

## FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

## Mission of Educated Women.

Mrs. M. F. Armstrong in the *Popular Science Monthly* for March, replies to Mr. Grant Allen's article in a previous number of the *Monthly*, "Plain Words on the Woman Question" (part of which was given in this journal of December) as follows: Generous recognition is at once given of the beauty of the possible home, and of the power and importance of the woman who creates it; but that this is woman's only field is emphatically denied. There are now open to her many channels through which she can influence the race, and the question is raised as to whether the advantage in this respect is altogether on the side of the married woman. Two or three of the older women in the group, who have had long and varied experience as teachers, ask if it is not probable that among the many children who have come into their hands there are not some, at least, who owe more to their school environment than to the home life. They claim that they, as teachers, should be credited with the influence which, in the nature of things, is inseparable from the responsibility which is put upon them. "To us," they say, "and not to the already overburdened wife and mother, is given the power to lead and direct the youth of the race. Would you have us, with that in view, aim for anything less than the best? The education of English and American children is, in the main, in the hands of women, and this not because of an anomalous social condition, but because of their peculiar fitness for the work. On Mr. Allen's own showing, these women should remain unmarried, and, if this involves a sacrifice on their part, it is left for him to show us that such sacrifice is ignoble, or in any sense threatening to the public welfare."

## Best Housekeeping Device.

"I don't see how you accomplish so much," I observed to a friend, who lives in a flat and does the most of her own work. "It's by finding out the best and easiest methods of keeping house that I succeed," she replied. "Now, in furnishing, etc., I know that if I read up what artistic people and those who write about household economies have so carefully prepared, I shall learn much. Then I cut out and put into scrap books all that I dip from newspapers, etc., about how to keep house, and, besides all this, I use my own common sense, which goes a good way, I assure you, in furnishing and housekeeping."

We were seated in a room where the speaker was busy making a carpet, the ground of which was gray, with a broken and involved pattern in green, rather difficult to match.

"Now, in making this carpet, I have found the right way—we don't bind carpets any more, as they wear much better by being simply darned in and tacked down. I first, however, lay two breadths on the floor and mark the figures accurately, then I take a carpet needle and thread and tack the breadths together in several places, at points and intersections of figures, by taking a few stitches, and then tying the ends of the threads into a knot. This must be done securely, then the figures will not slip out of place when I turn the carpet over to sew it. If, in tacking this way, I find one edge is fuller than the other, so that it puckers a little when it is sewed, I do not worry, as it will come out right finally."

## HOW TO SEW AND LAY CARPETS.

"Having now prepared the carpet for sewing, I cut the two breadths apart, and then put down the third breadth and match the figures precisely as I did before, and tack in the same manner and so on until all the breadths are matched and out. In laying down the breadths I allow a little, of course, for turning in. This should not be forgotten. Now I am ready to turn my carpet on the wrong side, and sew my breadths together with an over-seam, or by putting my needle through one edge and bringing it back through the other. I would say that I do not take my stitches in sewing the carpet through the whole thickness, only the under half remember, in this way the stitches can lie closer together, and the edges be securely fastened without danger of drawing open when laid down, and the seams will not be heavy nor the thread show on the right side."

## FINING UP A ROOM NEATLY.

It was another chamber, the walls of which were of a light blue tinted paper with a gilt border. The floor was covered with a matting of light blue and white in checks. A prettily draped stand stood where the stove had formerly been, and it had a vase on it of blue and white china. Some lovely lace curtains at the windows, I thought at first, were new, but, finally recognized them as some old ones renewed. The room was certainly very pretty and enticing.

"I did everything in this room myself," she said with pardonable pride. "I prepared the walls with this cheap but nicely tinted paper, and then bought the gilt border for a contrast. The matting was some old kind that I had which was very much soiled, but I washed it with salt and water so that it is now thoroughly clean. I used a pint of salt to half a pailful of soft water moderately warm, and dried it quickly with a soft cloth. Twice during the season will probably be sufficient washing for this room, but matting much used would require it somewhat oftener."

## MAKING CURTAINS LOOK NEAT.

"How did you make those curtains look so nicely?" I inquired. "It's a job to do up lace curtains or muslin either, but this is the best way I have found. Before washing I tacked all around them narrow strips of white cotton cloth an inch or two wide. I then dissolved a little soda in milk-warm water and put in the curtains, where they remained for half an hour while I stirred and pressed them occasionally. I took them out and wrung them—rather squeezing than wringing. They were then placed in cold water for an hour, and then I washed them carefully in soap and warm water, but not hot."

