hue,
A crown of rays.

O thou whose thoughts are fixed on this world's toys,
Look up to Him from whom are all thy joys.
The beatific sight
Will change thee till the human grow divine,
And at the last upon thy brow shall shine
A crown of light.

New York Fashions.

INFANT'S WARDROBE.

The most important articles for outside wear, comprised in an infant's wardrobe, consist of a cloak, robe, yoke slip, jacket, bib, and cap.

The cloak is suitable for either summer or winter wraps. It is made with a yoke and sleeves that protect the body of the child perfectly, as they fit more closely than the double capes sometimes used for cloaks. In some summer wraps the sleeves are omitted. The mother can put these in or not at her own pleasure. For warm weather, repped pique or else small-figured Marseilles is used for cloaks. If still thinner goods are preferred, fine yet thickly woven cambric is chosen. The trimmings are embroidery done on the garment or a heading to an embroidered muslin ruffle, or else the edges are needle-worked in scallops, and the ruffle is omitted. Sometimes bands of insertion are inserted in short lengths near the edge, and a wrought frill is added, or else merely an edging of needle-work. The Hamburg embroidery is also used for thin cloaks and for those of pique. For winter, white, gray and blue (either pale or dark blue) cashmere of nice quality is selected for these cloaks. The yoke, sleeves, and just below the yoke are warmly wadded, and the entire garment, including the upper cape, is lined with thin silk. The upper cape is handsomely embroidered, or it may be trimmed with fine torchon lace; the lower part of the cloak is trimmed or not, accoding to fancy. Others are merely trimmed down the fronts of the garment with quilted silk or with bias striped plush or velvet sloped wider toward the bottom. Blue and white plaid flannel or else dark gray flannel makes warm and pretty cloaks for service in midwinter and for useful wraps; they are merely hemmed, or else they are piped with silk.

The robe is intended for the infant's best dress, such as the christening robe of lace and insertion, or else for plainer dresses of French nansook, striped muslin, or dimity. All such dresses are now made high in the neck, with long sleeves. The front is made, according to a new fashion, in princesse shape, with the waist and skirt in one, and shaped by long side forms that fit the garment nicely at the waist, yet dispense with all gathers. The back has the waist cut separate from the skirt, and the latter is gathered at the top and sewed to it. According to a late fashion, there is no trimming around the bottom of the skirt. Such a dress may be elaborately made of rows of Valenciennes insertion alternating with tucked strips, or with hem-stitched bands, or needle-worked insertion, or else plain strips of nansook. The sheerest French nansook is used for such robes. The Pompadour square trimming, that on the neck and wrists, the edging down the side gores, and that arranged near the bottom as a tablier, may be of narrow Valenciennes or else of embroidery. Another pretty design is to make the side forms and back of plain nansook, having only the front form of insertion and tucking; a border is then put around the entire garment of tucks in clusters separated by insertion and edged with lace. Simpler dresses have merely tucks and a crimped ruffle of the material for trimming. It is a matter of taste about the length of the babe's dresses; some mothers make them a yard long from the yoke down, others have them an eighth of a yard longer than this, and elaborate robes for christening are sometimes a yard and a fourth long before the yoke. It is best, however, to adopt a uniform length for all the dresses, and have the muslin petticoats a trifle shorter, and also of uniform length.

The day slip with yoke is the simplest and most popular pattern for the dresses for constant wear. It consists of two breadths of nansook or barred muslin, or of dimity gathered to a high yoke. The yoke is entirely plain, but usually it is the objective point for trimming—indeed, it is most often entirely formed of trimming in lengthwise tucks, and strips of insertion or needle-work. The wrists of the sleeves are then trimmed to correspond, and the skirt is tucked in rows above a deep hem, or else finished with a flounce of needle-work or of tucked nansook edged with Valenciennes. We repeat the caution that trimmings with jagged edges or sharp saw-tooth points should not be put around the neck and sleeves where they will irritate the child's dainty flesh. American nansook such as is sold for 40 cents a yard is used for plain slips; these usually measure a yard in length from the yoke down.

Pretty little jackets to put on when a light wrap is needed in the house are crocheted of zephyr wool, or else they are made of fine cashmere of some delicate colour, and nearly covered with embroidery in daisy chains, rose-buds, or other light pattern. Some have very fine white lace and insertion for trimming; those of white cashmere look pretty when lined with pale rose or blue silk. A French fancy is to make such jackets of Valenciennes insertion, line them with soft fine wool of light colour, and put tiny bows of ribbon the colour of the lining all around the garment near the edge, to form a border.

The bib is a pretty shield for the dress waists, and may be made of thin nansook lightly wadded and quilted, with needle-work scallops on the edge, or else of embroidered batiste edged with lace and embroidery, or of fine repped pique neatly wrought on the edge or all over.

