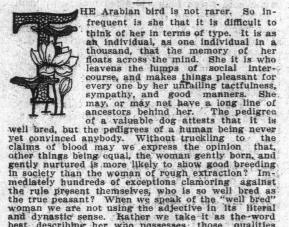
Feminine Fancies and Home Circle Chat

WOMEN OF TODAY

"The Well-Bred Woman."



and dynastic sense. Rather we take it as the word hest describing her who possesses those qualities which one might expect to find in one who comes of gentle stock, of people who for generations have been swift in perception, courteous in manner, kind in ac-tion, people who were incapable of making others

The well bred woman has a horror of inflicting pain. She is gentle even to the snob who offends her taste, and no one understands better the spirit of those who try to live bravely and beg leave to die

uninsuited.

A comprehension almost divine in breadth and swiftness; indeed the first quality of good breeding. But, it has to be followed up by executive ability—that is, by the power to make this comprehension felt by others. It is not enough for the heart to be in the right place. For the credit of human nature, let it be admitted that many hearts are so situated, but the trouble is that, through want of manner, through some deficiency in the art of social expression, even very good, kind people wound their neighbor's feelings. Without breeding courtesy too often degenerates into fulsome gush, recognition into flattery, kindness into patronage, pity into insult. The well-bred woman is calm in manner, but it is not the disdainful repose of a caste swelling with a sense of its hred woman is calm in manner, but it is not the dis-dainful repose of a caste swelling with a sense of its superiority. She is quiet without being placid, or stupid, and her low-toned voice, unspoiled by what the Americans call the "English accent," is never-raised to shout down her fellows. If she is playing the hostess, she is very sensitive about the comfort and happiness of her guests. Her household is con-ducted in such a way that it does not frighten the ascetic by its luxury, and does not attempt to com-pete with the display of the ostentatious rich. She dresses quietly, except on great occasions, she surprises everyone by assuming an appropriate

she diresses querily, except on great occasions, she surprises everyone by assuming an appropriate splendor. She takes a pride in her possessions, but never forces the visitor into a declaration that no one else possesses anything to be compared with her treasures. She is not greedy of admiration, but no one receives it more beautifully. It is always far more difficult to receive than to give, although to give is more blessed.

is more blessed.

There is nothing artificial or insincere in the well-bred, woman. Her good manners are not bad ones dressed up for the masquerade. She is simple, frank, and friendly, and because she is at her ease she

makes others so.

If two guests living in widely different spheres meet at her house she never talks to the one who has most in common with her and leaves the other out in the cold. She will find some subject which interests them both. She has a wonderful "flair" for what interests people, and an unerring instinct as to what is likely to distress or confuse them and therefore should not be allowed to enter the conversation. She does not come to the play half an hour late, and bustle and talk loudly as she finds her stall. She does not snigger in the wrong places during the act, and when the curtain is down, say in an audible voice how old and plain a certain actress is looking, heedless of the fact that the actress's relations may be sitting in a row behind her. makes others so.

row behind her.

The qualities of the well-bred woman, then, are chiefly of the negative kind? Yes! perhaps they are. They protest against all assertion, pretentiousness, obtrusiveness, loudness, inconsideration and ruthless The word "lady" has long been appropriated base uses. There remains nothing to express the type of lady except "well-bred."

FASHIONABLE ECCENTRICITY

An extraordinary change has taken place in social life. But it has come gradually and imperceptibly. Very little comment is made upon it; yet if we look backwards, we discover that the change amounts almost to a revolution.

