For the Children

Queer Cradle That Was Used Long Ago.

If you children had lived in mediaeval times—that is, hundreds of years ago—you would have been put to sleep in a cradle like the queer one shown in the picture.

The Dey's Wisdom.

A certain ruler of Tunis, Mohammed Bey, was dethroned by his subjects. He was a wise man, and he had a great reputation throughout the country and in the neighboring states. It was generally believed that he had magical powers and that he was acquainted with the secret of the philosopher's stone, by the aid of which he could turn any common metal into gold. The dey of Algiers had heard rumors of this, and, like most other people, he envied Mohammed Bey the possession of a stone so wonderful and so precious. When, therefore, he heard of the bey's downfall he plotted to obtain this stone and sent word to the dethroned ruler that he would restore him to his throne on condition that the latter should reveal to him the secret by which base things, the common earth and stones and metals, could be turned to gold.

The offer was accepted, and in due course Mohammed Bey was reinstated on the throne of Tunis. He was not forgetful of his promise. In a little while the dey of Algiers received from him a solemn deputation bearing the precious object which was to give the power of creating unlimited wealth. Imagine the dey's astonishment when he found that it was only a common stone.

Nevertheless there was great wisdom in the hint that was thus conveyed, since it is only by a well directed industry of hand and brain that man extracts the wealth which lies in common things.

Even or Odd?

This game is the most ancient, perhaps, that we know. The children who played in the streets of Athens and in the Roman Forum in early ages knew and loved it, and little children find amusement in it still. It is played in this manner: One child hides in his hand a few beans, nuts, almonds or just bits of paper and asks her companion to guess if they are odd or even.

If the playfellow guesses odd and on opening her hand the other displays an odd number she forfeits the articles to the guesser, who hides them in her turn, but if the guess is odd and the number even the guesser pays a forfeit and the first hider retains the beans, etc. The guess must be right to win.

Puzzles and Answers.

When and where are the ladies unhappy? At the opera when they are in tiers.

Why is a minister nearly always truthful? Because he is generally accurate in curates.

What should always be looked into? A mirror.

Why is the map of European Turkey like a frying pan? Because it has Greece on the bottom.

I partake alike in your joys and in your sorrows, and no home is complete without me. What am I? The letter O.

How many young ladies would it take to reach from Philadelphia to New York? About a hundred, because a miss is as good as a mile.

Cinderella's Slippers.

How did it happen that Cinderella wore glass slippers to the prince's ball? She didn't. She wore slippers, but they were not of glass, according to people that have been digging into old French libraries. The story of Cinderella as we now know it is a translation made long ago from a French fairy tale. In this story the slippers that the fairy godmother gave to Cinderella were made of sable, the fur only used by royal persons. The French word for sable is "vair," and the word for glass is "verre." The translator made a mistake, that is all. At least that is what people say.—Chicago News.

The Purple Mist.

There once was a fairy, as old folk tell,
Long and long ago,
That lived in the heart of a bright bluebell,
Long and long ago.
They say she only crept out at night,
Long and long ago,
And combed her hair by the firefly's light,
The old folk say it is so.
She wove her a veil of purple mist,
Long and long ago,
That melted away when the sun king kissed
That fairy of long ago.
And if you steal out at early dawn,
They say—but who can tell?—
That the costume fairy may not be gone
In the heart of the bright bluebell.
[illegible]

Good Form

The person who can talk entertainingly and listen attentively is the best type of guest at social gatherings, for she who chatters incessantly is almost more undesirable than one who is too quiet, for the latter gives opportunity for other persons to express themselves, while with the former to say even one word is often a struggle.

The balance between these extremes is the art of stimulating a temporary companion to conversation, and at no place is it more important to adopt the correct attitude than at a dinner. More than one man has been obliged to talk so much when sitting beside a quiet woman that he has not eaten enough. Such conduct on the part of a woman is decidedly inconsiderate, for if she is not willing to add her quota to the evening's entertainment she should stay at home.

At dinners and also at formal luncheons it is a good idea to watch the plates of neighbors, and if one person has been talking so much as to have fallen behind in the course it is tactful to take conversation into one's own hands, giving the other a chance to listen and at the same time to eat.

