

## Courrier des Dames.

Our lady readers are invited to contribute to this department.

### THE FASHION PLATE. SUMMER HATS.

FIG. 1. Capote of figured white Swiss muslin lined with light blue lustrine and trimmed with white lace and bows of light blue silk ribbon.

FIGS. 2 AND 3. Round hat of figured Swiss muslin, trimmed with a pinked blue silk ruche, white lace, bows of silk ribbon, and a sprig of violets.

FIG. 3. Plain white Swiss muslin capote, trimmed with ruchings of the same material, pink grosgrain ribbon and a spray of rosebuds.

FIG. 5. Round hat of figured black tulle with veil of the same. The trimming consists of black grosgrain ribbon, black lace, jet agrafe and drops and a spray of flowers of different colours.

### RIDING HABITS.

FIGS. 6 AND 7. Grey moiré habit and jacket, the latter trimmed with narrow grosgrain piping to match. Chemise of fine linen; pink *cape-de-chine* cravat and black straw hat with grey veil.

FIGS. 8 AND 9. This costume is of dark blue cloth, the jacket trimmed with velvet ribbon.

### ON HOME SERVICE.

#### II. THE "DOMINA," OR HOUSE LADY (Continued).

If order, regularity, and care be essentially necessary in the Domina's dealings with her servants, as great or even greater is the need of cultivating these habits in her own immediate home circle. There is no doubt that the tone of the family itself insensibly affects the world below stairs. Servants, in time, would become ashamed of conducting themselves and their own affairs upon entirely different principles from those actuating their employers.

The Domina's first care obviously must be to regulate her expenses, and to consider most carefully by what especial system of management the greatest amount of comfort can be secured. For her daily and hourly actions and conduct no especial rules can possibly be laid down; for no two homes can be governed exactly alike.

Nevertheless, there are one or two principles that never can be violated with impunity. First and foremost comes true economy, the best definition of which word, as it is used here, is "the just appropriation of income." There is no establishment, however high up in the social scale, that can dispense with it. Extravagance and thoughtlessness in expenditure lead to innumerable little meannesses and parsimonious acts.

Generally speaking, it is the Domina to whom is entrusted all money needed for house and domestic purposes. The right apportionment of this money, and the not allowing the demand upon any one department to exceed the amount set apart for it, to the detriment of any other, require some skill and thought, and it is upon this just division that true economy depends, the practice of which will secure the "House Lady" from the vexations daily struggling to diminish expenditure and useless expending over small items. We need hardly say that there can be no comfort where the outgoings exceed the incomings; the daily and hourly worry incurred, is utterly destructive to home peace.

It is not our purpose here to enlarge upon all the duties of a wife with regard to her home and those dependent upon her daily love and care, they must be looked at from a different and far wider point of view; but the "House Lady" must remember that at any rate the hourly well-being and health of her husband, children, and servants rest mainly upon the judicious management of the income allotted to her. Useless, wasteful expenditure is really a melancholy thing; it has nothing whatever to do with generosity. And there is such a thing as tiring out the love and forbearance of a husband, if constant demands upon his purse are made for matters which answer no good end, and which certainly do not contribute to his peace and comfort.

So great a change of late years seems to have crept over our English homes, that to hold the opinion that the comfort and prosperity of her husband should be the first thing considered in all the Domina's home arrangements may be considered old-fashioned, and the opinion itself obsolete. Yet the woman who would do wisely must remember that her husband's welfare will not be secured if she be careless in expenditure, or if she make him second only to her children, or if she herself (from want of proper organisation, or from having failed to establish a wholesome authority) be in a continual state of worry and unrest from doing personally what ought to be done for her by her servants. A husband does not expect, after the active duties of his day are over, to find his wife pre-occupied with household cares, or too tired out to be able to afford him rational companionship. She must so arrange her outer practical duties that her mind may be at rest, and that she may not be compelled to give up all thought of mental improvement as the cares of a household increase. A little intellectual work

is absolutely essential to the woman who aspires to be her husband's best friend and companion, not his competitor! Moreover, it can only be by reading, thought, and observation that she will be enabled to make head against the constantly increasing spirit of luxury, and to dare to stand alone in upholding simplicity, order, and usefulness.

