

HOME INTERESTS.

Conducted by HELENE.

Sunshine and brightness and flowers! One cannot help just now feeling the influence of all these. The air is heavy with the perfume of the lilac and plum blossoms, and those natural beauties appeal to us more, I think, than the cultivated hothouse favorites. The humblest apartment assumes an air of refinement by the addition of a few spring flowers, and many a weary hour for a sufferer is brightened by the thoughtfulness of some one who brings into their rooms and lives a bunch of delicious fragrance. Those of us who have an abundance in our gardens must not forget that there are some to whom even one bright flower means much; that there are hospitals with innumerable neglected ones, so let us out of our surfeit of pretty spring blossoms shed a little brightness into crushed and suffering lives.

FASHIONS.

Some of the picture hats are fashioned of pompadour silk, wreathed with flowers that match its design. Others are of black taffeta, or of white batiste, embroidered in President effect and trimmed with sprays of flowers. Tight-fitting coats display drapery similar to that of the 1905 waist. The drapery may be horizontal or lengthwise, according to the needs of the figure, but the bust must be high and the lines taper sharply to the waist. Redingotes are long and flowing coats a little below three-quarter length; the loose sack just escapes the hips, and the coat, or bolero, is short enough to show the princess top of the suspender skirt that it accompanies. This new carriage skirt has won general favor. It admits of extensive variation, for its lines are correct for tweeds and for tub gowns, for dinner and for dancing gowns, and equally so for bridesmaids and for graduates. The coats for the elaborate frock may be broadened pompadour silk, of faintly brocaded silk, or of lace laid over ruffled and plaited chiffon. The bretelles that apparently hold up the skirt may be simple or as fancy as one may desire.

The tailored cloth gowns show velvet trimming of self color and broad buckles and buttons of gold. The vests fit closely, and the revers and cuffs are often of embroidered white cloth. Sleeves appear to grow shorter as the season advances. Even the tailors are yielding to the fashion, and end their sleeves at the elbow. A new feature, seen upon many of the afternoon and dinner gowns, is a fall of lace attached to the outer seam of the round puffed sleeve and reaching just below the elbow.

The new swisses are delightful. Figured effects on white and colored grounds, and also the St. Gall striped swisses, are among the recent importations worthy of note. Embroidered designs in harmonizing colors distinguish other attractive samples. A touch of black is introduced in many of these embroidered effects. Especially pleasing is this touch of black on a pale-colored ground—pink, blue, lavender or yellow.

A Colonial hat made of black leghorn and trimmed with deep-red roses and ribbon in the same shade, forming a wreath effect on the left side, and the ribbon falling in wide, long ends on the hair at the back, is one of the smartest hats of the season, and is equally attractive in white leghorn with the same rose and ribbon trimming.

The low, round neck of the summer blouse is responsible for the revival of the black velvet dog collar with its jeweled pendant, or perhaps embroidered in jewels or jet. Wonderfully becoming is this touch of black with gauzy, light-colored frocks. Pearl and jeweled dog collars are also in vogue, though the long strings of pearls or other jewels which, twine several times about the neck and fall over the front of the bodice, where they end in an antique pendant, are the choice of many, being worn with every sort of gown from the plainest tailored toilette to the elaborate evening creation. Neck chains of coral, jade, turquoise and amethyst are also worn, though they must harmonize with the color of the gown. Bracelets, too, have come into popularity again, and many beautiful novelties are shown. Folded surplice collars are pretti-

ly finished by a flat band of velvet ribbon, and the choux of velvet with which the crossed ends are attached to the girdle carry out the idea of velvet trimming.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Glycerine is recommended by a physician as being good for sore eyes. A good cook tells me that the secret of her light pastry is that she adds a little lemon juice to the water when mixing.

The best possible silver polish can be made by mixing a little whiting powder with sweet oil.

Iron with a flatiron before gauffering. Place the thumb and second finger through the handle of the gauffering iron after heating them in the fire. Take hold of the lace with the irons and then turn the thumb back underneath. Press the frill to the irons with the first and second fingers of the left hand. Bring the thumb uppermost and repeat until the whole of the frill has a pretty fluted appearance. Very little heat is required for gauffering; therefore great care is necessary or the frill will soon be scorched.

In addition to the weekly scrubbing of the refrigerator it is a good plan to occasionally take out the shelves and boil them with a handful of washing soda. The wash boiler may be used for this purpose.

Clean white sheepskin rugs by scrubbing with Castile soap and water, drying thoroughly in the sun.