The cap is of close cottage shape, low about the ears, and with small crown. It may be made of fine nansook, simply tucked or else slightly shirred, or else the clusters of tiny tucks may be alternated with embroidered muslin insertion or Valenciennes insertion. Very expensive caps are entirely of Valenciennes insertion and lace, with sprays, stars, or vines of needle-work applied on them, but there is a fancy at present for the imported French caps made of sprigged Swiss muslin, or perhaps the plain nansook tucked or gathered. A ruche of muslin and lace edges the garment. The strings are hemmed nansook or else narrow white ribbon. In the winter a quilted silk lining, either white or coloured, is used, and indeed in summer a plain lining of thin silk is often worn to give a touch of colour. Tiny bows of ribbon are the only trimmings permitted. Puffs of muslin instead of tucked bands are sometimes used on caps, but they are difficult to iron well, and are troublesome to make, so that mothers are gradually giving them up not alone on caps, but on dress skirts and petticoats also.

EMBROIDERY.

The principal trimming for almost all garments worn by Parisiennes this summer is embroidery. It begins with the parasol and extends down to hosiery. Black silk parasols are covered with black or coloured needle-work, and filled in with beads. They are lined with white silk, and edged with black, ecru or white lace. Ecru silk embroidered with flower patterns is used for vests, for parasols, fichus, as bands for dress trimming, and also as bonnet crowns. For the latter it is used with coarse straw bonnets as a crown twisted *a la cicole*, as bandana handkerchiefs are worn. Soft ecru linen is also covered with embroidery in Louis XV. style, and used for vests. This last is called Russian embroidery by many dealers, and is sold in bright colours, such as red and blue mixed with yellow and olive green. It is sold in bands of different widths for trimming different parts of the dress; very wide bands are intended for the retrousse facing on the washer-woman over-skirt, while narrower ones are for basques and sleeve trimmings.

Narrow ribbons are made into clusters of hanging loops for trimming white, black, and other summer dresses. They are called Louis XIII. bows, and are very effective when made of satin ribbon that is double-faced, showing cardinal on one side and turquoise blue on the other, or gray with carmine, pink, with garnet, moss green with blue, or sulphur with black. They are fastened at the throat, just back of the neck, on the pocket on one side, and on the washer-woman over-skirt band on the opposite side.

OTHER FRENCH FANCIES.

Checked and plaid foulards are much used in Paris as trimmings of baregas and of woollen dresses. For white barege afternoon dresses there are knife-pleated frills of blue and gray plaid foulard. These frills are pinked on each edge. There are also vests, plastrons, and chemisettes of checked silk for light wool dresses. An ecru woollen dress has a pleated vest of checked ecru and green foulard. A band of the foulard trims the tunic, and edges or borders the kilt pleating on the lower skirt. A coarse yet soft rustic straw hat is trimmed with a scarf and large bow of the checked silk. More elaborate dresses have a curtain over-skirt opening over a checked pleating. These styles will, it is said, prevail in the autumn and winter.

For fanciful short costumes for out-of door fetes and for short walking dresses Worth has revived the casaque. This casaque is a long close-fitting coat in Louis Quinze style, with large pockets, large pearl buttons, and a lace jabot. The casaque falls so low on the skirt that an over-skirt is not required.

The Trianon hat, with a large bow in front made of striped or plaid nabob gauze, is worn in Paris with panier costumes.

Another revival predicted for the autumn is that of the pleated polonaise with a yoke and very wide belt. This has been introduced abroad under the name of the blouse casaque. It is a loose, easy garment peculiarly adapted for summer dresses, but is already being made up for cooler weather in India cashmere trimmed with Russian lace and silk embroidery. There are also shirred blouse casaques without pleats.

Satin and brocade are the materials most used at present for making handsome dresses that will be worn also in the winter. There are new heavy yet soft brocades with the ground woven in small armure patterns.

The newest short dresses have three kilt-pleated flounces crossing the back and covering the back breadths from belt to foot. Sometimes this short apron takes the washer-woman shape, and sometimes it is merely a pleated scarf.

The dresses made of Madras plaids and of bandana handkerchiefs have become very popular in Paris. A small umbrella is also covered with these gay plaid cottons to match the dress. The handle of wood is carved at the end to represent the head of a pug-dog.

A new Parisian fancy is that of wearing the boutonniere, or small bouquet, not in the waist, but on the left sleeve between the shoulder and elbow, and quite near the shoulder.

Satin or velvet bodices, known as Revolution bodices, are worn with white muslin skirts. These are in coat shape, with revers and cape covered with white lace, as, for instance, ruby satin with Venetian point lace or the old Venice guipure. There is first a white silk petticoat, over which is a white muslin pleated skirt, and a washer-woman over-skirt bordered broadly with ruby satin and white lace.

Black velvet bracelets are revived to wear with half-long elbow sleeves. They are fastened with square buckles of paste or of diamonds, and are ornamented with the serpent and lizard brooches that are now so popular. These bracelets and rococo buckles are in keeping with the black lace mitts and country toilettes known as Trianon dresses.