"After this I washed again in clean water rather hotter than the last. I rinsed them in blueing water—only slightly blue, unless the curtains are very yellow. I gave them a wringing next in clean towels, and they were ready for starching. The starch was made according to the usual process, but it was clear and good. I would say that it should be thin for muslin and very thin for lace. It's a good way to stir a few times round in the starch while boiling a wax or sperm candle, or to put in a small piece of white wax; if the latter is used it should be melted."

"When the starch was ready I poured half of it into one pan and half into another. Then I dipped the curtains in, wringing them out in towels. Then dipped them into the

second pan and wrung them out in towels again. On the floor of an unoccupied room I spread down a couple of sheets—one under the other for each curtain, or rather, half a curtain. I then shook each curtain with assistance and laid it down smoothly, the edges of the sheet. I then placed down the top and back only, as the other sides will come perfectly straight without pinning. After leaving them to dry thoroughly I removed the strips of cloth and hung the curtains to the windows at once, as they should not be folded. If I had desired to put them away for a while I should have rolled them lightly in a loose, soft roll and wrapped them in blue paper or cotton cloth. The former is preferable, however, but either way, I should have assured myself that the blue dye did not rub off, and then I would have laid them where no weight could have pressed against them."

## DECORATING A STOVE.

"That stand with the tea-set on it looks very pretty where the stove once stood," I remarked.

"The stove is still there," she answered, to my surprise. "I left it up, as it would be handy in case of sickness through the summer to have up one stove if needed, as I have so few conveniences. It is concealed, however, by a light, pine frame. It consists of a square top—oval tops are prettier, perhaps—to which I fitted four legs a little higher than the stove. I then draped the frame with this blue and white flowered cretonne, as the material must be thick enough to conceal the stove. It has an under drape, as you see, which is tacked on quite full and falls to the floor. The upper drape I made still fuller so that it would fall gracefully. The festoons may be arranged in any style one fancies, only care should be taken that some of them should nearly fall to the bottom of the under drape, or the stand will not look well. Some women trim them also with woolen or cotton cords, according to the material used, and then hang tassels wherever they will be effective."

"Now, see how convenient it is," said my friend; as, whenever a fire is needed, I can easily remove the frame, and the little tea-set may be very useful also in sickness."

## PAPERING THE WALLS.

"Did you not have some difficulty in getting off the old paper that was on this wall?"

"Not at all; and I removed every bit of it as old paper should never be left on the wall. It was easily done by simply wetting it with warm water. After it was all off, I wiped the plaster over with carbolic acid to purify it. The disagreeable odor will soon disappear, and you can then be sure that there is nothing infectious lurking in the walls. I used corn-starch paste for putting on the new paper, as it does not turn sour nor stain the paper."

EMMA S. ALLEN.

## DOMAIN OF SCIENCE.

## COLD AIR ON TAP.

The Philadelphia Record is authority for the statement that capitalists in that city are about preparing to serve cold air about the city as gas or water is served. It states that chilled air is now furnished from a certain manufactory to customers within a few blocks, and it is intended to nurse this little nucleus until a large and profitable system is hatched. It is proposed by laying the pipes deep and coating them with a non-conducting substance, to force cold air from the central factory into the market-houses, abattoirs, stores and even private residences. In market-houses and many stores it is expected that the proposed convenience will be particularly welcomed, and in private residences it will be cordially received if, as is claimed, it will do away with refrigerators.

A gentleman, who the Record says is perhaps a leader in the new enterprise, states that the cold air would be distributed just as gas is; that he had been securing patents and getting capital for the last few months, and that the company he is organizing will immediately put the plans into effect in Philadelphia, the home company reserving the rights for Pennsylvania and New Jersey. "People may laugh at us," this gentleman further remarked, "but before we are done they will be thanking us, and no house will have all modern conveniences without cold air. No more hot work rooms, no more hot offices and sweltering tollers underground. Next summer it will be possible to advise: 'Go turn the spigot and cool off.' Customers will not be charged by metres, but the cost of using a cold-air spigot will be so much a month or quarter."

Samuel P. Sadtler, professor of industrial chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania, who has been considering the idea of manufacturing and distributing cold air in cities, thinks the scheme is not only feasible but also desirable. The mechanical difficulties, remarked the professor, when interviewed on the subject, "may seem great but they are not insurmountable. Very nearly perfect non-conducting covers for pipes are now made near Philadelphia, and the manufacture of the cold air is unquestionably possible. Many refrigerators now used in private houses are a nuisance, and cold air would be a big improvement over them. It ought to be much less expensive, too, especially when ice is \$10 a ton."

