

# WOMAN and HER WORK.

It is quite possible to have too much of a thing which in itself is excellent, and many a virtue can be carried to such excess as to become almost a vice! It may sound heretical but I believe one of those virtues most likely to become a sort of boomerang in unskillful hands is unselfishness. There can be no nobler trait in any character than the utter effacement of self which some natures are capable, but neither is there any one which may bring such disastrous results to those who possess it, or have such a bad effect upon the character of those brought most closely in contact with it.

How many of us are there who cannot recall some family amongst our own circle of acquaintance in which some one member is counted of little importance, and has the same side of things in general for her portion because she is so utterly unselfish that no one seems to consider her worthy of a moment's consideration? I say "she" because I think it will generally be found that this self effaced being is a woman, and in nine instances out of ten it is the wife and mother. Now unselfishness is a beautiful virtue, and a thoroughly selfless woman always seems one of nature's mistakes, but yet no woman, and least of all the mother of a family has any right to efface herself, and voluntarily take second place in the family group. "Oh never mind me anything will do!" says the patient wife, and by and by the rest of the family take her at her word and anything will indeed do for her; it has to, and she has no choice in the matter, "mother" does not count because she began wrong and failed to take her proper position in the household at first, and by a continual giving up of her will and inclinations first to her husband, and then to her children, has gradually sank into a nonentity.

It is so easy and natural at first for the loving young wife, who is the object of such tender attention from her bridegroom, to almost vie with him in returning them. He is so eager to wait upon her that she is anxious to do all she can for him, and is only too happy to run upstairs and get him the clean handkerchief he has forgotten, to brush his coat and hat or to run for his slippers, and if after a while he grows to expect more and more from her in the way of service she scarcely notices until, after a while he scarcely thinks of waiting on himself at all when she is within calling distance, and the thought that she may possibly be tired never enters his mind.

Then the children come and the wife's sphere of usefulness is so increased that in a very short space of time there is not one moment from the rising of the sun until the going down of the same, that she can call her own. She cannot bear that dear John shall miss any of the service which he counts his by right now, and yet the children must not be neglected, so she makes more demands upon her vitality and works the harder.

As the children grow up they may be very fond of their gentle patient mother in a superior, patronizing way, but they are not long in learning that she is not of much account, she never asserts herself and therefore her opinion cannot be worth much, so they never consult her. She is too busy working for them, and caring for their comfort, to take much interest in her own dress, so her children do not admire her, as the children of handsome, dashing Mrs. Smith, across the way admire their mother. By and by they have grown up, and by that time their mother has slipped into the place she has been preparing for herself all these years, that of a patient household drudge who is not supposed to have any opinions or preferences, and who is simply never taken into account. When the boys and girls were growing up she never had time to go out, so now no one ever thinks of asking her to do so, and if they did it is not likely she would have a suitable dress to wear; "mother cares nothing about dress" says her young daughter apologetically "she never seems to care what she needs!" and so no one else cares either, and "mother" is too sensitive, and too unselfish to contradict her, or remind her that she has very little opportunity of making a choice in her attire, but is obliged to take what she can get without complaint. So the young daughter goes to the opera or theatre instead of her mother, and everybody, including the mother herself, thinks it perfectly right. Now I say that the mother is the one to have the best of everything, instead of the worst, and that she should stand up herself for her rights as queen of her household. Who has a better right to be first than the one who brought the children into the world and then cared for them all their lives? It is her duty to maintain her own dignity, and compel the respect of her husband and children! If anyone goes without some trifling indulgence let it be the young daughter instead of the mother, she can afford to wait better than her mother, and it will not harm her in the least to learn a little self-denial, and so prepare herself for some of the disappointments she is sure to meet with in this life. How little she has done

to earn her "good time" while her mother has done so much to earn not only that, but the heartfelt gratitude of both husband and children, and how much of love and consideration they owe her.