The white muslin pleatings once so fashionable for trimming black silk and coloured dresses are coming into use again. They are worn under black lace, or else they peep from beneath ruffles of the dress material. A great deal of white lace of very open pattern is also used on dark silk dresses; among these are church lace (or Irish point), Honiton, Flemish laces, the open-meshed torchon without any pattern upon it, and Valenciennes of new open designs. These are all modern laces, yet they are given a look of age by being dipped in weak coffee until they are quite yellow. They are very much used on the panier and Watteau dresses of damask and of foulard that are ordered for fetes.

Mormonism As It Is.

Those who looked to see Mormonism fall to pieces with the death of its despotic prophet find now fewer signs than they had anticipated of the collapse. The policy involved in Brigham Young's favourite saying, "Tie up the calf and the cow will stay at home," has been industriously followed by the Mormon priests, and more polygamous marriages have been celebrated by them in the year past than any previous year. A man who is a polygamist is tied up in the church and cannot easily apostatize. He may be spiritually a very indifferent saint, but his defiance of the law fastens him with hooks of steel to the polygamous brotherhood. So plural marriages have been more than ever encouraged of late, and the endowment house at Salt Lake City never before pandered in so wholesale fashion to Mormon lust as now.

Meanwhile the Gentiles are persistently manoeuvering to legally entrap the saints in their bigamous careers. The trouble has been to prove these superabundant marriages. The fact of cohabitation is not enough for conviction, but marriage itself must be established. As this rite is performed in secret by Mormon priests, of course the needful legal evidence has always been lacking. Now, however, the sharp United States attorney has struck a new "lead." He calls the wives themselves, and by this means he has just succeeded in getting a prominent saint sentenced for two years in the penetentiary. The case was appealed, and is pending in the United States Supreme Court. If the conviction holds there, the United States authorities propose to inaugurate a new and vigorous campaign against the adherents of Utah's pet institution. Some of the most telling blows against Mormonism come from the disgusted children of Mormons themselves, and a nephew of Brigham Young is said to be the writer of the scathing articles which are the chief stock in trade of the editorial page of the Salt Lake *Tribune*.

Since Brigham's death the Tabernacle discourses have lost much of their wonted fierceness. There is not so much damning of apostates and Gentiles to the brimstone lake, and treasonable utterances against the United States Government and its officers, are now rarely indulged. There would also seem to be a weakening interest in purely church matters. The quarterly conference just held was very slimly attended, much to the grief of the twelve apostles, who each in turn soundly berated their followers for the sin of lukewarmness. But the bishops are losing their prestige, and it is becoming quite common for insubordinate saints to turn threateningly upon them when provoked by their petty tyranny or arrogance. Another hopeful sign of Mormon disintegration is afforded by municipal policies. The independent vote is abroad in Salt Lake City as well as further East, and at the last election a faction of the saints ran a ticket of their own in opposition to the ring that has so long controlled city affairs.

The decay of Mormonism, although slow, has surely begun. It rarely lasts more than two generations in a family, and with the growth of Gentile population and the building up of schools, the process of emancipation will be more accelerated each succeeding year in the future.

"WHAT is your religion, my friend?" asked a clergyman of a tramp, with a calcian nose. "Me? I belong to the Nothinarian denomination." "Indeed? I never heard of that sect. What are its tenets?" earnestly inquired the parson. "Why, we believe, ye see, that—wall—we believe, that whatever hez happened wuz to be whether it come to pass or not."

A WIDOWER had five grown daughters who wouldn't let him take a second wife. He gave up the wife, but bought a savage dog, and now won't allow a man to cross his door-sill. If he can't marry, the girls shan't, he says. But the girls will give in by-and-by. They can't stand that sort of thing forever.

THE WANING OF THE HONEYMOON.—Angelina (suppressing an inclination to yawn). "How nice it would be if some friend were to turn up: wouldn't it, Edwin?" Edwin (after yawning elaborately.) "Ye-e-es!—or even some enemy!"

A TOUCHING incident—A physician feeling a patient's pulse.

Our Paris Letter.

[FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.]

The price of the season ticket to the Exhibition has been reduced three-fifths—time flies; 40fr. will admit the new holder till the close, presumed to be the 1st of December. As a general remark, there is a relative falling off in the number of entries, in the sense that the same individual never becomes a constant visitor. Nevertheless the Palace and gardens are more beautiful than ever, but whether owing to the vastness of the show, the physical fatigue to be endured, or the absence of amusements, especially out-door free concerts, the people do not flock as they formerly did or as statisticians anticipated. Hence why the plan of lotteries has been decided upon. The prices will consist of articles purchased from the exhibitors, and a varying number of free admissions. Each lottery will represent a capital of one million francs, in as many share-tickets of 1fr. each; the winning numbers will be drawn out of six wheels of fortune by blind children. As all will be under the auspices of Government, the shareholders will be treated as in the official drawings for the bonds of a redemption loan. The number of prizes will be augmented by the intended free-will offerings of the exhibitors who gain medals.