The expansion process, cooling air by rarefying it, is used exclusively on ocean steamships, and the machinery for this process has been brought to a very high degree of perfection. At chilled seas which are shipped from Australia and America to England are kept during the voyage in chambers cooled by expanded air, but I think the ammonia process is the best on land, where no danger arises of causing leaks at air-tight joints by the rocking of a ship."

## A HEROIC OPERATION.

All persons afflicted with obesity will be interested to hear of the surgical operation which has just been performed at Paris upon M. Hironelle, a well-known literary man, whose fame as a gourmet is only equalled by that which he has achieved with his pen. Unable to bring himself to abandon the delights of his native cuisine, or to submit to the Spartan diet and severe regimen prescribed by the "Basting" process, he placed himself in the hands of Dr. Marx and Demars. The latter, after putting him under chloroform, raised his navel, and cut away three pounds of adipose tissue. The skin was then stretched up, and a week later M. Hironelle had quite recovered from the effects of the operation, which is known as "de grasage," and bids fair to become the rage among fat men.

## WHY THE NEGRO'S SKIN IS BLACK.

In an article in the Baltimore Sun Prof. Bloomfield, of Johns Hopkins University, discusses the question of the number of races and shows that whatever the number, color is accounted the most distinctive characteristic of the race. The color of the negro has been attributed to the deficiency of oxygen in the warm air he breathes. Owing to a weaker respiration produced by deficiency of oxygen a deposit of carbon is made in the skin. The carbonaceous matter in the blood is not sufficiently consumed, and so the tis-

sues are laden with it as a chimney with a defective draft is choked with soot. The liver, whose function is to secrete from the blood the carbon not carried out in the form of uric acid in the act of respiration, does not fully do its work in the tropics, and a comparatively large quantity of carbon is retained in the system, frequently, it is said, to the point of disease. The place of origin of the negro and dark races of India and New Guinea is said to have been Lemuria, a continent supposed to have existed in a former geological period in the Indian Ocean. This continent, stretching east and west, is supposed to have embraced New Guinea, the Malayo-Polynesian Archipelago, Ceylon, Madagascar, and part of Africa. The dark color common to the people of all these regions is supposed to have originated in Lemuria anterior to the period of submergence of its more low-lying parts.

## NOTES.

A new German water-pipe is made of glass covered with a coating of asphalt and fine gravel. The advantages claimed are resistance to ground moisture and to acids and alkalis, and impermeability to gases.

The scoring of the bones of modern cannon by the new powders in use is claimed to be due to the fact that upon ignition all of the powder is not turned to gas, some of it remaining in a fluid state. It is this latter which does the scoring by being thrown with such force against the metal of the gun that the resulting action is very similar to that of a sand blast for cutting glass.

## WAVE-POWER.

Only a small portion of the world's supply of the energy exists in the coal, and our industries have reserved the power of the sunbeams, of the tides, and of the waves. Even the last night office for man's necessities, a rolling wave 20 feet high exerting a force of about one ton per square foot. The average force of ocean waves has been estimated to be 611 pounds per square foot during summer, and 2,086 pounds during the winter months. A force of 6,993 pounds has been known during a heavy gale.

## THE MOON'S HEAT MEASURED.

The problem of measuring the moon's heat has been solved at last by Mr. C. V. Boys, one of the professors of South Kensington, London. By means of quartz filaments he has produced a thermopile of almost incredible delicacy. By this remarkable apparatus he can render sensible the heat of a candle up to the distance of a mile and three-quarters, and by directing the minute disk of the instrument to the moon he has shown that the warmth received from its reflected light is equal to that given out by a candle at twenty-one feet distant. Observation seems to show that although the moon's face is under the blaze of an unclouded sun for fourteen days, it remains comparatively cool, and that whatever heating it does ultimately receive is rapidly gained and as rapidly lost.

## TOBACCOUS WORKS.

Silkworms when newly hatched scarcely weigh one-quarter of an ounce, yet in the course of their life, which only lasts about thirty-five days, they will consume between 3,000 and 4,000 pounds of leaves.

## MOCHA COFFEE.

The real Mocha coffee comes only from Yemen, an Arabian province. The greater part of the exported Mocha never sees Yemen, but is brought from the East Indies to Mocha and there shipped further. Not a bean of the best Mocha passes out of Constantinople.

## A HUGE CANNON.

Probably no single aggregation of figures gives such a wonderful idea of the advance in modern warfare as the description of the new Krupp gun, which has just been ordered for Constantinople. It throws a ball weighing 2,000 pounds at a distance of 12 miles. The gun is forty-four feet long and it can be reared twice a minute. Every time it goes off it costs the Government \$1,500.

