

finish is given by hemming both ends of the girdle; tack one end at the under-arm seam, or a little in front of it; carry the other end around the waist, fastening at center of the back and the other under-arm seam. The remaining end is carried around over the other end and hooked to a loop in the girdle. This loop will need to be changed frequently as the size of the waist increases.

All maternity gowns should be made of soft, rather light-weight material of inconspicuous coloring, brown and dark blues being, perhaps, the favorite colors, and cashmere, voile, albatross, etc., the favorite materials.

The underwear should be specially made also. The petticoats are cut much as the outside skirts are, but instead of allowing the extra length at the top, the petticoat is lengthened by lowering the flounce. To make this more convenient, it is well to use buttons and button-holes to attach the flounce to the skirt across the front. The back of the flounce will not need changing, and so may be firmly attached to the skirt. The drawers are made with tucks laid across the abdomen, and if tight are worn, they may be enlarged by little yokes across the fronts. If you do not feel like buying the regular maternity corsets, take an ordinary pair, cut off the front and back steels, and insert bias strips, $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches wide. If more room is needed, insert a similar piece under the arm on each side, and remove all stiff steels. Use only elastic laces, and be sure they are never drawn tight. Sometimes it is well to wear a little padding across the bust, if the top of the front steel troubles one.

For house wear, dressing sacks, with maternity skirts, or Empire gowns, are most desirable. The large, rather loose aprons, so frequently shown (not the Mother Hubbard), are more satisfactory than the neater-fitting ones; but for washing, baking or washing dishes, an oilcloth apron, cut like those worn by grocers and butchers, is very handy, as it can be slipped off in a moment.

For outdoor wear, the long, loose coats are most desirable, and as they are made in every weight of material, from fur-lined broadcloth to silk-lined lace, surely there can be no trouble in finding a suitable wrap. But be very sure that it is roomy enough to hang with some degree of grace, even at the most advanced period. Nothing makes one quite so conspicuous as a tight coat.

Middlesex Co., Ont. MRS. R. J.

Current Events.

On Thursday, May 7th, the Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria celebrated the diamond jubilee (sixty years) of his reign as Emperor of Austria-Hungary.

Of a total of 204,157 immigrants arriving in Canada during the last fiscal year, 38,323 were children under twelve years of age.

A city of tents, upon the Plains of Abraham, has been planned for the accommodation of visitors to Quebec during the Tercentenary, as it is expected that the hotels will be entirely inadequate to accommodate the crowds.

The City of Toronto has signed a contract with the Hydro-Electric Power Commission for a supply of electric current from Niagara Falls.

After a very exciting contest, Winston Spencer Churchill has been elected to represent the City of Dundee in the House of Commons, and is now qualified to take his seat as President of the Board of Trade.

The strike of the C. P. R. freight-handlers, at Owen Sound, which threatened to become serious, has been settled by mutual concessions on the part of the strikers and the company.

A loss of nearly 10,000 lives was caused by a tidal wave at Hankow,

China, recently. A wall of water twenty-six feet in height swept down the Yang-tse-Kiang, without warning, overwhelming thousands of junks and small boats, and wrecking some large river steamers.

"THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE" FASHIONS.



5953 Misses' Coat.
6695 Misses' Straight Plaited Skirt.

The above patterns will be sent to any subscriber at the very low price of ten cents per pattern. Be careful to give Correct Number and Size of Patterns Wanted. When the Pattern is Bust Measure, you need only mark 32, 34, 36, or whatever it may be. When Waist Measure, 22, 24, 26, or whatever it may be. When Misses' or Child's pattern, write only the figure representing the age. Allow from one to two weeks in which to fill order, and where two numbers appear, as for waist and skirt, enclose ten cents for each number. If only one number appears, ten cents will be sufficient.

Address: "Fashion Department," "The Farmer's Advocate," London, Ont.

FARMERS' AND WOMEN'S INSTITUTE MEETINGS.

The announcements are out for the summer series of Women's Institute meetings in Ontario, and a special series of Farmers' and Women's Institutes in Northern Ontario, 372 of the former and 137 of the latter. For the women's branch of this great educational campaign, there is a staff of thirty trained speakers, and the programme of subjects covers almost every phase of domestic work and home life on the farm. A special feature of these meetings will be the distribution of a leaflet to those present, containing recipes for the cooking of cereals and the preparation of milk, eggs and cheese dishes, compiled under the direction of Miss U. M. Watson, of the Macdonald Institute, at Guelph. A number of the speakers will also give demonstrations in the preparation of various dishes. The dates range from the latter part of May till the middle of July, and cover seventeen discussions. Our readers are strongly advised to be on the lookout for dates, which are all announced locally, or may be had in leaflet form from the Superintendent, Geo. A. Putnam, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, who is to be congratulated upon the splendid programme arranged.

It is with youth as with plants, from the first fruits they bear we learn what may be expected in the future—phenomena.

The Ingle Nook.

Dipping into my topic drawer this afternoon, wondering whether I should, like little Jack Horner, pull out a plum, or just a little old dried-up currant, I drew a slip upon which were two headings, suggestions, rather: (1) "Just 'going at' things"; (2) A quotation from Ruskin, "In the main we require from buildings as from men two kinds of goodness, first the doing their practical duty well; then that they be graceful and pleasing in doing it; which last is another form of duty."

It was scarcely incongruous that these should appear on the same slip, for both refer to one thing, duty.

Is it not often a duty just to "go at" things? Perhaps you have been for days and days feeling that a certain thing should be done; but it has seemed hard, and so you have put it off again and again, until, one day, out of sheer desire to be done with it, you have set to work and got it out of the way.

