

Fighting the Wolf With Button-Holes.

A general protest should be made against the idea of wage earning by wives and mothers. Women who are called upon to perform the multitudinous duties consequent upon these relations assume the performance of a dozen or more trades and professions, enough certainly to swamp any masculine, the monotonous, never-ending round of which yearly swells the number in grave-yards and asylums, to say nothing of the hopeless, dreary condition of those who still toil on. These surely have enough on their slender shoulders without further burdening themselves with other work, even though it be remunerated in the coin of the realm.

Wants multiply, and it is natural for the mother's heart to wish to give the best to her little flock. But it is just here she must deny herself, keep herself as fresh and bright as possible for her children, and not drudgingly obliterate herself to give them easy times, rich food and fine clothes, entirely unsuited to their station and means.

The father is free from the trials and pains of maternity, his personal responsibilities and cares are much less in regard to the family than those of the mother, and upon him by right and by nature falls the burden of support.

This pecuniary accountability is one of his rights and a great moral safeguard. A man who feels that his wife and children are dependant on his labors, even though bread and potatoes constitute the diet, and one room shelters all, is made ten times the man he could be were his thoughts and labor selfishly centered on himself.

When the mother must be a wage earner she has double duty to perform, as much as the father would have were the burden of motherhood thrust upon him.

Not for mere show, or for greater luxuries, should the wife and mother add to her already onerous labors. But where the father is positively incapable of adequately providing, or disabled, then the mother is not only excusable but it is her duty to add to her other labors that of money-making. And we know that when circumstances render necessary these dual duties of the mother that bravely does she acquit herself; and that it is seldom that a widowed mother of small children does not in some way contrive to keep her family around her, and drive the gaunt wolf from the door, even though the weapon be but a small and slender needle.

Mrs. Abbott was a slight, delicate woman, but when her husband died, leaving her with four young children, she never for a moment thought of separating them, though friends urged such a step, and relatives on either side offered to divide the care with her. The only thing she could give them was herself, and of her motherly protection and counsel they should not be defrauded.

As a girl, she had been expert with the needle, and much fine embroidery had she executed for her own trousseau, and later for the layettes of her babies. But in the place where she lived there was no demand for such work, and women's exchanges were things unknown.

She finally decided to try plain sewing and buttonhole-making as a means of support, and announced to her friends and neighbors that she was at their service.

She did not cut and fit except under-clothing, and simple garments for children. For plain sewing seventy-five cents per day was charged, she keeping account of the hours spent. The price was one dollar where cutting was done.

This was in the midst of a thrifty Yankee community where little labor was hired, and at first the outlook was discouraging. But one customer brought another, and she was never without a few coins in the old cream-pitcher with which to purchase milk and oat-meal, and now and then a bit of cheap meat for soup.

In the making of buttonholes her knowledge of embroidery was a great help; and after taking a few lessons of a tailor, who instructed her gratis, she felt competent to undertake even the nicer grades of this work. One cent each was charged for buttonholes on underclothing, one and one-half cents each on wrappers and aprons, two cents each on ordinary dresses; while from three to five cents each was the price on silk and velvet suits, wraps and coats.

In a couple of years this branch of the business claimed her entire attention, and little more plain sewing was done till the daughters grew old enough to take it up, which they did successfully.

For the accommodation of her customers she kept a small but well selected stock of buttonhole twist, sewing-silks and cottons, as well as dress braids, the merchants of the place kindly giving these latter up entirely to her.

When the son was ten years old a knitting machine was purchased which he soon learned to operate successfully, and the work thus done in time materially increased the family income. And Tom expects that this same machine will give him a year in some good business college that he may carry out his cherished plan of becoming a book-keeper.

Years have passed since the husband and father went to his rest. Bravely has the mother plied her needle, while sturdy children have grown up around her to call her blessed.

Through the practice of thrift and economy they have gathered about them the comforts, nay, even many of the luxuries of life, and all this they owe to so small a thing as a buttonhole, backed by the determination, courage and perseverance of a faithful, loving mother.

The Color of Water.

What is the color of pure water? Almost any person who has no special knowledge of the subject will reply at once, "It has no color." Yet everybody knows, either through hearsay or by the evidence of his own eyes, that the ocean is blue. Why the ocean looks blue is a question that few who have crossed it have ever sought to solve, and there are probably many travellers who, though they have seen most of the famous rivers and lakes in the world, have failed to notice the remarkable difference in color which their waters present. Even the ocean is not uniform in color; in some places its waters are green or even yellowish.