## FARM AND GARDEN.

## HORSES AT REST.

There are some curious facts about the disposition of horses to lie down. To a hard working horse rest is almost as great a necessity as good food, but tired as he may be he is often a trifle lying down, even when a nice clean bed of straw is provided for him. The writer once rode a more sooty miller in a single day. The stable in which she was for the night was as comfortable in every way as it could be made, yet she stood the whole night through. She ate her oats and hay and then went to sleep, leaning forward with her breast against the manger. There are horses that have never been seen to lie down, and if they have ever done so it was only for a short time and at an hour when they were not likely to be seen. No marks have ever been discovered upon their coats which would indicate that they had been lying down. A horse is recalled now that occupied for fifteen years, from the time he was two years old, the first stall in grandfather's stable. Up to the hour he died no one had ever seen him lying down, and several times after wearying drives of about eight or ten hours a watch was placed on him to see if during the night he would lie down, but he was never caught in that position, and he would not be tempted to recline by even the sweetest and cleanest of bedding. He died literally upon his feet. He was taken sick, and in giving him a drench from a long-necked bottle, with his head pulled up to a beam, he suddenly fell back and expired.

Unless a horse lies down regularly his rest cannot be complete, and his joints and sinews stiffen, and while it is true that horses that sleep in a standing position continue to work for many years, it is equally true that they would continue to work for many years longer and perform their work much better if they rested naturally. Young horses from a country stable may refuse to lie down when put into a stable in town, and the habit may be confirmed unless inducements are offered. Horses can be taught to lie down, and they can also be taught to be as neat and cleanly in their habits as individuals.

It is a very rare thing for horses afflicted with a disease that superinduces fever to lie down. They will stand up until nature becomes completely exhausted and their limbs refuse to sustain them. They have an instinct which teaches them that if they lie down it will be difficult for them to get upon their feet again. A sick horse, because of his evident knowledge of his own condition and his inability to communicate the symptoms and the nature of it, commends himself to human sympathy more than any other animal. Horses have a horror of death, and especially dread death in their own kind. A horse may be sick in company with a stable of horses and the others will not notice him at all, but the moment he dies there is consternation throughout the entire stable. A horse may be absolutely fearless of every inanimate thing that comes to his notice, but will be frightened beyond measure at the sight of one of his own kind lying dead by the roadside.

## FAST AND SLOW MILKING.

It is generally understood that fast milking has the advantage of securing more milk

than slow milking. But we are not aware of any scientific experiments to determine the fact. Mr. Ralph Allen of Devon, Ill., however, given to the Jersey Bulletin a little experience that will illustrate the difference. His boy was learning to milk, and took two and a half pounds of milk. The boy could get only seven to nine pounds. The evidence in favor of fast milking was pretty conclusive—provided the time in milking was all the difference that affected the flow. The fast milker may have been more agreeable to the cow, and his manner of milking may have been more agreeable. The bawling of the boy may have been positively annoying to the cow. This would affect her "giving down," as it is called. It may have as much to do with the variation in the yield as the difference in time of drawing the milk had. You must please the cow if you want her to do her best. More or less milk is secreted during milking—as saliva is secreted during eating. If the cow is annoyed, it checks the secretion of milk; if pleased, it stimulates it. For various reasons, it is important to have fast milkers, who are good natured and agreeable to the cows.

## THE BLOOD THAT GIVES SPEED AND ENDURANCE.

It is a fact that the Island of Great Britain has produced the greatest race of men we have had, and, too, the most valuable breeds of our domestic animals with the exception of our domestic merino sheep.

It is understood that the first settlers of England were from Gaul or France, and that they took with them their domestic animals.

Cesar thought so well of the horses of England that he took many of them to Rome and they were considered so valuable that they were in great demand throughout the empire for quite a period.

This shows that they had fine horses from first knowledge of them.

When the Romans held the Island the native horse was largely crossed with the Roman horse, though the result of the cross is not stated. There were running horses imported to England about 900, and a law was passed in 950 prohibiting the exportation of horses. William the Conqueror took great pains in improving the English horse by importing horses from Spain and other countries. As Spain had been conquered by the Saracens, their horses were largely of Eastern origin. William had cause to feel well toward his horses, as he owed to his cavalry his victory at Hastings and the kingdom of England. Hannibal owed his victory at Canni to his cavalry.

In the wars of the Crusades the eastern warriors could not stand the charge of the western warrior, nor could the eastern horse withstand the charge of the western horse.

