

## WOMAN'S WORLD.

## A POINTED LESSON FOR EACH MEMBER OF THE HOME CIRCLE.

**Changes in Washington Society—Skirt Dancing in Private Life—Women May Push Chairs—Dinner and Dinner Etiquette—Something New in Entertaining.**

The story given to the world by Miss Force of Atlanta, as explanatory of her motives in killing her two sisters, is an extraordinary composition to spread before the public. The explanation that she was gradually worked up to the point of desperation necessary to the commission of her awful crime by a series of petty aggravations in the home circle is entirely reasonable. It does not seem to be the production of an insane person, and yet her grievances must have clearly unbalanced her mind.

It would appear, assuming the woman's story to be true, that during all her life she was the unloved but useful member of the family; that mother, brothers and sisters systematically practiced all the arts that malicious natures could devise to hurt and humiliate her. The fact that she was plain in appearance was a heartless jest among them and inflicted upon her a keener pain than they perhaps imagined. She seems to have been the willing slave of the household, performing menial offices such as her sisters disdained, and this, too, was used as an evidence that she was a poor spirited drudge whom it was entirely safe to treat with contempt.

The story is one of little things—the hardest kind to bear. It carries evidence of truthfulness on its face. It may not be true, although there is nothing improbable about it.

And yet the people who were so cruel to her were respected and esteemed in the community where they lived. They were active in church matters and popular in their own circle in society. They kept their meannesses for home use, and to the world they were unexceptionable.

This is the worst form of hypocritical cowardice, and yet it is common. If a man is disposed to be cruel and unjust, he inflicts his evil disposition on the helpless members of his own family. He does not dare display his true nature to the world, where it would meet with the punishment it deserves.

There is a lesson here for those who feel that they can afford to be rude and ungracious in the home circle, but must be suave and polite and engaging abroad. Home is the place where the better side of one's character should have fullest play. If it be desirable to show the other side, let it be out in the world—never in the family.—New York Advertiser.

## Changes in Washington Society.

Within a month changes much like the game of stagecoach have taken place in Washington. The desirable furnished houses that have always had official tenants have changed occupants all around, and an entirely new set of faces are seen at the White House and the departments. Different names are uppermost in conversation, and different people feel how pleasant it is to live for one's country in its high places.

Society's carriages stand before other doorways, and other vestibules hold whirling snowstorms of the tissue paper flakes dropped from the countless visiting cards.

The appointment of Justice Gresham as secretary of state does not promise particularly gay winters to the diplomatic corps and their immediate set thereby. While a member of President Arthur's cabinet, the Gresham family cared little for the pleasures and treadmill of society. Mrs. Gresham's delicate health was a bar to her undertaking anything beyond the necessary routine of afternoons at home, and the young people of the family were by no means dazzled with Washington's gaieties. As the cabinet circle is expected to be led by and take its tone from the family of the secretary of state, there is as much surmise as to the social leadership in the immediate administration circle, the successor of Mrs. Whitney, as if the occupant of that first office had not been named.

The wisest forecasters believe that the scepter of social power during the next four years will be wielded by Mrs. Brice. During this winter their house has been the first establishment socially among those of their political faith. Their hospitality has not by any means been so crude as to be limited to those of the same political creed, and their series of dinners has gathered all that was best and most eminent in the broad social life of the capital. Unless the new cabinet contains some social light and genius heretofore unmentioned, the family of the Ohio senator will plainly lead. Their ambition to do so is evident, and their campaigns of these two seasons show social genius of the first order and methods that cannot fail to secure their end.

Mrs. Brice is already here and has her home established. The new cabinet families can do nothing before next winter, and time only strengthens a good leader's hold.—Cor. Harper's Bazar.

## Skirt Dancing in Private Life.

Fashionable women are not all of them contented with society dancing. The interest in skirt, serpentine and Spanish dancing has been a caprice of the last two seasons, which is still in strong evidence.

"I have on my books," said one of the most prominent teachers of skirt dancing, "the names of many women who are well known in New York society. They come, some of them, under assumed names, and many of them with any excuse except the frank one of wanting to learn how to do the dance. It is true, however, that many women do undertake stage dancing because they consider it excellent gymnastic exercise and beneficial to their health. Others practice it in connection with their delicate course. Others still think the supple movements will improve their gait and carriage, and still others take a serious and thorough course to reduce their weight."

In the practice for stage dancing, every

muscle of the body is brought into active play, and superfluous flesh is kept down. Several well known New York actresses, whose duties never call for any sort of dancing, are adepts in the skirt steps, having learned them for this very purpose—to counteract a tendency to stoutness. Women of all ages, from 16 to 60, are found in my classes, and the elder women are, many of them, as light and graceful as their younger classmates. All fancy they have a talent for the work, and many give evidence of having practiced at home before taking lessons.