It is not good form to monopolize the attention of one neighbor to such an extent as to prevent him or her from talking with the person on the other side. Often it is a temptation when on one side is an attractive person and on the other one who is dull, but politeness makes dividing the attention necessary.

If one person is kept constantly in conversation by one neighbor at dinner it means that he or she on the other side sits much of the time with no one to talk to, for the guest farther on is certainly giving some time to the person on his or her other side.

The Afternoon Call.

All afternoon receptions are considered in themselves a call and require no after call.

An evening call, however, necessitates a call, and so does an afternoon tea with "music" on the invitation.

A matron invited to a reception given by a married woman leaves one of her own cards and two of her husband's.

A woman who has been invited to help to receive at a tea must acknowledge the courtesy by a call.

No matter whether the husband is in China or Japan, the wife invariably presents his cards in calling.

When calling upon an unmarried woman or widow she leaves only one of his, but in other cases two are left.

Any invitation for luncheon or dinner, however informal, the meal necessitates a call.

Card parties also require a formal acknowledgment of the invitation whether accepted or not.

Etiquette of Present Giving.

Both girls and young men are often very much at a loss when their friendship reaches a stage when they wish to bestow gifts—quite an early stage in man, by the bye, the dawn of special interest in any particular girl being invariably accompanied in his mind by the desire to give her something.

While his generosity only shows itself in flowers and sweets, music and an occasional book, the youth is never wrong. To lavish more costly gifts before an engagement is, however, to show himself ignorant of the usages of society and place the lady in the disagreeable position of having to refuse them. As for the damsel herself, there is one simple rule—never give a man anything until he has asked many times, and not often then.

About Manners.

Here are a few don'ts written by an authority upon social usages and good form. They sound simple, but some people seem not to have learned them:

Don't deal in personalities, especially in the midst of the family.

Don't forget as hostess to be as cordial and natural as possible, but not affected.

Don't stare at people or laugh at any peculiarity of manner or dress.

Don't talk at the theater, opera or concert while the performance is going on.

Wedding Gift Thanks.

A friendly informal note should be written for each wedding gift received, says a writer on etiquette. It need not be long, but mention by name the especial gift for which you are writing thanks.

Express your pleasure and appreciation and include your fiance's name in the thanks. Write the note as soon as possible after the gift has been received.

Freshmen.

Freshmen at school or college are green enough and fresh enough for the name, but another explanation is given of how the work has come to be applied to young students. In English schools it was the custom to make the newcomers supply entertainment for the upper class men. The youngster that made the most fun received a cup of punch, the next best got punch with salt in it, and the rest got only salt punch, which they were compelled to drink. After he had been thus [illegible] the freshman was [illegible].

Very Sudden

By SALLIE MENDUM

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A cowboy entered the private law office of Clements, Parsons & Bowie in St. Louis. He found there Mr. Clements and a young lady. Mr. Clements said:

"You received my letter?"

"Yes. I came in as soon as possible."

"Here is a communication," the lawyer proceeded, putting on a pair of glasses and taking up a paper "from Quimby & Quimby, attorneys, Cockburn street, London, announcing that Hugh Orkenham, earl of Dunkenton, died on the 17th of last month. A will executed twelve years ago leaves to his younger son, Edward Orkenham, £5,000, provided that by the time he has become thirty years old he shall have married and—"

"I am thirty today," interrupted the cowboy.

"—settled down," the lawyer went on without heeding the interruption, "I have understood that you were inclined to be wild."

"I was considered so by my family because I detested a life of fashion which they all led, and I preferred a country life. Therefore I was sent to America to shift for myself."

"The date of your birth," continued Mr. Clements, "has been sent me by your late father's solicitors. I knew when I wrote you if I could have telegraphed we would have had more time, that the period for fulfilling your part of the bequest would end at 12 noon today. Have you any lady in view for a wife?"

"No. Besides, if I had there is no time left for courting and marriage."

"There is half an hour."

"Ten seconds would do as well."

Mr. Clements glanced inquiringly at the lady. She nodded affirmatively.

