

Of Interest to Women

A Near-Silk Genius—Her Poem of an Easy, Smoothly Running Life, Kinds Her—She Does Not Understand The Beauty If Its Words, But Simply Looks for Applause.

I know a woman who has written a poem.

It's rather a neat little poem—something about a sunset and a rosebush and some rippling waves or other.

Not at all bad, that poem; it runs along as smoothly as cream pouring out of a jug, and there is just about as much originality about it as there is to the multiplication table.

But it has ruined her—that little poem—absolutely ruined her. She was rather a decent mother, and a pretty good wife—before she wrote it—and now her child bothers her, and I think I saw her looking yearningly at a stormy-eyed foreigner in an orchestra the other day.

She whispered to me and asked me if I didn't think he looked so-and-so; she told me afterward that her husband had the most irritating habit of beginning to talk about something else whenever she wants to talk about her poem.

Poor little, near-silk poetess! If she had only composed a new recipe for cookies or a nice way of making watermelon preserves there would be some hope for her and her husband and her child, but as it is I can just see her leaving behind everything that is wholesome and honest and sane to follow the mystic call of what she doubtless thinks is genius.

A real genius has compensation, he loves his poetry, not because he wrote it, but because it is poetry. He would love it just as much if no one ever heard it.

But the near-genius is a poor, tremulous creature, with not even ink and water for blood, she can't live without applause and deference, and when she does manage to write some one little thing that rhymes she stays at once out of her nice, quiet, commonplace niche in life which became her so admirably—and goes—where? I wish my poor little near-silk poetess could forget that poem.

Now, if her husband, poor man, would only be taken terribly ill, or if his little girl would run away to join a circus, maybe she would wake up with her silly day-dream in time.

I wonder if her husband couldn't be persuaded to give her some kind of scarer—say, about some soulful-eyed figure.

But no, she would burst into poetry over her wounded heart and become worse than ever.

Poor thing! I am afraid she is doomed—and yet—

THE HOME DOCTOR.

Beef tea will not prove so monotonous a diet to an invalid if a different flavoring is used each day, such as clove, bayleaf or celery.

Do not forget that kindness and tenderness are needful to successful nursing. Human nature longs to be soothed and comforted on all occasions when it is out of tune.

For a burn, apply equal parts of lime water and linned oil mixed together till it looks creamy. A bottle of this mixture should always be kept on hand, as by applying the remedy promptly much suffering can often be saved.

After a warm or hot bath every precaution should be taken to avoid a chill, for the skin capillaries contract and the temperature of the body surface is lowered. A warm bath will often do more to refresh a fatigued person than a longer time spent in sleep.

Feminine Signatures Deceiving.

There are few women who take the simplest precaution in signing their letters. A woman is the editor of one of the leading magazines and she signs initials. This naturally leads to confusion. For example, she sent a polite note back with a rejected poem. The poet, living up to the artistic temperament necessary to his profession, weighed not the politeness, but taking the rejection as an affront, broke into peevish verse and wrote of the "masculine brutality" of the editor. There was humor in the situation, still it did not excuse the woman sitting in the editorial chair. An unmarried woman should write "Miss" in parentheses, and a married woman should write "Mrs." in the same way. The grievance has become worse since women have taken to signing initials like men, which seems to be only another instance of the contrariness of the sex.

Removes Ink Stains from Carpets.

Fine table salt will remove ink stains from your carpet, if it is used as soon as the ink is spilled. Put on the spots of ink enough dry salt to cover them, let it remain until it is dark colored, then brush it lightly with a white broom. If the ink is not removed, wet the spots with clear cold water and put on more salt. Do not use too much water, or you will widen the ink spots. Continue this until the ink is all taken up by the salt.

Notes and Comment

Of Interest to Women Readers

GERMANY'S TOMBOY PRINCESS.

Grand Duchess Anastasia of Mecklenburg-Schwerin Doesn't Overlook Opportunities for Fun.

All England is wondering what Anastasia, grand duchess of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, is going to do next. Probably there isn't any other member of a royal family in the continent who keeps the German court in such a state of anxiety.

Nevertheless the people love her and have christened her "The Tomboy Princess."

The grand duchess simply doesn't care a big fig for conventionalities, and



Grand Duchess Anastasia.

everybody knows it. Playing at Monte Carlo and motoring none in the wee small hours with a medley assortment of companions, frequenting Parisian cafes chantants entirely unchaperoned, entering local tennis tournaments under an assumed name, taking motor boat trips with her courtiers unattended even by a maid, and wearing trousers in public are only a few of the many pranks in which this royal princess has indulged at different times. They serve, however, to explain how she gained for herself the nickname.

Despite these unusual phases of temperament the grand duchess has many redeeming qualities. She is intensely charitable, and generous-hearted to a fault. She is brilliant and fascinating, and though she loves fun, and knows how to get it, it is said that when all is said and done her gravest faults have been breaches of custom and tradition rather than of morality.

CLASSIFYING COEDS.

Each Sex Conspicuous in the Study of Certain Subjects.

