

that are now on the market, or by hoeing "shallow" between the rows, and pulling out by hand the weeds that appear in the rows,—all this from the very beginning, and continuously, so that the weeds never grow an inch at all, at all. This is really the easier method, too, because, with plants as with other things, "a stitch in time saves nine." Moreover, the very frequent stirring up of the soil is exceedingly good for the vegetables or flowers. . . . But I had my doubts as to whether all of you knew the names and manners of the weeds that are likely to come about you, and so I had to speak of the full-grown plants, drawing on my "book of mistakes" for reminiscences of the time when I, like, perhaps, some of you, left undone, too long, things that I ought to have done. Were I gardening now, I should try very hard to take time by the forelock, and so prevent a peck of trouble; and I should see to it that I had the very latest and best "helps" in the tool and implement line. Good tools do no little towards producing good work.

Just one more weed—this time one that is likely to appear in your dooryard,—the broad-lived plantain. What a pest it is, notwithstanding its reputed usefulness, when crushed, as a poultice; and how it ruins the appearance of an otherwise tidy grass-plot! Bailey says the best way to eradicate it is to secure a better stand of grass by making the ground rich, and so treating it that it will hold moisture; but if there are not too many plants, you can make a great improvement by spudding them out in hot, dry weather, and applying salt, as for burdocks and docks. Au revoir, for to-day. D. D.

"The Farmer's Advocate" Fashions.



7053 Girl's Dress, 6, 8 and 10 years.

7045 Girl's Four Cored Petticoat with Under Body, 8, 10 and 12 years.



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7049 Child's One-Piece Dress, 2, 4 and 6 years.

Please order by number, giving age, and allowing at least ten days to receive pattern. Price ten cents per pattern. Address, Fashion Dept., "The Farmer's Advocate," London, Ont.

SHE MEANT SENSATIONS.

In a primary school examination, over which I once had the pleasure to preside, one of the questions was with regard to the five senses. One of the bright pupils handled the subject thus:

"The five senses are: Sneezing, sobbing, crying, yawning, coughing. By the sixth sense is meant an extra one which some folks have. This is snoring."—Woman's Home Companion.

Will you believe it?—only three of all the ladies to whom we wrote for last month's "Opinions" responded. Well, it is scarcely to be wondered at. People don't feel like writing articles in hot weather (pity the poor editors!), and summer is a busy season for other things; so, all things considered, I think we had better drop the Page of Opinions for a while. It is better to spend a leisure half-hour, in this glorious weather, lying under a tree in the sweet do-nothingness that we all need now and again, or on a little trip to lake or riverside with a few friends, than stewing over a desk, hot, uncomfortable, and wondering how to get the ideas logical and the sequence effective.

"All the same," we have reason to thank, all the more, the three who have so kindly dared work and weather to help our opinion-giving along.

The subject this time is one from whose discussion, it is to be hoped, you tired summer people may be able to glean a few helpful hints—"How can a farmer's wife best secure necessary change from constant work in summer?"

An Opinion from Grey Co.

How many women on the farm would read this with a laugh, and the remark, "Oh, that's not for me, I have too much to do to take a rest in the summer"; but how many wives do we find who never seem to see that they must take a rest till it is just a few months' or years' too late, and they suddenly find their health gone and their days of usefulness at an end? How surely the old adage, "Penny wise, and pound foolish," seems to suit some cases.

If you can possibly do so, take a holiday; go to the place you have had your heart set on going, but have put aside so long, perhaps to let Mary take a trip, or Jenny to visit her school chum. Mothers, you are doing your duty better to your family by taking care of yourselves and keeping young and fresh and interesting, than by always giving the girls a chance while you stay at home and work, work, from daylight till dark. They will enjoy looking after things to let mother away if you only give them a chance.

If you cannot go from home for a holiday, try and get a good rest at home. Give your best rooms a good cleaning and shut them up for the rest of the summer and live out doors. I'm sure you have an orchard or shade trees near the house; have your meals under the trees, and see how you will enjoy them, and how much work you will be saved. Take your most comfortable chair to the coolest, prettiest spot you can find, and try doing your mending there. How many beautiful spots there are at our own door, and we are blind to them till the passing stranger pauses in admiration. When your friends come to see you, take them out to your shady nook, make them comfortable in your old rocker or in the hammock, and see how they will enjoy themselves. Just here, let me tell you how to make a comfortable hammock if you feel you cannot afford to buy one. Take the staves of an old barrel, the larger the better; bore a hole in each end, get a good stout rope and run through each end; place staves in proper position, secure the ropes, and hang up, with the aid of an old comforter and pillow, you have a most comfortable resting place for a little labor, and almost no expense.

Fresh air is being constantly brought before our attention as the best aid to our health, yet how many of us shut ourselves inside the four walls of a house and deprive ourselves of our greatest blessing.

I have just had a very pleasant holiday of two days at our Women's Institute County Convention. This convention was held at the pretty little town of Flesherton, and was a marked success. I know there are many women who do not care for our society. With all respect to their opinion, I must say the farmer's wife who does not join if she can do so is very foolish. Many a

little change and pleasure would come her way through the Institute. She would also find her list of friends becoming much larger, and herself becoming interested in her surroundings in a way that will be surprising. Keep bright and cheerful as long as possible my friends, we are only passing this way once, make the most of our lives, get the most good out of them, and see the most good in others.

And may you all enjoy your vacation, be it at home or abroad.

Grey Co., Ont.

MAB.