Perhaps the hottest of the hot days are over; the effects after all were not terrible, the air from the floor gently fanned the atmosphere of the Champ-de-Mars. The ambulance department had no serious call upon it for aid to the sun-stricken. In some of the cases the show architecture and statuary in wax and stearine underwent transformation; castles melted on their warder's heads, and a few chimneys threatened to drip down the rain spouts; features whose colour nature's own cunning hand seemed to lay on displayed all the hues of the rainbow, and arms that once were in a tragic attitude had sunk listlessly to the side. As usual, there are heavy sighs and groans heard in advance, discounting the decisions of the juries. Manufacturers who are weighted down with medals within the last quarter of a century demand for themselves personally the decoration of the Legion of Honour as recompense—the firm having a plethora of medals.

There is no section of the Exhibition so studiously frequented as that devoted to educational apparatus, or in a word to pedagogy. Russia is not more sincere in her efforts for instruction than England or America. All seem to feel the force of Montesquieu's observation: "It is under a Republican government that the whole power of education is needed." In the educational exhibits, the aim which uniformly characterizes them is to supply objects to catch the eye and strike the mind of the pupil, by relations that the teacher will explain, enabling the child to seize in turn other relations, that is, to compare, to reason. In the way of object lesson *materiel* England and the States are very advanced; the latter's exhibits suffer from want of room. They are all marked by a practical and useful character; there is the absence, however, of the artistic element to note, and in this respect John is ahead of Jonathan. Continental educationalists must gain valuable knowledge by studying the ameliorations and improvements in the science of public instruction of these two countries. Specially pleasing are specimens of plates, baskets, dishes, etc., in wax-work, by children aged from three to six belonging to the St. Louis Kindergarten.

School museums are numerous; including those from Japan, which are promising, to those of Belgium, which are admissable. The display under this head by France is confused, and the end in view is not clear. There are boxes of insects supplied to order, with the common want that none possess a spider; the entomological purveyor clearly keeps none in stock. The collections made by the teachers, though homely, are more valuable; Rouen sends a case where the history of wheat is revealed from the grain of seed, through all the processes of nature and man, up to a loaf of bread. Amiens sends specimens of Prussian bullets, Paris siege-bread, and Saxon bomb-shells. The towns celebrated for some special product, in metal, tissue, or wood-work, have their scholastic explanations to catch the minds of the future toilers. The most successful school museums are those where the teacher has taken some common object, a kidney bean, a bird and its nest, an insect, which seizes the pupils' attention, and models out the various stages of its development.

This is a superior plan to that of Frœbel, the disciple of Rousseau, who taught pupils to imitate rather than to think. When the pupils were in the playground, he formed them into a ring, and after a dance, one pupil entered therein, and imitated a shoemaker, a carpenter, etc. Compare this system with that of Russia, whose educational department is oddly enough under the Minister of War. Up to 1870 Russia imported all her school furniture and apparatus; now she makes the greater portion of them herself, and at 50 per cent. below foreign prices. She has ambulating school museums, and invites not only the children but their parents to listen to the explanations. Her school toys are ingenious, comprehensible, and cheap; there is a clock that a child can put together and make go; a loom, where it can weave a ribbon; a collection of small bricks to make a house; moulds and cement to model; each article fitting into its box, when the child desires a change of amusement, thus acquiring the habits of patience, carefulness, and ingenuity.

The exhibit of maps on the part of France is bad. I mean those of a commercial or scholastic nature; the military and marine maps are special; the first, of France, is enormous and well-coloured, but no country can produce anything superior to the military map of Java—the only production of the kind the Dutch show. Ordinary French maps are behind the age; modern discoveries are not to be found in them; the purchases being limited, editors cannot bring out frequent editions. The best maps are either too condensed or too voluminous; the handy and reliable atlas is unknown. The geological maps of Sweden are well executed, and a Captain Prudent shows 400 maps of Italian mountain ranges, taken to ascertain their altitude by photography.