What are called practical subjects occupy the young men at the University of Wisconsin, while the maidens seem more and more to monopolize the humanities. On the broad steps of the Engineering Building, for example, you never see a mingling of the sexes, always a crowd of youths waiting for their classes to begin and so on and then relieving their feelings by chanting college anthems.

Over against them, across the campus on the steps of the Law Building, another crowd of boys who now and then well defiance at the future engineers. On the other hand literature, poetry, art, the culture languages, the more humane and refining elements of learning, draw a great preponderance of girls, so that they often outnumber the boys in these classes by three or four to one, and some of these classes tend to become exclusively female.

Then there are debatable subjects, such as European and American history, where the numbers are more nearly equal, and on this neutral territory a fierce and long ago. It was suggested that where the classes were so large as to be unwieldy and where the numbers of the young men and maidens were fairly equal it might be at once practicable and desirable if the classes were divided into two sections according to sex, each sex having a class to itself. This, it was thought, might make for more concentration and better results might be obtained.

"I believe," says a writer in Harper's Weekly, "that this seemingly harmless and perhaps really useful idea aroused a storm of opposition, not so much from the youths and maidens as from their parents, who denounced the practice as un-American and undemocratic. All of which shows that much depends on the point of view. As the parents represent the people of the State of Wisconsin and as the university belongs to the people of the State this view naturally prevailed and no further efforts at segregation were made."

Odd Experience of Deaf Woman.

Philadelphia physicians tell a remarkable story of a woman almost deaf and living alone in a cottage on the shore of Hampton Roads. A friend called one afternoon, and a battleship lying at anchor began to fire a salute of ten guns. The windows rattled with each report and the house shook. The woman mistook the booming. She waited until the firing ceased, then brushed her hair back with old-fashioned care, smoothed her dress in expectation of another visitor, and in a sweet voice said, "Come in."

Helpful Beauty Hints

Massage For The Anxious—Soothe Live Hair—Prevent Corns—White Hair To Avoid In Constant Trouble—Care For Cracked Lips—Shampoo For Falling Hair.

To be massaged is one of the most healthful, refreshing experiences a tired woman can have, but unfortunately it is beyond the means of the average person.

If one cannot afford professional treatment, or at best, that of one who has no real knowledge of her work, it is well to fall back on self-rubbing. This is not the hasty of massage, but it will do much to stir up sluggish circulation and to keep the skin in condition.

Rubbing is of two kind, dry or wet, and can be given quickly and easily after the daily bath. The former can be given with a piece of flannel or with rubber or bristle flesh brushes or a crash mitt. The rubbing should be always in the same direction and if possible in a circular motion. For the back and legs, a long strip of flannel, held taut with two hands, not only is a good rubber, but is as good as a course in gymnastics.

Wet rubbings can be done with salt water, aromatic vinegar or alcohol. The plain alcohol is too strong and should be diluted to at least seventy degrees. Do not use enough liquid to be sloppy and rub until the surface is dry. The wet rubbings are particularly refreshing after a hard day and act as a quick and lasting brace.

For Sensitive Skins.

The man or woman with sensitive skin does not love summer; the hot sun not only plays havoc with looks, but often causes positive discomfort.

The unlucky person who burns or blisters cannot run chances with the sun's rays, it is too painful. When exposed to the sun a woman should be veiled and a man wear a broad-brimmed hat.

For longer exposure, such as yachting or automobile trips, active vanity and rub cold cream over the face, thickly powdered with talcum powder. If you cannot stand a thick mask-like paste, at least use a little cream and a dash of powder; it will prevent the stinging.

If you have achieved a bad case of sunburn, bathe the face with hot witch hazel and keep applications on the face all night.

Never wash the face in cold water after being out in the sun; if possible do not use water for several hours after coming in; if you do, it should be as hot as can be endured. Later rub in a healing lotion of some sort or carbolic vasoline.

For Our White-Haired Friends.

While white hair is beautiful, it is also very troublesome, as it shows at once the slightest neglect. I am one of the early birds of the clinging coat, or process, so I know. To be attractive white hair must be kept absolutely clean, but in frequent washings there is great danger of losing the silvery shade so much admired. The hair is apt to become yellow in tone and streaky in color. To obviate these irregularities in shade, wash the hair in soaps made from pure white soap, and after the soap has been thoroughly rinsed off, wash the hair once again in warm water containing about twenty drops of bluing to a quart of water. The bluing will do for the hair just what it does for the laundry clothes, keep it from losing the pure white tone and from turning yellow. This is a good hint for professional shampooers.—G. E. H., New York.

The Lips in Winter.

My lips crack and are very dry in winter. What can I do to help this condition?—A. B.

The lips need special care in cold weather, as the cold dry air and the wind take the oil out of them and make them dry. The moisture from the breath evaporates quickly and lowers the temperature, and the alternate wet and dry makes them rough. To prevent this the lips should have some form of ointment applied to them night and morning. White vaseline is as good as anything. Camphor, applied at the same time as the vaseline, is excellent to toughen the mucous membrane. First wet the lips thoroughly with a good, strong tincture of camphor, and then rub in the vaseline with the finger tips.

