

Woman and the World.

"Friends in Council."
By Mrs. Burton Kingdon, in Tale
Talk.

Scene—A corner of a piazza. Time—Five o'clock. Mrs. Edgerton and Mrs. Carey chatting over their tea-cups. Mrs. Carey—Someone has said that "friendship is a predestined relationship," dear Mrs. Edgerton, so, as one always reserves the right to impose upon one's relations, I have come to ask for your advice and help. In my position of "brand new" wife and inexperienced housekeeper, I have much to learn. Then, too, Jack's wife has quite a different pocketbook than that of papa's daughter. We have all heard of nouveaux riches, but I am a nouveau pauvre, so it will be a case of charity to rescue me from domestic ruin.

Mrs. Edgerton—I do not think that the ministry of helpfulness need be confined entirely to the poor, my dear, so that your destination is not your only claim upon my consideration. In what can I help you?

Mrs. Carey—Well, in Jack's absence my little cottage is a bit lonely, and I like to have my girl friends come and see me often. Then, too, Jack has a family of sisters and cousins and aunts that are simply bewilderment to town, they are constantly running down for an hour or so, and my housewife's pride is fired with the desire to entertain them with "becoming and graceful hospitality" without putting too heavy a strain upon the domestic exchequer. Now, your genius for sandwiches alone is enough to inspire me with confidence in your power to help me! Every time that you have asked me to stop for a cup of tea, there has been some new and delicious combination in that line.

Mrs. Edgerton—The variety is due to the most prosaic of causes, I assure you. They are the "snappers up of unconsidered trifles"—survivals of the past. These, my dear, are simply filled with a bit of the so-called "hard sauce" that belonged to yesterday's pudding—butter, sugar, and a few drops of sherry. Perhaps you recall that sugar used to taste good upon your bread and butter when you were a child. You can make good sandwiches out of anything—chopped radishes or olives between the bread and butter, watercress, lettuce, strawberries sliced, or currants bruised with sugar, salmon, or any cold fish shredded and mixed with a bit of mayonnaise sauce, sardines, with a "squeeze" of lemon. Hashes, if with-out potato, moistened with a little gravy, are by no means to be despised. Fete de fete gras comes in little tins at 25 cents, and is usually relished. The bread must be cut very thin, the sandwiches uniform in shape, and placed upon a d'oyley, they look more tempting than upon a bare plate.

Mrs. Carey—You must have an exceptional waitress to take the trouble to give you the variety you speak of. Mrs. Edgerton—Butlers have no feelings to be appealed to, but I find that most women servants can be roused to an interest and feel a pride and pleasure in the domestic arrangements under their care, if tactfully managed by the mistress.

Mrs. Carey—Now, tell me about these little cakes. Do you send to town for them? They have an air of distinction that is nothing less than aristocratic.

Mrs. Edgerton—No, the simple layer-cake is baked in little forms of hearts, diamonds and rounds, and the icing is divided and flavored in various ways. Coffee, orange and strawberry juice give the various colors. Pistache nuts, chopped, give a touch of elegance to those with white icing, and a single candied cherry to those with pink.

Mrs. Carey—Thank you, the success of my five-o'clock tea is a foregone conclusion. Now, a word of advice about unexpected guests for luncheon. My mid-day chops blush to find themselves alone when I am taken un-awares.

Mrs. Edgerton—Tins of clam juice and of bullion at eighteen cents apiece are a wise investment. At a moment's notice the clam juice may be heated with a little cream and served in cups. It makes a nice first course. If the same persons come again, give them bullion. If there remains from breakfast a little mince of whatever kind, have it pressed into timbale forms. Served with tomato sauce, it makes an acceptable "entree." If no fragments remain, a course of eggs may do instead. Hard-boiled eggs, cut in quarters, with a white sauce, to which a touch of onion is added, or the same baked "au gratin" are dishes generally liked. Stuffed eggs, Spanish omelet, scrambled eggs with chopped ham, parsley or canned lobster and served on toast, may be had at short notice. After which your chops may come in with effect, set around the dish in a ring with potatoes, peas or stuffed tomatoes in the center.