One of the greatest difficulties in a campaign now-a-days, with an army of 200,000 infantry and 20,000 cavalry is to feed it; it is a terrible trial for soldiers, after a long march or a fight, to find no consoling diet repared for them, or perhaps no food at all. The fatigue resulting from this disappointment fills the hospitals as rapidly as balls or sabre thrusts. In France the soldiers are trained to depend much upon chance; they live upon coffee and soup; the German sausage and its valuable advantages are unknown to them. Furnished with five days provisions in advance, coffee, sugar, biscuit, bacon, etc., the soldiers, when bivouacking, form themselves into parties; one seeks water, another combustibles, a third makes the fire-place, arranges the pot, and pounds, when he cannot grind the coffee bean. When the coffee is drunk, the soup is prepared, and requires four hours to cook. Various contrivances, by Austrians and Italians, have been devised to dispense with the gipsey plan of cooking, and which all consist in an ambulatory soup kitchen on a large scale. A M. Eutz appears to have hit upon a true solution, which is a fire-place on wheels, resembling a locomotive, and over which swing the soup kettles which the soldiers ordinarily carry; each squad has only then to bring the pot to be boiled, and this can be effected during the march and over rough ground; the swinging arrangement and a tin floater in the kettle prevents the contents of the latter escaping.

From an Exhibition point of view the comparison between the Chinese and Japanese modes of farming is interesting. China sends specimens of agricultural implements of the same model as in use 2,000 years ago. But then the Chinese resemble the inmates of those prisons, who by the wicket of the *cantiniere* pass out articles for sale and receive the price in return; China appears to have no emotions except for traffic; she sows traders. Yet her agriculture is very advanced in the sense that not a particle of ground is allowed to remain idle. Her display of implements are of the most primitive kind; the ploughs are only on a par with similar exhibits from the Batavian colonies. There is a peculiar wheel-barrow, very ingenious at least, and that Robinson Crusoe would envy; its wheel is in the centre, and resembles a bicycle, with wings over the wheel, forming a kind of cage. It is said that in windy weather a sail can be attached, and aid the wheeler. There is a curious square garden rake shown. The Japanese display no agricultural implements of an historical type; instead, they show English mowers and American reapers; later, the steam plough. In the model of a farm-house and dependencies, the farm machinery is stored under a shed; here is also a reservoir where the night-soil is kept for a year, just as in Paris. At the end of a twelvemonth the manure is ladled into the fields as in the north of France. One touch of nature makes the whole world kin. Japan again does not cultivate much wheat, fearing, it is said to supplant rice, the staple food of the country. In France it was thought at one time that the cultivation of the vine would cut out that of wheat, and a royal proclamation prohibited the extention of vineyards into the plains.

Strikes continue to be the order of the day. The carpenters are on strike at Havre, the india-rubber workers at Saint-Chamond, and, the most serious of all, the colliers at Auzin. The papers have ceased attributing these labour commotions to foreign agitators—a specimen of whom has never yet been produced. France has no reason to be ashamed of suffering like other countries from the universal depression of trade and industry. The Auzin company attribute the crisis to the prohibitive tariff of the United States, which closes that country to European goods; they avow also that since the hard times set in the dividends of the Company have diminished 65 per cent. Is there not a clause in the American Constitution declaring that America must never interfere in the affairs of the Old World? If the States act on that clause now, we would do something generous—subscribe to complete Bartholdi's "Lady of Liberty," or supply General Grant with cigars for the remainder of his natural life.

Now that Gambetta has come to himself, and declared plainly for the Anglo, rather than the Russo-Franco alliance, the Cyprus question ceases to be a difficulty or a danger. The monarchal press is in a state of pious horror at the prince of Wales inviting Gambetta—a Prince of Talent—to breakfast with him. It was at this feast of reason that the suggestion was thrown out that Gambetta should be interviewed by the *Times* on the Berlin Congress interview, and which has imparted to the foreign policy of France, a clearly defined programme at last—a parallel march with England in the paths of peace, liberty, and commerce. The monarchial parties advocated the Russian alliance, where France received the commonplace homage from the three Emperors, for a devotion altogether useless, and the recompense for being allowed a seat in their antechamber. The Republic is so strong at home, has such a vast majority at their back, that no necessity exists for making a diversion abroad, as a dynasty would certainly try to do. The Republicans are not at all satisfied with the head of the Ministry, M. Dufaure, who, instead of purging the law courts of the notorious enemies of the constitution, fills up judicial vacancies by nominating anti-republicans. However, the ministry will be tolerated till the close of the year, when the Senatorial elections shall secure the constitution a working majority in the Senate, and thus definitely muzzle the power to do ill, of the disappointed factions.

The Bar is ashamed of the decision of the Bench—all Imperialists—which condemned the *Siecle* for "defaming" Napoleon III. The judgment will certainly be broken on appeal. The Code is as clear as noon-day, that a monarch cannot be "diffamed;" he can have an unloving subject tried for contempt towards him. Once dead, he belongs to history, and must take his chance. The Comte de Chambord would be as much justified in taking an action against the *Siecle*, for alleging his ancestor, King Dagobert, wore his breeches inside out, like Bryan O'Lynn, as the Prince Imperial, that his father filched five millions a year extra from the State.

Visitors to the Exhibition, are initiated into all the mysteries of Paris; thus for the three months ending last June, 184 more horses, mules, and asses, were consumed, as compared with the same period last year.

A philosopher is reported to be on the road to recovery from absence of mind; he only goes out twice a week without his hat, instead of five times, as formerly.