Voucaire Bust Developer.

Liquid extract of galea (goat rue), 10 grams; Lacto phosphate of lime, 10 grams; Tincture of fenel, 10 grams; Simple sirup, 40 grams.

The dose is two teaspoonfuls in water before meals.

Falling Hair and Dandruff.

J. M.—Shampoo the hair very thoroughly with an egg shampoo. After you have dried it, rub this tonic into the scalp. Massage for ten minutes, then brush the hair. Use the tonic and give the massage each night until the hair ceases to fall.

Bay rum, 10 ounces; Resorcin, 20 grains; Cantharides, 2 grams.

Oranges.

L. G.—Indulging in three or four oranges a day would not make one thin. They are used for the diet for obesity, because other fruits, such as bananas, peaches, melons and grapes are forbidden.

PROLLEY SLEEPING CARS.

Latest Development on Electric Traction Lines.

When the late George Pullman first suggested the idea of equipping a railroad car with berths and so permit the weary traveler to recline at length through the night—space and time—and sleep away slumber on a real mattress, he was regarded by those who knew him as suffering from paralytic and a fit subject for the Lunacy Commission.

To-day after a development of a quarter of a century, the Pullman palace car is a thing of beauty and stands for all that is luxurious in overnight travel, even if it is a little defective in sanitation and is not all that could be desired as a cure for insomnia.

When great electric lines began to compete with the existing steam roads, and to extend from city to city, and then from one State into another, as for instance, the case in question, where the electric service extends between Indianapolis and Columbus, O., the need of sleeping cars became so urgent it could no longer be ignored by the railway officials, and a firm of car builders in Wilmington, Del., was given an order for a trial car.

This new car, which has just been completed in the shops, has been christened the Theodore, and the arrangements of its sleeping compartments, contrary to what might be expected, are vastly superior to any built by the regular old-time palace car companies.

The berths are designed each to accommodate a person with comfort. When it is desirable to convert the chair car into a sleeper a series of changes begins which equals in ingenuity the arts employed in stage transformations.

The dusky porter, notified that the occupants of a chair desire to go to bed, commences his manoeuvres by releasing the catches at the sides of the chairs, when their backs assume a horizontal position and thus form the lower berth.

Next one of the arms of the chair is utilized to support the bedding, and the opposite arm is removed, and stopped away until the coming of the morning, when the car is reconverted into a day coach with chairs. The head rest of the chair is lowered and forms a convenient place in which to lay away the apparel of the tourist, and this clever little scheme will be highly appreciated by the lone traveler, the public, who have piled their clothing on top of the head, to find it well wrinkled—if, indeed, they found it at all.

The porter's next move is to bring from a locker a couple of this, grooved bolts, which he secures in reciprocal fashion. These bolts are arranged on a central grill where they are automatically locked with spring catches and form the upright standards. Then flexible partitions are fitted into the grooves, and these pull down on either side, while in front there is a pair of these partitions, and when all are in place an exclusive compartment is formed, the final result, which offers to the occupant not only a comfortable place in which to rest his weary head, but also a clear space over six feet in length and fifteen inches in width in which to dispose of "trunks."

The subject of having two flexible walls in front—that is, on the side next to the aisle—is to allow an opening to be formed serving as a door. This is draped with a heavy curtain, and ventilation is provided for partially by means of the curtain, but chiefly through apertures cut in the lower portion of the partition, so that a fresh supply of air is constantly circulating through each section.

Seriousness of Hamlet.

Mr. Tree, the English actor, says that once when he was acting Hamlet he found himself during the scene on the ramparts where he awaits the approach of the ghost, gasping for breath and drenched with perspiration. "What a fool I am!" he said to himself. "My back is to the audience, my face is hidden, the scene is in darkness. Why should I waste so much mental force? Why not stand at rest, with detached mind, awaiting my cue with a cool pulse?" But a trial to this end convinced him of its folly. He had difficulty to get back into the character of Hamlet, and moreover he discovered that the scene did not grip the audience with the same intensity. "Here," says a critic, "does the actor preach the gospel of physical science. What was the effect of this terror on the ramparts, but a telepathic effect from the actor to the men and women filling the silent house."

A second story supports the same mystical thesis. When Mr. Tree was playing Mark Antony he was so lost in the part that his grief for the murdered Caesar affected the actors gathered round the tier, and from them flowed into the house. But toward the end of the piece, at a time when he was worn out, he checked his fervor and spoke with quieter pulse and with intense self-consciousness. "What was the result?" he exclaimed. "The crowd on the stage was unmoved and the crowd in front was unmoved also. I could feel the loss of sympathy between my fellow actors, my audience and myself."

Breezy Bits.

Down on a fellow—his first mistake. The lamp lighter cultivates the bright spots in the world.

The copper doesn't care to get paid in his own coin.

A man may be just as good as his word, but he is not.

A Soda Cracker is Known by the Company it Keeps

It is the most natural thing in the world for exposed crackers to partake of the flavor of goods ranged alongside. In other words, a soda cracker is known by the company it has kept. On the other hand

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