Yet it was seen that the eastern horse had more beauty, speed and endurance to last long marches, and the Crusaders thought so well of them that on their return they took many of them back with them. The cross was good, as the progeny had more speed, beauty and endurance than the English horse, and it had, too, more size than the Arabian.

Henry the Eighth decreed that no stallion under fifteen hands should run at large, and all mares likely to breed underleaved, or ill shaped produce be destroyed. The exportation of horses was strictly prohibited by Elizabeth.

It was a folly to export a horse to Scotland. Though the blood of the Arabian has done much toward making the English thoroughbred what he is, it has not done all, as the first horses of England were not to be despised. Had they been bred and trained for speed it is possible that they might have been as good as the horses of England to-day.

The Arabian cross with the English has not of late years proved well, and the cause must be the superiority of the English horse to the Arabian. One writer states: "The superiority of the English and American blood horse comes from various crosses named with the Arabian; that they possess a certain amount of all blood that is not blood of the desert."

The form, the shape of an animal, indicates at once whether it is fast or slow. The form of the elephant, buffalo, ox, bear, bulldog and dray horse, show they must be slow in their movements, while the shape of the gazel, antelope, deer, greyhound, racer and trotter show they must be fast.

It is the aim of the breeder of the racer and trotter to so breed them that their form and shape will give the greatest speed, the same as a shipbuilder shapes his ship to give the most speed. The builder of the sulky tries to make it as strong and as light as can be.

Two shapes of the racer and trotter being such as to give great speed, and the trotter inheriting largely the blood of the thoroughbred, he must naturally greatly resemble him in form and shape. It was said of D. Star, Lady Thorne, Goldsmith Maid, Princess, Huctress, Fearnaught and others how blood-like they looked, how much they in form and shape resembled the thoroughbred, and it is equally true as to Mand S, Sunol and others.

One English writer in speaking of the resemblance of the trotter to the thoroughbred, states he believes that some of the half or three-quarter bred horses of England are trained to trot that they would show great speed as many of the trotters; that their blood nature causes them to keep up speed at a long distance. There can be no doubt but that some of the thoroughbreds can be trained to trot, so that in a few generations they will make fast time at the trotting gait.

Ethan Allen's running mate was made to trot in three minutes by being driven with Ethan. The fact that the granddam of the fastest trotter we have was thoroughbred and by Boston; that the second fastest trotter's granddam was thoroughbred, by Lexington; son of Boston, and that the third fastest trotter's granddam was thoroughbred, and by Lexington, shows how much blood of the thoroughbred has done in given endurance and staying qualities to the trotter to carry his speed to the finish.

It is a fact that some cold-blooded trotter will trot a quarter or a half fast, but their cold blood causes them to quit on the last half. They lack the lasting or staying qualities of the thoroughbred to keep up their speed on the last half.

One writer states that the western and southern trotters have more of the blood of the thoroughbred than have the eastern trotters, and they have, for the last 20 years, won the most of the races in the grand circuit, so that the eastern horses would win a heat or two and then the western and southern horses would go on and win the race, and he believed it was the lack of the blood of the thoroughbred in the eastern trotters that caused them to quit, and that it was the blood of the thoroughbred in the western and southern trotters that caused them to last and win. It can be seen what a powerful factor the blood of the thoroughbred is in speed, endurance and staying qualities to the trotter. ["X" in Turf Field and Farm.

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## Irish Marriages and Deaths.

## MARRIED.

**HAWKINS**—BOARDMAN—May 15, in Kilnashagh Church, Wm. Hawkins, R.L.O., son of the late Mr. John Hawkins, of Co. Cork, county, county Kilkeny, Miss Mary Anne, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Chas. Boardman, Co. Wick.

**PLUNKETT**—DUMAS—May 11, at St. Andrew's, Westland road, Dublin, Thomas, second son of the late Michael Plunkett; to Emma, second daughter of Michael Dumas, 9 Lower Pembroke St., Dublin.

**REEVES**—HARRINGTON—At Athy, Anthony Reeves, Reevemount, to Bridget Harrington, Geraldine, Athy.

## DIED.

**ANDREWS**—May 17, Edward Andrews, 58 Meat street Dublin, aged 18 years.

**BLACK**—May 15, at his residence, Royal Hospital, Dublin, Sergeant-major P. Black, a native of Tipperary.

**BREMAN**—May 22, at Maryborough, Thomas M. Breman, merchant, aged 52 years.

**CARROLL**—May 22, at his residence, Mornington, Drogheda, Mr. Michael Carroll aged 88 years.

**COMMINGS**—May 19, at her residence, 2 Mountjoy street, Dublin, Anne, wife of Robert John Cumming, after a tedious illness.

**DONNERY**