"There are a number of small women's clubs and coteries of intimates whose existence is not suspected outside the initiated, at whose gatherings the skirt dance is done with varying proficiency by different members. Two that meet in lovely rooms on the top floor of Murray hill homes count some of my pupils among their members, and they are delightful dancers. The devotion to skirt dancing has grown much this season over last, and the caprice shows no sign of abatement."—New York Times.

## Women May Push Chairs.

A good venture for the "strong armed daughters of the plow," or the more athletic, more enduring young girl in many cities, is suggested by the "rolling chair" enterprise at Chicago, for which 800 college boys are already booked. The company expects to have on the grounds by the 1st day of May 2,500 chairs and 1,000 uniformed attendants. The presidents of many western colleges are arranging matters so that their students may be able to leave before the close of the academic year and remain throughout the entire six months. The college student who is willing to do this has that in him which will enable him to take advantage of this opportunity for study and observation.

There is no reason why able-bodied young women should not have their chances to push along the light rattan rolling chair, which has been selected as the suitable pattern for quick and easy conveyance. There are 80 acres in one building alone, which gives an idea of the enormous spaces to be traversed. The chair attendants will see all of the exhibition of course, but the places near Chicago will undoubtedly furnish most of the service, as few young men or women can afford to pay their car fare and board bills early enough to secure a place. Trained nurses, however, so frequently push their invalid charges in rolling chairs along the city streets or the seashore sands that this Chicago business ought to be open to young women as it is to men.—Chicago Letter.

## Dinner and Dinner Etiquette.

A certain keen observer of social fads and whims has been lamenting the winter fashion of not sending regrets to an invitation until the day of the event. A day before. She relates an actual incident which occurred not long ago, when a hostess sent out 25 dinner invitations, and receiving no replies ordered plates to be served for that number with the necessary preparations. Not until that very day did she receive replies, and, as our critic observed, "You can imagine what a shock and damper hilarity would receive at a dinner table arranged for 20 or more with only four or five present."

Another common breach of etiquette which one entertaining much deplores is the easy familiarity with which many try to squeeze in a friend or relative. It is an actual fact that one who had led the utmost limit to the number she could accommodate at an afternoon affair was completely nonplused to find that many of the replies proposed bringing a friend, with the apology, "I knew you won't mind." This would not matter at a large reception, but at many other social affairs even one extra is a serious disadvantage.—London Standard.

## Something New in Entertaining.

The cost of a very acceptable dinner in New York, if served from the establishment of the most fashionable caterer, is from \$10 to \$12 a cover. This sum includes wine and pretty table decorations. For more elaborate dinners and where the caterer furnishes the music, flowers, favors and house decorations of all kinds, the cost is sometimes increased to \$75 a cover. Now and then some one living in quiet but contracted elegance wishes to entertain on a larger scale than her surroundings will permit. In that case, if she objects to using one of the rooms for dinners and dances that are part of the establishment of the caterer, an additional flat or house is occasionally secured for a day or an evening.

It was only a few days ago that a caterer received \$3,000 for an arrangement of this kind. A vacant house taken for a day was completely furnished with rich rugs, good pictures, handsome paintings and choice furniture. The dressing rooms were complete, even curling tongs and small lamps at which to heat them, rouge and powdering being supplied.—New York Post.

## Diplomatic Mrs. Morton.

A pretty story is told of Mrs. Morton's tact and courtesy, quite equal to the tradition of Lady Washington's crushing a tea-cup on purpose to relieve the embarrassment of the guest who had inadvertently broken one of her eggshell cups in his large and careless hand. Mrs. Morton has a set of exquisitely painted dollies from the atelier of a noted Paris artist. One of her political dinner guests, after dipping his fingers in the bowl, drew out the priceless filmy square and crushed it into a ball, trying to dry his hands as he talked learnedly with his hostess. Mrs. Morton smiled with a serenity for which, it is hoped, the recording angel will give her credit and said, "Such filmy dollies are useless—let me give you another—but you know it's the fashion." And the grateful politician accepted the napkin and never knew his mistake.—New York Sun.

## A College for Women Workers.

A unique institution has been opened in England under the name of the College for Women Workers. It is primarily intended as a residence for ladies carrying on charitable work in the district, and also as a sort of training school for younger women who intend taking

up philanthropic work. Now that it has become such a popular and even fashionable craze that everybody must do something to elevate the rest of mankind, this kind of probation service will be of great value. Zeal and enthusiasm are admirable qualities, but in grappling with the intricate social problems of the day they are more potent for good when joined to experience and discretion. Charity is no longer a sentiment, but a science with fixed principles and laws.—London Letter.

