

MISCELLANEOUS.

LOVER OF FLOWERS.—The white heather means "luck to find," and we have heard that it owes its introduction in England as a flower at marriages, or love-token, to the wedding of the Princess-Royal.

HONORAMUS.—Cards are left on the occasion of a first visit on the hall table on going out for the purpose of giving your address, even if the lady were at home and you saw her. If you be married, you should leave your husband's card, in case there was a gentleman.

RULES.

I. No charge is made for answering questions.

II. All correspondents to give initials or pseudonym.

III. The Editor reserves the right of declining to reply to any of the questions.

IV. No direct answers can be sent by the Editor through the post.

V. No more than two questions may be asked in one letter, which must be addressed to the Editor of THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER, 56, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.

VI. No addresses of firms, tradesmen, or any other matter of the nature of an advertisement, will be inserted.



GOVERNESS.—Kent House, 91, Great Portland Street, London, W., a boarding house for students, clerks, teachers and others, is most comfortable and home-like. Single rooms can be had as well as double cubicles. The terms are moderate, and those who have been there speak most highly of the management. Address the Hon. Superintendent, or go and see for yourself.

EPILEPTIC.—We should think the Working Colony, Chalfont St. Peter, offered the best hope for your afflicted daughter. We are unable to find any homes under 10s. or 12s. per week. Perhaps some Incurable Home might undertake the charge of her for rather less.

HOLLY BERRIES.—It is a fact that the sun does put out the fire. The following is the explanation given. The action of the sun's rays, by rarefying the air causes it to flow more slowly to the fire, and even that which reaches the fire affords less nourishment—for it contains less oxygen than the same quantity of condensed air.

FLEURESIENE.—All persons born in Her Majesty's dominions, whether of British or foreign parents, are deemed to be British subjects.

M. K. M.C. (Jamaica).—There is a book called *Unclaimed Money*, by Mr. Sydney H. Preston, and published by E. W. Allen, London, in which you could find all particulars. Other lists are also published by various agents who advertise, but we cannot say anything of their value.

ANNIE.—If the descendants are unable to support themselves, arrangements are obliged to maintain them to the able to do so.

T. B. C. W.—The months of the year could be represented by the children being attired as the flowers or shrubs of each month. December and January, mistletoe and holly; February, snow-drop; March, violet; April, hyacinth or lent lily; May, Hawthorn and lilac, and so on.

MOTHER.—Let your children have the benefit of real holidays, not partial ones. An eminent physician expresses very strong disapproval of "holiday lessons." The brain of a growing child needs absolute rest. We have just read a *résumé* from a German medical journal of an article from a Berlin head-master, who has been making experimental studies on the now serious question of mental overpressure in the education of children, and more or less applied himself all engaged in brain-work. After the rest of Sunday, Monday and Tuesday are the best days for study; the best working hours are in the morning after the rest of the night. After the holidays a strengthening and refreshment of the brain lasts for a period of a month. Thus the professor urges the necessity for a holiday in the middle of each week—on Wednesday or Thursday. He has discovered that the most fatiguing studies are mathematics, foreign languages, and above all else gymnastics, all of which should be the morning's work; while natural science, English (or the native language of the pupil), history, geography, and religion should be relegated to the afternoon as the least trying of all, but there should be an interval of rest in the three hours' study of the afternoon.

MUCH WORRIED ONE.—We sympathise with you although not sufficiently acquainted with your circumstances to be your adviser. But we may remind you of the Divine admonition given in Philippians iv. 6; and by our Lord, see St. Matt. vi. 34. Fretting and worrying over present troubles, and anticipating others that may never be realised, is not only unchristian but it weakens certain of the brain-cells, wearing them out just as the continual dropping of water will act on a stone. All the other organs are affected through the brain, and causes disease in one or more of them; but the origin of the evil lies in the unhealthy and never intended wear and tear of the brain through worry—and worry kills at last! If you have but little time at your disposal for doing needlework for the poor of the parish, we recommend you always to have some knitting on hand, to be taken up at odd moments, the wool or "fingering" being inexpensive. We are great advocates for the acquirement of this kind of work, as well as crochet wool-work, which are more universally practised abroad than here. So important is knitting regarded in Norway as a part of a girl's education, that a law has recently been passed rendering a girl ineligible for marriage until she has obtained a certificate of proficiency in this homely yet pretty art, as well as in spinning and in baking.

WINTON.—The special verse which the inquirer appears to have in her mind is, we imagine, that in the 1st Cor. xv. 58, "always abounding in the work of the Lord." There are many such injunctions to lose no opportunity in working for God, such as in 2 Tim. iv. 2, "Preach the word, be instant, in season, out of season;" also St. Luke xix. 13, "Occupy till I come," and St. Mark xiii. 35, 36, 37.

M. W.—Persons troubled with any weakness of the heart should beware of certain things. There is more to be avoided than done. The treatment is more of a negative than positive character. They should never run, nor mount more stairs, nor ascend more hills than might be avoided. Their food should be specially nutritious, because taken in small quantities, and of an easily digestible character, so that the action of the heart may not be impeded by pressure. For the same reason there should be no tightness in the stays or waistbands. There should be an ample amount of warm coverings over the bed, for when recumbent and asleep the heart makes ten strokes less in a minute than when upright, and in an hour 600 beats less! So, as an American Scientific Journal observes, you should compensate for lack of warmth in the blood-supply by special warmth in your external wraps.

IRIS.—The form of invitation might be "Mr. or Mrs. Jones request the pleasure of Mr. and Mrs. Smith's company at the celebration of their silver wedding on the evening of April 30, 1898, from 9 to 12 o'clock." In America these invitation cards are printed in silver letters and sometimes tied with silver cords, as they were in former times in England. They should be sent out a fortnight previously. Coffee and tea, with cakes and bread and butter should be ready in an anteroom as people assemble, and at 10.30 the supper should be served. This would be a "stand up" one, and you would arrange for that sandwiches, jellies, ices, and everything that could be eaten either standing or at small tables placed round the room. Bouillon in cups, and coffee will be required. A simple supper is easily arranged, but the handing round of refreshments is a great additional trouble, especially in a small house. If you have many people you will find it best to have a man in to wait, for if he be a clever person he is an immense assistance.

W. E. A.—We cannot decipher the fourth letter. It does not exist. Pronounce Don Quixote, as Quicks-ote; and Cervantes, as Sir-van-tees. De Stael is French, and the sound is not rendered by English letters. Your writing is too accurately formed to be described as "a scribble." If you wish to form it otherwise, select a hand you like, and copy it carefully every day till the habit is acquired of writing in the same style.

KITTY.—1. The Mount of Olives was the scene of the Sermon on the Mount.—2. The value of the crown-pieces of Queen Anne is very varied, from 7s. 6d. to £3 5s., according to date and condition. A hammered shilling of Queen Elizabeth is worth from 2s. 6d. to £1 13s., a milled one from 7s. 6d., and one was sold in London a few years ago for £10 5s. You give no description nor date, so we cannot say any more about them than give a general idea of values.