"Miss Esterbrooke," said the lawyer, "this is Edward Orkenham, younger brother to the present Earl of Dunkenton, the earl being unmarried and an invalid. Mr. Orkenham must have a wife within thirty minutes, looking at his watch—twenty-eight now. Will you marry him?"

"Yes, on condition that we do not live together till I elect to do so."

"Lord Orkenham," continued the attorney, "in order to serve you I have brought Miss Esterbrooke here. She might, if you desire it, fulfill the law. It is for you to signify your assent or dissent, but you must be quick about it. You have but twenty-six minutes in which to become a husband."

"Surely," said Orkenham, "it is no disrespect to Miss Esterbrooke if I ponder for a moment. As a lady would say on receiving such a proposition, it is very sudden."

The lawyer remained unimpressed by the bit of humor. Miss Esterbrooke smiled, "It is rather sudden for me," she said.

"When did you come to your own decision?" asked the cowboy lord.

"Since you entered the room."

"Indeed! I will not be outdone in gallantry by a woman. I will be your husband."

No sooner were the words spoken than Mr. Clement rapped a desk bell and an office boy appeared.

"Call Mr. Knowles," said the lawyer.

Mr. Knowles, who was waiting in another room, entered. He wore a clerical garb.

"Call Stevens and Parker," said Mr. Clements to the office boy.

Two clerks appeared. The cowboy and the lady stood up and were married by the clergyman. The witnesses signed a statement that had been prepared for the occasion that they had witnessed the ceremony, noting the date, hour and minute. The couple were pronounced man and wife nine minutes before noon. The room was cleared of the clergyman and the clerks. Then Mr. Clement said, addressing the groom:

"You have my word for it that Miss Esterbrooke is one of our most estimable young ladies. She has a very large fortune and, desiring to enter a family belonging to the British aristocracy, consented, on my representations a few days ago, to this match, reserving her final decision till after seeing you. I am advised that your older brother is lying on a sickbed from which he will never arise, and you will soon inherit the title. I have drawn papers that will prevent your possessing any of your wife's property in case she concludes to apply for an annulment of this marriage. If, however, you are both pleased to remain man and wife she has enough to build up the estates you will inherit, which I am informed are heavily in debt on your brother's death."

"I have to thank you," said the newly made husband, "for your invaluable kindness in thus providing me with a bride. I commend your taste. And now," turning to his wife, "may I claim a bridal kiss?"

"Not by any means. This is a legal marriage which you need for inheritance purposes. I shall be happy to see you at my home with other callers and to consider you in the light of a suitor."

The lady took her departure, her husband seeing her to her carriage which was waiting at the door.

"Beg pardon," he said. "Will you kindly favor me with your address?"

"Certainly." She gave it, and he made a note of it.

It was two years before he succeeded in winning her for aught beside a lover of his acquaintance. They are now that and happy husband.

WHAT'S NEW.

The Smart Cloak a Parisian Model.

The smart summer cloak is a nondescript sort of affair—half cape, half coat—and wholly attractive. As pictured it is one of the newest wraps sent over from Paris and is of white cloth with bands of black satin. The mingling of black and white effects is seen everywhere in the fashion world, but the color scheme is, of course, always subject to the fancy of the owner.

Origin of Folding Fan.

According to tradition, the convenient and almost universal fan folding with its collapsible ribs not unlike some of the particular palm leaves, was invented in an emergency by a Japanese woman of noble extraction. Having retired into the temple of Micido, in Kyoto, to spend her widowhood in the seclusion of a nunnery, the pious woman had occasion to nurse the abbot during a fever, which, it is alleged, she cured by a gentle fanning produced by her hand at first, but afterward rendered more efficacious by employing a piece of paper ingeniously

A CONSUMER FAN.

creased to radiate like the fingers of the hand and over which had been duly muttered a few dispensable incantations. This novel idea, due to an act of mercy, caught on at once and was carried out with gradual improvements as a remunerative occupation by the priests of the temple, who to this day, it is reported, have retained their renown for fanmaking. This fact explains why in Japan many fan shops still adopt the trade name of Micido. The Jorgnette fan illustrated is a unique specimen that is owned by a collector.

