

Courrier des Dames.

Our lady readers are invited to contribute to this department.

OUR HOME SERVICE.

"When your servants find out that you are ignorant of their duty, you may be assured that the family business will be ill done."

In the days of our great-grandmothers and grandmothers the management of a household and servants and some considerable knowledge of cookery were rationally held to form part of every girl's education. Now, however, the reverse is the case. In no class of society, as it at present exists, are young girls taught such things except in a haphazard, accidental, or perfunctory fashion, and certainly amongst the higher ranks of society domestic questions are hardly ever alluded to even, and it would be thought utterly *infra dig*, for the ladies Ethel or Madeline to have any knowledge of the culinary art or of the general details of home service.

What would be said if that esteemed and trustworthy woman, Mrs. Rushett, the housekeeper, were called upon to take her turn in the school-room with the professors of music, of drawing, of German or Italian, to give an hour and a half's lecture to the young ladies twice a week upon practical housekeeping? What would be said if the Misses Pattina's prospectus of their establishment for young ladies contained an item amongst the extras setting forth that Signor Gallipoli, the eminent *chef de cuisine*, held a class four times a month for instruction in *les affaires de la cuisine et du ménage*: terms, two guineas per quarter? Why! modern society would believe the world was coming to an end, and probably there would be a general *émigré* amongst parents and guardians to suppress such exhibitions of vulgarity and bad taste, even if put forward in a less ostentatious fashion. No! better a thousand times that the mothers of our "ladies to be" should remain in helpless ignorance of the management of their homes than that they should have their delicate minds sullied by such commonplace, mental ideas.

The result, therefore, of this great blank in female training is, that when the young wife for the first time finds herself placed at the head of a household, she is as completely at sea as a newly-joined ensign of a marching regiment who might be suddenly called upon to take command of the divisions of an army in the field. To put the machine in motion even is difficult, but to control it when once set going, with any rational views of adapting means to end, is entirely out of the question in both instances.

Open to impositions (whether arising from ignorance or something worse) from all quarters, but from her servants particularly, the young housewife would naturally seek advice, and any printed page dealing exclusively with this very important element of her establishment would be an extremely difficult, if not an impossible, thing to find. Cookery books and books devoted to all that therewith appertains abound, but these contain only the driest and scantiest hints with respect to her dealings with her servants. A few moral platitudes, not always in very good taste, inasmuch as they appear to dictate at what hour she should get up, how she should dress, what she should read, who her friends should be, and so forth, strung together with a few trite quotations from eminent authors (smacking, in fact, rather of the tone of a book of etiquette than of anything practical or useful), make up the whole store of information afforded.

Narrow-minded prejudice alone would echo the cry raised by certain well-meaning but non-discriminative housewives against the rapidly-multiplying advantages offered in the present day with regard to the higher education of women of all classes, on the plea that too great an amount of intellectual culture leaves no room for increased knowledge of domestic matters. The more thoroughly educated a woman is the better mistress of a household will she make. If she has been trained to habits of accurate thought the more able will she be to direct her establishment, not the minutest detail of which a clever, sensible woman will hold it beneath her to be acquainted with. She will know where interference should begin and end, and at once be able to place an error, in whatever department it may occur, at the right door.

And although much has been done for years past in setting on foot institutions for training servants, and although many influential country ladies have striven hard to teach the daughters of the labourers and petty farmers in their neighbourhood the several duties appertaining to cooks, housemaids, nurses, &c., an immense deal still remains to be done. Training institutions should be multiplied, and the sons and daughters of our labouring men led to understand that distinction and reward await all faithful and able members of our domestic "home service," but it is much to be feared that at present in that department ineptitude is the rule, and therefore it is that the young housewife at the outset of her career so much needs assistance.

To present her, therefore, with some sort of a guide in her intercourse with her servants, apart from bills of fare and recipes for succulent dishes, and to tell her what the actual duties of each domestic in her house really are, is the main object in view in some succeeding papers on "Home Service"—to afford her a manual of reference upon which she may rely, and which is the result of a wide personal experience and close intimacy with practical authorities. For the sake of systematizing what has to be said, and facilitating reference, it will be desirable to classify the main points of the subject.

"Home Service" divides itself into two great classes, the in and the out door; but as the readers of *The Queen* have but little to do with the latter, the first will claim our sole consideration. The control of out-door service belongs to the master rather than to the mistress, and any discussion on it would be out of place in a ladies' newspaper; and even if it were not the fact that most gentlemen are very fairly acquainted with the duties of coachmen and grooms, gamekeepers and gardeners, all details respecting their daily works, and in what manner it can be most completely and perfectly performed, are set forth and treated of fully, in plenty of manuals already in existence.

