WOMAN AND HOME.

HOW A CLEVER HOSTESS ENTERTAINS HER GUESTS.

Heroic Mothers of Continental Students—What Most Women Read—Professor Maria Mitchell—Marion Harland's Views on Love and Friendship.

The most important function of an agreeable hostess begins after her guests are assembled. She must endeavor to see that all are happy and amused, she must try to prevent deadlocks, and to promote a certain amount of circulation among the company, and at the same time she must not seem busy or meddling, or interfere too much with individual liberty. In other words she must steer a nice course between individualism on the one hand and centralization on the other. I think the modern theory of hospitality tends very much toward individualism (i.e., allowing people to do as they please) tempered by a certain amount of introductions.

A clever woman once described to me with amusement, not unmixed with contempt, the conduct of a young hostess at a fashionable watering place. This young married woman (who was old enough and experienced enough to have known better) "pranced up and down her own piazza, first with one gentleman and then with another, leaving the rest of her guests to amuse themselves as they best could!"

It is even worse, however, to interfere too much with one's guests, because most people are inclined to resent anything that approaches social dictation. Thus a clever and agreeable hostess of X—— has given great offense to her guests by requesting them to change places in the middle of a dinner party—and by disturbing conversations and breaking up tete-a-tetes in an arbitrary and high-handed way. The mistress of the house must sometimes break up conversations, where she has reason to suppose that either of the conversers is becoming weary, or where she wishes to introduce them to other persons, but this power needs to be exercised with great discretion, and if the guests intimate a preference for remaining of they are, the point should be yielded gracefully and at once.

It has been said above that an agreeable hostess always enjoys, or endeavors to enjoy, her own entertainments. I hope that few ladies are as maladroit as a debutante, who said not long ago, to a guest at an afternoon tea, "Afternoon teas are horrid, aren't they? So stupid and tiresome! Don't feel obliged to stay, just because it's my coming out party!" It may seem strange that a young lady should make such a very thoughtless and ill-bred speech—but young people who have not become accustomed to the ways of the world sometimes make these mistakes from a desire to be frank.

One of the secrets of entertaining agreeably is to do so often, for habit gives ease in this, as in other matters.

Another very important point is that of treating all the guests alike, as far as it is possible to do so, of welcoming them all with cordiality, and endeavoring to see that all have a pleasant time.

I have heard an elderly lady severely criticised for "rushing across her parlor, kowtowing and bowing, and receiving with the great satisfaction of an ugly old woman, simply because she happened to be a countess." As the other guests had been received without such display of joyful humility, they felt somewhat jealous of their noble rival, rightly arguing that Americans, who have no titles, and do not believe in a more consistent and dignified demonstrative manner.

It is to be feared that our people sometimes make themselves quite ridiculous by this wide difference between their theory and practice, and by the exaggerated care and pains which they take to bestow their full titles on members of the nobility. As in England these titles are not used on ordinary occasions, save by inferiors when they address their superiors, it will be seen that Americans place themselves in a false position by such conduct. Of course we do not wish to appear discourteous or aggressive, but we best respect others when remembering our own self respect. Thus it seems to me unAmerican to introduce a Russian prince as "his highness, Prince 'Cutazoff Hedzoff'"—the designation "prince" alone should be sufficient.

There are certain guests upon whom a hostess should bestow more attention than she is at liberty to devote to all. Thus a stranger, a new comer, or a very diffident person needs special consideration at the hands of his hostess—while the belle of the season, surrounded by admirers, can usually be trusted to take care of herself.—Florence Howe Hall in Ladies' Home Journal.

Marion Harland's Views.