Happy Wives.

There are few wives who actually know how to control the worst of man's nature, and often resort to the worst possible means to obtain this end. Wives, let me give you kindly advice. If you are as you should be, fond of your husband, do not seek to find his faults; if he is away from you, do not follow him or pry into his habits; rest assured if he is in the wrong he knows it and likely tries to hide it from you. But if you, dear wife, find it out, then he is more likely not to care and to be more bold. If he is out late and comes in with an excuse, and you know he has spoken falsely, do not advise him of it, but say: "Well, dear, I am sorry but don't be so late next time." If you make a row about it, the next time he will not only refuse to say where he has been, but go without sanction, while if you are patient his heart is full of remorse and he loves you the more. It does not make one happier to know their faults, but only makes them more miserable. Try to reason, never to pry; a little indifference will draw him closer home. Never allow a neighbor to speak ill of him. The moment you do they have not the proper regard for you and will say: "She deserves such a husband." Be staunch and firm in your regard, permitting nothing but respectful words to be said. Do not tell your little quarrels, others never sympathize, only ridicule. Be kind, patient, and above all considerate. In time you can win a man over from his every bad habit and you will be much happier in the end.

Sleep in Sickness.

Concerning sleep, in connection with sickness, there is a good deal of heresy regarding the matter, among otherwise well-informed people. "Don't let her sleep too long!" "Be sure to wake him when it is time to give the medicine; it will be a great deal better for him not to sleep too long at one time!" How often we have heard these words, or words to that effect, when in fact, in nine cases out of ten, and very likely ninety-nine out of the hundred, they were the exact opposite of the truth. Gentle, restful sleep is better than any medicine; and how often, even how almost invariably, does the "change for the better" for which anxious friends are waiting so prayerfully, come during sleep—making its first manifestation when the patient awakes with brightened eye, stronger voice, a fainting of returning health mantling the features, in place of the wan hue of threatening death! In the words of Sancho Panza, we may well say, "Blessed be the man who invented sleep!" There are, of course, critical situations in which a troubled, imperfect sleep may properly be broken to administer medicines; but in these latter days physicians, quite generally, give the caution that in case of restful sleep the patient is not to be awakened for the administering of medicines.

Spanish Bells.

Spain has some famous bells. The great one at Saragossa is said to ring spontaneously before the death of a sovereign. The bellmaster in the Giralda at Seville, which is 370 feet high, is blind, as are other bellringers of Spain. Of all the bells in Spain, that belonging to the cathedral of Toledo is most celebrated for its size and the stories connected with it. In a volume by Hans Christian Anderson, "In Spain," we are told that fifteen shoemakers could sit under it and draw out their cobbler's thread without touching. The weight is said to be seventeen tons.

There is another story about this bell. A rich Count of Toledo had a son, who, having killed a man in a duel, sought refuge in the cathedral, while his father went to Madrid to petition the King for his pardon. "No," said the King, "he who has killed a man must die!" The Count continued to petition and the King to refuse, till at length the King said, wishing to get rid of him: "When you can make a bell at Toledo that I can hear at Madrid I will pardon the young man." Now, Toledo is nearly sixty miles from Madrid. The Count went home, and some time after, as the King was sitting in his palace at the open window, he heard a distant roll. "God help me!" he cried, "that's the bell of Toledo!" And so the young Count obtained his pardon.

BINGO—"I'm going to bring my wife around to call on you to-night."

WITHERBY—"That's right; but do me a favor, old man. Don't let her wear her new sealskin cloak. I don't want my wife to see it just now."

BINGO (grimly)—"Why, that's what we are coming for."



Mention the Ladies Pictorial Weekly.

Not Traveling Entirely Alone.

As he entered the car at East Buffalo he saw at a glance that there was one seat with a young lady in it, and he marched straight down the aisle, deposited his grip and overcoat, sat down and familiarly observed:

"I entirely forgot to ask your permission."

"That's of no consequence," she replied.

"Thanks. Traveling alone, eh?"

"Almost, but not quite. My husband is in the smoker, my father and brother are in the seat back of us and the two gentlemen across the aisle are my uncles. The conductor, who is a cousin of mine, has just gone forward, but will return soon, and I will introduce you to my aunt if you will go back a few seats."