The gardener, perhaps, is the only out-door servant who may legitimately come occasionally within the lady's dominion; but, with the exception of his supplying flowers, fruit, and vegetables for the table, he comes no more under the housewife's supervision than the game-keeper; therefore, no space will be devoted to him, as it is solely towards the household servants that attention will be directed. Dealing, therefore, exclusively with in-door servants, we may consider them under the various heads of male and female, upper and lower; but, as female servants in the majority of households form the most important element, we may assign to them the first place. Under the head of each of the three principal departments of the "Home Service"—viz., the kitchen, the house, and the nursery—the duties of every individual member serving therein will be clearly set forth and enumerated.

In the servants' hall, the housekeeper, lady's maid, butler, and cook take precedence of all the other domestics, whose duties and position vary somewhat in different households.

Yet there is one person whose responsibility and importance must give her precedence over all, and who, as the guiding spirit of every household claims our first attention, and this naturally brings us to her whom Mr. Ruskin calls the "Domina," or house-lady.—*The Queen*.

WOMEN DOCTORS.

The University of Zurich has now had a somewhat extended experience of the results of admitting ladies to medical studies. And it may be interesting to note, on the authority of a writer of credit, what have been the consequences of this action, and how it has been developed. Dr. James Chadwick has examined the facts and collected materials on the spot, and his summary of these facts is worth attention. The first lady student admitted was a Russian lady, who entered in 1861; she was followed by a second. After attending all the classes, she applied in 1867 to be admitted to "matriculation and examination." The rector, after consulting with the Swiss Minister, interpreted the law, which neither allowed nor forbade the matriculation of female students, in favour of the applicant; and, being duly matriculated, she was submitted to examination for a degree, which she passed with great credit and received the medical diploma. This example did not produce the rush of female students which was anticipated. In the following two years only three Englishwomen, one Russian, and one American studied medicine in Zurich, and came up for degrees, while one Englishwoman and three Russians were matriculated, but left soon after. In the summer term of 1865 the first female student, an Englishwoman, was matriculated by the philosophical faculty, but left at the end of the term. In the winter term of 1869-70 six Russians appeared, of whom three departed without examination. In the summer term of 1870 three Russians arrived, who also left without degrees. In the winter term of 1870-71 the number of those newly matriculated rose to eleven, of whom five left without degrees. In the summer term of 1871 one woman was matriculated, whereas two left without and one with the diploma. Thus of the twenty-five female students who had attended the medical faculty for irregular periods after 1861, three left with and seven without their degrees; of the seven matriculated in the philosophical department, three departed without the diploma. In the summer term of 1870 only fifteen women studying medicine and four philosophy remained. In the next term, 1871-72, the number rose from nineteen to thirty-one; and in the summer term, 1872, from thirty-one to sixty-three. But with the increase in quantity there was a depreciation in quality; and it is noted that "a number of them had not the requisite age, training, and devotion to their studies."

The University has not suffered in prosperity. The number of students has increased from 232 in 1864 to 354 in 1872. The medical department of the University has thriven; it was attended by 197 male and 1 female student in 1864, whereas in the summer of 1872 there were 157 male students and 51 female students. Of the women who have passed, two have been noted as "very good" and four as "good." The senior graduate is now in large practice in St. Petersburg. The third gained special commendation for her excellent conduct in the ambulance at Belfort in January, 1871; Professor Rose, the director, reported that "she soon won all hearts by her modest, self-sacrificing activity." The second graduate is now one of the physicians of the Women's Hospital in London. The fifth is resident medical officer of a women's hospital in Birmingham. The fourth is about to receive an appointment at the Children's Hospital in Boston. The sixth is clinical assistant to Professor Bierner in the women's department of the Zurich Hospital. On the question of the conduct and influence of women students the Professors of Zurich University have officially replied to queries of the Faculty of Wurzburg that "no unpleasant event has occurred," and that "after six years' experience the Faculty looks forward with satisfaction to a further continuance of the trial," and they

speak warmly of "the earnest desire to work and the discreet behaviour of the young ladies studying medicine here." Dr. Chadwick observes finally that this is not the first time that women have studied and practised medicine in a continental university. On June 2nd, 1754, Frau Dorothea Christiana Erxleben received the medical degree after proper examination. She practised in the small city of Quedlinburg, and was wife of the deacon of St. Nicholas Church. She solved the marriage question also to her own satisfaction, for in the history of her life she wrote that "marriage was no obstacle to a woman's studies, but that their pursuit was far pleasanter in the companionship of an intelligent husband."—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

Extract from a letter of Messrs Avery, Brown & Co., one of the oldest and most respectable firms in the Maritime Provinces.