A salad is next in order, or a cream cheese served with toasted biscuits and currant jelly. The blended flavors are delicious. It is a good plan to have the sweet dish intended for dinner, made in the morning, so that in an emergency it may be served for luncheon. A cake baked in a ring shape, iced, and made to imitate, with blanched almonds stuck plentifully about, and filled with whipped cream, makes a very pretty dish. The icing may be pink and the cream also colored with strawberry juice, or icing and cream may be flavored with coffee or chocolate. Walnuts also decorate it prettily. I always keep cans of "maroon" glass in the house, which I get at the Italian stores for 25 cents apiece. These added to plain vanilla ice cream (which may always be had) makes quite an elegant dish. Chopped nuts, stale macaroons or bits of French candied fruits mixed with the cream, confer distinction. Walnuts steeped in sherry added to whipped cream and served in paper cases, make a simple but toothsome dish. If now your "emergency" luncheon be concluded with a cup of good coffee, I am sure that your guests will have no cause to complain of their entertainment.

Mrs. Carey—Thank you, dear Mrs. Edgerton. To know you is a liberal education, as Swift said of his Stella—"Gratitude is a lively sense of favours to come"—so prepare yourself to find me a frequent visitor.

Mrs. Edgerton—Welcome as the sunshine always, dear. You know that I love to help.

Result of Meat-Eating.

"One deplorable result of excessive meat-eating in England," says Mrs. Ernest Hart in her work entitled "Diet in Sickness and Health," "is the ill-temper which is a chronic moral complaint among us. In no country, I believe, is home rendered so unhappy and life made so miserable by the ill-temper of those who are obliged to live together as in England. To everybody who reads these lines examples will

occur of homes which are rendered quite unnecessarily unhappy, when they might be happy, by the moroseness and rudeness of the head of the family, by the peevishness of the wife, or by the quarrelling of the younger members. If we compare domestic life and manners in England with those of other countries where meat does not form an integral article of diet, a notable improvement will be remarked. In less meat-eating France, urbanity is the rule of the home; in fish and rice-eating Japan harsh words are unknown, and an exquisite politeness to one another prevails even among children who play together in the street. In Japan I never heard rude, angry words spoken by any but the Englishmen. I am strongly of the opinion that the ill-temper of the English is caused in a great measure by a too abundant meat dietary, combined with a sedentary life. The half-oxidized products of albumin form uric acid, which, circulating in the blood, produce both mental and moral disturbances."

Woman's Claim in South Australia.

The Melbourne Age of Feb. 21, 1896, says:

At Adelaide on Thursday a deputation from the Women's Christian Temperance Union and the Women's League waited on the Premier today and asked that amendment of the laws affecting the interests of women be made part of the Government policy. The requests were:

1. Raising of the age of protection for girls to 18 years, extension of the period during which prosecution may be commenced from two to twelve months from the time of offense against a girl under the age of consent. 2. Equal divorce laws, abolishing the necessity of women proving cruelty as well as adultery. 3. Equitable amendments to law of bequest, making it illegal for a man to leave his wife and family unprotected for others. Providing that a wife who has to live separately from her husband on account of cruelty or neglect may have proper maintenance. 4. Amending the laws relating to seduction by fraud or false pretense, so that a woman may claim damages in her own right without plea of loss of service to her guardian or employer. 5. Amendment of the law relating to illegitimacy, so that paternity may be proved before courts and necessary provision decreed before the birth of a child. 6. Legal provision for giving a fair proportion of women on the boards of management of all institutions where women and children are received.

Mrs. Kingston said he would have to submit the matters to his colleagues. The Government was strongly inclined to support raising the age of protection for girls from 16 to 18 years. As to the extension of the period of prosecutions limit, he thought no arbitrary limit could be logically justified. As to the equalization of the divorce laws, he would say, "We are with you, and if we can give it to you we will."

Age of Husband and Wife.