We look backwards and not further, perhaps than

We look backwards and not further, perhaps than the early nineties, and we see that society at large was still under the domination of "the usual" still bent upon doing things because "every one does them." Still anxious to dress and behave according to a fixed pattern or standard. "Nails under the hammer," best describes the position of people towards convention. Any attempt to escape from the nail destiny meant social ostracism, or in less serious cases ridicule. The aesthetic movement represented one such attempt. In the transition period the establishment of a society known as the "Souls" represented another attempt. This was the golden age of the cult of the bizarre, it was for a time considered very daring and very fine te rebel against uniformity. The rebels were fashlonable. Their imitators rose up in thousands. Soon we had the spectacle of the very class whose motte had been, "People don't do such things," clameuring to discover by the practice of what eccentricity it had been, "People don't do such things," clameuring to discover by the practice of what eccentricity it could separate itself from the wague entity "people." It cannot be said that the spectacle is altogether joyous, but it is certainly interesting. The mad desire that we all have to be original, to be unlike our neighbors, at any cost, leads us into extraordinary situations. Take the case of good manners. Good manners were not so long ago a convention. It was considered the right thing to be civil, and people who came into contact with each other socially were all civil in much the same way. A certain set who pursued the bizarre, at any cost, determined on rudeness as a method of showing originality. This affectation of rudeness and want of manner is still popular. Take sued the bisarre, at any cost, determined on rudeness as a method of showing originality. This affectation of rudeness and want of manner is still popular. Take another case, the ball room, certain dances used to be gone through in a prescribed way. The Lancers were danced with ceremony, and any one who played any tricks with them, or tried to make himself and his partner conspicuous would have been considered a lunatic or a cad. Now the lunatics and the cads are in the ascendant. Eccentricity has become fashionable. Probably there will soon be a reaction. In a world where every one tries to be conspicuous through proclaiming some extravagant taste, or advertising some freakish idea, the crowd of the conspicuous becomes so large that every member of it defeats his own ends. At one time a member of the rich and fashionable classes who marked himself out as a wit by the simple expedient of pronouncing the Engilsh language like a cockney was noticed. Now every one is straining to present the incongruity of the voice of birth and breeding speaking commonly, it may be prophesied that some people will begin to think it will be more original to cultivate the speech natural to refinement and education. The curious feature of the fashion of eccentricity is that all its followers remain conventional at heart. There is no feat unconventionality in the Engilsh chanacter. followers remain conventional at heart. There is no real unconventionality in the English character. Per-haps that is why its desperate attempts to appear bi-

FASHION'S FANCIES

What to Wear—An Expert's Opinion

Doesn't she dress beautifully? is a remark heard repeatedly, and yet, although trite it never loses charm or significance. One of the first signs of civilization was evidenced in the act of Mother Eve covering herself with fig-leaves; but doubtless if she were with us today her tastes would be altered. Although woman's partiality to dress is oftimes exaggerated in man's mind there can be no question of doubt whatever, that she still does and ever will evince interest and pride in her personal adornments. It is right and proper that such should be the case, for if the What to Wear-An Expert's Opinion