HALIFAX, N.S., Oct. 4th, 1871.

JAMES I. FELLOWS, Esq.—Dear Sir: Our sale of your Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites has been very large, and, notwithstanding its high price, has far exceeded that of any other medicine. We have had from you within the past year six hundred cases of one dozen each, which have gone into almost every part of the Province, and given, so far as we know, universal satisfaction.

As it is no "quack medicine," but compounded, as we believe, upon the sound principles of Pharmaceutical science, we trust you will not allow the public to lose sight of a remedy so well calculated to be of Permanent Value.

Very respectfully,

AVERY, BROWN & CO.

Jacobs' Rheumatic Liquid Cures Frost Bites.

News of the Week.

THE DOMINION.—Hon. Mr. Fortin has been re-elected for Gaspé in the Quebec Assembly—having vacated his seat on accepting office as Commissioner of Crown Lands.—Mr. Wood has been elected by acclamation for West Durham, the seat resigned by Mr. Blake.—The Welland Canal will be opened for navigation on Monday.—The Archbishop of Quebec reached home on his return from Rome last week.—The Pontiac County by-law for one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in favour of the Northern Colonization Railway has been approved by an overwhelming majority.—It is rumoured that the Better Terms arrangement with New Brunswick consists of the grant of a lump annual sum equal to \$150,000 a year.—The Direct United States Cable Company offers to lay cables via Newfoundland if the Government exercise the right of pre-emption in the existing line.—A despatch from Lord Kimberley sets at rest the question whether Lieut. Governors are supposed to be acting for the Queen. It is stated that on ordinary occasions they represent the Governor-General, but on such occasions as the opening or closing of an Assembly, celebration of Her Majesty's birthday, or a levee, they should be deemed to be acting directly on behalf of the Queen.—The surveys for the Central Pacific Railway are pushed vigorously, and a connected line of surveys between Ottawa and Red River is finished. Mr. Jarvis and party have returned from the instrumental survey of over 860 miles of line between here and Lake Superior complete, with over 1,000 miles of exploratory and track surveys.—A strong company of Canadian capitalists has been formed at Toronto, with a capital of a million and a half, to work a mineral location on Thunder Bay, Lake Superior.—At a meeting of friends of the lost cabin passengers of the "Atlantic," held at the Halifax Hotel on Friday last, resolutions were passed condemning the White Star Line managers for not taking more vigorous measures for recovering the bodies.—The *Canada Gazette* contains the announcement of the appointment of Eugene Clinie, of the City of Quebec, Esquire, as Senator for the Gulf Electoral Division, in the stead of the Hon. Ulric Joseph Tessier, resigned.—The health of Sir George Cartier is represented as greatly improved. He sails for Canada on the 20th inst. (? 19th.)—The laying of the shore end of the new Atlantic Cable has commenced near Chebucto Head.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—A letter to the New York *Evening Post*, dated April 1st, says the House of Assembly has agreed, by an overwhelming majority, to accept the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, which have reference to Newfoundland. Only four out of a house of 30 members voted against the ratification of the treaty, and they did so on technical grounds, arguing that the question should have been first submitted to the constituents.

UNITED STATES.—A St. Domingo letter intimates that there may be some trouble as to land titles in connection with the settlers who may go to Samana Bay.—Another gigantic railway swindle: Paris advices say it is proved that of 27 millions of francs subscribed in France for the construction of the Memphis and El Paso Railroad eighteen and a half millions went into the pockets of those engineering the scheme, who had fraudulently stated that Congress guaranteed the road with land grants.—The New York horse car conductors have resolved to strike on the 10th of May for eight hours and \$3 a day.—A commotion has been created in Wall Street by the announcement that the Grand Jury has summoned several leading bankers, who are inclined to tell all they know about the cliques formed and forming, and to give the names of the usurers.—A collision took place between the striking gas-men and the police last week in New York.—The Modoc Indians have treacherously

massacred Commissioner Thomas and General Canby, and intense feeling prevails against them.