May I add another suggestion for a hammock? Get a piece of the very strongest duck, bed-ticking, or sail-cloth, long enough to allow for broad hems at each end. Turn back and run two rows of stitching with very strong thread or backstitch along with waxed shoemakers' thread, in such a way that a slat or piece of broom-handle may be run through at each end of the hammock, while a second double strip of cloth is still left, with stitching each side, next the hammock portion. I hope this is clear. Now cut round holes through this double portion, overcast with waxed thread, and then buttonhole with the same, forming a row of holes at each end of the hammock to receive the rope. Next get two iron rings and a clothesline. Cut pieces of the rope to fit, run them through the holes, then draw them together at the right distance through the iron rings, and fasten very firmly, and your hammock is all ready to be hung on the hooks. The recommendation of this hammock is that it may be very conveniently packed, and with a bit of extra rope for suspending, taken to the woods or anywhere else one chooses.

How to Get a Holiday.

Dear Dame Durden,—I hardly feel competent to give a satisfactory solution of the great problem of "How a farmer's wife may secure change from constant work," as our pleasures, like our dress, depend on our taste and the length of our pocketbook; but, to the average busy woman on the farm, I think it is well worth while to arrange for a short holiday if only for a few days, besides keeping a little in touch with our neighbors, and perhaps doing some little church work and attending the local Institute if meetings are near us, that we may have something to think about beside our own pet cows, chickens, etc., and that we may not get in an old-fashioned rut; that is so easy to fall into and hard to get out of.

I think every woman should go to one of the big exhibitions once in a while, where we see so much. You can hardly remember anything for a time, but it gives us a little idea of the great country we are in.

Then there is such a number of short, cheap excursions, both summer and winter, to different parts of the Province, that offer splendid outings. For those who love music, there are generally good excursions at the time of the Mendelssohn choir concerts; and for those who love flowers, there are the Horticultural shows, both rare treats, at small cost. Of course, this pertains to those living within an excursion distance of Toronto, but every city offers its attractions, and a few days in the city have a double advantage to us, of seeing something entirely new, and then being glad to go back home and be satisfied again with our own lot.

My own pet pleasure is just to see places, even around our own township that I have not seen before, if only going an unusual road to a familiar place. Some friends of mine took the slow and easy method of driving a few days' journey through part of the country they had not seen before, stopping to rest, and getting and paying for their own and horses' meals whenever meal-time came around, content to take things as they found them, and they had a most enjoyable time, and one that appeals to my taste, but perhaps not to many.

But once we make up our mind, let us stick to it with that end in view, for some time ahead, and not let the time we have set draw near, and suddenly remember our wardrobe is not in condition and funds low. By making up our minds to do without a few perhaps unnecessary fixings through the year, and putting the extra dimes into a "holiday box," it comes easier than taking it all at once to many of us. Or we may even set an extra old hen that she brings out a brood of chickens to be sold for a special trip. Then, when we have decided where to go, and have everything in order, let us enjoy our holiday thoroughly and not carry the whole farm with us in worry, and wonder how ever the home folks are going to manage a few days without our aid.

Grey Co., Ont.

DIXY

Another "Opinion."

In writing on this subject I would like to refer particularly to those farmers' wives, who, like myself, live in what I may call one of the back-woods' sections of Ontario, where neighbors are few and scattered, and fashionable afternoon calls a thing unknown, with town several miles away, and a rough road to travel to get there. In sections like this, a "school picnic" will perhaps be the only social gathering for the summer, and often times even that is lacking, and it is not an unusual thing for the farmer's wife to remain at home day after day, busy, of course, at any or all of the "hundred-and-one" odd jobs that fall to the lot of the women on the farm, without having even the pleasant diversion of spending an afternoon and having tea in a neighbor's house.

To such woman I would say, just leave your work and your home once in a while and go. Things will not go to rack and ruin while you are gone as much as you think. To one who has to do her own cooking all the time, it is a treat to eat a meal prepared by other hands, and then we will likely go home with some new ideas by which we can make a pleasant change in our own meals or ways of doing some other work, and anyway we will feel so much brighter that work will be despatched more quickly, and so the time we have been away is not all lost after all.

But if a little visit to a neighbor's house is not possible, we might now and then prepare a little picnic lunch of perhaps a salad, some sandwiches, some fresh fruit if we can get it, and a little cake, and go with the children to some cool, "woody" place to eat it. The little ones will enjoy it as much as a real picnic, and a meal in the open that way is wonderfully refreshing. Sometimes the "men folk" have to take a lunch to the field. This makes a good opportunity for mother and the children to take theirs out too, and all picnic together.

But above all things I would say to the farmers' wives that in order to escape constant work, they should have plenty of reading matter in the home. Even if you are not much of a reader, if you have a good newspaper, and a magazine or two, with "The Farmer's Advocate," of course, you will see many things in them that will interest you, and rest you too. There are many odd minutes to spare when we would pick up a paper or magazine to read if it were handy, and it would help us to raise our thoughts above "the daily round of common toil."

So much has been written lately about women using labor-saving devices and having system in working that it seems unnecessary for me to say anything along that line, so I will just say, plan your work, know what you want to accomplish for each day, but if anything occurs to upset your plans, why just try and adapt yourself to changed circumstances, and make more plans, and if you can't work systematically, work as systematically as you can. WILL'S WIFE.

Haliburton Co., Ont.

"An heirloom," explained the farmer's wife to her thirteen-year-old boy, "is something that has been handed down from father to son, and in some instances is greatly prized."

"I'd prize these heirlooms I'm wearing," remarked the youngster, "a good deal more if they wasn't so long in the legs."