conditions at any time were ever adversely changed the efforts of countless centuries of civilization would be nullified as if by a stroke of the pen. Now, however much a man may be a woman-hater, his eyes never fall to respond to a well-dressed woman. He may try to hide this effect, but he cannot escape itself for it attracts him with no less force than the magnet attracts steel. Take, for instance, an average drawing-room, gathering of women. They may all be interested in one another's conversations and yet if a belated, though well dressed woman enters the room. interested in one another's conversations and yet if a belated, though well dressed woman enters the room, every woman's eye will be focussed upon her. On the other hand if she is indifferently dressed, little or no notice is taken of her whatever, and the gossip and conversation continues uninterruptedly, if not more animatedly. Then there is the stage well-dressed actress. How often is the remark passed. "Oh! the play was not good, but the dresses were magnificent, superb, or beautiful," or some other adjective is used. All of which goes to prove the effect of dress on the minds of people. This effect of course varies. A well dressed woman produces a pleasant effect, according minds of people. This effect of course varies. A well dressed woman produces a pleasant effect, according to the degree and perfection of her taste, but—the over dressed woman produces an effect equally as repugnant, if not obnoxious. A dress may be worn by one woman, and it might suit her very well, and cause her to look charming. A rival observes, this, and immediately hastens to her own dressmaker to order a replica, quite irrespective of whether it may suit her, or produce an incongruous effect. This of course, never applies to black. Anybody can wear black, and look well in it, while the majority of people look better dressed in black than in any color. There is something dignified in its appearance, which no light color possesses, and for the matron especially it has no compeer. To her black wear is indispensable. To follow the trend of fashion this season is a serious matter for the woman who is too generously it has no compeer. To her black wear is indispensable. To follow the trend of fashion this season is a serious matter for the woman who is too generously endowed in the matter of flesh. Fortunately most women have a calm way of ignoring the more exaggerated foreign fashions, and are clever at adapting them to their own requirements. The sheath skirt will therefore be simply closely-shaped, limp and trailing, without unduly straining round the wearer, or defining too narrowly her shape and outline. We certainly shall not dispense with petiticoats entirely. For some time too, it has been customary to make one sufficient, and with combinations and silk skirt-knickers to obtain the requisite warmth and the daintiness of frilly underwear, without destroying the slender outline. All skirts are full at the edge and weighed by facings or trimmings. Draped bodices and rucked sleeves are the latest mode. The plastron, however, is universal, although it varies in shape. The square model, narrowing off at the base, is outlined with a berthe arrangement, mitred at the corners, and kept perfectly square—certainly a very fashionable method. Most of the three-quarter or half-length sleeves are trimmed flat, and have no fullness, or gathers, and no decided cuff or hand. The short skirts are chiefly fashioned in linen or, drill, or in serge for morning or country wear. Unless embroidered, they are rarely plain, but show pleats either at wide intervals, graduated from a closer circle at the waist, or have groups closely stitched at the top, and spreading out below the knees. Coats with the hipless effect are quite the "rage," excessively short waisted are they, and circle is an accepted fashion, but alas! too costly to become general. Delicate pastel tones of cloth make up effectively with embroidered galon or embroideries intermixed with bullion and the newest dust coats of Resilda and tussore are much adorned with cord, tassels, buttors, and the inevitable bit of embroidery. The coq feather boa will be very much worn; indeed a and becoming appearance, according well with dressy gown.

MARRIAGE FOLK-LORE

So vast a store of folk-lore is connected with mar-riage, that the superstitious bride who desires a happy wedded life, cannot be too careful as to what she dees or leaves undone on her wedding day, and sometimes or leaves undone on her wedding day, and sometimes the advice given is so contradictory that it is difficult to know what course to pursue. At one time she is assured that-

"Happy's the woolng That's not long in doing."

At another time she will be reminded by a pessi-

"To marry in haste, is to repent at leisure." It is unlucky for a girl to marry a man whose

"To change the name but not the letter, Is to change for the worse and not the better.' The date of the wedding is a matter of great importance if a happy future is to await the young couple, so no superstitious girl would dream of marrying in Lent, for it is well known that—

"Marry in Lent, And you'll live to repent."

May has always been considered a most unlucky month in which to be married and the universal be lief in the old saying-

Rue for Aye,'

may be seen by the small number of wedding notices that appear in the papers during that month.

Friday is as unpopular day for marriages as it is for anything else. Thursday shares the unpopularity in England, for some reason, though in Scandinavia. "Thor's Day" is regarded as specially auspicious. In the words of the old saw—

"Monday for wealth Tuesday for wealth, Wednesday best day of all," Thursday for losses, Friday for crosses, Saturday no day at all."

One of the first things a bride does on her wedding day is to look out of the window to see if the morning be fine. For—

"Happy the bride the sun shines on."

In Scotland there is an old rhyme on the same

"If the day be foul,
That the bride gangs hame,
Alack and Alas!
But she'd lived her lane,
If the day be fair
That the bride gangs hame,
Baith pleasure and peace
Afore her are gane!"

In dressing for her wedding the bride must not forget to wear-

> "Something old, Something new, Something borrowed, Something blue."