THE UNITED KINGDOM.—Parliament re-assembles on Monday after the Easter recess.—The Prince of Wales is to be installed Grand Commander of the Order of Knights Templar.

—The Chancellor of the Exchequer has arranged to carry a reduction of 50 per cent. on the sugar duties into effect next month. The reduction on raw sugar will take place on the 8th, and on refined sugar on the 28th.—Great distress for want of food is reported to prevail on the islands on the Irish coast of Galway. Sheep even are starving. Subscriptions have been opened for the relief of the islanders.—At Kinsale, Ireland, a conflict has taken place between some striking fishermen and the police, in which two of the former were killed.

—The latest developments in the Bank of England forgery case conclusively establish the fact that the forgeries were committed by Austin Bidwell, who is under arrest at Havana, and whose surrender has been ordered by the Spanish Government; George McDonnell, who is held for extradition in New York, George Bidwell, whose arrest in Edinburgh has been already announced, and Noyes, the alleged clerk of the parties, who was the first person taken into custody in London.

FRANCE.—The Republicans have carried the civic elections in Nantes and Marseilles.—The French Assembly meets to-day after an Easter recess of eleven days.—Up to the 5th inst. 4,250,000,000 francs had been paid by France to Germany on account of war indemnity, etc.—In the Assembly a bill has been passed for reimbursing Paris its war contribution of 28,000,000f, and granting indemnity on the same account to the Departments to the amount of 21,000,000f.

GERMANY.—On Saturday the Emperor, accompanied by Bismarck and Von Moltke and a brilliant retinue left Berlin for St. Petersburg on a visit to the Czar. On the same day the Crown Prince and Princess left for Vienna.

ITALY.—The Pope is suffering from rheumatic fever and ulceration of the leg. He is reported to be in a dying condition.—His Majesty King Victor Emmanuel will visit Vienna during the Exhibition, if the condition of Italy will permit of his departure from the country.

SOUTH AMERICA.—There has been a revolution in Panama in favour of ex-President Corroso. President Niera is a prisoner.

CHINA.—The Grand Duke Alexis left Shanghai on the 9th inst. for Japan.

Charities.

A paper recently alluded to a man as a "battle-scarred veteran." The compositor was so agitated when the editor made him correct it that he changed it to "bat-e-scarred" veteran. And still the veteran in question was not satisfied.

"I suppose," said a physician, smiling and trying to be witty while feeling the pulse of a patient who had reluctantly submitted to solicit his advice, "I suppose you think me a bit of a humbug?" "Sir," gravely replied the sick man, "I was not aware that you could discover a man's thoughts by feeling his pulse."

The Bishop of Wurzburg once asked a sprightly shepherd boy: "What are you doing here, my lad?" "Tending swine." "How much do you get?" "One florin a week." "I also am a shepherd," continued the bishop, "but I have a much better salary." "That may all be, but then I suppose you have more swine under your care."

And now comes Rufus Whitmore, of Orwell, Vermont. What a man it is! In his ninety-fifth year and in perfect health! He has been a constant user of tobacco for more than seventy-five years. And that's not the worst: his father and grandfather did the same thing before him, and they lived to be respectively ninety-eight and ninety-six years old. What shall we say of this?

A few Portuguese and a few Chinese words, all wrought into Chinese idioms, make up the business language which is used between the Chinese and English speaking traders. This language is called "Pigeon-English." An Englishman translated into Pigeon the familiar address, "My name is Norval; on the Gramplan Hills my father feeds his flocks," and the result was, "My name is blong Norval. Top side keliampian hills my father chow chow he sheep." But the next sentence beggared the language, and "A frugal swain, whose constant care is to increase his store," had to be freely "done" in this shape—"My father very small heartee man—too much like dat piecle dolla."

A wealthy New Yorker visited Hartford a week or two ago, and wishing to drive about the city, went to a livery-stable to hire a "team." The man of horses was loath to trust a valuable "turn-out" to an entire stranger, and so asked for references. The gentleman replied that he could give no references, but that he would buy the horses and sleigh, and when he returned from his ride the stable-keeper might refund the money. A price was agreed upon, and the cash paid down. When, later in the day, the stranger brought the team back to the stable, his money was returned and he started to go.

"Hold on," said the man of horses; "you have not paid your horse hire!"

"Why, my dear sir," said the New Yorker, coolly, "I have been driving my own team this morning!" The stable-keeper looked disgusted, but did not force his claims.

Dr. Colby's Pills are Anti-Constive and Anodyne.