To clean wicker porch rockers, use tepid soapsuds made with some good white soap, a large pinch of salt being added. If there are any places especially soiled or very hard to reach, take a small scrubbing brush or an old nail brush. Then wash the whole chair well, using a flannel cloth; rinse and dry well. Another flannel cloth which has a tiny bit of oil upon it should give the final polishing.

RECIPES.

Coffee Cake—The delicious kaffee guchon of German origin and served here as coffee cake or cinnamon buns may be made at home still better. The following directions are taken from What to Eat: Use a quart of flour, a pint of milk and one-half cake of compressed yeast set in a sponge at night. In the morning add to this two eggs well beaten, one half cup of butter, one fourth cup of sugar, and another half pint of flour. These ingredients must be well stirred together before adding them to the sponge. Knead the mixture for fifteen minutes; put in shallow buttered pans and let it rise; then brush over the surface of the dough with egg mixed with a little milk and then sprinkle thickly with cinnamon and powdered sugar. Bake in a slow oven half an hour or longer if not sufficiently browned.

Spinach with Eggs—After boiling and pressing the spinach, put it back with a little butter, pepper and sugar; beat until hot, then turn it into the dish and cover with an egg dressing, made by mixing the yolks of four hard-boiled eggs, an ounce of dissolved butter, a dessertspoonful of cream and one of lemon juice. Spread this smoothly over the vegetable, and garnish with the whites of the eggs cut into rings.

Lobster Farce—Cut fine the contents of a pound can of lobster; cream one tablespoonful of flour with the same of butter and stir into one cupful of boiling milk; take from the fire, add a cupful of breadcrumbs, the mashed yolks of four hard-boiled eggs, the minced lobster meat, one tablespoonful of chopped parsley and salt and pepper to season highly. Turn the mixture into a buttered baking dish, brush over with beaten egg, sprinkle with breadcrumbs and brown in the oven. Garnish with sprigs of parsley and lemon crescents. Serve very hot.

Cheese Salad in Egg Cases—Grate one-quarter of a pound of cheese and mix with enough salad dressing to make smooth and creamy. Shell and halve, cutting lengthwise, half a dozen hard-boiled eggs, then remove the yolks. Fill the cavities with the cheese mixture. Put the yolks through a potato ricer and sprinkle on top the cheese, then dust slightly with salt. Serve on a bed of shredded lettuce.

Barney Stones—Blanch one pound of sweet almonds and one ounce of bitter. Pound in a mortar, moistening a trifle with orange-flower water to prevent oiling, and add, by degrees, one pound of confectioners' sugar. Pass through a sieve and

add two tablespoonfuls of brandy and half a pound of butter from which the salt has been washed. Work the whole into a paste and form with wetted hands into small, irregular shapes; insert thickly over their surface spikes of blanched almonds, and place for serving on small-footed individual glass compotters; fill the spaces between the "stones" with thin cream or melted jelly and serve with unsweetened wafers.

HOW SOME PARENTS REAR THEIR CHILDREN.

Believing that good parentage and good home training are the most potent factors for the production of the right sort of men and women for this world and the next, we avail ourselves of this suggestive query from the Atchison Globe:

"An Atchison girl of 15 gets up in the morning, eats breakfast, which her mother prepares, goes upstairs and takes care of her room, and then goes downtown, sometimes taking two hours to buy a spool of thread. She eats dinner, which her mother has prepared, and spends the afternoon reading story books or gadding with her friends, eats supper her mother has prepared, and spends the evening with her girl friends. She has done nothing wicked all day, and her mother is satisfied that she is bringing her up right. But is she?"

NEGLECT OF THE TEETH IS CULPABLE.

Dentists tell us our teeth are rapidly deteriorating. The Scotch peasants who live and grow strong on milk and porridge now drink tea and eat a herring for breakfast, while the rich regulate themselves on soft food and made dishes of every kind. The poorer classes pay no attention to their children's teeth, and while in that wise country Japan and among the Hindoos daily tooth brushing and cleansing is never omitted, it is the last thing poor people think of in England. A man or woman in the prime of youth, but almost toothless, is a common sight. They neglect their teeth, then they get toothache and have a tooth extracted, and when their teeth are gone they can neither masticate nor digest.

GOOD TEMPER.

There are two kinds of good temper—one kind is a sweet-natured, sunny, easy-going temper that exists only under no trials. The other is a healthy, strong, helpful and sunny temper which exists under all trials and tribulations.