It would be a fatal mistake to be attired in green on that important occasion. Green being particularly the fairles color they bitterly resent mortals wearing it, and they will not fail to avenge the insult on the wearer. In Scotland it is said—

"They that marry in green, Their sorrow's soon seen

If a girl is married before , wheter, the bride presents her with a pair green garters and she is expected to dance at the wedding without shoes! The marriage gown should not be worn before the wedding day, and therefore tried on before it is quite finished. If the person who makes it can succeed in sewing into it one of her own hairs she

will be the next bride. For unmarried persons to rub shoulders with the bride or bridegroom augers a speedy wedding. Sometimes a bride has difficulty in persuading a popular friend to officiate as bridesmaid if she has acted in that capacity before, for it is well

"Three times a bridesmaid, never a bride."

Of course no well regulated bride would appear in church when her banns are being published as that would involve a troublous married life, and in the North of England it is believed that the children of the marriage would be born deaf and dumb. It is very bad luck for a wedding party to meet a funeral, and when such a meeting is unavoidable the party has been known to turn back and reach the church by some other route. It is also unlucky to meet swine, hence the saving. swine, hence the saying-

"The swine run through it."

When the bride leaves her father's house she is When the bride leaves her father's house she is greeted with a shower of rice, old shoes and besoms. The rice symboliese plenty, and the old shoes and besoms that her family have now resigned all further responsibility regarding her. An old Yorkshire wedding custom is to pour a kettleful' of boiling water on the doorstep before the bride leaves her old home and it is said that before the water has dried up another wedding will have been arranged. In Scotland the bride must be met on the threshold of her new home by her husband's mother or an old friend, who breaks a cake over her head and a scramble for the pleese ensues. Those who are lucky enough to secure breaks a cake over her head and a scramble for the pieces ensues. Those who are lucky enough to secure a fragment treasure it carefully, to put under their pillows at night when it will ensure dreams of their future partners in life. The same applies to the wedding cake, the first slice of which must be cut by the bride. It is very unlucky for a bride to lose her wedding ring, for it signifies she will lose her husband's affection. Of course the bridegroom must on no account attempt to see his bride on the wedding day till they meet in the church or wherever the caremony is to take place. If the bride has taken every care to propiliate the fates by a strict adherence to these rules, it would indeed be a pity if the husband spoilt everything at the last moment by a premature appearance. premature appearance.

TEMPTING SALADS AND DRESSINGS

A salad should appear on the table at least once a

A salad should appear on the table at least once a day, all the year round; more aspecially during the summer months, for fresh green foods are particularly wholesome and cleansing to the blood. But in many cases salads fail hopelessly, and the following are a few of the reasons for this:

1. Because the fresh greenstuff is often allowed to soak in water for hours with the apparent idea that it is being kept fresh, whereas in reality it gets sodden. It is much better to place it in the coolest possible place, on a stone foor or slab, until about half an hour before it is wanted. Then place it in water to which you have added a little salt.

2. Because the dressing is poured over the salad some time before it is served, and consequently it has also got sodden and often almost tasteless.

3. Because inferior oil is used in the dressing, imparting an unpleasant flavor to it. Use only the best Olive Oil, and buy it in small bottles as the oil should be quickly used when the bottle has once been opened.

TWO NICE SALADS

(1) Freech Salad

This is quite simple to make and is really delicious. Those who do not live in the country or possess gardens, can purchase the green corn salad and the young dandellon-leaves at any good greengrozers or stores for a small sum, Needless to say a very small quantity of the former would be required. Required. Two or three lettuces, one small endive, a handful of green corn salad, and young dandellon-leaves, one large teaspoonful of finely chooped parsley, mint and thyme mixed, two hard boded eggs, one beet root, a dressing of oil, French Mastard, and vinegar. Method—Carefully wash and pick over the lettuces, endive, corn, and dandellon-leaves. Tear them into convenient sized pieces, and toss them lightly together, adding the chopped herbs. Mix together the oil and vinegar, allowing the proportion of two tablespoonfuls of oil, to one of vinegar, add mustard to taste. Pile the salad up in a bowl, garnish it with quarters of egg, and beet root which has been nicely boiled. Just at the last minute pour over the dressing, or, what is better, hand it seperately.