There is a species of false shame, too, very current among women who will neither read nor think, which makes them vie restlessly with each other, not as to the amount of good they can each achieve within the precincts of home, but in the freshness and costliness of carpets, curtains, napery, and plate, ignoring that a little true study of art would help them to the knowledge of how the interior of a house may be made beautiful by other decorations and adornments than those which can be supplied by the upholsterer, linendraper, or silversmith. There is no woman, no matter upon which step of the social ladder she may stand, who can neglect all mental cultivation with impunity. She will gradually sink into a common-place household drudge and gossip, and must not be surprised if her husband gives up his evenings at home for the sake of spending them where he can obtain something like intellectual companionship. It is very remarkable how often wives entirely overlook one very great means of increasing their influence over their husbands by neglecting to take interest in their professions or pursuits, whatever they may be. And yet there is hardly any work upon which a man may be engaged that cannot occasionally have some fresh light thrown upon it from a woman's point of view. Especially should this be the case with the wives of artists, whether they be musicians or architects, painters or sculptors.

The ceaseless outcry about woman's rights, the loud demands which women make to be heard in the houses of legislature, seem absolutely pitiable whilst their true domains, their own kingdoms, where they might reign as queens supreme, lie desolate and waste! These words are not too strong; it is absolute desolation which reigns in a house inhabited (not wisely governed) by a "House Lady" undeserving of the name. And in thousands of instances this desolation arises in the first place from carelessness and neglect of the simplest rules for house order. The little things of life—it is they which most affect our happiness; and it is the little irregularities, the ever-recurring instances of want of forethought, which most frequently obstruct the smooth working of household machinery. And from such slight causes as these discomfort in the home spreads, the sunlight but seldom peeps in, and only a dull grey civility remains between husband and wife, instead of perfect loving accord.

There is no putting aside the fact that children play a most important part in every household. Especially careful must the "Domina" be in her selection of nurses, for it is not too much to say that the influences surrounding a child during the first seven years of its life remain with him, for good or for evil, to the end. The particular duties of nurses will be detailed farther on; it is the position which children so often hold nowadays in a household that is here to be considered. They are made of far too much importance; hence occasionally arises a very objectionable habit—that of children giving orders to servants in an absolutely authoritative manner, a thing which should never be allowed. Their little indulgences, whether they interfere with the comfort of others or not, must always be attended to; they are veritable little tyrants, but, God bless them! sweet though *exigant* little mortals! Too much care cannot be taken of them, if it be the right sort of care—the care which watches first over their bodily health, by accustoming them to regular hours, wholesome food, and obedience (for the habit of obedience, by preventing constant fits of crying and struggles for mastery, more than any other perhaps conduces to health), and the care which prevents them from finding out of what immense importance they are. Do not let them reign supreme, for the mischief this mistake in training will bring about in after-life is manifold. It is not easy to give up the habit of being first, and the boy who as a child is secretly supplied with indulgences about which "Papa is not to know" will, when he grows up, be hardly likely to learn what straightforwardness, self-denial, and unselfishness mean, save by the world's strange and hard lessons. The mother must be the child's first teacher; that is a duty which can never be delegated to anybody else.

Whenever space allows, every mistress of a household should contrive to have a room to herself, where she can have her children undisturbed about her for a part of her morning; from whence, too, all her orders can be given, and where all her especial "household gods," so to speak, should be gathered about her.

Who can over-estimate the worth of the influence that may arise in after-years, when the remembrance of the wise, kindly inmate of that room, always ready there, with gentle tones, to teach, help, direct, advise, or console those who came to her from time to time, arises, either in the hearts of her children who have long left their early home in order to

play their own parts in the world, or of her young acquaintances who were proud in being able to call her their friend, or in the servants who loved and respected her as a patient, kind, and watchful mistress? There is no lack of woman's work yet in England or in any country where the sacredness of a happy home binds the individuals of a family together.—Queen.

A sagacious Aberdeen papa exceedingly mortified his daughter by ordering to be printed on her wedding cards, "No presents, except those adapted to an income of £200."

The Sultan of Turkey retains the exclusive services of a lady physician, to attend the females and children of his household. The physician is a New Hampshire lady, who graduated in Philadelphia.