## Swallowed Her Betrothal Ring.

An engagement ring nearly cost Miss Ida Womer of Pottsville her life. Tuesday night, when the young lady was preparing to retire, she placed the precious gold band between her lips. Lovingly but lightly she held it, and the tiny thing slipped into her mouth. With her tongue she tried to replace it between her lips, but the effort only forced the ring into her throat and down it went. Fear and pain overcame the girl, and calling for help she sank upon the bed unconscious. A physician was summoned. For a time it seemed as if Miss Womer would succumb, but after several hours she rallied, and although not entirely well is not by any means in a critical condition.—Cor. Philadelphia Record.

## A Noted Paris Salon.

The salon of Emma Eames Storey is one of the most popular resorts in Paris for society in general and the musical and artistic world in particular. When Julian Storey, son of the sculptor Storey of Rome, announced his intention of wedding the sweet faced prima donna, there were some objections thrown in the way of the proposed alliance, for the father was very ambitious for his son, and the singer refused to leave the stage. But Emma Eames was received in most exclusive circles here and has been as popular in her social as in her professional career everywhere. Her receptions are held in her husband's studio.—Paris Letter.

## The Death of Mrs. Whitney.

This world of ours is a loser by the death of Mrs. William C. Whitney. She was a beautiful woman—beautiful of person and of character. She had the means and the will to do good, and so her life was full of sweet and gracious deeds. Her mind was alert and vigorous; she was scholarly and accomplished. Her amiability, her intelligence and her vivacity made her an ornament of and a favorite in every social circle in which she moved. Universally admired and beloved in life, this gentle, gifted, gracious woman has gone from us forever amid universal sorrow and lamentation.—Chicago News.

## A Woman's Contribution.

Miss Olivia Phelps Stokes has sent to the committee on literature of the board of women managers of the state of New York two valuable documents, one signed by Ferdinand and one by Isabella. She will also send a copy of Prescott's "Ferdinand and Isabella," with extra illustrations by herself and now in process of binding by a woman. All of these contributions will be displayed in the New York exhibit of the woman's library at the Columbian exposition.—New York Letter.

## A Worker.

Miss Grace Dodge is one of the few women who can carry off successfully the dual role of missionary and society woman. In a plain, dark suit, among the poor and suffering, she is still the same attractive woman that she is in her beautiful residence in New York city, surrounded by luxury and friends. She has just published a book for working girls, dealing with the vicissitudes which are likely to come to one who must earn her own living.—Brooklyn Eagle.

## Professional Women in Two Countries.

Dr. Anna Kuhnrow of Leipzig, who spent some time as interne and instructor in the New York Infirmary for Women, calls America the paradise for women and contrasts her own position in Germany, where, though she took her doctor's degree at the University of Zurich and has a large practice in Leipzig, she is not legally allowed to use her title of doctor and is subjected to most harassing restrictions in giving out prescriptions.—New York Letter.

## A French Woman Allowed to Vote.

The woman's rights movement is certainly making rapid progress in France. Mme. Vincent, secretary of the Woman's association, presented herself at the regular time in the St. Ouen town hall and demanded to be inscribed on the list of electors. The clerk, having previously consulted the mayor, after examining her certificates and other documents, granted the privilege without delay.

The most exquisite cloak for the baby girl is, as last year, one of heavy white ottoman, with a tiny shoulder cape edged with narrow mink or beaver. For house wear red shoes and a red jacket are pretty accessories to the spotless white gown.

Taunton, Mass., has had a woman, Mrs. Mary L. Sproat, in her probate office for 28 years, and the members of the county bar presented Mrs. Sproat with a purse a few days ago to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of her service.

The fashionable woman conserves as much elegance in her bank check as she does in her visiting card. It is engraved on fine paper and has her monogram in graceful design at one side.

Kate Smith, a remarkably pretty and highly educated young woman of Louisville, has taken up the rather ghastly and not at all feminine art of embalming.

Ladies do not remove their gloves either at church or in the theater. A gentleman does so when he shakes hands with a lady.

Do not wear a wide trimming if you possess a small face, and a heavy trimming is quite as objectionable.

Five young women acted as ushers at a recent Plainfield (N. J.) wedding.