(2) Heidleberg Salad

Now please don't take fright at the long list of ingredients, and make up your mind the recipe will be no use to you. Read it through again. You have no game or poultry? Never mind, you have cold veal, or ferhaps beef, that will do. No olives? Well there are several gherkins in the bottle of mixed pickles, it is often quite easy to find substitutes if only people will think. I will give the recipe as it should be, and then people can find their own substitutes, to suit their own requirements. Required: One lettuce, one small ecoked beet root, three or more inches of cucumber, two or three tender sticks of celery, a few slices of cold game or fowl, two boned anchovies, a few olives, a teaspoonful each of chopped shallot, tarragon, chervil, and soriel, the volk of an egg hard boiled, two gherkins, mayonaise sauce, or salad dressing. Method—Well wash and dry the lettuce and pull it into small pieces. Peel the beet root and cucumber, cut them and the meat and anchavies into strips like matches, also the olives. Mix all these together in a salad bowl, sprinkle over the chopped shallot, tarragon, chervil and sorrel. Over these dust the hard boiled yolk of egg, having first rubbed it through a seive. Garnish with a few strips of gherkin, and hand the dressing seperately. Now as to dressings, that all important feature of a successful salad. I have a very good feetipe for mayonaise, which I suppose is really the most popular of all. It is as follows. Required: The yolks of two eggs, spoonful of made mustard, a dust of pepper, quarter of a pint of salad oil, two teaspoonfuls of materials as a second of pepper, and the salad on, and urup it very slowly on the yolks in a basin, with the pepper, salt and mustard Mix them well toxether with a wqoden spoon, then take the salt one taspoonful of tarragon vinegar, one teaspoonful of tarragon vinegar. Should by any chance the sauce orude, as it will undoubtedly do if the obasin, with the pepper, salt and mustard Mix them well toxether with a wqoden spoon, t (2) Heidleberg Salad

Required: One hard boiled yolk of egg, four tablespoonfuls of cream or milk, one teaspoonful of mustard, one teaspoonful of sugar, half a teaspoonful of sait, three tablespoonful of so good salad oil, one tablespoonful or more of vinegar. Method—Mix the cablespoonful or more of vinegar. Method—Mix the cream and mustard together smoothly, then add the vinegar and sait. Rub the yolk through a saive and add it. Then add the oil drop by drop, and then the vinegar stirring all the time, or else the sauce will curdle. Pour into a bettle, shake well, and then it is ready for use. All these things, such as salad-dressing making, require a little knack and must—be done very carefully, above all do not hurry in making the Mayonaise, as so much depends upon its being made with the greatest care. A Cheaper Dressing

TWO GOOD CAKES

Sponge Cake This is really an excellent recipe for this wholesome and always welcome cake, and if carefully carried out the best results will be found. Required:
(for coating tin)—A little salad oil or melted butter,
one tablespoonful of flour, and the same of vastor
sugar. Required (for the mixture)—Quarter of a
pound of loaf sugar, half a gill of water, four eggs,

quarter of a pound of Vienna flour, and a little grated lemon rind, if liked. Method—Mix or sieve together the tablespoonfuls of castor sugar and flour, pour a little salad oil, or carefully melted butter into the tin and let it run all over it, and then pour out any extra that may be in it. The butter must be fresh. Now put in the mixed flour and sugar, shake it all over the tin, and then shake out all that is not held by the oil, or butter as the case may be. Put the loaf sugar and water into a bright pan, let the sugar dissolve, then boil it to a syrup, which must feel quite dissolve, then boil it to a syrup, which must feel quite sticky when some of it is pressed between the finger and thumb. While the syrup is boiling break the eggs into a basin, and whisk them from ten to fifteen minutes. When the syrup is ready, add it gradually to the eggs, beating them all the time, and continue to beat for another ten minutes. Sieve the flour and when the eggs are sufficiently beaten stir it in lightly. Pour the mixture into the prepared tin, and bake it in a moderate oven for about half an hour. For the first fifteen minutes do not on any account allow the oven door to be opened, for the inrush of air will oven door to be opened, for the inrush of air will cause the cake to fall flat if it is not quite set, and banging the oven door would have the same effect.
As soon as the cake is baked turn it out of the tin on

to a sieve, where let it remain till cold.

