



Our Homes.

Don't talk against your relatives.

Don't let the children go to bed with cold feet.

Slang is as "catching" as chicken-pox or measles.

Would that we were not all so fond of talking of ourselves!

It is not to a girl's credit to be able to state that she knows nothing about cooking.

Are you as careful to bid the members of your own family a cheery good morning as you are the guest who sleeps beneath your roof?

Now is the time when an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure in warding off colds and coughs. Colds, sore throats, etc., are not always the results of exposure. Indigestion, constipation, greasy foods, lack of personal cleanliness, and ill-ventilation are each and all prolific sources of these maladies.

NURSERY RUG.—The cloth or drugget for the centre should measure forty-seven inches in length and thirty-one inches in width. A bright colour should of course be chosen for the centre. Then a border of about two inches in width is made of a contrasting colour, it is joined and then the seam flattened and a row of brier or herring-bone stitches fastens the seam down, and a narrow hem or fringe finishes the outer edge, also herring-boned in a contrasting colour. Upon the border all sorts of designs cut out of cretonne or flannel or anything, so the shapes are funny—dogs, dolls, fish, flowers, butterflies—everything looks pretty. They are, of course, chain or herring-boned or button-hole stitched on.

HAND SCREEN.—A curious little hand screen is made of six sheets of pink tissue paper, a sheet of bristol or card-board, half a yard of pink satin, a yard and a half of quilled pink satin ribbon, three-quarters of a yard of pink satin ribbon, not plaited, a spool of pink sewing silk and a bottle of mucilage. For the handle cut from a small Japanese fan the long bamboo stick, which answers nicely and is stronger than wood of any kind. From the bristol board cut two circular pieces, each six or seven inches in diameter. Smoothly cover one side of each with pink satin and overhand them together, the satin side out. Make a slit about two inches deep in one end of the bamboo handle and insert the satin circle. Use pins as rivets to fasten the screen and handle together; one pin at each end of the slit, passing them through from one side to the other, and as the points will be too long cut them off with a pair of sharp pincers, leaving a small portion of the pin to be turned against the handle and hammered down flatly, thus holding the screen and handle securely together. In the very centre of the circle paint with water colours a pretty design of birds or flowers. The tissue paper is then to be cut in strips about four inches wide, the entire width of the sheet; then fringe the strip quite finely, leaving half an inch at the top for a heading to be pasted to the screen; the fringe is then crimped with the scissors or the back of a knife by gathering or pinching it up between the fingers and knife, as a ruffle is crimped; each piece is to be done in this way, then unfolded and shaken out, that the fringe shall not be matted together; coat the plain heading of the fringe with mucilage and paste one piece at a time all around the outside edge of the satin circle. Then row after row, each one falling closely over the other until the satin is covered to the small circle which contains the painting or flowers. To finish the edge of the last row which is fastened to the satin, sew on the quilled satin ribbon; the plain satin ribbon is tied in a bow around the handle. In pasting the feathers on the screen it must be allowed to fall outward, as the feathers on a fan; and each side of the screen must be covered in the same manner.

AUSTRALIA.

PROGRESS, PEOPLE AND POLITICS.

PART I.

Australia, or, as it is so frequently described, the "Land of the Southern Cross," has a wonderful record in the past and a marvellous future spread before it. Few people in this cold, clear climate of ours can form any adequate conception of the beauties of tropical Australia. Let us picture to ourselves a night scene at the Antipodes. Dense forests and rolling prairies, oriental plants and brilliant flowers, the scene lit up by the rays of the moon,

Not, as in Northern climes, obscurely bright,
But one unclouded blaze of living light.

and above our heads the canopy of heaven, filled with radiant stars. In one particular place will be seen gleaming, with peculiar brightness, a galaxy of stars, forming a brilliant and beautiful cross. Amidst such scenes of tropical splendour live and prosper a rising nation, of purely British descent, bound, with us, by the ties of a common ancestry and a common allegiance, to the same sovereign and to the same united Empire. One hundred years ago the first British settlement was effected upon the island continent, and the event was last year celebrated with becoming rejoicings and a magnificent display by the millions of prosperous people who now populate the territory which a short time ago was given up to the wandering savage.

Australia has an area of nearly three million square miles, is about twenty-six times the size of the mother country, and only one-fifth smaller than the entire continent of Europe. It is believed to have been altogether unknown to the ancients, and was probably first sighted by some Portuguese navigators in the early years of the seventeenth century; but it was not till Cook's famous voyage of 1769-70 that any really definite information was obtained regarding the practically unknown continent and the foundation inaugurated of that Greater Britain of the Pacific, which offers to emigrants from the British Isles such abundant opportunities for the accumulation of wealth and the formation of happy homes, while retaining their political sentiments and national allegiance. It is just a century since Captain Phillips entered Port Jackson, and embarked his convict passengers at the foot of the slopes which are now studded with the magnificent villas of Sydney. While reading his commission as Governor beside the newly planted flagstaff, he declared, in prophetic language, "that the country, now annexed to the Imperial Crown of Britain, would one day be numbered amongst the great states of the world." Thus, once more, in Canning's famous phrase: "A new world was called into existence to redress the balance of the old."

