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enjoy the privilege of reading it as everywhere I go I see it. The Correspondence column seems such great fun that I could not keep away any longer, so I took my courage in one hand, and my pen in the other, and after making a mess of about a dozen sheets of paper I have eventually "got going." I put in some months as a clerk in a store out here, but found that farming was more attractive for a fellow. I lived in London, England, for sixteen years, and when I first landed in this locality I noticed the houses were not quite so close to 'ther as in London, and thought consequently I was in for a very lonely time, but was agreeably surprised to find that there is plenty of life out on the prairie. I am on a "bachelor ranch" and like Little Chickabiddy I can cook, wash, bake, sweep, sew and most everything that you would never expect that I could do. The last thing I baked was a pair of socks which I put in the oven to dry, and they were pretty well done when I discovered them. I would be awfully glad if any of your fair readers would write to me, and I'll promise to answer every letter. Wishing the W.H.M. long life and a big circulation. I remain, yours truly, Paddy.

A City Girl

New York City, Nov. 26th, 1912.
Dear Editor and Neighbors: I wonder if some of you would not enjoy hearing from a city girl for a change. It seems

is in most of the marriages contracted here. Is it reasonable to suppose that these bachelors living in their isolated shacks until they are in a position to build houses and marry, looking around in a dispassionate matter of fact way for a wife, or, if the real truth be spoken, an unpaid housekeeper; besetting each new spinster that appears within hailing distance, conveying her hither and thither to such slight entertainment as may occur during the winter, proposing to her with much show of affection and many promises for the future, and upon being rejected immediately hailing the next victim with the same ardor until some credulous female succeeds in persuading herself that this honest guileless son of the soil could not deceive, decides that she has met her fate, which truly she has, as the sequel of the story usually goes to show. Is it reasonable to suppose, I say, that these bachelors really love or that marriage based on such principles can be happy for both? True, many of these married housekeepers are contented. But is contentment enough? Contentment is passive, happiness is active and marriage, if it is the result of a mutual love, not affection and esteem, will bring happiness, not merely contentment. It is time, I think, that some of the many who amuse themselves at the expense of those enterprising bachelors spoke a word of warning for the benefit of such unmarried women as may venture into this land of women hunters. I am not warning the girls against our Western bachelors.



Mr. McGowan Reaping His Splendid Crop of Oats Six Miles South of Gladstone, Man.

as though the majority of those who write are country people. I should think the lonely homesteader especially would like to hear something a little different and not always farming and housekeeping—the two things he does all the time, and he certainly must have a busy life. But the long winter evenings are here now, and I should not think his mending would keep him busy quite all the time. I have not always lived in the city. I passed my childhood in the country and in Canada, so you see I know something about it, and when I can, I still like to spend part of each summer there. I enjoy the city in the winter and the country in the summer. So let me hear from some of you either from the city or the country. It does not seem to be the custom but I would like to have girls write me too. I do not have long evenings, they all seem too short, but I enjoy getting letters, and don't object to writing them, so step lively please, lest I lose interest. Will sign myself, City Girl.

Plato Again to the Front

Sask., December, 1912.
Dear Editor: My last letter called forth a trifle of criticism from a few of your correspondents which pleased me much, as I am glad to hear that all people have not had their eyes opened in regard to matrimony, as our race would very speedily become extinct were it plain to everyone what a losing game marriage really is. I have heard a great deal and read more about the unhappiness of the marriages in the West, but judging from what I have observed since settling here I think that it would be very strange were it otherwise when one considers how little real love there

They are, as a rule, steady, sober men, a little gloomy maybe—their lonely lives tend to that. But I do warn them against a loveless marriage. Those men do not mean to practice deceit but they need companions and housekeepers, and can easily settle it with their conscience if they venture beyond the truth in their vows of undying devotion. You know the best of us succeed in chloroforming our conscience when it comes to an affair of this kind and if you are on the point of giving a favorable answer to some agonized male creature in order to save him from a life-long misery, my advice to you is, refuse him and see for yourself how soon he will begin to scan the horizon for an easier victim. My belief is that a wife should be her husband's chief pride. She should be just the type of woman that he will always be proud of having won. As it is, the average wife seems to be regarded as a necessary evil, and my firm belief is, that these loveless marriages are going to be the curse of this otherwise glorious country.

A Valuable Criticism

New Westminster, B.C., Nov. 24th, 1912.
Dear Editor: I have been a subscriber to your very interesting paper for some years. I wrote about two years ago, but my letter must have gone the way of all other uninteresting ones, into the w.p.b. I hope you will be more merciful this time. When I first took the paper there used to be some very nice helpful letters in it—one would give a nice cookery recipe, and another would describe the part of the country they were living in or some place they had visited, but lately, the

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