Women Give Liberally to Charity.

Mrs. Thomas F. Ryan is a deeply religious woman and has given much time and money to charity institutions in the last few years. It is estimated her gifts have amounted to $2,000,000. Her single largest gift was for the rebuilding and refurnishing of the Cathedral of St. Peter in Richmond, Va. Helen Gould's gifts to charity are computed at $10,000,000. Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt's charity work amounts to more than $1,000,000, and rumor has it she will give a large amount for the establishment of a school with the aim of aiding children who are mentally defective, but who may be cured through the new discoveries in psychology. Anne Morgan, daughter of J. P. Morgan, is keenly interested in charity work, and she is said to have given at least $800,000. Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont's gifts to charity amount to more than $300,000.

When Using Gasoline.

The best way to use gasoline is to add common table salt to it. In this way you can remove spots from clothing or the most delicate fabric without leaving a ring around the edge.

It is said that many a dry cleaner's bill can be saved by this useful bit of information.

She Proposed

By F. A. MITCHEL

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To give the name of the heroine of this story would take all the romance out of it. She was Welsh, and some fifteen or twenty letters are required to spell her name, and after it has been spelled it could only be pronounced by one asleep and at the culmination of a prodigious snore. I will therefore call her Anne.

If Anne's name was not attractive, Anne herself was very attractive. She had been born and lived till she was fifteen in Wales and possessed the rose and ivory complexion common among the girls of the British Isles. She was plump as a partridge and had a pair of white shoulders and an exquisitely rounded neck. Then her lips well, they are best described as kissable. In other words, Anne was a pretty Welsh girl who had come to America with her father to live on a farm of his own in Minnesota.

Anne had lost her mother before leaving Wales, and her father had married again. Not all stepmothers make life miserable, but Anne's stepmother did. At any rate, Anne always felt that the home she had known had passed away with her mother, that there was now a different home with a new crop of children of which she was not a part and in which she had no place. It seemed to her that if she were out of it there would be an advantage to it and to her.

Anne had a friend whom she had met in Minnesota. The friend's own true name was Martha. She too was the daughter of a farmer and lived a short distance down the road. One evening Anne after a scrap with her stepmother went out and stood at the gate to nurse her wrath alone. While she was standing there along came her bosom friend. Anne poured a long catalogue of troubles into Martha's ear. Martha listened till a pause came and then said:

"This is no place for you, Anne. You should be married and have a home of your own."

"I know it," said Anne, "but whom am I to marry? All the young men as soon as they are grown go to Minneapolis or St. Paul or Chicago or St. Louis. They all seem eager to get away from the farm as soon as possible. I can't follow them to the city, and if I could it would do no good. I am country born and bred and entirely unfitted for the city."

"Nevertheless you must marry."

"I will! I'll stop waiting for a proposal. I'll ask the first man I see to marry me."

At that moment a man appeared some distance down the road. He was carrying a bundle done up in a bandanna handkerchief at the end of a pole, the pole resting on his shoulder.

"Here comes your opportunity," said Martha.

Anne gave a gasp. "I wish I had the courage to do it," she said.

"I dare you."

"You dare me?"

"Yes, you said just now you would ask the first man that came along to marry you, and here comes a young fellow of suitable age. Ask him."

"But suppose he should hold me to it. I might jump from the frying pan into the fire."

"Marriage is a lottery even if you have known the one you marry a long while and consider him perfection."

"He's good looking," whispered Anne, stealing a glance at the man.

"Quick," snapped Martha. "You will be too late."

Suddenly it occurred to Anne to do as she had threatened, speaking in a language he would not understand. She had not forgotten the language of her childhood. She called out in Welsh:

"A oes eisiau gwraig arnoch chwi?" (Do you want a wife?)

"Oes" (Yes) came the reply quick as a flash.

The young man turned to see a pretty girl looking at him in consternation, her face all aflame. He started toward her, but Anne ran into the house and slammed the door in his face.