A maxim of one of the greatest warriors of ancient times was: "Before a man rules, he must learn to obey." We might apply this in another manner—before we criticize the temper of another, let us be sure that our own is under control.

A NOBLE CALLING.

Many girls fancy nursing as a profession. It is one of the lines of life which to my mind should be considered very seriously. Like marriage it should not be taken in hand lightly. Those who join that arduous and exacting life through the idea that the uniform is becoming, or in the hope of marrying a young doctor or rich patient, are a danger to the profession. On the other hand, the girl who, after careful thought and hard study, devotes her life to the profession is an honor to it. In no other walk of life—outside a mother's—are there such large opportunities for self-sacrifice and devotion.

PLAIN CLOTHES BEST.

A college woman had occasion last summer to spend a few weeks in a factory town boarding house where lived three young women who from their childhood had been employed in the mills. These girls represented the more prosperous element of the community. One, who was fond of fine raiment and personal adornment, afterward asked Miss McCracken, who tells the story, for some information about Schumann, adding that she was learning to play a little of his music. Miss McCracken hastened to comply, and drew out the reason for the request. The mill operatives had always liked music. Well, last summer a lady boarder at our house who said she had always liked German, and wanted to study it, wore real plain clothes because she was saving up money to go to Germany to study. And it came into my head that I could save up money and take music lessons, so I am doing it; and I believe after all I like plain clothes best.

DON'T TALK, BUT LISTEN.

"She is charming," observed the

man, mentally, as he closed the door of her home behind him.

"Yes, she's an unusually interesting woman," he repeated, as he turned the corner.

And why? Simply because she had sat for two solid hours and listened. Because, by a tactful question or two, she had drawn him on to talk of what he liked, while she listened interestedly. Because, when he told her of marvellous achievements, she had seemed awed; when he spoke of a sorrow, her eyes had been all sympathy; when he related an amusing incident, she had laughed merrily. Always, she had listened, intelligently, understandingly. And in his eyes she was—charming, an unusually interesting woman.

Since the days of the humorist woman has been laughed at and joked with because of her talking propensities. She has been likened unto a magpie, and she has been called a talking machine. She has been accused of never letting a man get a word in, in the proverbial manner, edgewise. Now, the clever woman lets him round out his every word, and occasionally she asks a question—a tactful, well-timed question, and—listens.

Listening is not merely making use of the two ears with which nature endowed human beings. The woman who has truly learned the art listens with her eyes, her mouth, her hands, her whole attitude is that of listening, of being interested in every word of the conversation.

A man likes a woman with a limited perspicacity; he likes to feel that he is telling her something she does not already know. Therefore, the clever woman of to-day essays the role of pupil many times when, were she less tactful, she would assert herself and give information rather than receive it.

A good listener never lets her eyes wander about the room when some one is talking to her; she never seems conscious of anything but that she is being entertained. The topic of conversation is the very thing she has been thirsting for a knowledge of. She never interrupts the lines of thought, and she does not sigh as if relieved when it comes to an end; rather, she seems sorry.

To listen alone is an insufficient art. It must be practiced in conjunction with a knowledge of tactful questions which will start the conversational ball rolling along the right channel.

THE FATHER'S INFLUENCE.

The influence of a father on his sons is great. He is usually the model on which they try to fashion themselves. In boyhood they look up to him as one who is wise. They imitate him. They long to grow up so as to do as he does, following him, alas, in bad as well as in good. It behooves father, therefore, to be careful that their example shall be apt to form their boys to a noble manhood.

But who can explain why the influence of some fathers is so positive, so strong, so effective as to make their sons turn out just as they desire, while other parents see their boys escape from their control and become other than they had planned for them? Who has not seen the child of a Christian home go to the bad? Who does not know of some temperate, quiet, industrious young man whose father is a noisy, drunken loafer? How does it happen that, in various degrees, the influence of different fathers varies so markedly? Making allowance for other contributory causes, the conclusion may be reached that this is the chief reason:

The father who influences his children for good, shows a sympathy with his sons from their boyhood up, attaches them to himself by companionship, wins their admiration by his strength of character that enables him to control his human nature and force his flesh to self-denial, and draws them like a magnet to copy him in his virtue by his counsel persistently impressed upon their plastic minds. The father, then, who is most likely to succeed with his boys, must have a warm heart, a clear mind, high principles, and a strong will. The most potent of these is cordiality. Affection begets affection. And of the forces that influence intellect and will the strongest of all is love.