PARIS, France, July 27, 1878.

Domestic Duties.

BY ELSIE DEE.

When I look around and see the number of poor careless housekeepers, I cease to wonder so much at the insufficiency of servants. It can not be that the mere fact that she is a servant means a woman slack, deceitful, and dishonest; and yet, go almost where I may, the first complaint is, "Oh, dear! such a trial as I am having with Norah," or Bridget, or Colis, until it would seem as if there could not be a servant blessed with a conscience, or with any idea of her proper duty.

At the present day, especially in large cities and towns, where society makes an unavoidable inroad upon a woman's time, it has become a necessity, even in small families, to keep one servant at least. In fact, few American women are physically able to do their own house-work, and especially to add to that the care of one or more children. Many attempt it I know, but I have noticed that in most cases they end by paying the doctor more than the wages and board of a servant would have amounted to, to say nothing of the waste of nervous energy, the headaches, the backaches, and the "completely worn-out" feelings which follow their unwise trials. But, because we can not do all the work of the house, it does not follow that we have nothing to do with our domestic affairs. There is a great deal of head-work for us to do in the first-place, without which no household will move smoothly. Then there are the busy days, washing, ironing, and baking days, when every good housekeeper should go to work and help her servant. She can wash up the breakfast things, arrange the dining-room, make the beds, and do many things pertaining to the general house-work, which will be a blessed encouragement to her girl, and prevent a too great accumulation of work for the latter part of the day. Then each of us should exercise a daily supervision over the house. We should in the morning arrange the work for the day, determine upon the meals, and explain to the servant in clear language how to prepare them. We have no right to lazily shrink from these little responsibilities, and then if the dinner is spoiled, or anything goes wrong, pour the blame upon the head of an inexperienced girl.

I know that, owing to the present imperfect education of young ladies, many of them come into their married lives without knowing how the work of a house ought to be done. All such I pity, for I cannot blame them. Their mothers are responsible for it, and I have no doubt that, before their daughters have been married a year, they see their mistake, and wish they had taught them these necessary lessons of life in the proper season. But there are two old-fashioned maxims which the most ignorant of us can practise, and which will make an excellent foundation to build any future knowledge upon. The first is: "A place for everything, and everything in its place." The other is: "Whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well."

Suppose that those of us whose household arrangements have been in a sort of tangle of late, should begin at once and assign to each thing a special place of its own; then—and this is the difficult part of it—show by our example a determination to keep it there, and not only keep it there ourselves, but to impress upon each member of our families, our children and our servants, that to put it anywhere else is a serious matter. It will, doubtless, create a commotion at first, but a commotion may as well be excited by having things kept in place, as by hunting after them when out of place. Let us have a special place for our husband's newspapers, and never allow them to be carelessly tossed about or burned. After they have been read, have them carried to the wastepaper basket. I have no doubt that many of our husbands often have to hunt for their slippers. Perhaps some of them are not always sure just where to find a handkerchief, or a pair of whole stockings, or, may be, the pen and ink have very uncertain places. It rests with us wives to reform these matters, and I have no doubt that the result of a reformation would greatly delight and surprise us. To enumerate the different articles which usually have to be hunted after in many households would take too long, but I believe that there is not a thing too small or unimportant to deserve a place of its own.

A neighbour of mine once remarked, "I don't wonder Mrs. C. has such a neat house. If I were forever fussing around as she is, my house would look just as well." Well, it does take a certain amount of time each day to regulate things, but it does not take nearly as much time, or cause half as much trouble, as it does to hunt after missing articles, or have nothing ready if company unexpectedly arrives. I am sure that this "fussing around" of us mothers can only be appreciated when missed. Every household must have the manager, and if the wife shirks this responsibility, who will assume it? When the hour of sudden sickness comes, and the whole house is astir with confusion and fright, does not the forethought of a careful mother in having at hand flannel, medicine, and other articles necessary in such crises, make itself felt? It is not enough at such a time, that somewhere in the house, in some closet, on some shelf, on some bureau, there is a bottle of camphor. It is not enough that somewhere in the house there is a bundle of soft rags, a strip of stout cotton, or a piece of court-plaster, to bandage a possible wound or close a gaping cut. It is the duty of the wife to know just where these things are, and in so far as she carelessly allows such matters to slip by unattended to, she fails in her duty as an efficient and reliable helpmeet. It takes time and care, but it seems to me that many of us spend more time and care in ways that leave no good effect behind.