Few countries, if any, have made so great a progress during a century's existence. At the commencement of that period the wild wastes and dense forests of Australia contained only a few black savages and some 750 transported criminals. To-day the white population number three millions, and are the most wealthy and one of the most intelligent peoples on the face of the globe. For the five canvas tents pitched about Sydney Cove, there are now five splendid cities, Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Brisbane and Perth. In the matter of churches, colleges, libraries, asylums, banks, theatres, clubs, literary and scientific associations, railroads and telegraphs, they are as well supplied as cities whose history extends over ten centuries instead of one.

The largest newspaper, and certainly one of the finest magazines, in the world are published in Australia. It is claimed that they have more books in comparison to the population than any country in Europe or America. It is also stated that a larger proportion of the people are church members and subscribers to newspapers and magazines. In no other country, in ancient or modern times, has the number of domesticated animals been so large, the flocks and herds of Solomon being small affairs compared with those owned by many citizens of Australia. The wool of that

country does much toward supplying the wants of the world, while it produces wheat, beef and mutton enough to feed the inhabitants of an empire, and promises to rival France in the production of wine, and Spain in the production of oranges.

Australia possessed none of the natural advantages which attended settlement in our Canadian Dominion. The early settlers found no large lakes or navigable rivers, no fur-bearing animals, few wild animals which could be used as food, no pine trees to employ for building purposes. They had much to contend with. Lurking savages, eager to destroy the men who threatened to break the thread of their wandering life; miasmatic fevers; unknown poisonous plants, insects and fruits; hot and pestilential winds; venomous snakes. In addition to all these hardships, for a great many years, Australian colonists had to endure the terrible stigma which the transportation system stamped on all who dwelt in what was known as the land of convicts. But, with characteristic energy, they proved themselves worthy of the land they had left, conquered obstacles, laughed at difficulties, and, in the course of a comparatively short time, changed the pathless forest into cattle ranches, and the parched and dreary desert into magnificent gardens and flourishing towns.

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J. CASTELL HOPKINS.

LITERARY NOTES.

Mr. Fergus Hume's forthcoming work, "The Girl from Malta," will shortly be issued by "The Hansom Cab" Publishing Company.

Mr. Elliott Stock announces two new volumes of verse for early publication—"Kæso: a Tragedy of the Early Church," and "Through Cloud and Sunshine;" a collection of original hymns and sacred songs by E. G. Sargeant.

Messrs. Cassell state, in a letter to the *New York Publishers' Weekly*, that, up to January 8, 1889, Mr. Rider Haggard had received £1,346 from them on account of "King Solomon's Mines." This particular mine will still, it is hoped, yield him at least as much more.

Messrs. W. H. Allen & Co. have brought out a new book, entitled "Four Famous Soldiers," by Mr. T. R. E. Holmes, author of a "History of the Indian Mutiny." The volume consists of biographies of Sir Charles Napier, Hudson of Hudson's Horse, Sir William Napier, and Sir Herbert Edwards, which, though short, are based upon exhaustive research.

In his new book, "Darwinism and Politics," Mr. David G. Ritchie, Fellow and Tutor of Jesus College, Oxford, discusses the manner in which the Evolution theory affects politics, and in particular its application to the position of women and the questions of labour and population. Messrs. Sonnenschein will be the publishers.

We are glad to find, says the *Literary World*, that Mr. Bryce has practically secured copyright in the United States for his great book, although the Americans still get it cheaper than we do, a fact said to be due to the large sale expected in that country. What Mr. Bryce did to secure copyright seems to have been simply this: he got ex-Mayor Lowe, of Brooklyn, and some other American citizens, to contribute parts of chapters, thereby bringing the work under the Act of Congress requiring the author of a copyright book to be a citizen. Mr. Bryce's work on the American Commonwealth, the most important contribution to the study of American democracy since the publication of De Tocqueville's often quoted work, has been issued in three volumes in England and in two volumes in the United States.

We recently referred to the will of Mr. Halliwell-Phillips, the Shakespearian scholar. "Whereas," it says, "my collection of Shakespearian rarities described in a printed catalogue entitled 'A Calendar of the Shakespearian Rarities Preserved at Hollingbury Copse, near Brighton,' 8vo., 1887, is unrivalled and of national interest, and being desirous of its being kept in this country, I direct my trustees to offer it to the Corporation of Birmingham, in the county of Warwick (where, as the leading town of Shakespeare's native county, such a collection would be appropriately located), on condition of the said Corporation paying for it to my trustees the sum of £7,000 sterling." In case of the Corporation not accepting this offer within one year of his decease, the collection is to be deposited until it can be sold for £10,000, or, if not sold within 12 years, is to be sold in one lot by public auction. The proceeds in either case are left in trust for his wife, his four daughters, and his nephew, Mr. Ernest Edward Baker, solicitor, of Weston-super-Mare. To guard against applications from curiosity and to save his trustees trouble, any intending purchaser is to first deposit the purchase-money in the Bank of England, and there is the same provision for inspection as relates to the collection of volumes and papers above mentioned. To his nephew, Mr. Ernest Edward Baker, he leaves the whole of his printed books and manuscripts not otherwise specifically bequeathed, with the proviso that his wife may select for her own use 50 volumes printed after the year 1800. The remaining provisions are purely of a family character.