FUNNY SAYINGS.

HAROLD'S DOUBT.

Little Harold approached his mother and asked: "Mamma, haven't I been a good boy since I began going to Sunday School?" "Yes, dear, you have," answered the fond mother. "And you trust me now, don't you, ma?" "Why, of course I do." "Then why do you keep the pie



locked up in the pantry just the same as ever?"

HE WAS ATTACHED TO IT. Gilbert had been "exposed" to scarlatina, and as he seemed listless and feverish, the mother sent for the family doctor.

"Now, my little man," the doctor said, pleasantly, when he had felt Gilbert's pulse, "let me see your tongue."

Gilbert put out the tip of his tongue. "No, no," said the doctor, "put it right out—clear out."

Gilbert shook his head feebly, and tears gathered in his eyes. "I can't get it clear out, doctor; it's fastened on to me."

HARD TO SAY. Teacher—"If your mother bought four baskets of grapes, the dealer's price being 22 cents per basket, how much money would the purchase cost her?"

Tommy—"You never kin tell. Ma's great at beatin' them hucksters down."

A YOUNGSTER'S MEMORY. During the youngster's babyhood he had been driven constantly behind a mare named Phyllis.

One day, when he had arrived at the age of five, an old school friend of his mother's came to see them. Naturally the son and heir was called for and presented.

"I want you to know my son, Phyllis," said mamma, proudly.

The large, blue eyes looked up into the visitor's face in puzzled amazement; then suddenly came the relieved reply:

"Oh, yes; I used to know Phyllis when she was a horse."—Sunday Magazine.

HAPPY DAYS FOR BABY.

The healthy child is a happy child. All its little troubles vanish when it is digesting its food well and is free from childish ailments. The greater part of these ailments arise from stomach and bowel troubles, feverishness, teething and worms. Baby's Own Tablets act like magic in these cases, and when children are restless at night they always give sound refreshing sleep. Mrs. A. LoPage, St. Florence, Que., says: "Baby's Own Tablets had marvellous results in the case of my two months old baby. He was nervous, troubled with colic and badly constipated, but after giving the Tablets he began to improve at once and is now in good health. I also gave the Tablets to my three year old boy who was troubled with worms and they cured him as well. Both children are now the picture of health, and I am always praising the Tablets to my friends." You can get Baby's Own Tablets from any druggist or direct by mail at 25 cents a box by writing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

TOM MOORE AND THE SISTERS OF CHARITY.

A correspondent of the Dublin Freeman writes: An interesting letter from Thomas Moore, which has not been published in his Memorials, has just come my way. It was written at Sloperon cottage in August, 1838, and is addressed to the Rev. John Jones, a Catholic clergyman of Golden Square, London. There are two remarkable statements in the letter. The first is the admiration the writer avows for a Catholic order of nuns, and the next the estimation he sets upon poetic talent. "I have always taken the deepest interest," wrote the poet, "in the institute of the Sisters of Charity. If I could flatter myself that anything from my pen could give fresh impulse to a cause so irresistible in its own claims, you may feel assured that my humble efforts would not be wanting. I am afraid," he continues, "that the commonness of the poetic talent nowadays has a good deal disenchanted it." It is evident Father Jones had asked Moore to write a poem on the Sisters of Charity, and the inspiration failed him. But the order could have no finer eulogy than that written by Gerald Griffin.

MUSIC BY WIRE.

Dr. Thaddeus T. Cahill, of Holyoke, Mass., has perfected a mechanism to make and distribute music by electricity. By Dr. Cahill's invention, which represents his life work, music, he claims, with full, clear tones, may be sent hundreds of miles from the central station and produced in a thousand or ten thousand hotels, clubs, apartments or homes simultaneously.

First, to a little laboratory in Washington, D.C., electricians and scientists of America, and some from Europe, were admitted by invitation, and now to a laboratory and factory in Holyoke, electricians, physicians and musicians are turning to hear electrically made music—that is, music generated in the shape of electricity, sent to its destination by wire, and there turned into sound waves which reproduce the identical tones made in the central station.

Dr. Cahill's first machine was crude. Nevertheless, it produced tones of good quality and great power and was an inspiration to him, in that it removed all uncertainty as to the practicability of the idea. Ultimate results, however, were far distant. Whenever an idea appealed to Dr. Cahill, he worked it out to its mechanical conclusion. When he sought patents he found that the field in which he had spent years had never been trespassed upon. Apparently not to a single one of the multitude of inventors who had applied for patents on sound transmission had it occurred that music could be produced by purely electrical means and measured off to patrons with a yard stick, so to speak.