These are most delicious, they look like bread but are lighter and yellower and have soft crust. Required (in the first basin): Quarter of a pound of flour, one ounce of compressed yeast, barely one gill of tepid milk. Required (in the second basin): One pound of Vienna flour, half a pound of butter, one ounce of sugar, six eggs, and half a teaspoonful of salt. Method: Cream the yeast with half a teaspoonful of salt. Method: Cream the yeast with half a teaspoonful of castor sugar until it is liquid, then add the tepid milk. Sieve the flour into a basin and then mix it with the milk, etc., to a sponge. Cover the basin with a clean cloth and put it in a warm place. Selve the pound of flour into another basin, make a hole in the middle, put in the butter, salt and sugar, work the butter to a cream, and then gradually work the flour into it. The sponge in the first basin will now be ready. Spread it over the ingreddents in the second basin and then mix it in. Put the basin in a cold place and leave in a cold place for a few hours, or if noscible till second. now be ready. Spread it over the ingredients in the second basin and then mix it in. Put the basin in a cold place and leave in a cold place for a few hours, or if possible till next day. Grease some small fancy cake tins, put a ball of dough in each, put the tins in a warm place till the dough has risen and nearly filled the tins and then bake in a quick oven. When they are a nice brown and feel spongy they are done. Put them on a sieve until cold. Both these cakes need great care, but the results are such as to amply reward any labor that may have been taken in the making of them.

COMMENTS OF AN ONLOOKER.

Many congratulations were offered to the Princess of Wales on Tuesday, May 26th, upon the attainment of her forty-first birthday. Like the late Queen Victoria the Princess of Wales was born at Kensington

The King's visit, to the Czar is the first occasion on which His Majesty has set foot in Russia since his accession, though it will be remembered that he was present as the Prince of Wales at the Czar's coronation at Moscow.

The state ball at Buckingham Palace, in honor of the visit of President Fallieres, was brilliant in the extreme, and the scene in the beautiully decorated ball-room was one never to be forgotten. A few minutes after eleven the strains of "The Marseilles" announced to the assembled company the approach of their majesties with Monsieur Fallieres and the procession headed by the Lord Chamberlain and all the great officials walking backwards and carrying white wands of office entered the ball-room. The King and Queen with M. Fallieres in the centre, came immediately behind. Their followed the Prince and Princess of Wales, Princess Victoria and other members of the Royal Family. The King was wearing the uniform of colonel-in-chief of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, and the Queen looked radiantly beautiful in a gown of yellow satin embroidered with lace, pearls and diamonds. Her Majesty wore a fleur-de-lis diamond tiara, and other pearl and diamond ornaments. The state ball at Buckingham Palace, in honor of

The Duchess of Norfolk is just now much in the thoughts of the Roman Catholics of England, for it is hoped that within the control of England. hoped that within the next few weeks the grand old title of Earl of Arundel will have once more a bearer, albeit be but a tiny one to be the holder of so many dignities. Her Grace is the Earl Marshall's second wife, and she is heiress to her father's ancient Barony of Herries. Like her husband the Duchess is devoted to the old faith and since her marriage she has been the leading Catholic hostess. Her first child a little daughter is now three years old, and rejoices in the historic name of Lady Rachel Howard.