But alas it is seldom the unselfish woman who gets her just reward, and I am afraid it is only too true that the woman who gives little, and expects everything in return gets it. People are so apt to take us at our own valuation, that the wife and mother who is constantly demanding the service of husband and children, and who always demands the best of everything, is looked up to as a superior being by them, and worshipped accordingly. So the moral is—Don't be too unselfish, place a high value upon yourself and you will probably spend your days in purple and fine linen, sniffing the odor of constantly ascending incense and faring sumptuously, while your self denying and far more deserving sister drudges "patiently among sinners."

Speculation is rife as to that vexed question of the hour in fashion circles, the size of the sleeve. Some authorities declare that it will be perceptibly smaller when the new spring modes are settled, and others who should know quite as well, assert that it would remain as large as it is now, but that the fullness will be all on the shoulder, and the rest of the sleeve almost tight fitting. But I think it will be quite safe to assume that the sleeve of the present hour, will continue to be in good style for some time to come unless it is too fiercely, and aggressively, puffed out with stiff lining.

The coat bodies, and coats in general, seem to be the garments which are engaging everyone's attention just now, and they appear in every imaginable form, from the loose and untidy looking box coat, which is spoken of as one of the leading styles for spring street wear, to the close fitting coat waist with a belt, and narrow basque frill. The lovely black velvet coats imported lately for the early spring trade, and intended to be worn with silk or cloth or velvet skirts, show an increase in length since the early part of the season, but they still have the reverse of white satin, variously trimmed, and a narrow band of black velvet covered with cream applique lace just around the edge, is the latest decoration. Cuffs to match the revers finish the wrists of the large sleeves and the vest is of embroidery, or lace, or both together. The coat is made without any middle seam, and fancy buttons define the waist line on each side of the front and back. A pretty coat of this style, intended to be worn with a skirt of dark green cloth, was of green shot velvet. Pompadour brocade silk in pink and green, on a cream ground, formed the waistcoat and cuffs, and cream lace was pulled on, to cover the plain revers, and formed a collar at the back, and an epaulet effect over the shoulders. The waist was finished with steel buttons. Another coat is to be worn with a skirt of gray blue cloth made plain and finished with seven rows of stitching around the foot. The coat is of the same material, and is cut quite short, opening over an embroidered vest and held together with a strap just below the bust line, a ruche of lace trims the neck, and extends down the front of the vest in a full jabot. The square revers are in one piece with the sailor collar which extends across the back, and they are trimmed on the edges with embroidery.

Jabots of lace seem almost a necessity to the proper setting off of the vest in a Louis XV coat, and they add greatly to the effect of these quaint, and pretty garments. Gold and cream brocade silk is especially fancied for the vests beneath these jabots, and when one considers the small quantity required—five eighths of a yard making a tight vest and cuffs—one can afford to be a little extravagant in the quality of the material.

Some of the coat bodies are loose in front, tight fitting in the back, and have full vests of chiffon, while many of them are finished at the edge with narrow galon showing a thread of gold running through it. In short, coats of all styles are decidedly in fashion, and almost any variation of the Louis XV variety is acceptable. Black, brown, green and Marie Antoinette blue are the favorite colors for velvet coats. White satin makes a good lining for any color, and almost every variety of trimming from chinchilla fur to gold braid is used. As said before the ugly box coat which entirely conceals the figure and has not one solitary recommendation except fashion, is to be a feature of the spring wraps. An early model is of gray tweed, with a small yoke strapped across the back and front. It is double breasted very loose, and fastened with two large buttons of smoked pearl. The rolling collar faced on the inside with green velvet, and the full bishop sleeves have cuffs to match.

A novel costume is of brown cloth made in princess style, and draped across the front to one side of the waist where it opens to show an underskirt of oriental velvet. An applique design around the bottom of the skirt is outlined with

beads, and on each side of the opening it is faced back with satin and bordered with fur, and sequins. The full cape is of the oriental velvet lined with cream satin, and trimmed with fur, and sequins to match the skirt.

Shot silk is still much used in combination with cloth, and a gown of violet cloth has a waist of shot silk in two shades of violet, made with a full yoke of cream silk muslin and trimmed with a band of violet silk embroidered on coarse cream linen foundation.