I know plenty of married women who spend hours every day in making superfluous rufflings and tuckings for their own and children's clothes, neglecting meantime the very things about the house which would most conduce to their husbands' happiness; and yet think that they are doing no wrong. I called on a young friend not long since, who sat a table pinking strips of silk for ruffling, with which she was to trim the underskirt, overskirt, inside basque, outside basque, and two sets of sleeves, of a street suit. She had completed eighty yards of it, and showed me a large roll yet unfinished. She said she ached from head to foot, and I did not doubt her word. It made me ache to look at her. As I passed out, I glanced into the kitchen. A discouraged-looking girl stood at the ironing-table, with a large basket of clothes in a chair by its side. (It was Friday.) The parlour was undusted, the house looked cheerless. I could not help wondering whether a little "fussing around" that morning by that wife, would not have given things a different aspect. But I doubt not, if the steak was scorched or the vegetables were cold that day, the girl at the ironing-table got the blame. Here is just where I lay the chief excuse for so many inefficient servants. We have no more right to give up the care of our domestic affairs to a servant, than a man has to leave his business entire in the hands of an untried and incapable clerk. A servant is a part of the machinery necessary for housekeeping, and no machinery can move of itself. It must be kept constantly oiled, cleaned, and supplied with motive power by means outside of itself.

If we are so ignorant of housekeeping that we are incapable of directing our servants in all particulars, our first step of course should be to learn. Most of us, I hope, are fortunate enough to have in our circle of friends one good experienced woman at least, who would be glad to help us by her advice and instruction. Meantime we can be practising the other maxim referred to above. We can do what we know how to do thoroughly. If we make a bed, dust a room, cut or mend a garment, we will do it as well as we can. We will look at the table, just before each meal is served, and see if everything necessary for use is put on; that the steel is on with the carving-knife and fork, that the salt-cellars and sugar-bowl are filled, that a plenty of large spoons and the butter-knife are at hand, if fresh fish is for dinner, and horseradish is the favourite condiment, we will make it our business to see, in season, that it is provided; if corned beef or ham, that fresh mustard is mixed. To do things well, requires constant forethought. So, if we are to have corn-cake for breakfast, we will see to it the night before that we have the necessary meal, milk, and eggs, not wait until morning, and then hurry Bridget off here and there for them, thereby beginning the day in a flurry. This example is ruinous to servants. Let them see that we consider these matters of fit t importance, and I think, generally, they will catch our spirit.

Yes, I know it does keep us on the lookout all the time, and it is not strange that we sometimes get weary of the monotonous round of domestic duties. But we must not forget that upon the little affairs of the house the happiness of our families depends. We know this is so, because we have all seen, many and many a time, the trouble caused by neglecting them. If domestics can not be found—and they are very rare—who are capable of taking these cares, we must take them ourselves, and patiently try, day after day, and year after year, to set examples that will in time be productive of good and lasting results. We will try and remember that they are a part of our life-work, in accordance with our Heavenly Father's great plan. Nothing in nature is so small as not to receive a perfect finish from His hand. Everything has its own place, and its own work to do. These workings are chiefly silent and unseen, but their results are so important, that the varying of a line might work destruction.

Some Curious Facts About Heads.

A scientific inquiry lately made by Dr. Delaunay among the hatters of Paris offers some curious results. Accepting it as true that the capacity of the cranium and development of the brain are proportionate to the external volume of the head; also that the intelligence is proportional to the volume and weight of the brain, he shows, *inter alia*, that certain families develop like individuals—that is, they have a period of growth, then a stationary period, then a period of decrease, previous to extinction. In families in the first period the head enlarges from generation to generation. The citizens who wrought the revolution of 1789 had bigger heads than their fathers. On the other hand, in families that are nearing their extinction the heads grow smaller. The sons of the present ruling families in France have such small heads, according to the author, that they require hats specially made for them. Among certain families, newly risen from the common people, the head increases from generation to generation. The wide-brimmed hats—bolivars—worn by the Republicans from 1830 to 1848 were very capacious. The quarter in which are the largest heads in Paris is that of the schools. The hatters of the Faubourg St. Germain say that they only fit fine heads. The Polytechnicians have larger heads than the St. Cyrians, and the students of the normal school larger than those of St. Sulpice. The members of the clergy present a peculiar feature in these statistics. "In general," says M. Delaunay, "men from thirty to forty years of age have a larger head than those from twenty to thirty. Not so with ecclesiastics, for their heads cease to grow at about twenty-five. The cures, bishops, archbishops have no larger heads than the students of the large seminaries."—*London Medical Examiner.*

Choosing Mates.