Dio Lewis advocates sunlight. He has been trying experiments. He attempted to make plants grow in a parlour, not very dark to be sure, but kept in the dim, twilight condition considered fashionable. The plants looked sick in four days, then they turned yellow, and finally died. He reasons that girls kept in dim, unsunny rooms will grow pale, yellow, and sickly also—if they do not die.

Lady Morgan held one rule on the education of children which cannot be too often repeated: "Give to every girl, no matter what her rank, a trade—a profession, if the word suits you better. Cultivate all things in moderation, but one thing in perfection, for which she has talent—no matter what it is—drawing, music, embroidery, housekeeping even; let her feel this will carry her through life without dependence."

The supporters of the Female Suffrage Bill in England have antagonists in high quarters. It was noticed at a recent division that the Marquis of Lorne voted against the measure, and his feeling is shared by the Princess Louise. His lordship is so strongly opposed to the movement that when asked to take the chair at the meeting of the Society for Improving the Education of Women he refused to do so unless Mrs. Grey promised that no ladies should speak. Last year several of them spoke, but this year they are to be reduced to silence.

Railway companies in France adopt the sensible plan of placing unprotected ladies in an exclusive compartment; they have ever regarded this rather as a politeness than as a right. A lady has brought the matter to a point. Returning from Amiens to Paris, and alone in a first-class compartment for ladies exclusively, the station-master at Chantilly put six men, all third-class passengers, to occupy the vacant and required seats; the lady protested, stoutly defended the Woman's Rights question, and has had the satisfaction of defeating the company, and deciding the principle in the Superior Court.

Miss Una Hawthorne, daughter of the great novelist, is doing excellent philanthropic work in London. She is engaged in establishing a "Preventive Home" for girls in connection with a suburban orphanage. Plunging into the bad homes and destitution of London, she takes girls who are morally likely to fall, or who have fallen, but are not without hope of reform, and gives them work in the laundry of the orphanage, thus at once saving the expense of hired women, which was found to be too heavy, and giving the girls a chance of elevation. The walls thus picked up receive their instruction in the trade and their board and clothing for the first six months, and wages for the second six months, when permanent places are found for them.

Made-moiselle de Malamarre de Tarbois is a young Parisian lady who recently took the veil at Noilly. She has left a world of which she was one of its gayest and most gifted ornaments under sad circumstances. She was residing with her family in their ancestral chateau, which was occupied by the Prussians. The officers were carousing in the dining-room, and one of them seized the young lady round the waist and attempted to kiss her. The maiden, fired with resentment at this outrage, seized a knife on the dinner-table and plunged it into the Prussian's breast. The lady was arrested, a court martial was summoned; but the Prince of Hesse, who commanded the district, ordered the instant release of the fair prisoner. Never was blood more justly shed, yet it has weighed so heavily on her heart that she has been driven to seek shelter from remorse in the cloisters.

At the last great meeting about Women's Rights, a lady who spoke said: "A gentleman once told her that it was quite clear that it was not intended for women to speak in public because of their voice. That was absurd, for Mr. Gladstone had stated that in a balloon a man's voice could be heard a mile, a woman's could be heard two miles (loud laughter). One was continually hearing what had been termed the peace and the war argument. It might be true that women could not go out as soldiers, but this was an argument that always reminded her that Dr. Watts, who was no mean authority, wished to confine fighting to dogs (renewed laughter). She claimed the vote for women householders who were paying their rates and taxes, on the ground of their common humanity. It all just came to this—either men were infallible or women had no souls." (Loud laughter.)

There can be no hesitation, says the *Court Journal*, in now speaking of the engagement of the Duke of Edinburgh to the Grand Duchess Marie. They met at Hesse Darmstadt a year or two since, and from that time an understanding has existed between them. During Prince Alfred's residence at Sorrento, though nominally staying at the Tasso, he has been constantly at the Imperial villa from morning till night. His Royal Highness is now returning to London, but will leave it again shortly, and join the Empress and the Grand Duchess

at Jugenheim, in Hesse Darmstadt. The Emperor will also be there later, and official publicity will then, no doubt, be given to the marriage that is to be. One difficulty existed which has been surmounted. It was proposed as a condition that the Duke of Edinburgh should reside a certain period of time every year in Russia, but he refused to bind himself. Something more than rumour says that the Grand Duchess will bring her husband £20,000 a year, besides £200,000; but yet a larger fortune will be the sweet, amiable disposition of which every one about the Court speaks.