TABLE DECORATION

Every woman who has any pride of home in her composition, is anxious to have an artistic and dainty dinner table. However simple the menu, however unpretentious the room, there is always a great charm in the arrangement of flowers and glass. The young folk who begin life in a small bungalow or cottage, will, if they are wise, have a round table of dark oak; in their dining room. It is quite inexpensive, and the same may be said of the old Weish Dresser which is used as a sideboard, and the high backed rush bottomed chairs. But it is the table that occupies, our attention at present. I would dispense with a linen table cloth altogether, and this is economy, both as regards the initial outlay, for cloths are by no means cheap, and also with reference to the laundry bill. As there will only be one servant in this Bijou abode it would be hardly possible to have a highly polished table such as a mahogany one, but dark oak does not require much attention, save a daily rub over with oil and vinegar, applied with a rag, and not much of that. This keeps the surface dark and glossy, but not polished. With regard to the mats, there the industry of the housewife can be exerted. For everyday use, plain white ones made of damask, edged with crochet, would be amply good enough and can be made for a very small sum. Quite nice crochet for the border can be bought for a small sum, but of course this might be made by the housewife herself, if her fingers are at all skillful in the art of fancy work. For special occasions, a centre and mais of fine damask edged with Irish crochet lace, is most effective. There are several books on this work, and if it is wrought with fine thread the result is really beautiful. Of course it takes some time to make, but fortunately it is just the work for outdoors or odd moments during the summer, as all the little motifs are made separately and finally joined together with a sort of trellis work filling of bars. The round centre need not be large, as a band of the table should be seen between this holding similar flowers. To give a finishing touch to the whole, four Sheffield Plate candlesticks with vellow shades, should be arranged alternately with the small glass bowls round the centrepiece, and little silver bonbonnieres; can be filled with chocolates or salted almonds. The same scheme can be greatly elaborated in a more pretent as room and yet retain its characteristics. Where the furniture is in Sheraton style, the table will of course be highly polished and have the typical inlaid band of gold colored wood. The centre and mats can again be of fine Irish Point Lace, but in the centre I can imagine a silver "Potato Ring" pierced and chased, and fitted inside with a tin bowl to hold flowers, four small "coasters" also for flowers, and four Queen Anne silver candlesticks. The flowers should be lightly arranged, the table I have in my mind, being decorated with the palest tulips and the bonbonnieres should be small oval dishes of Crown Derby china. But there is a vast preponderance of houses where the square or oblong table still holds its own in the dining room and where moreover the wood is not of such a character as would permit of its surface being shown bare, and which is therefore decorously covered with the ordin-

ary white cloth. I know a great many tables of this description, the owners of which adhere religiously to the time honored principle of having a plain centre for ordinary use, and an elaborate one for special occasions. I made the acquaintance not long ago of a very pretty idea for the last named, which I will retail for the benefit of my readers. A woman, who was skillful both with her brush and with her needle, had painted some large pink roses on white satin, also a number of stray petals and green leaves. These were all cut out carefully with a pair of sharp scissors and tacked on to an oval of silver gauze, the roses forming a complete border and the odd petals and leaves strewn about as if they had fallen on to the gauze. All these were then applique to the on to the gauze. All these were then applique to the gauze with fine silks exactly the shade of each lea or flower. The bowl to be placed in the middle could be either of china or glass, and the flowers would be since the state of the stat be either of china or glass, and the nowers would have to be pink ones—roses for choice. It has struck me that a still more effective scheme would be to paint water lilles and their flat green leaves on the satin, as these bid fair to be very popular for table decoration this year, and to have a long trough of tin down the centre covered on the outside with silver decoration this year, and to have a long trough of tin down the centre covered on the outside with silver matting, and holding water lilles, or if it be impos-sible to get these, white flowers of the same consis-tency, as white tulips, or arums, or the tobacco-flower. With silver gauze as the foundation of the centre, the candlesticks and bonbonniers must be either of silver or crystal as any ching white centre, the candlesticks and bonbonnières must be either of silver or crystal, as any china, white or colored would look out of place. For every-day use, especially where a lamp can be placed in the centre, I would suggest a centre made of cream linen, with a border of roses cut out of cretonne and applique on to the linen with colored silks. If the cretonne is a good one the whole thing will wash together. The lamp or candle shades can be made of fine cream casement cloth, with a similar border, only the roses must be much smaller, and there must be a fringe of crystal beads as an edging. By way of a change one set of centre and shades might be made with little wreaths of William Allen Richardson roses, and another of mauve and purple Clematis. The color, if not the kind of flowers used for decoration, should match those on the centre.