Mrs. Edward P. Terhune (Marion Harland) was asked for an opinion on the subject of love and friendship

"I fancy school-girl intimacies to be the natural outcome of the strong necessity of loving inherent in the true woman," said Mrs. Terhune. "I have in mind several instances where the violent love, stimulating passion, existing between such, proved the morning vapor before the expulsive power of a new affection. Mothers look indulgently upon these vehement intimacies as quite natural and altogether safe. They lead to no troublesome entanglements, leave no seeds of shame and humiliation, and usually die a natural death with the arrival of Prince Charming and life's real responsibilities. True friendship, that which lasts while life endures, sometimes underlies the issues of those ephemeral glows—but seldom. The friendships of mature years are not usually the offspring of school-girl fancies for those who are the 'sister souls.' This may sound unsympathetic, but do not misunderstand me, I believe in the fond, true and abiding love of woman for woman when founded upon the appreciation of kindred tastes and sentiments. Friendship recognizes and draws to itself that which is alike in both parties concerned. It is able to give a reason for the love that is in it. Love seeks a counterpart, a complement, not a double, and in the quest surprises us continually by bringing about matches between what we consider opposites.

"Friendship often exists between woman and woman and man and man.

Love exists only between persons of opposite sexes. The girl who falls in love with her schoolfellow maudly and jealously because the latter is lovely or fascinating enacts a pretty part that probably keeps her from more than one imprudent 'scrape.' If the passion outlasts the school days it becomes ridiculous. Happily it rarely survives the experience of the real thing—the love decreed by God for the best happiness of his creatures."

Heroic Mothers.

On the Continent, poor students are as frequently to be found as in Scotland, and in Vienna they form the majority. A good number of merry boys may be seen running about from one end of the city to the other, giving lessons while they are themselves still pupils of the gymnasium (the continental grammar school), and of the university students at least two-thirds are defraying the expenses of their studies out of their own earnings. This work satisfactorily so long as the minor examinations have to be passed, but when the students have the doktor-examen, or the staats-examen before them, assistance becomes necessary, as studying hard and cramming others have proved to be incompatible. In such cases the poor mother or the sister, perhaps a seamstress or a dressmaker, or may be the bride elect, who is also dependent on needlework, will for months strain her eyes and work her fingers to the bone to allow the candidate, who is the pride of the family, and may in days to come be its support, to devote himself entirely to his books to prepare for his examination.

The son of one poor widow was such a candidate, and while he was diligently applying himself to his studies, the final examination being very near, the mother deprived herself even of the pleasure of seeing him. One evening the poor old woman pricked her finger with a needle. Soon her hand became swollen, and the woman sought medical advice at a hospital. There she was told that the finger must be amputated, and she insisted upon the operation being performed at once, so that the accident might be concealed from her son. Twenty-four hours later the whole hand was gangrenous and had to be taken off. Not a whisper of this misfortune was allowed to reach her son's ears.

At last the examination day for the doctor's degree arrived. The young man left for the university after taking a hasty farewell of his mother, and he had hardly quitted the house before the doctors arrived to amputate the arm of the silent old sufferer. It was an advanced hour of the day when the son came home radiant with joy to tell his mother that their days of anxiety and want were at an end; that he had passed with honors, and that it would now be his turn to provide for his parent! But the one to whom he intended to communicate his joy was no more. Even the last operation was made too late, and blood poisoning was the consequence of her endeavors to hide her pain from her son.—Chicago Herald.

Louisa Alcott's Bonnet.