## News of the Week.

It is said that Chief Justice Duval intends shortly to resign.

It is said that a fatal case of yellow fever has occurred in Brooklyn.

At last accounts the *Great Eastern* had paid out 143 miles of cable.

A DEATH has occurred in Kingston, Ont., said to be from cholera morbus.

The Shah has arrived in London and has been received with unbounded enthusiasm.

O'KELLY, the captive correspondent of the *New York Herald*, has arrived in Spain.

FIVE cases of sunstroke, one of which proved fatal, occurred in New York on 17th inst.

It was proposed to do away with the system of granting pensions to Ministers in Spain.

THE Russians, after twice defeating the forces of the Khan, were pushing on for the capital.

The *Great Eastern* has commenced laying the new cable from Valencia to Sydney, Cape Breton.

THE Sultan of Zanzibar has signed a treaty with Great Britain, for the suppression of the slave trade.

It is said that Colonel Jennings, late of the Hussars, will succeed Colonel Ross as Adjutant-General of Militia.

TWENTY-SEVEN steamers had gone to the China seas to convey to California a batch of some 20,000 Celestials.

THE Emperor William is reported still seriously ill. Private letters are said to represent his condition as alarming.

GEN. NOUVILLAS is reported to have defeated the Carlists near Vittoria, killing and wounding 300, and taking 700 prisoners.

THE bill suppressing religious orders in Italy passed the Upper House, and now awaits the royal sanction to become law.

THE United States Government have purchased the British steamer *Tigress*, which will be sent in search of the *Polaris*.

A BILL providing for the collection of taxes and reform in all departments of the administration was under the consideration of the Cortes.

THE cholera still continues at Memphis, the number of cases augmenting, but the disease itself yielding more readily than at first to medical treatment.

ADDITIONAL articles to the postal treaty with the United States have been signed providing for the interchange of postal cards at a prepaid rate of 2 cents.

MR. THOMAS N. GIBBS, the representative of South Ontario, in the Commons, was sworn in as Secretary of State for the Provinces, on Saturday at Quebec.

A DISEASE is prevalent among horses in the environs of Kingston, Ont., which is said to be influenza and not the epizootic which prevailed here last summer.

JUDGMENT was rendered in the case of the steamer *Murillo*, which ran down the *Northfleet*, censuring the commander and suspending his certificate for nine months.

THE inquiry into the loss of the steamer *Northern*, has commenced at Quebec. Mr. Smith, Deputy Minister of Marine, and Mr. V. Tetu, of the Trinity Board, compose the Court.

THE tradespeople at Vienna were greatly discouraged at the small number of visitors to the exhibition, and the cost of living at places of entertainment for strangers had been generally reduced in consequence.

IT was announced in the Cortes that the separation of Church and State was part of the government programme. A proposition for a loan of three hundred million reals and the imposition of additional taxes was also made.

ANOTHER Borgia, in Illinois, who confesses that she has poisoned nine persons, including her husband, daughter, and other near relatives, very nearly came to her own death by swallowing one of her draughts, prepared for her son.

SPARKS, the Canadian, won the pedestrian race from Arnprior to Ottawa, a distance of forty miles, in 8 hours 17 minutes. He passed his competitor, who is an English professional, on the road, and the latter was left behind altogether having taken a fainting fit.

IT is stated by the *China Mail* that the Chinese Government is about to sanction the introduction of railways, and the working of coal and iron mines in the Flowery Land. Chinese emigration to San Francisco still continues, 2,000 passengers having been landed there on Friday last. The same paper strongly denounces the treatment these emigrants receive in California.

WE learn from the *Montbom* of a recent date, that the old settlers regret that the incoming population is so largely composed of bachelors, and that they are crying out for large families and more girls. Here is an opportunity for the fair sex of older countries where the balance of population is usually on their side to an extent which enforces celibacy on a considerable proportion of their number.

In Massachusetts, when the preacher reaches "seventeenthly" in his sermon, a knowing chap yells "dro," and the congregation is promptly dismissed.