

# THE HOME

## THE HUMAN WASP.

“Lady Gay” in Toronto Saturday Night.

Do you know the mean-souled person who wants to tell you discreditable things about people you love? Such as one writes me today that she could tell me a rare tale about my friend So-and-So, a fascinating woman of whom I am very fond. Isn't it mean of her? The tale may be true, or it may be only colored by her jealous and petty nature, anyhow, if she is so misguided as to tell it to me, I am ready to swear I believe she made it up. That is the only way to confound such people. It is above all a wise way to meet the abominable wasp who repeats to you herid things others may or may not have said of you. Look her or square in the eyes, as sternly as you can and quietly give them this—“I believe that anyone who is mean enough to repeat a thing like that, to annoy and distress another is mean enough to invent it. I prefer to believe that you have invented it.” It is altogether unlikely that you will receive many reports of unkind criticism if you have the self-control to handle them in that fashion. And it may give the mischief makers such a jar that they will hesitate before they try their nasty little things on anyone else. Really the only thing to do with a stinging wasp is to step on it good and heavy.

There are many persons who think it obligatory upon them to keep always the same frame of mind toward one who has displeased or injured them. True, there are certain offenders from whom one must protect oneself, even though they profess penitence. A slanderous and abusive person should be kept a little farther than arms length, so should one who abuses privileges and presumes upon kindness. But there are loads of smouldering feuds, cold looks, kept up for no reason but because these concerned don't possess the grace of forgetting, ignoring or rising superior to some old grievance and quarrel. It is a good thing to drop memories that ache and burn, and be friends again! It needs sang froid and savoir faire to meet a former enemy frankly and friendly with a pleasant word, a not too impressive hand shake, but one is the better for doing it. I sometimes think how if this man or woman lay dead how small would appear the grudge or grievance I hold against them, how small I myself would loom in the presence of the majestic silence of this my enemy! It is wise to think often of death, for nothing sorts our false and true values more authoritatively. There is no pang quite like in bitterness to the feeling that one might have been kinder or more forgiving, or patient, or understanding to one who has gone beyond the reach and the need of our help or friendship. Even the neglected answer to a letter comes back in regret, when no more little common-place uninteresting notes from the one looked one will ever come pattering through the letter box! Death does this for us, among many other things.

## DOING OVER THE OLD FURNITURE.

Some years ago it was no unusual thing to see woodwork and furniture, the finish of which had been scratched or cracked, covered over with coats of cheap varnish or paint to cover defects. Now the economical housewife has it in her power to transform, with her own hands what has grown unsightly into objects of beauty and usefulness.

It became necessary for us to close our home in the suburbs and take up a temporary residence in the city during the winter months. We decided to fit up an apartment with misfits from home, leaving the country house furnished so that we might go out at any time, for the week end and at holiday seasons. Then came the interesting search for things discarded. An adjustable chair was found to be good as to construction and springs, but the finish of the woodwork was cracked and broken off in places, and the upholstery threadbare. I used a good varnish remover, a preparation which can be purchased at any paint-store. It is all ready for us. This softened the old finish, and with a good putty knife I peeled it off to the wood, using a little fine steel wool (which comes in pound packages, wrapped around something like cotton batting) in the crevices and carvings. After the varnish was entirely off, and the wood showed clear, I gave the surface a little sandpapering with No. 60 sandpaper and it was ready for the new finish. This chair I found to be cherry, and on it I used a soft reddish-brown stain. When this was thoroughly dry, I gave the surface a coat of wax, and the result was a

rich, soft finish. After getting the satisfactory tone in wood, I selected goods for upholstering, a rich toned brown velour, with gimp and cord to match. The salesman from whom I purchased the goods gave me a curved upholstering needle. This is almost a necessity in sewing on cord where it must sometimes be used to cover a joint. Care must be taken in tacking on cloth, to hold it firm and tight, else it will not be a smooth finish.

The next find consisted of a number of old picture frames. These I put through the process of removing finish same as chair, and found them to be good and well-made.

An old dining-room table, whose top showed a map of white marks and stains, was made to look like new. This I waxed without staining.

Being in need of a mirror for one of the bedrooms, I resurrected an old one which dated to the war of the rebellion. The glass was loose but fairly good. The frame of walnut with an inner one of gilt, seemed at first impossible, but, after gluing the frame together and making all secure I covered the entire frame with a heavy coat of gilding. It hangs now in a yellow and white bedroom, and gives a cheerful note to the whole room, aside from its usefulness. A other old mirror was fitted in an old mahogany frame and hung in the hall.

An old mahogany writing table was made to look like new. This proved to be a French table of a design used a hundred year ago, and in perfect condition as to construction, but black with dirt and smoke. An enameled bed I re-enameled. A brass-trimmed bed had its brass cleaned by rubbing with banana oil. Another too far gone, was gilded. A bird's-eye maple chiffoniere, whose veneering was broken, was made good by re-moving the veneer, softening glue with warm water and finishing the wood beneath by sandpapering and waxing.