The following is from Louisa May Alcott's "Life, Letters and Journals:" "My bonnet has nearly been the death of me; for, thinking some angel might make it possible for me to go to the mountains, I felt a wish for a tidy hat, after wearing an old one till it fell in tatters from my brow. Mrs P. promised a bit of gray silk, and I built on that; but when I went for it she let me down with a crash, saying she wanted the silk herself, and kindly offered me a flannel petticoat instead. I was in woe for a spell—having but $1 in the world, and scorning debt, even for that prop of life, a bonnet. Then I aroused myself, flew to Dodge, demanded her cheapest bonnet, found one for $1, took it and went home, wondering if the sky would open and drop me a trimming. I am simple in my tastes, but a naked straw bonnet is a little too severely chaste even for me. Sky did not open; so I went to 'Widow Cruse's oil bottle'—my ribbon box—which, by the way, is the eighth wonder of the world; nothing is ever in it, yet I always find some old dud when all other hopes fail. From this salvation bun I extracted the remains of the old white ribbon and the bits of black lace that have adorned a long line of departed hats. Of the lace I made a fich on which I thriftily served up the ribbon like mock-onions; in put the last bow which adorns my form anywhere when needed. Strings are yet to be evolved from chaos. I feel that they are in me somewhere in the dim future. Green ones, pro tem., hold this wonder of the age upon my gifted brow, and I survey my hat with respectful awe. . . . I feel very moral today, having done a big wash alone, baked, swept the house, picked the hops, got dinner, and written a chapter in 'Moods.'"

Women's Ways.

One hears much now of the need of etiquette in the Boston schools. By all means let it not confine itself to those quarters. Spare a little for everyday affairs. For instance: The other night an empty car reached Winter street, bound south. A young woman entered by the front door, marched to the other end of the car and sat down. She left the door open, sat there and shivered. The conductor was busy at one end, the driver was busier at the other. A young man entered by the rear door, closed the front one, returned to the rear, and sat down in the second corner. In came another woman by the front door, marched to the rear, sat down, leaving the door open, and shivered. A man sprang on the moving car, entered the open door, closed it after him, and sat down. The car stopped to avoid running down a dray. A third woman of uncertain age entered by that front door, walked to the other end of the car, sat down and shivered. She, too, had left the door open. Further, by actual count, within that half-mile, nine women entered that door and left it open, exposing the passengers to the full force of the wintry air. Eleven men entered the same door, each shutting it behind him. Are we to infer that these nine women were brought up in sawmills? Doubtless they could bring up sins without number against the men, too. But "tu quoque" simply doubles the argument with which we begin.—Boston Post.

How Many Women Read.

I am now going to make an assertion which is always loudly denied, which is none the less true, and that is that women are not newspaper readers. At the family breakfast table, the first thing that three women out of four glance at is the column of births, marriages and deaths. They go up by train to town, and you see a morning paper or a sound and sensible weekly in the hands of nine-tenths of the masculine travelers. But if the average woman buys a printed sheet there is a sadly overwhelming probability that it is either a senseless novelette or one of those terrible hotch-potches of inane vularities, stale clippings from American publications, and wantonly inartistic and silly illustrations. These are strong terms, but the mental mischief wrought by what may be called an unvarying intellectual diet of peppermints deserves them. Long-continued reading of this rubbish shapes the mind's vitality, and renders it incapable of the effort so appreciate a good book, or even to follow the arguments of a leading article upon some important social problem, or to grasp the popular description of a great scientific development. It has been said that newspapers do not cater sufficiently for the interests of their female readers; but it may certainly be questioned whether columns on baby nursing would compensate for reviews, or cookery recipes for political speeches.—Woman's World.

A Woman's Club.

The Alexandra is the most exclusive of London's women clubs. It is also the most successful. No individual of the other sex above the age of twelve is admitted beyond the door mat. Husbands, fathers, and brothers are all ruthlessly excluded from within its sacred precincts. It furnishes an admirable centre for shopping operations, and for lunches, teas, etc. It possesses the advantages of bedrooms, let at the most reasonable rate, so that girls and young married women can spend a night or two in town without any trouble to chaperons or maids. Women friends, of course, may be admitted into the club, and servants and tradespeople interviewed. It is named for the Princess of Wales, and no one who has not been presented to the Queen is eligible to membership.—Washington Post.

Judicial Whipping in England.