And, then, it was that the surprise came to you. The task was not half the awful thing you had imagined it to be,—or if just as hard, it was at least interesting, and you found a real pleasure in the consciousness of overcoming its difficulty. There is always satisfaction in doing hard things, in feeling that one is really mounting step by step to heights that seemed almost impossible, and that in so doing one is learning valuable lessons which can never be forgotten.

The greatest tendency to procrastinate is, perhaps, in regard to things which are not absolutely necessary to our bread-and-butter, or the raiment wherewithal we shall be clothed, but which, nevertheless, could we see things in their true proportion, might appear much the more important. For instance, there may be an invalid whom you should visit, or a letter you should write to one whom you know to be lonely. You intend carrying out these duties, but day by day you put off doing so, and thus the weeks pass, and the months. Then one day you find that the invalid has passed away, and the lonely one tells you what a letter from you might have meant had it come in the right time. Then, for you, there are only regrets—when it is too late.

Or, perhaps, there are books which you feel you should read, or music you should practice. There are spare moments that you might devote to these, but you dawdle them away, week in week out, month in month out, year in year out. You have neglected the development of your mind, until it has become a comparatively empty thing; for want of use, it may even have become seemingly incapable either of concentration or of penetrant, effectual thought; or, on the other hand, by the neglect of the music you have forgone an opportunity of endless pleasure to yourself and your friends.

Ah! when you think of it, how many sins of omission we must all plead guilty to, simply for the want of a little backbone in just getting up and going at things. . . . However, there is one grain of consolation: "It is never too late to learn." This is no mere maxim, but an absolute truth, as evidenced by scores of examples. I think I have told you of the old man in this city who began the study of botany at the age of fifty-three, and is now one of the most enthusiastic botanists in the country. I can think of many other examples—of one woman who began taking painting lessons, and another music lessons at sixty; of the great English novelist, De Morgan, who wrote his first novel, "Joseph Vance," at sixty-seven; of many others. Of course, we cannot all take lessons, nor write novels, yet we can all read, and think, and so improve ourselves, perhaps, beyond our wildest dreams.

In regard to the second text, I shall have little to say. It surely explains itself. Many of you, I suppose, are building new homes this summer, and how interested you are in them, to be sure, how anxious that they shall serve their purpose well, and be as beautiful as circumstances permit. I can just wish for you that they shall be as comfortable, hygienic, graceful and simple as country houses should be, not mere town edifices, set down in the country and ap-

pearing from every aspect foreign to it. And when they are all finished, and you have proved how well they are doing their duty, and how "pleasing in the doing of it," I trust you will write all about any extra good wrinkles for our little help-one-another society—the Ingle Nook.

Last of all, if you have no new house, I trust you have, this year, if never before, planted a few flowers and shrubs, and perhaps a vine, to give you delight all through the hot summer. These fairy growing things are the most beautiful things we can have, and they cost so very, very little.

D. D.

OUR SCRAP BAG.

In ironing the pleat of the back of a shirtwaist, on which the tiny buttons are sewed, try laying on flannel or a Turkish towel as you do embroidery. The buttons sink in, and the material is ironed.

A very easily-made icing: Mix plain icing sugar with butter, adding a little orange juice and grated orange peel to flavor. Spread on the cake when it is thoroughly cold.

Be sure to keep two or three small five-cent scrubbing brushes in your kitchen. They are invaluable for cleaning vegetables, glassware, tea-stains about cup handles, etc.

A writer in a popular magazine extols the value of Swiss chard as a vegetable. "The long, smooth stalks," she says, "were stripped of their outer part, consisting of a lettuce-like leaf, and these stalks were cooked exactly as asparagus, only not so long. Another time it was cooked and dressed like spinach, and was most appetizing."

A housewife who knows how to economize strength says she does a good share of her ironing with a clothes wringer. She takes all sheets, pillowcases, towels, etc., while still damp, folds them straight, and puts them through, then hangs them where they will dry thoroughly.

Try oil-cloth or waterproof aprons, with bibs, for kitchen use. They save laundry work, as they can be cleaned by rubbing with a wet cloth.

Cook green vegetables, potatoes, carrots, parsnips, onions, etc., in hard salted water. Dried peas and beans should be cooked in clean rain water, caught as it falls from the clouds (not the drippings off a roof), or in hard water to which a little soda has been added.

Horse radish may be quickly made ready for use by running it several times through a meat grinder.

Sore Mouth.

A member of our family has, for over two years, been badly afflicted at short intervals with nursing sore mouth, so as to almost entirely prevent the taking of nourishment. She has tried many remedies without effect. Could you or any of your readers kindly give a cure for this trouble?

SUBSCRIBER.

We should say to consult a good physician at once in regard to this matter.

Helponabit on "Success."

Dear Dame Durden and Ingle Nookers,—I have enjoyed the Literary department of our magazine this winter very much, and have been very much interested in the "essays on success." A short time ago I received a paper from a friend in the States. On opening it, the first thing I noticed was the heading of an article, "To Be Loved and Respected is Success." This, to me, was the most satisfactory answer to the question. The article was written by Ella Wheeler Wilcox. I always enjoy her writings and poems, so I knew it would be worth reading. She says, "Money success will never recompense wife and children for a cross, fault-finding, unamiable man. . . . However successful a business a man may be carrying on, unless his footstep is the most welcome sound to those near to him, unless his homecoming means happiness for the family, he is a miserable failure. If a woman is a social queen, or the belle of the neighborhood, she is a failure as a woman if she is not the joy and light of the home. If husband and children, parents, brothers and sisters cannot look to her for sympathy in trouble, for loving, unselfish thoughtfulness in the home, she is