WITH THE POETS

Looking for Father The twilight is sad and cloudy,
The wind blows wild and free,
And like the wings of sea-birds
Flash the white caps of the sea.

But in the fisherman's cottage There shines a ruddier light, And a little face at the window

Peers out into the night. Close, close, it is pressed to the window,
As if those childish eyes
Were looking out into the darkness
To see some form arise.

What tale do the roaring ocean
And the night-wind bleak and wild,
As they beat at the crazy casement,
Tell to that little child?

The Cry of the Women (By Mrs. Caroline A. Soule) O you hear the cry of the women—
Of the women whose hearts are broken?
O my brothers! listen to the wailing,
And let it be the token
Of the need there is to pray
For the dawning of a better day—
Of a day when there shall be no sighing
Over manhood in the gutter dying;
Of a day when wives' and mothers' sadness.
Shall all be forgotten in their gladness.

Do you hear the cry of the women Do you hear the cry of the women—
Of the women whose hopes are weary?
O my brothers! listen to the wailing
That comes up from homes so dreary,
And let it he an answer when they say:
"Wherefore do these women need to pray?"
Need to pray! O my strong and noble brothers!
Think of it—were you our wives and you our moth
And say if you would wish to hear them sighing
Over manhood in the gutter dying!

Do you hear the cry of the women—

The women who look forward to the morrow As a day whose anguish they can reckon

By the memories of a cruel; living sorrow?

O my brothers! lend a helping hand

To this earnest, to this solemn Band—
Slaves to wretchedness for ever and for ever,
Unless Right doth use its mighty lever,
And lift manhood from its slime.

From its sluggishness and crime.

Do you hear the cry of the women—
Of the women whose true hearts are thrilling
With a Christ-like love for sinners,
And who, like the Lord, are willing
To go wheresoever there are faltering souls
With not faith enough to make them whole?
O my brothers! listen to the cry,
And be not ashamed of tearful eye;
For the world hath need that women pray
For the dawning of a brighter day.

Where the Children Sleep (Mrs. Georgia Hulse McLeod) A mother knelt at sunset hour,
Beside a new made mound,
Only two graves could she call hers
Midst hundreds scattered round,
"Full twenty years ago," she moaned,
"My baby fell asleep
And here I came, day after day
By his low bed to weep,"

"So beautiful my darling was,
That strangers turned again,
To look upon his bonny face,
So free from sin's dark stain,
I thought no sorrow was like mine
With empty arms and heart,
I prayed to die, but still was left
In the world's crowded mart."

"Oh foolish mother, God knew best,
My baby safe, He keeps,
But, woe is me, where is the soul
Of this my boy, who sleeps?
Here, just one little hour ago,
They laid him 'neath the sod,
How blessed I should be to know
He too was safe with God!"

"A poor weak Absalom! my son, I scarce can make it true, With victims of the dark rum fiend That they have numbered you.

How bright, and brave, and true you were,
Ere drink its work begun,
Only a sad and shattered wreck
When the foul work was done."

"Two graves, my graves, my baby boy,
My son to hashood grown,
And other mothers like to me,
Make this same, sad life, moan!"
Oh men with fair and happy homes,
How long shall these things be,
Before you roll away the stone,
And let our sons go free?

—Baltimore.

-Baltimore, Md.

A certain sort of talent is almost indispensable for people who would spend years together and not bore themselves to death. It is more important that a person should be a good gossip, and talk pleasantly and smartly of common friends and the thousand-and-one nothings of the day and hour, than that she should speak with the tongues of men and angels; for a while together by the fire happens more frequently in marriage than the presence of a distinguished foreigner to dinner.

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