When Lander referred to the "naked haunch" he was evidently indulging poetic license, as persons when whipped were only stripped from the waist upward, so that the haunch would not be exposed to "the stern beadle's whip." That women were whipped at the whipping post and the cart's tail is a positive fact. Women of all ages suffered, from the girl of 16 to the woman of 60, and the practice of whipping them only ceased in 1817, when it was abolished by George IV. I, women of the middle class escaped whipping, it was no doubt due to the fact that they but rarely committed the offenses for which women of the lower orders were punished, otherwise they would have been equally amenable, as there does not appear to have been any statutory exception in their favor; indeed, it seems more than probable that many women of the middle class were whipped, when we remember that whippings were inflicted upon women not only for crime, but for being in same and having the smallpox. Whether Hannah Snell was whipped or not I am unable to say, but if she really existed and was in the army, I should think it quite likely that she was, and under certain circumstances the whipping might have been carried out without her sex being discovered.—Notes and Queries.

The First English Woman Journalist.

It is interesting to know that Mrs. E. Lynn Linton was the first English woman journalist. "Many years ago she made up her mind that women had as good a chance in journalism as men, and she put her theories to the test with a rapidity and success which certainly the sterner sex to first surrender and subsequently admire. She has gone on writing special articles ever since in spite of the fact that she has turned out a large number of novels, for so marvelous is her facility that she is never at a loss for material. She lives in a flat high up in Queen Ann's mansions, and has a wide and varied view of London house tops. She is an old woman now, and her autobiography would be an interesting one, for she has known many celebrated men. Robert Southey was her earliest neighbor, Walter Savage Landor her literary foster father, and Charles Dickens her first editor. He had the highest opinion of her abilities and her reliability, by the way—and predicted her future. Subsequently she spent many years in the house at Gads Hill, famous in connection with the great novelist.—Current Literature.

Professor Maria Mitchell.

I remember her telling me in the early days of Vassar, says her sister, of a pupil who confessed that she would rather be great than good, as if the two things, if genuine, could ever exist apart. It was so impossible for Maria to conceive such a state of mind that it perplexed her for a long time. She was of infinite use to the college in the dangerous early days by holding it to a high standard as a member of the faculty. She was of the same sort of use to every individual, whether pupil or teacher, who came under her influence, as she insisted upon the "narrow way," and her insistance was strengthened by her example. The startling nature of her sayings gave them added power. They could not be forgotten. No one ever knew her to do a mean or unworthy thing. For the erring pupil she found infinite love and pity, but never an excuse. The intense scorn she felt and expressed in regard to every falseness could never be forgotten. She was often misunderstood. If even President Raymond found her frankness "frightful," we may be sure that there were those who, unable to bear it, considered it simply as destructive.—Exchange.

Women in Business.

Nothing in this miracle working Nineteenth century, each year of which holds a progress equivalent to fifty of those that have preceded it, is more wonderful than the utter change of feeling as to what women may or may not do. There is no present need of seeking the reasons for this change of feeling, better defined at some points than others, but leavening the lump in all directions. Insensibly but steadily the new order of training has made its way till in every profession and skilled trade open to women, one finds them at work with a zeal, a skill, a fidelity and conscientiousness, that mean the utmost service for the wages given. There are thousands of these women demonstrating daily that woman's work need be no less efficient than man's, and may even, because of keener conscience, exceed it in value. Their place is made. They have proved beyond question capacity and all needed qualities for success, and their numbers grow and will grow from year to year.—Helen Campbell in Good Housekeeping.

Ladies and Clerks

The laugh is not always on the side of the book clerk or the library attendant. A lady went into a music store in Philadelphia and asked for "Songs Without Words." The clerk stared at her in astonishment. "But," he said, "you know that is impossible; there cannot be songs without words."

"Can you tell me where I can find 'Rienzi's Address?" asked a young lady of a clerk in Brooklyn. "You might look in the directory," he suggested.