## CONTROL YOUR MIND.

A woman compelled to spend many hours alone in her country home, developed a belief in a number of dangerous symptoms in her physical condition, and finally went to bed. The examining physician found no radical ailment. After a few days, the patient tried to get up, but finding her limbs weak and trembling, became immediately discouraged, notwithstanding explanations that the temporary weakness was simply the result of disuse. She is now in the hospital, in an apparently hopeless state of melancholia.

The very first salutary measure is to gain control over the working of the mind. An unhappy, depressed, or even apathetic mental condition can work havoc throughout the body. Unhappiness, anger, destructive thoughts are positive in their ill effects upon the body. A noted German scientist—Jaeger—was enterprising enough to capture and imprison some germs thrown off from the body of an individual in a rage; and he found their character to be virulently poisonous. If these germs have the vitality to attack outside of the body, they must certainly find more unhindered progress within the system of their creator; and conditions prove this to be the case in the nose, headache, weakness, sudden inactivity of the bowels, or the fainting spell that often follows an outburst of passion.

In apathy, the system is in a negative condition, and open to the attack of disease germs. In waking hours, the mental as well as the physical forces should be held in control at the center. The housekeeper who sits up a dust with slow, indifferent movements of the broom, her mind blank and listless, her lips perhaps cracked apart, is much more liable to little nagging indispositions, and sometimes the more serious ones whose germs she may stir up in her cleansing, than the woman who goes about her work energetically, with a busy, happy mind and closed lips. If destructive thoughts create agencies inimical to good health, happy, loving thoughts must create those which are of a healing, building character.

The little ailments and discomforts within oneself should not be taken too seriously. They are sometimes the result of a restless, unoccupied condition of mind. Instead of wandering about in a state of innocuous desuetude, read a book, interest yourself in it. Study a short time every day. When the mind is well under control, and is given some fodder upon which to grind, take a long walk breathing deeply, and enjoying every minute of it, making yourself as care-free as an irresponsible child. Do not be afraid to climb hills, and to fatigue yourself a bit. By the time your return it is most likely that all of your “symptoms” will have disappeared.



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## ALMOST A MIRACLE.

Esther Harris, an eighteen year old girl who was placed in a heap of the lifeless in the triangle fire disaster at New York, but who was taken to a hospital instead of to the morgue when a faint sign of life was detected, and who suffered total paralysis for months afterwards, can walk again.

The girl slid down the elevator shaft, but was knocked down her head by a man who jumped down the shaft and she was hurled to the basement breaking her neck and back. On top of her fell twenty other girls, many of whom were killed. After she had lain in a hospital unconscious for fourteen weeks with her life despaired of, she regained her senses. The surgeons experimented with her by attaching weights to her head and legs to relieve the strain on the spinal cord of the fractured vertebrae, and to allow them a chance to knit together again. The operation was successful, and it was learned today that the young woman had been discharged as cured.

## AUTO OWNERS ARRESTED.

Otto C. Bunch, a leading real estate man of Amherst, and A. A. Parker had rather a trying experience in Pictou town last week. They were in Pictou town on Wednesday with their motor, and it is reported that a valuable horse took fright at the machine, falling down and sustaining some injuries. Later the two Amherst men went to New Glasgow, not being aware of the fact that Wednesday was a closed day for motoring. They were arrested in New Glasgow on a warrant issued by a justice in Pictou and taken back to that town, where they were asked to deposit \$50 for their appearance at trial this week and their motors were also held. The outcome of the trial is looked forward to with interest by motor men in Amherst.

## HOPES TO RAISE FUNDS IN ENGLAND FOR ALL SAINTS' CATHEDRAL AND ORGANIZE PERMANENT COMMITTEE.

The Standard of Empire says:—The Bishop of Nova Scotia, the Right Rev. Clarendon Lamb Worrell, D.D., has arrived in England. Interviewed the other day, he explained that his visit had a double object, one being the foundation of a permanent committee of English Churchmen interested in the affairs of the Church in Canada, particularly in Nova Scotia, which would keep up a constant intercourse between the Church of the Mother Country and that of the Dominion, and the other being the raising of the sum of £9000 which is required to clear off a debt on All Saints' Cathedral at Halifax.

## EXPRESS WRECKED ON SOUTH WESTERN

All the Cars of Train From Halifax Jumped the Rails.

A rather serious accident occurred on the H. & S. W. railway the other day. The express that left Halifax for Yarmouth left the rails at Hubley's Station, doing considerable damage to the roadbed. The engine and every car of the train left the track, the cause of the accident being assigned to spreading rails. No person was injured.

A plague known as the Isle of Wight disease has attacked the bees in England, and there are grave fears that a lack of pollination may cause the complete failure of the fruit crop. Unless there are bees to carry the pollen from the anthers to the stigmas there will be blossoms without fruit. In an effort to accomplish the work of the bees the fruit growers are busy with rabbit foot and camel hair brushes collecting pollen from one flower and planting it into another.

MINARD'S LINIMENT RELIEVES NEURALGIA.

## INVISIBLE LIGHT.

Only When it Strikes the Retina of the Eye Can it Be Seen.