A Turkish slave ship was captured the other day by an English vessel, and the slaves it contained, consisting of seventy women and ten men, were liberated. The men volunteered into the Egyptian army, but it was more difficult to dispose of the women. Under the treaty concluded between the English Government and the Khedive the importation and exportation of slaves are forbidden; but the detention and sale of slaves in the country are permitted for about six years longer in Egypt, and eleven years in the Soudan. Several officers accordingly came to the Pasha of the district with offers to buy some of the female slaves, but the Pasha declared he would not part with them unless they got married. He then announced that any soldier or civilian wishing to marry one of the slaves would have to pay six thalers for her dowry, but that the women would be allowed to choose their husbands from among those who should present themselves for the purpose. A great number of men, chiefly soldiers, assembled on the day appointed for the selection. The women were so shy that they "huddled together like a flock of sheep," and could not be induced to move. At last one of them, taking courage, advanced slowly to a black Egyptian sergeant, who was anything but young or handsome, and put her hand on his shoulder as a sign that he was the man she wished to marry. Her example was instantly followed by the other women, who rushed forward to choose their husbands as if they feared to be too late. It was now the men's turn to say whether they accepted the selection. All were satisfied but five, and even the five women who were obliged to choose again were ultimately provided with husbands.

HE was carving at dinner, and thought he must talk to the æsthetical looking angel on his right, "How do you like Beethoven?" said he, at a venture. "Well cooked," said she, interested in the business at hand.

WAITING FOR THE LANDLORD.—Ribbonman (getting impatient.) "Bedad, they ought to be here by this toime! Shure, Terince, I hope the ould gintleman hasn't met wid an accident!!!"

A ST. LOUIS man announces his intention of introducing into his house a colossal thermometer, with the bulb located in the cellar, as a precaution against the arrival of another heated term.

HERE is the worst pun we have seen in six months: In Alabama they chew the tassels of the fir-trees as a substitute for tobacco, which reminds us of the adage, "Be fir-chewers and you'll be happy."

No matter how thoroughly you clean the house, the wife of the next man who moves in will declare it is not fit for hogs to live in, and will slop suds around over everything trying to make it fit for hogs to live in.

IT is interesting to note in connection with the occupation of Cyprus that the Indian Government has reoccupied the island of Socotra, off the entrance of the Gulf of Aden. The British flag was re-hoisted on the island about two months ago.

Sporting Record.

"MY KINGDOM FOR A HORSE."

Messrs. Darden & Co., it is said, have declined an offer of $3,000 for Lord Murphy.

At a recent sale of thoroughbred yearlings at Hampton Court, England, the following were among the number: Mr. R. Jardine, b. c. by St. Albans, out of Vividis, $11,000; Lord Cawdor, br. c. by Prince Charley, out of Bradamante, by Voltigeur, $1,600; M. F. Gretton, b. c. by Winslow, out of Overtrue, by Teddington, $4,750; Mr. Watson, ch. r. by Prince Charlie, out of Biretta, by Orlando, $1,550. The average per head was $1,510.30.

Beauclere, the greatest of England's 2-year-olds of 1877, and so long the Derby favourite, has recovered sufficiently from his reported breakdown to induce his owner to back him liberally for the St. Leger.

The Boston Herald announces that an association is being formed in that city to be known as the Beacon Jockey Club, and that its membership will include gentlemen of standing in Boston and vicinity. It is proposed to hold an initial meeting in August.

Birdie C., now in charge of J. W. Driscoll, at Fleetwood, is very fast and improving. Last fall she could have been purchased for $250, while recently $3,000 was refused for her.

Mr. William Cooper, of Jersey City Heights, is the owner of a very promising filly, foaled on the 9th of June last. The remarkable feature of the filly is her breeding, she being an in-bred Hambletonian and American Star, both on the side of sire and dam, and we cannot now call to mind another instance of similar breeding in the twenty thousand pedigrees now recorded in the trotting stud-book. He has named her Nettie Hambletonian, and she is by Aberdeen (son of Hambletonian, out of widow Machree, by American Star), dam, Belle Ray, formerly Dextress, by Hambletonian, second dam by American Star. If there is anything in in-breeding, especially with two such crosses, Nettie ought to turn out the peer, if not the superior, of Goldsmith Maid.

It was announced at the close of the late meeting at Columbus, O., that the owners of Proteine were willing to back her against Hopeful for $5,000 a side, the race to be trotted over the Chester Park course, Cincinnati. On the other hand, those interested in Hopeful claim that no such proposition has been made to them, but that Hopeful can be backed against Proteine for any amount from $1,000 to $10,000, provided the race be trotted on any first-class mile track in the country.

"I'M AFLOAT."

There is a likelihood of a race for $500, three miles, being arranged between D. F. Sullivan, of Lowell, and George Faulkner, of Boston.

CRACKNELS.

Metal balls for shooting are being introduced. The advantages claimed for them are that they are cheaper than the glass ones and that they do not cover the ground with dangerous fragments.

Dr. Carver is about to take up the shot-gun; which he assures his friends he can wield with like certainty as his rifle, after a little practice.

NOBLESSE OBLIGE.

Four English "gentlemen cricketers" undertook to charge the Australians $75 each for two days' "expenses," and the *World* remarks that it is not without reason that the colonists "decline to see the difference between giving a 'player' his £4, £6 or £10 and allowing a 'gentleman' a fancy amount for expenses, or decline to be persuaded that £7 10s per day can be legitimately expended in railway f