A new and serviceable blouse for afternoon and evening wear, is made of black satin striped up and down, front and back with three bands of green silk dotted with sequins; a very wide sailor collar, of accordion plaited green chiffon edged with a ruche of black chiffon and a neck band of jetted green silk with a chiffon frill standing up around the back.

Taffeta silk in large plaids seem to be gaining in favor though they are far from being pretty, and they promise to be very much worn during the coming season not only for blouses but entire costumes; their brightness will be toned down by accessories of black chiffon. Dresses of black wool are very fashionable, but they are never made up without some bright color to relieve their sombreness unless the wearer is in mourning. Vest collar, cuffs, belt or yoke of some bright color invariably brighten these dresses. White satin striped across with gold ribbon, or cream lace insertion makes a most effective vest, with a collar band to match tied with a plain white bow at the back; and such a vest would be as inexpensive, as it was dainty and pretty. A very pretty fancy for neck trimming, especially for thin girls, is a frill of silk very finely plaited, standing up at the back and sides from a plain velvet collar band: this frill ends just in front of the ears leaving the chin perfectly free and it may be of almost any width which is becoming to the wearer.

A simple and pretty bodice for a grey cloth gown, is made of printed velvet with grey ground. It is cut blouse fashion back and front alike, the neck filled in with chiffon over grey satin and a trimming of silver spangles makes a finish around the edge, and forms small cap pieces over the sleeves.

NOVA SCOTIA.—I hope you will see this, and recognize the answer, as I did not like to use your initials, and as it was impossible to answer you privately, this was the only way I had of replying to your question. It is never necessary for a correspondent to send a stamp for an answer, as I can never undertake to write privately, and I wish I could return your stamp, but as it would cost me another to do so, I suppose it is scarcely worth while. No, I have never purchased what you speak of, I am supposed to provide all matter of that kind myself, and it would never pay me to purchase it, when I can get it for nothing. What would you think of compiling and publishing them in the form of a little book? It might pay you, though I really hardly know.

W. E. V.—I am obliged to use your initials, as I never answer letters privately, and I cannot return the stamp you sent, for the same reason given above. I am sorry to say that I cannot place the lines you ask about, though I have taken some trouble to look them up but as I had very little time I may have missed them in my haste. Perhaps some correspondent can help us, and tell me who is the author of the following lines—

Let peace be with their ashes  
For they then the penalty is paid  
The not ours to judge  
Much less condemn.

I don't know why the comps should always pick out the very most unfortunate word in my whole M. S. to attach a wrong meaning to when they make a mistake in my copy, but somehow they always do. I tried to assure my readers of my sound orthodox news on at least one religious subject, by saying that I was far from undervaluing the efficacy of prayer, and this is what they made me say, "I am far from understanding the efficacy of prayer." Really I think the knights of the case owe me a handsome apology. ASTRA.

## HOW A HOME WAS LOST.

THE BITTER EXPERIENCE OF MR. ELWOOD, SR., OF SIMCOE.

Attacked With Neuralgia of the Limbs he Became Helpless and Suffered Intense Agony Spent His Home in Degrading Struggle With Specialists Without Avail—Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Came to the Rescue When Other Means Had Failed.

From the Simcoe Reformer.

The many virtues of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People have so often been published in the columns of this paper, that they are widely known to the residents of Norfolk County, and it is as widely conceded that they have brought joy into more than one household, and their merits are spoken of only in words of praise. In this instance the facts are brought directly home to the residents of Simcoe, a gentleman who is glad to testify to the benefit he has received from the use of these pills being a resident of this town. Mr. Wm. Elwood, sr., a resident of Simcoe for about twenty years, and for years a resident of Fort Erie, a carpenter by trade, is loud in his praise of the benefit he derived from the use of Pills. In an interview with Mr. Elwood, that gentleman told the Reformer that about eight years ago he was attacked with ulcerated catarrh of the head and throat, and was obliged to quit work, and since that time has been unable to re-

# A High Grade Shoe

Only can claim the honors of the foot. To gain this rank takes a combination of qualities such as Shoes we sell invariably possess. They have the right form to which the foot takes kindly. That's our idea, and we freely realize it in our stock. A poor shoe is no sooner worn than it is worn out. Footwear can't present too many good points. Ours have them all, and the price is one of them.

