

WILSON'S SNIPE.

The summer range of Wilson's snipe, or the common American snipe, shown in the engraving, extends northward far beyond the limits of the United States. In the mountains of the Carolinas, at all times, they may breed; but it is thought that this only occurs in the cases of individuals disabled to flight. In Virginia and Maryland, they sometimes breed, and in Pennsylvania rather more frequently. In Maine, they are abundant in the breeding-season, but are still more plentiful in Nova Scotia, where they lay their eggs early in June. The swampy parts of the extensive moss-covered marshes, in elevated situations, afford them places of security and comfort.

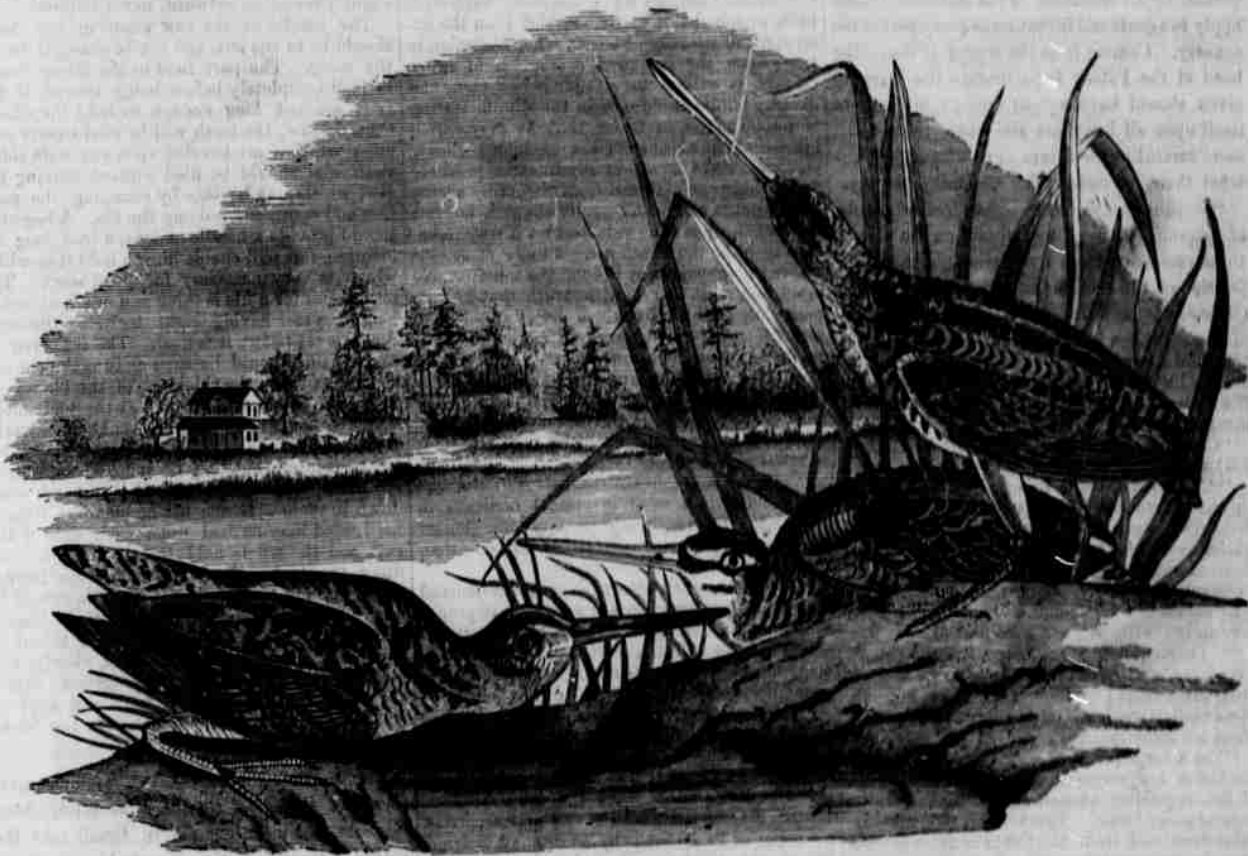
A MODEST REQUEST ANSWERED.—The latest

RECIPES FOR BLACK INK.