A friend writes for our opinion as to whether the husband should not be considerably older than the wife. We think it depends very much on the temperament, or physical constitution of the parties as well as their mental qualities. If a man is a man of mental and physical vigor, he ought to retain his health and vitality, he ought to retain his ambition, his enjoyment of life, and his appreciation of all that makes the world attractive to a young or middle-aged man, far beyond the traditional score of threescore and ten. Consequently such a man ought to marry a woman considerably younger than himself, provided, of course, that she is companionable, and if she does not happen to be exceptionally strong herself. However, if the woman be remarkably vigorous, and the man not of a very long-lived or powerful stock, there would be less objection to an approximate equality of age. In other words, if both parties are as nearly perfect as human beings are likely ever to be, a difference of five or ten years would probably be best. But if the woman is of that constitution which becomes "fat at 40," and loses her physical attractiveness, unless she marries a man much like herself, it would be better to extend the difference in years to twelve or fifteen, or even more. Whatever we may think or approve in the matter, it remains a fact that with youth, beauty, health and vivacity in women, while the gentler sex are attracted chiefly by mental and physical strength. As women grow older, their strength, especially of mind, much longer, on an average, than women retain their beauty, it is clear that there should generally be a considerable difference in the ages, varying, as we have said, according to the relative condition of the parties.—The Phrenological Journal.

Book for Invalids.

"It is said that a novelty in books is to be issued under the title of the Invalid's Library," says the Lounger, in the Critic. "Each volume is 'to be printed on a long strip of paper-covered muslin, so that a patient can comfortably unroll it and read in bed, thus dispensing with the attendant fatigue of holding a heavy book.' Why not buy from the publisher a copy of a book before it is stitched for binding. In this way a handful of pages can be taken up at a time, and they are so light that it would be no effort for the weakest invalid to hold them. Another advantage of these unstitched sheets is that all the family can read the book at the same time. Let one get the start, and the others can follow on. I gave some of these unstitched pages to a friend once, and she was delighted with the arrangement. The pages open out readily, and have little or no weight, and then, she said, 'it is so amusing for all of us to be reading the same book at the same time.' The suggestion of the Invalid's Library would be a simple, and I do not think that it would be as practical as the plan that I propose."

The Art of Allowing Others to be Mistaken.

A woman whose goodness and tenderness make her loved by all who know her once said to an impatient girl friend: "My dear, learn to allow others to be mistaken. It is a difficult lesson to acquire, but it is one that will make you and all who come in contact with you happier." The wise advice often occurs to me while listening to discussions and heated arguments upon utterly unimportant matters. Suppose John says that he left home this morning for his office at 8:30, and Mary knows that the hands of the clock pointed to 8:45 as he closed the front door behind him. Why should she tell him of his mistake? Nobody likes to be told that he is wrong, and few of us will believe it of ourselves when we are told of it. When there is no principle involved, let a trifling error pass unnoticed. If a friend has bought the material for a portiere and has had the curtains made by a dressmaker under the good conviction that she has saved money by so doing, why tell her that she could have bought a pair of portieres for half the price? When a mistake is made and past changing, let it alone. It is a great undertaking to try to right the world, and those whose temerity permits them to attempt the task should be careful that the so-called righting is not in itself a mistake.

A Laugh--A Smile.

Gabbleton—I believe a child's ambition should be encouraged. Now I'm sure my boy wears just as good clothes as I do.

Wiggins—H'm! Cut down to fit him, I suppose you mean?

"If he is innocent I don't see why he should wait for requisition papers before coming back."

Oh, that's merely his idea of etiquette. He never would accept a general invitation or one that was extended in a half-hearted way."

Remarked Mrs. Homespun—Our John is awfully far-sighted, he can tell you all about the new ministry in Italy; but I'll bet anything he wouldn't know anything about it if he had a new pair of our church every Sunday in the year.

An item is going the round of the Michigan State press to the effect that a young lady had a needle enter her waist about a year ago and that it recently worked its way out of the arm of a young man in another city.

While poring over a cook book the other day, my attention was attracted by a recipe which ended something like this: "Take the front of the stove and stir constantly." Imagine sitting on the front of the stove without stirring constantly.

"I would lay the world at your feet!" exclaimed the young man who reads novels.

"Read," she replied, "it's very good of you to suggest it, but you needn't trouble yourself. It's there already."

City Lady (in the country)—I get so impatient for the news out here. The mails are so irregular.