## Waterbury & Rising,

61 King and 212 Union St

# RIPANS

ONE GIVES RELIEF.

THE LEADING

## Canadian Bicycle.

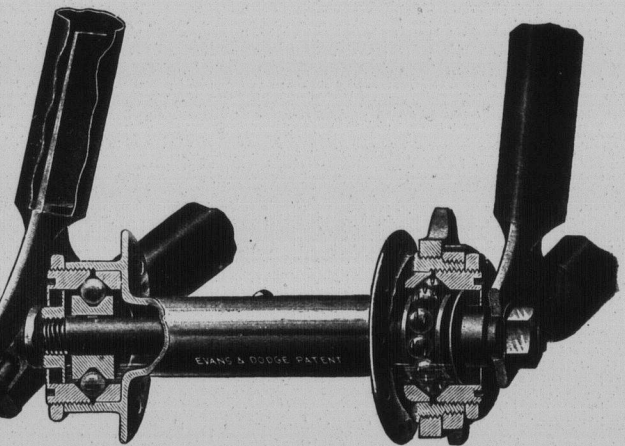
The Canadians "seem" to be coming to the front in new lines every day. This time it is Bicycles. The Canadian Typograph Co. of Windsor, Ontario have established a large factory at that town for the manufacture of what is known as the Evans and Dodge wheels which is truly claimed as the "best in the world."

This explains why the "E. & D." can be driven as easily with a 6 1/2 INCH CRANK AND GEARED TO 80 as any other wheel with a 7 INCH CRANK GEARED TO 66. It is Dust and Oil Proof Throughout. It has the Morse Chain, which requires no oil and develops 98 per cent. of efficiency.

If readers will examine the accompanying cut they will at once see a practical demonstration of the reason for this. The bearings are so constructed that the balls revolve in precisely the same direction as the hub, and for this reason all of the cutting and grinding is done away with as well as the friction of the ordinary bicycle bearing, and it will therefore be seen that this bicycle will wear ever so much longer than any other wheel produced. The weak point in bicycles has always been the bearings, which, after a years riding, were completely cut to pieces and useless.

Of the great 80 gear roadster of this company it is the boast that it is a thorough Canadian. Invented in Canada. Patented in Canada, introduced in Canada, built by Canadians, with Canadian capital.

First, we wish to impress clearly on the minds of the dealers that "E. & D." bicycle is not an ext., or in any way an



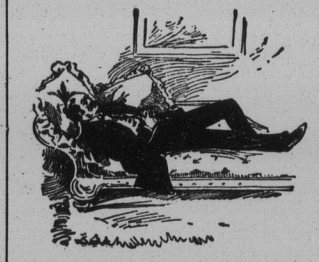
tested or untried wheel. The manufacturers have been working on the improvements of this bicycle for more than a year. Last May a wheel was fitted up with the bearings complete and has been running regularly throughout the season of 1895 as a test. It was fitted up with 80 gear, making 20 feet, 3 inches for every revolution of the pedal and has been put to the severe test of climbing hills alongside of other wheels with 63 and 66 gears and it is the universal opinion that our wheel with the 80 gear will climb a hill as easily as any other wheel with a 63 and 66. This is not idle talk. A wheel was taken to Toronto in the month of October and handed over

to the riders of the Toronto Athletic and Toronto Athenaeum Clubs, who were asked to test it in this respect, and there is not a man of them who rode it who was not amazed at the ease with which he could climb the hills with a machine geared so high.

We learn that contracts have been made for the whole output of the factory this year and only a limited number have been allotted to this district.