The ordinary means of producing sound is through the vibration of a physical body, such as a piano string or an organ pipe, which in turn causes vibrations in the air. Dr. Cahill first invented for each note a generator which produced an alternating current at the proper frequency and of the desired wave form. As the depression of a piano key causes vibratory notes, the depression of a key on Dr. Cahill's invention closes the circuit and sends out on the wire electrical notes to be translated into music at a concert hall or in a hundred homes.

Dr. Cahill's device is simplicity itself as far as outward appearances are concerned. The operator sits at a keyboard which resembles that of a piano or organ. The only other visible mechanism is a small megaphone from which the tones are produced. The music is turned on or off by means of a button, the same as an incandescent light.

A correspondent who was privileged to inspect the invention found the notes it produced were full, clear and powerful, with none of the harshness of the graphophone. The quality of the tones is the same at a distance of half a mile or one hundred miles from the central station. To test the actual workings of the machine concerts have been sent out from Holyoke to New Haven, Conn., a distance of seventy miles, and from Baltimore to Washington, telephone wires being leased for the purpose. The invention has not eliminated the element of technical skill on the part of the musician, as the touch of the player upon the keyboard is as apparent as it is at grand opera. This fact will make it possible for famous artists to give performances which can be heard simultaneously in many cities.

"It is safe to assert," said Dr. Cahill, "that the majority of the people of the United States do not hear a symphony once a year. The electrical music should in time bring the finest music to every poor man at his own hearth. It is with a view to the realization of this prediction that I have been working. By the application of electricity to music not only can we hope for a more general diffusion of the best compositions, but for gradual, substantial improvement in the art itself."

While the details of the distribution of electrical music have not been fully decided upon from a commercial standpoint, the company already formed proposes to own and operate distributing lines, and to maintain its own system of wires, the same as telephone and telegraph companies.

OUR

Dear Boys and Girls: How about those thought you were all pretty it is time to write u I am sure you must hav around your houses sweetest things we c am patiently waiting f Your loving AUN

LULLABY.

Come, come my sweet Those little feet Danced through the h But now to rest, Like sun in west, Must lie themselves a Shut tired eyes— The butterflies Have left the daisies And birds to nest, On mother's breast, Are just as glad as y Good-night! Good-night! My heart's delight, Hush—sleep—and never Soon in their best Will flowers be drest, To-morrow's dawn so

HUSH, HUSH, DEAR HEAVEN!

Stir not nor start! God's stars shine in the And now to rest— Like sun in west, Earth sings your lullaby

TEDDY'S FIRST POEM.

"I want pockets in my said Teddy. "You are too little," said "Please, mamma!" "Pockets go with pants big boys have them." "Well," mamma replied you must have them. "Nonsense?" exclaimed "Clara, you don't that baby have pockets have them full of rubbish dreadful condition all the too little for trousers, that ing of pockets." But mamma put the pocket Ted was happy. He went his hands in those little feeling very proud and g trying to whistle; and began to put things into "If I had the darnin would mend the stock grandma, "but it isn't ket." "Here it is," said Ted little black ball out of pocket. "I found it behin grandma. I didn't kn darn-cotton; I thought it string." "You didn't happen pencil, did you?" asked "I lost it yesterday and it anywhere." "Yes," said Teddy, "it waste-basket. I picked put it in my pocket. I it was yours, Susie," he passed it to her. Pretty soon mamma co her thimble. "I had it ing," she said, "and all missed it. I am sorry, if the one you gave me, Ed. "Here it is," said Ted it down in the pansy bed to give it to you, but I I "It must have fallen o down-sill," said mamma. ber now; I was sitting by window."

That afternoon Sister M if anybody had seen a bu she had lost one off her Tom inquired if anybody across his jack-knife, wh using at noon and misla needed a piece of string in and grandpa could not fin nail. All these things T duced as they were wante "I take it all back," Aunt Emily, laughing. "Ye certainly are the most use the family. You don't h have a box of chocolates. "No," Teddy replied sob I have some candy that I colate. Mr. Smith gave it's tuffy."

AUNT EMILY LAUGHED AWAY.

Clara," she said, "I told

JACK AND THE HO.

"What a fearful annoyance flies!" exclaimed Jack, the warm spring day as half the little winged insects about his head. Then he snapped at one