In Pittsburg a lady asked, "Have you 'John Halifax?'" "No," was the clerk's reply, "We are just out of 'John Halifax,' but here is 'John Nicholson,' will that do?" The lady thought it would not do, but the clerk was determined to effect a sale, so he went on, "Do you like deep reading, ma'am? Here is 'Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea,' that is a very deep novel."—Philadelphia Press.

Lunches for Children.

I want to talk of how a luncheon for children shall be put up, not of what it shall consist. A basket of suitable size is better than a pail for the purpose. There is too much mingling of odors in a closely covered pail to be appetizing. Let it be covered with a clean white napkin always. Empty the apple butter they bring home to-day into a clean dish if you send it back to-morrow. Arrange everything as neatly as possible.

Not long since I heard two teachers speaking of a family, none of whose members they had met except the children in school.

"I think they are nice," one of the young ladies said, using that word in the comprehension American sense, which means so much. Then she added: "The children bring nice looking dinners to school."

"Do you judge people by what their children eat?"

They agreed that it is a very good way to judge sometimes. Then one of them said:

"Do you remember the lunches those dreadful Smiths used to bring when we were school girls? They brought their bucket uncovered to the schoolhouse door. Then Noah—the smallest of the 'dreadful Smiths'—would take his mother's old shawl off his head and tuck it over their dinner." And she gave a most expressive "Ugh!" at the remembrance.

That was an extreme case, of course, but all sorts and conditions of children meet in the public schools. The difference in their home surroundings manifests itself in many ways to the eyes of the teacher.—Sara in New York Mail and Express.

The Idea.

Fangle (reading)—Edison often consumes fifty cigars a day.

Mrs. Fangle—I should think he would invent a machine to do it for him.—New York Sun.

Many an otherwise handsome face is disfigured with pimples and blotches, caused by a humor in the blood, which may be thoroughly eradicated by the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It is the safest blood medicine in the market, being entirely free from arsenic or any deleterious drug.

—Caswell, Massey & Co's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil with Pepsin and Quinine, is recognized as the best preparation known. Prescribed by the leading physicians. W. A. Dyer & Co., Montreal.

Jacob H. Blosmer of Virgilia, N.Y., writes, "Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil cured a badly swelled neck and sore throat on my son in forty-eight hours; one application also removed the pain from a very sore toe; my wife's foot was also much inflamed—so much so that she could not walk about the house; she applied the oil and in twenty-four hours was entirely cured."

Dyspepsia or indigestion is occasioned by the want of action in the biliary ducts, loss of vitality in the stomach to secrete the gastric juices without which digestion cannot go on; also, being the principal cause of headache. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills taken before going to bed, for a while, never fail to give relief and effect a cure. Mr. F. W. Ashdown, Ashdown, Ont., writes: "Parmelee's Pills are taking the lead against ten other makes which I have in stock."

Burdock Blood Bitters will speedily cleanse all impurities from the blood and cure Blotches, Boils, Pimples, Ulcers, Erysipelas and Chronic diseases of the Skin.

Dyspepsia in its worst forms will yield to the use of Carter's Little Nerve Pills, aided by Carter's Little Liver Pills. Dose, one of each after eating. 246

It is no longer necessary to take blue pills to rouse the liver to action. Carter's Little Liver Pills are much better. Don't forget this. 246

As an English Medical Authority affirms that the best regimen for preserving health may be summed up in the maxim, "keep the head cool, the feet warm, and the bowels active." There is a world of wisdom in the observation. Obstinate constipation, or costiveness, is an exciting cause of other diseases; and, with many persons of sedentary habits or occupations, this inaction of the bowels is a source of constant annoyance, producing piles, prolapse of the rectum, fistula and various dyspeptic symptoms. All these are warded off and health is maintained by the use of Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets.

Severe colds are easily cured by the use of Hickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup, a medicine of extraordinary penetrating and healing properties. It is acknowledged by those who have used it as being the best medicine sold for coughs, colds, inflammation of the lungs, and all affections of the throat and chest. Its agreeableness to the taste makes it a favorite with ladies and children.