Old-fashioned Grandmother—La! So they was in my young days. You couldn't trust 'em at all.

"How did your daughter pass her examination for a position as teacher?" asked the first man.

"Pass," was the answer, "she didn't pass at all. Maybe you won't believe it, but they asked that poor girl questions about things that happened before she was born."

The man who sent \$5 last week in answer to an advertisement promising to tell how to make \$100 as far as \$5, got his answer yesterday. It was a small card, on which was neatly printed: "Mail both to San Francisco."

Ectricity in a Dairy.

The wonders of electricity will never cease. Dairywomen, it seems, are now utilizing it to make their cows get up before sunrise. Dairyman Wilder, whose milk-producing establishment is about ten miles north of Santa Cruz, is one of the most ingenious men in California, and has done what no other dairyman ever attempted. Everybody that has ever tried to milk a cow before daylight knows what a job it is. Bossy is generally of the opinion that there is a time for all things, and directly objects to being awakened and milked when she is still asleep. Many cows will refuse to be milked to the extent of kicking and lying down. All of these troubles have been solved by Mr. Wilder, and not long ago he determined to overcome them. In fact, it was necessary that he should, as he was often late in getting milk to his customers in Santa Cruz. It costs considerable money, but he has more than made up for the outlay. At present he has the best of the finest individual electric plants in the state, and his cows are as easy to milk as in daylight. When the electric plant was in position, the dairyman took the entire lot capable of producing about 10,000 candle power—enough to make the yard as bright as day. The bright rays of the light shone on the cows, and they were not long in being turned on. Most of them looked surprised to see the day break so soon, but when the milkman arrived with his pail they seemed to think it was all right, and stood perfectly still while being milked. The light also affected the poultry, for the cocks began to crow, and the hens went around hunting for nests. Ducks, geese, dogs and cats, were all affected in the same way. In this way a whole barnyard was awake at 2 o'clock in the morning. It has not proved a case of the animals getting used to it, for they behave the same way now, after the artificial sunrise has been in operation for seven months. Poor beasts, they are in blissful ignorance of what Mr. Wilder's shabby trick.—Philadelphia Times.

Piles! Piles! Itching Piles!

SYMPTOMS—Moisture; intense itching and stinging, mostly at night; worse by scratching. If allowed to continue, tumors form, which often bleed and ulcerate, becoming very sore. Swelling and constant stinging and itching, and finally, the tumors, and in most cases removes the tumors. All druggists, or by mail, 50 cents. Dr. S. J. S. & Co., Philadelphia. Lyman Sons & Co., Montreal, wholesale agents.

The Duty of a Dimple.

"The duty of a dimple," says an authority on womanly beauty, "is to punctuate a smile." It is a fascinating period to mirth, in mid-life it lengthens into an uncertain comma, and age finds it an uncomfortable parenthesis.

Hall's Vegetable Sicilian Hair Renewer has restored gray hair to its original color and prevented baldness in thousands of cases. It will do so to you.

IT'S WELL TO BE A DOG.

It is Allowed Many Privileges Which Are Forbidden Male Bipedes.

Egypt never paid more reverential respect to its cat gods than Richmond does to dogs. They own the city, and they have many more privileges than are accorded to man.

If a man gets drunk, for example, and makes merry on the street, he is run into the station house and next morning he is arraigned before Justice John to answer the charge of disturbing the public peace. But as a dog, he is permitted to bark and howl without being drunk at all, and to make night hideous with his noise, and no man ever thinks of running him in.

If a man should secrete himself behind a tree and rush out at a passing horse and jump up at the bit and howl at him until the horse was frightened or provoked to desperation, that man would be taken to court to answer to his offense. But dogs do that sort of thing every day and the law takes no note of it.

If a man should station himself on the sidewalk and rush into the street after a girl riding on a wheel and tug at her skirts and try to throw her down, he would probably not be arraigned in court, but indignant citizens would deal with him before ever the law could get him into its clutches. But the bicycle rider is the especial delight of the Richmond dog, and the dog has all the fun he wants trying to throw men and women from their wheels. And if anybody should resent such insolence with a rock, that cruel somebody would probably fall into the hands of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.—Richmond Star.

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