The Ira Cornwall Company (Limited) of this city have been appointed general agents for the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland and are now opening agencies at all important points.

sume his calling. The disease, shortly after he was taken ill, developed into neuralgia of the lower limbs, from which he suffered terrible agony. During his long illness the services of specialists in both Toronto and Buffalo, as well as those of local physicians both in his former home and Simcoe, were called into requisition,



"WAS UNABLE TO WALK AROUND."

but all to no purpose. So bad did he become, and so great were the pains that shot through his limbs, that at times Mr. Elwood had to be held down on his couch. His stomach and bowels were seriously affected and he was indeed in a deplorable condition. About a year ago he lost the use of his left foot and ankle and was unable to walk around his home without great difficulty. At one time Mr. Elwood was possessed of a good home, but so long was he ill that he spent all of his property in the hope of regaining his health. Last fall Mr. Elwood commenced taking Pink Pills and shortly after he began to feel an improvement in his condition. He continued the use of pills until he had taken thirteen boxes when he regained the use of his foot and ankle and thought he was about cured and discontinued their use. So long had he been a sufferer, however, that it was impossible for him to become convalescent in so short a time. An attack of grip again brought on the disease, but not by any means so terrible as formerly. Mr. Elwood again commenced taking the pills and is fast regaining his former health and feels certain that the Pink Pills will exterminate all traces of disease from his system. He feels so gratified at what the pills have done for him that he gladly gave

the information to the Reformer for publication in the hope that his experience may be a benefit to some other sufferer.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills strike at the root of the disease, driving it from the system and restoring the patient to health and strength. In cases of paralysis, spinal troubles, locomotor ataxia, sciatica, rheumatism, erysipelas, scrofulous troubles, etc., these are superior to all other treatments. They are also a specific for the troubles which make the lives of so many women a burden, and speedily restore the rich glow of health to pallid cheeks. Men broken down by overwork, worry or excess, will find in Pink Pills a certain cure.

Sold by all dealers or sent by mail, post paid, at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50, by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont., or Schneccady, N. Y. Beware of imitations and substitutes alleged to be "just as good."

Not Too Late to Mend.

"Be mine," he implored.  
"To late," she answered in a trembling voice.  
He buried his face in his hands. Hope fled from his bosom.  
"Too all-fired late," the woman repeated. "You might have said that three hours ago. The idea of waiting until 1 o'clock in the morning."  
Nevertheless they were married.

SIX WEEKS IN BED.

Eight Doctors—No Relief—Rheumatism.

There is but one remedy in existence which ever has or can cure rheumatism in two to three days. It is a remedy prepared expressly for this one complaint, and is worthless for any other. Morton L. Hill, of Lebanon, Indiana, says of it: "My wife had rheumatism in every muscle and joint; had been in bed for six weeks, and suffered almost death. Eight physicians attended her, and she did not find even relief until she tried South American Rheumatic Cure. It gave her relief within the first few hours, and she was able to attend to her household duties in three days. I am sure it saved her life." 75 cents. Sold by H. Dick and S. McDermid.

## "HEALTH FOR THE Mother Sex."



This caption, "Health for the Mother Sex," is of such immense and pressing importance that it has of necessity become the banner cry of the age.

Women who have been prostrated for long years with Prolapsus Uteri, and illnesses following in its train, need no longer stop in the ranks of the suffering. Miles' (Can.) Vegetable Compound does not perform a useless surgical operation, but it does a far more reasonable service.

It strengthens the muscles of the Uterus, and thus lifts that organ into its proper and original position, and by relieving the strain cures the pain. Women who live in constant dread of PAIN, recurring at REGULAR PERIODS, may be enabled to pass that stage without a single unpleasant sensation.

Four tablespoonfuls of Miles' (Can.) Vegetable Compound taken per day for (3) three days before the period will render the utmost ease and comfort.

For sale by all druggists. Prepared by the A. M. C. MEDICINE CO., 136 St. Lawrence Main St., Montreal.

Price 75 cents.

Letters from suffering women will be opened and answered by a confidential lady clerk if addressed as above and marked "Personal." Please mention this paper when writing. Sold by all druggists.