## FOR LITTLE FOLKS.

## A Sick Boy King.

The boys and girls will be sorry to hear that Alphonso, the little boy king of Spain, has been very sick with scarlatina. They will be sorry, not because the little fellow happens to be a king, but because he is a good little boy. He will be 7 years old on the 17th of May next.



Every afternoon when he is well Alphonso drives with his mother to the public gardens, where his little majesty unbends a lot of his dignity and plays with the other children. But, once seated in his carriage again, he becomes the king of Spain and acknowledges the salutes of his subjects in the most kingly manner.

One day as little Alphonso was taking his usual afternoon drive there passed the royal carriage a man who did not give the customary salute.

"Carlo," called the baby king to his footman, "go get that man and order that he be severely punished because he did not bow to me."

In Spain the word of the king must always be obeyed, and so the footman had nothing to do but to overtake the neglectful subject and bring him to justice.

"Did you order him to be punished, Carlo?" demanded the little king as the footman, all breathless with running, returned to the royal carriage.

"I did, your majesty," replied the footman, "but the man is blind, and he could not see the royal arms to salute them."

"Then give him this purse of money," commanded the king, "and tell him it is from Alphonso, who is sorry that he cannot see the beautiful carriage in which his king drives."

## Two Tiny Roman Musicians.

There are now in London giving musical recitals and exhibitions of their skill two little Italian girls named Rosina and Beatrice Cerasoli. They are aged 18 and 11 respectively. Rosina, who is the oldest, is considered as fine a pianist as any one in London, and Beatrice, who pronounces her name as if it were spelled "Bee-a-tree-choe," is inferior to her sister only because her hands are so small that she cannot yet do as difficult pieces as she would if her hands were a little bigger.

When Rosina was only 7 years old, she took a medal at the conservatory in Rome, and her playing was so pleasing to the queen of Italy that she invited both sisters to the royal palace and presented them with a beautiful silver box with plush linings. For a year Rosina and Beatrice have been in England completing their musical studies, and it is said that the little musicians are so bright in their other studies that they have already thoroughly mastered the English language.—Kansas City Times.

## When James G. Blaine Was a Boy.

Young Jim Blaine used to look on and laugh while the other boys battered each other, and he often raised a row among the other boys and watched it. One day as a school friend was coming along the road he found to his surprise that Jim had actually gone into a fight himself. One Tom McBride was his antagonist. Tom had Jim down and was sitting across his breast pounding away at him. "Tom," said the newcomer, "what are you doing?" "I am going to lick Jim Blaine until he cries 'Enough!'" "Say 'Enough,' Jim, say 'Enough,'" said the mutual friend of the combatants. "Don't be lying then and taking a beating for nothing." "By jingo," said Blaine, "I will never say it if I lie here forever." At that the third boy pulled off McBride, and that ended the fight.—Cor. New York World.

## Mrs. Cleveland's Namesake.

Little Frances Cleveland Lamont is the daughter of Secretary of War Lamont and is 4 years old. She was born in Washington. She has two sisters,



Bessie, 11 years old, and Julia, 9 years old. Little Frances is the only child Mrs. Cleveland has ever named after herself, and the little girl is said to be very proud of the distinction.

## A Natural Question.

Florence was visiting her grandmother in the country, where buttermilk was a great treat. One day at lunch sweet milk was given to her, whereupon she asked for her favorite buttermilk, and was told there was none that day. "Then why don't you milk the sour cow?" she asked.—New York Tribune.

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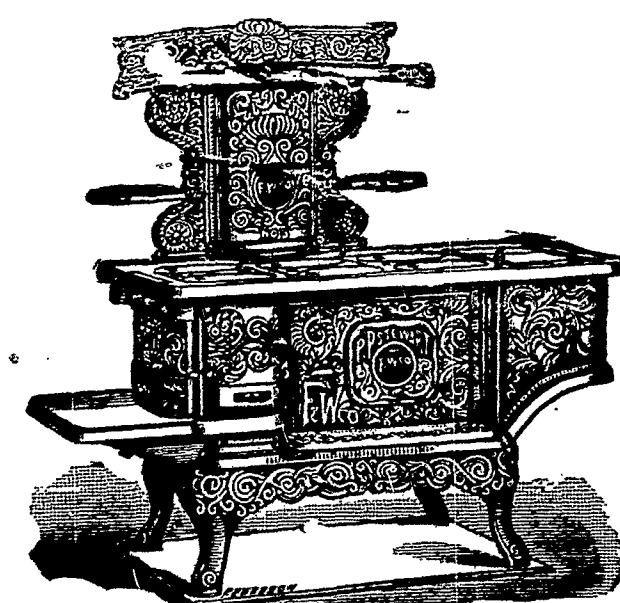
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