The following recipes from an exchange may be of use to some of our readers. The following is for jet-black steel-pen ink: "Bruised galls, 1 lb.; logwood, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; cloves, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; pomegranate rind, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; water, 8 lbs. Boil gently for three hours, stirring now and then; strain off the decoction, and add 2 lbs. more water to the ingredients. Simmer gently for an hour, and strain. Mix the strained liquids, which together should weigh 8 lbs. Allow the dregs to subside, and pour off clear. Dissolve in a portion of it common gum, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., sugar candy, 1 oz.; and in another portion sulphate of iron, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Strain both solutions, and mix the whole together. Then add calcined borax, 1 dr.; creosote, 12 drops; dissolved in $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of spirit of wine."

For blue-black ink the following is commended by good authority: Aleppo galls, bruised, 9 oz.; bruised cloves, 2 drms.; cold water, 80 oz.; sul-

THE WIFE IN HOUSE DESIGNING.—It is commendable in woman to desire to look well and dress in the best taste; and how many anxious days and even nights are given to the consideration of a new suit, in order to have every trifle enhance the beauty of the wearer! The home surroundings may have even more effect to make or mar the attractiveness of the occupants, and should command an amount of interest commensurate with greater permanence and value. The *paterfamilias* is very apt to order a house of his architect in the same way that he orders a coat of his tailor, and his instructions are more of the nature of "glittering generalities" than they should be. The wife, on the other hand, ought to know the ways of the home establishment in every small item of daily life; and, if not able to arrange to meet all wants, she should be competent to designate them clearly to the expert who is employed to satisfy as many of them as practicable. The home department belongs essentially to woman, and domestic architecture should early be a part of



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sentimental balled is entitled "Give me the home of my childhood." Bless your soul, we'd do it in a minute, but—why, haven't you heard? Old Tadgers closed out three mortgages on it in 1867 and 1868, and the next year it was sold for taxes, it was seized for debt the summer following, then your oldest brother claimed that it belonged to his wife, and brought suit in her name to recover, and before that was through they found an old flaw in the title and in trying to straighten that out it transpired that your grandfather had no Government patent on it at all, but had stolen it bodily from the Indians; and now two half-breeds have brought suit to recover the property as the heirs. The house was burned down about two years ago and the neighbors have used the fences for kindling wood; your wife's cousin is trying to get hold of the lot and your half-brother jumped the property one night, put a little shanty on the alley corner, and is now in possession. There doesn't seem to be much show for you, but you might file your papers, buy a lawyer and sail in.

—Burlington Hawkeye.

phate of iron, 3 oz.; sulphuric acid, 70 minims; indigo paste, 4 drms. Place the galls with the cloves in a gallon bottle, pour upon them the water, and digest, shaking often, for a fortnight. Press and filter again through paper into another gallon bottle. Next put in the sulphate of iron, dissolve it, add the acid, and shake briskly. Lastly, add the indigo, mix well, and filter again through paper. The ink is to be kept in well-corked bottles. The writing is at first pale green, but it soon turns to a deep jet black. It is not a copying ink, but may be rendered such by the addition of sugar or glycerine.

A CHILLY-LOOKING mosquito, with a generally discouraging air hanging about him, came slowly in and inquired feebly where he could find the man who had charge of the scientific society's specimens. Then he wiped the frost off the end of his bill, remarking that his season was about over now, and he thought he would like to be stuffed; and went wearily down the stairway coughing hollowly, and whipping his front legs for warmth, as he went up Fairfield avenue in search of the curator.

her education. Her fitting and destined occupation is the control of a home, and even though years of life in boarding or hired houses may intervene, she should look to a permanent home as one of the greatest blessings to strive for. While the husband labors for the needed money to pay for lumber and work, she should be busy contriving how to get the largest amount of convenience, comfort, and beauty for the money when it is earned.

BUTTON MAKING.—Porcelain buttons, sometimes called agate buttons, are readily made, on the principle of forming mosaic tesserae, by a machine invented for that purpose, and in 1737 the first button was made by it. The buttons are made by what is known as the "dry process," i. e., by a pressure sufficiently great to compress the dry porcelain powder into a hard and enduring shape. They are made by women, who often turn out twenty-five buttons in a minute, but the usual rate is from twelve to eighteen a minute the year round. The price paid is one cent per gross, at which rate one woman earns from \$3 to \$4.50 per week.