What is the simplest demonstration of the fact that light is invisible? The blackness of a midnight sky demonstrates this fact most readily. We may see the planets brilliantly illuminated by the sun's rays, but the surrounding space is dark, although we know that light must be passing there. The passage of a beam of light through a darkened room is only visible on the dust in the air, and the cone of light seen when the gun shines through a small hole in a shutter is not visible, but only light reflected from the notes in the beam. This can be easily and simply demonstrated by placing in the beam a glass vessel from which the dust has been carefully removed. The beam then may be seen before and behind the vessel, but is invisible within. A Bunsen burner or a red-hot poker held so as to destroy the notes will also render the beam invisible at that spot.

Light is only visible when it strikes on the retina of the eye, and it can only do so when it reaches it in a direct line or is turned by a reflection or refraction into a direct line. Just as the bullets from a gun do a man no harm unless aimed or turned in their course toward his body, so light is without effect unless it is aimed or turned toward the retina.—Pearson's Weekly.

## DUMAS AND HIS BARBER.

Origin of the Practice of Speculating in Theater Tickets.

The practice of speculating in theater tickets, strange as it may appear, was started by the elder Dumas. He patronized a Paris barber named Porcher, and one day this worthy while shaving the novelist asked him why he did not sell the tickets given him by the managers of the theaters where his plays were produced.

“To whom could I sell them?” asked the author of the “Three Musketeers.” “Why, to me, if you like,” replied Porcher. “And what would you do with them?” asked Dumas. “That's my business,” replied the barber, continuing to lather the bronzed face of the famous story teller.

“But I give you tickets whenever you ask for them,” said Dumas. “Ah! One or two are not sufficient for my purpose,” responded Porcher. “I must have all your tickets, and every day too.” “And you will pay for them?” said the dramatist. “Cash,” was the simple yet practical reply. Dumas at that moment was very badly in need of money, so he at once concluded the bargain. Porcher, who shortly after this gave up shaving and cutting hair, made similar bargains with other authors and quickly became rich.

The Spread of Species. One of the problems that confront the naturalist is that of accounting for the distribution of identical forms of life through widely separated localities. Investigation frequently shows that this has been accomplished in many ways that appear quite simple when once discovered, although one would hardly have thought of them. Some interesting facts have been gleaned concerning the dispersion of fresh water mollusks, accounting for their appearance in remote and isolated ponds. Waterfowl play an important part in this work. Ducks have been known to carry mussels attached to their feet a hundred miles or more. Bivalve mollusks not infrequently cling to the toes of wading birds and are thus transported for considerable distances. Even aquatic insects have been known to carry small fresh water mollusks attached to their legs.—Harper's Weekly.

## A Wonderful Instructor.

Over a door leading to one of the smaller lecture halls in the Sorbonne at Paris a notice was posted recently, which read: “Here the instructor does not pass when feet are shuffled, does not nod when he is applauded and does not single out the one who knows the least for the hardest work. Here the instructor never comes too late or too early, and one may say unparliamentary things without fear of offending. This wonderful instructor never sleeps, eats or drinks and, being absolutely bloodless and brainless and blind, must be carried to the rostrum from which the voice reaches the students.” The door leads to a room where French officers receive instruction in the German language by means of a talking machine.

## Eye Strain and Its Dangers.

Never allow children to read or do any form of fine work unless there is a bright, steady light, says a medical journal. Working by firelight or in the dusk causes such a strain on young eyes that they never quite recover, and weak or defective vision is the result. Notice whether a child holds books and work very close to the eyes, and if so consult an oculist, so that the child may be fitted with suitable spectacles.

## Breaking Him In.

“My future mother-in-law is really a bit too careful. So that my fiancée shall know what to buy after we are married she takes us both with her to the market every morning.”

“Well, but what use are you?”

“Oh, I pay.”—Flegende Blatter.

Open to Adjustment. “Horror, John! We have come off and left the cat and the parrot with nothing to eat.”

“Well, I wouldn't worry. These things generally adjust themselves. Maybe the cat will eat the parrot.”—Puck.

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That very desirable residential property situated at Carleton's Corner, Bridgetown, consisting of modern dwelling house, stable, shop and orchard and garden. Also one hundred acres of woodland. Possession can be given first of May.

For further particulars apply to J. B. WHITMAN, Province Bldg., Halifax, or F. R. FAY, Esq., Bridgetown.

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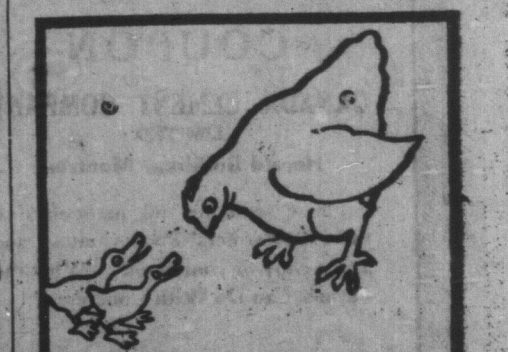
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