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Be prompt! Don't delay! For everybody sending in cannot get a prize. The profit comes on those who don't get rewards. These competitions could not be continued if every one competing secured a piano. We give our readers credit for understanding this and also this fact, that it is best always to *be as early as possible* in sending in your answers. Be sure to be correct, that it is best always to be made after your answers are mailed—unless you send in correct answers and another dollar and have your subscription extended or the paper sent to some friend. From among this great list (as there are so many prizes), you can hardly fail to get something good. IF YOU SEND IN QUICKLY. All these rewards will be given away, you can be absolutely depend on this. TRUTH cannot afford now to risk the excellent reputation it has gained by the uniform fairness with which these competitions have been conducted. Over 3,000 delighted prize winners have sent us voluntary testimonials as to the value of their rewards.

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Next Forty-One, each an Imitation Steel Engraving, Rosa Bonheur's Horse Fair, $2 82
Next Twenty-Nine, each a Complete Set of Dickens' Works, Handsomely Bound in Cloth, 10 vols., $20 480

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Next Five, each $10 in Cash 50
Next Fifteen, each a Superbly Bound Family Bible, beautifully illustrated, usually sold at $15 225
Next Seven, each Gentleman's Fine Gold Open Face Watch, good movements, $60 420
Next Nineteen, each an Elegantly Bound Volume in Cloth and Gold, Milton's Paradise Lost, $7 133

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First One, an Elegant Upright Piano, by celebrated Canadian firm $500
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Next five, each a beautiful Quadruple Silver Plated Tea Service (4 pieces) $40 200
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First Seven, an Elegant China Dinner Service of 101 pieces, specially made for TRUTH by Powell, Bishop & Stonier, Hanley, England 350
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Next Eighteen, each a handsome bound volume Walter Scott's Poems, $2 36

WITNESSES:

Noel Marshall, manager Smith Coal Co., Queen-street west, opposite Shaftesbury Hall, Toronto, has been in possession of the Piano and Stool UPRIGHT PIANO, given as First Prize in Bible Competition No. 21. It is a very fine instrument. I hope my success may be the means of adding largely to your subscription list.—LIZZIE O'REILLY, 149 James St. S., Hamilton, Ont.

Isaac McNaughton, Eureka, Picton County, N.S., acknowledges a fine Quadruple Silver Plated Tea Service.

These rewards will be divided as nearly as possible into Fifteen equal portions instead of three, as formerly, thus covering nearly the entire term of the Competition from first to last, giving all, whether late or early, as well can be arranged an equal opportunity of getting a reward, if their answers are correct.

The questions are, where in the Bible are the following words first found; 1, FISH; 2, FLESH; 3, FOWL.

One dollar must be sent for four months' subscription to TRUTH, with your answers. The three answers must be correct to secure any prize. Three dollars is the regular price for a year's subscription, you are therefore charged nothing extra for the privilege of competing. TRUTH contain the right to return the money and deny any one the privilege of competing. TRUTH contains, every week, 32 pages of choice, interesting reading for the home circle, and is well worth the amount charged, irrespective of any prize. Living, pithy, pointed Editorial Paragraphs on current events, political and otherwise, from an unbiased standpoint for fathers reading; Contributor's Page, for all thoughtful readers; Tested Domestic Receipts and Medical Health Notes well as many other attractions. Full lists of the Prize Winners will be published in TRUTH immediately at the close of the competition, with street and number in cities, where given, and postoffice addresses for town, village and country, so all may be assured of the utmost fairness. If any one competing is particularly desirous of not having their names published among the prize winners, they have only to say so when sending in their money and answers, although it is preferred that every name should appear.

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P.L.D., D.C.L., F.C.S.,
Public Analyst for the District of Montreal, and Professor of Chemistry

CHEMICAL LABORATORY,
MEDICAL FACULTY, McGILL UNIVERSITY,
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