"Aw! Aw! I see!" gasped the man; and the floor of the car suddenly became so red hot that he picked up his baggage and his feet and lit out for the next one ahead.

And so She Didn't See Him.

SHE—"Did you attend the amateur performance the other night?"

HE—"Why, I took one of the principal parts. I am surprised that you didn't see me. You were there were you not?"

SHE—"Oh, yes! but you didn't come on until the second act, did you?"



DR. LaROE'S COTTON ROOT PILLS.

Safe and absolutely pure, the most powerful Female Regulator known. The only safe sure and reliable pill for sale. Ladies ask your druggist for LaRoe's Star and Crescent Brand. Take no other kind. Guaranteed to relieve suppressed menstruations. Sold by all reliable Druggists, or Postpaid on receipt of price. American Pill Company, Detroit, Michigan.

For sale in Toronto, by Alex. McLaren, 181 King St. W., and Neil C. Love, 166 Yonge St.

Mention the Ladies Pictorial Weekly.

CIRCULATION

OVER

17,000

Advertisers will find the

LADIES' PICTORIAL

one of the best

ADVERTISING MEDIUMS IN CANADA.

The only Weekly Journal that gives a sworn guarantee of its circulation.

Bookkeeping learned at home

A complete course by mail. Most practical system yet devised. One person each place FREE. Write for circulars to-day, DUDLEY Corr. Business College, 377 Main St., Buffalo, N. Y. 10-5t

Mention the Ladies Pictorial Weekly.

FREE If you will mention where you saw this ad. and send your address on a postal, we will mail you two copies of the YOUNG FOLKS BEACON FREE. We offer grand premiums. Address: YOUNG FOLKS BEACON, Wiscasset, Me., U.S.A. 9-8t

Mention the Ladies Pictorial Weekly.

Phrenology, MRS. MENDON, 237 McCaul Street, Toronto. 10-y

Mention the Ladies Pictorial Weekly.

MARRIAGE PAPER FREE. Nearly 500 ladies and gents want correspondents GUNNELS' MONTHLY, Toledo, Ohio

Mention the Ladies' Pictorial Weekly.

Lady Agents Wanted. Special inducements now. Good pay weekly. Experience unnecessary. Pleasant light work. Can devote all or part time. Terms and outfit free. Brown Bros. Co., Toronto.

Mention the Ladies' Pictorial Weekly.

Goitre OR THICK NECK. I have a positive, Cleanly, Harmless Cure. Come if you can, or write me at 28 Livingstone St., Cleveland, O. DR. J. CASKEY. It is no Iodine smear. Cure made Permanent.

Mention the Ladies' Pictorial Weekly.

Information Wanted

We Shall abide by the Verdict of the People

As to Whether We Should or Should Not Submit

To the Restrictions of the Combines.

We respectfully solicit your opinion, and ask for your answer to the following questions:

1. Do combines operate in the interest of the people?
2. Is the existence of middlemen of benefit to consumers?
3. Is it an advantage to the public to have watches described, illustrated and catalogued with prices quoted in plain figures?

We are fighting tremendous odds, and although assured of success, we want to know if the majority endorse our policy?

We will pay for this information, and invite everyone to send us their honest and candid opinion. We cannot expect the public to take up their time with our affairs without some incentive other than the honest desire to champion the dealer whose motto is "Unrestricted Trade," and, therefore, we have decided to offer an additional inducement as follows: We will send by registered mail, postpaid, a Gentleman's 14 Karat Gold Filled Vest Chain, guaranteed to wear equal to solid gold for 10 years, retail price \$5, upon receipt of your answers to the above three questions and the nominal sum of \$2.

15,000 of these chains will be given away to create an interest with the public in our great fight, Frank S. Taggart & Co. versus the Canadian Association of Jobbers in American Watches.

Our Illustrated Catalogue, Album and Buyers' Guide of 200 pages, containing descriptive engravings and prices of Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, Silverware, Clocks, Art goods, Gems, Arms, Ammunition, Bicycles and Sporting Requisites, value 50 cents, will be mailed free to everyone answering above questions.

FRANK S. TAGGART & CO., 89 King St. West, Toronto, Can.

Be positive to mention the Ladies' Pictorial Weekly