If she had thus rudely treated any young man of her acquaintance doubtless he would have gone off in high dudgeon. But she had called on Cupid to help her, and the little god once interested it is no easy matter to allay that interest. Indeed, he is impudent and persistent. The young man went to the closed door and tried to open it. Anne was holding it from the inside. Cupid proved the stronger, and the door was forced. When Cupid entered, Anne had buried her face in the pillow of a hall settle. The young man stood by and said:

"I perceive that you are Welsh. I am just come from Wales and am looking for a place to settle in this great country. Will you tell me what county in Wales you are from?"

A smothered sound came from between Anne's face and the pillow. "Carmarthen."

"Carmarthen! Why, that's my county too."

Well, that was a beginning. Anne's father had known the young man's father in the old country, and he was asked to stay where he was till he had found a place to settle. Around his waist was a money belt in which there were enough gold pieces to buy a small farm. By the time he had selected the farm he had accepted Anne's proposition, and her father gave them enough additional to stock it.

So it was that a Welsh girl got a husband for this bachelor.

IN FASHIONLAND.

The Odd Bodice Coat For Summer Days.

SIMPLE LINGERIE MODISH.

Though by no means occupying the first place of interest, the odd bodice is still a very important adjunct to a comfortable wardrobe.

It is absolutely required for the street suit of coat and skirt, and fashion requires that the smart bodice match the gown material in color and be made with the utmost care.

White waists are plentiful, materials in these ranging from the coarsest sort to the most diaphanous nets, laces and gauzes, yet even these charming garments, while gaining prestige, fall in the elegance that the gown colored waist will give.

Thin silks are the favorite for the waist, such fragile textures as chiffon, crepe de chine and net being used, the garment showing what may be dubbed a tailored fashion.

A decided feature with the new waists or shirt waist lines is the horizontal trimming, this being shaped with bands of lace or embroidery between tucks.

Such up and down lines replace the yoke effects to a great degree, and as they induce the slim look still required for all raiment these trimmings are likely to have great vogue.

For all waists, whether practical or fine, the belt is a needed detail, and since the beaded and plain rubber ones fit any figure and hold the waist snugly they are in great demand, exquisite ones in evening shades appearing as frequently as the graver day effects.

The wide, soft ribbon or band of velvet that fastens with a jaunty bow or rich buckle of some sort is the mode of girdling most used, however, for the dressier waist, and there is no end to the pretty possibilities of this style.

Extreme Fashions.

It is to be hoped girls who belong to the business world will not adopt extreme styles of clothes for wear during office hours. For example, however pretty the square or round "Dutch" necks may be, they are entirely inappropriate for wear in an office. And if Dame Grundy does not approve of these for working hours how much more sternly must she frown upon the exaggerations of the style that are sometimes seen, when the Dutch becomes almost decollete, so much below the throat line is it cut. To tell the truth, no girl of refinement would wear one of these extreme models in the street. She knows that such an exposure of neck is suitable only for the house, and her sense of fitness of things would be sadly jarred at appearing so gowned elsewhere.

The girl who goes downtown to business must dress conservatively unless she wishes to be seriously misjudged, for, though she may only be called silly because of the fashions that she adopts, it is far nicer to be treated with dignified consideration than to be the butt for office jests.

It must not be thought that because girls work in offices they are not to have the pleasure of wearing soft and dainty articles. The fact that they do work should make it possible for them to buy pretty dress accessories, but the time to wear them is not in office hours. They have evenings and holidays to wear fripperies and to "dress."

Conservatism in dress for business hours does not mean unattractiveness or dowdiness. On the contrary, nothing is more becoming and smarter than a plain frock immaculately clean, well put together and worn with distinction. A girl so attired attracts desirable attention by her air of good breeding and style.

The Sunbonnet Babies.

The newest in china dishes for children's use are the sunbonnet designs. The pictures of the little sunbonnets are familiar to us, though no one has ever caught a glimpse of the faces beneath. Neither are they revealed on the cups, plates, etc., but the pictures are there in all their bright colorings, and the little figures will, I am sure, be pleasing to the youngsters using them.

An oatmeal set is only 25 cents, cups and saucers, also mugs the same price. Bread and butter plates are 10 cents, [illegible] 25 cents and [illegible] 25 cents.