

Girls at Home

There are two kinds of girls; one is the kind that appears best abroad—the girls that are good for parties, rides, visits, balls, &c., and whose chief delight is in such things; the other is the kind that appears best at home—the girls that are useful and cheerful in the dining room, the sick room, and all the precincts of home. They differ widely in character. One is often a torment at home; the other is a blessing. One is a moth, consuming every thing about her; the other is a sunbeam in spring life and gladness all along her pathway.

Now it does not necessarily follow that there shall be two classes of girls. The right education will modify both a little, and unite their characters in one. Girls are not made altogether for home, any more than boys are. Society would be of but little worth without girls—without women. The first pleasure and duty of every woman should be at home; her next should relate to the refinement and well being of society. But in order that she may benefit and adorn society, she must first know how to benefit and adorn home. Hence girls, rich and poor alike, should be early and well instructed in all the duties and cares of home. From the cellar to the garret, she should know what is to be done. From the kitchen to the parlor she should be complete mistress. All the interests of home should be as familiar to her as household words. Neither idleness, folly nor indifference should prevent her from engaging heartily in all the concerns of home life. This will be to her a school more valuable than the seminary or the ladies' college.

It behooves mothers, therefore, to feel that they are teachers of the first dignity in position. Their daughters will be much what they make them. The home education will lay the true foundation of character. It will fix the true principles of life in the young girl's mind. It will give her an insight into domestic duties and teach her that to be useful is one great end of life. Book education can easily follow a good home training; but good home training is not apt to follow the education of the schools. Girls well taught at home are the girls that appear well everywhere. Give us the well read girls and we shall have no need of any other. They will make the true women.

WOMEN AS INVENTORS.—Among points not so well known is the part taken by women in the mechanical inventions. On this subject the Commissioner speaks encouragingly. In department of wearing apparel they have taken out patents for almost every thing mentionable and unmentionable. Among the patents issued to them the past year is one for a flatiron, another for a mosquito net, and others for step ladders, fluting machines, toys, corset clasps, wash stands, toilet powders, sticks for trundling hoops, clothes dryers, etc. One unusually ingenious lady has already taken out her sixth patent. To show that their inventions are not only ornamental but useful, he mentions one that has been presented. It was called "an improvement on crimping pins," but the fair patentee says of it that "it can be converted with a very slight modification, into a ticket holder, book mark, tweezers, a pin for securing ornaments to the person, a file for bills and circulars, a tassel holder for window curtains, an ornament, a stamp ripper, nail cleaner, ear pick, lamp chimney cleaner, and last, but not least, an ornamental head band for securing the hair of children."

BACK ACHE.—The small of the back is the weak or strong point of every person. It is the centre of voluntary motion. Nearly three hundred muscles are directly or indirectly connected with the motions of which the small of the back is the pivotal centre. One of the most prominent causes of weak backs and crooked spines are the seats provided in school-houses, churches and halls. It is impossible for any person to occupy these seats long without being forced out of shape. And when school-children are confined to them for several hours a day, for months and years, their backs will inevitably become more or less weakened, with corresponding deformity of body for life. If we go into private

families, even into the palaces of the opulent, we find the seats made more for slow than use. Girls suffer more by using such seats than boys, for the reason that boys are taught to run, jump and exercise themselves all over and through, while girls are expected to keep still and be pretty. It is certainly one of the strange problems of the nineteenth century, that no parent or teacher or mechanic will give any attention to anatomy or physiology in the construction of seats for the human body.

ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY.—The Truckee Republican is informed that Professor Davidson has determined upon Pollard's Peak, Summit Station, as the proper place for the National Observatory. "This peak is located less than a half mile from Summit Station, which is 7,042 feet above the sea level, and the highest point of the Central Pacific Railroad. Castle Peak, seven miles from the Summit, was examined by Professor Davidson with the view of making it the observatory, but the atmosphere from that peak was found to be too hazy, and the mountain itself too difficult of access to make it a desirable place for astronomical, barometrical and atmospheric observations. Castle Peak has the advantage in altitude, as it is 9,764 feet above sea level, or 1,964 feet higher than Pollard's Peak. The latter, however, is easily accessible, being less than a half a mile from the Central Pacific Railroad. The atmosphere from its summit is remarkably clear, and for this latter reason it has been selected by Professor Davidson. An appropriation of \$50,000 has been made by Congress for the erection of the necessary buildings, purchase of telescope and other necessary instruments. The telescope to be used will be the second in size of any in the United States. Once established, the observatory will be a permanent fixture, and will receive an annual appropriation from Congress of from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

CHINESE TREATMENT OF ANIMALS.—There are suggestions in the treatment of animals in China that may be noted with profit. In "Travels on the Horseback in Manchu Tartary," it is stated that the Chinese never punish their domestic animals; hence a mule that, in the hands of a foreigner, would be not only useless, but dangerous to every one about it, becomes in the possession of a Chinaman, as quiet as a lamb and as tractable as a dog. We never beheld a runaway, a jibbing or a vicious mule or pony in a Chinaman's employment; but found the same rattling, cheerful pace maintained over heavy or light roads by means of a turr-r or cluck-k, the beast turning to the right or left, and stopping with but a hint from the reins. This treatment is extended to all the animals they press into their service. Often have I admired the tact exhibited in getting a large drove of sheep through narrow, crowded streets and alleys, by merely having a little boy to lead one of the quietest of the flock in front; the others steadily followed, without the aid of either a yelping cur or a cruel goad. Cattle, pigs and birds are equally cared for.

LIFE IN LONDON.—Every one is complaining in London that it becomes more difficult every day to make both ends meet. London was once a cheap place of residence, but now everything is dear there except clothing, and is growing dearer. No one can live on what was sufficient two or three years ago; the consequence is that those in receipt of wages are universally hard pushed and asking for an advance. Some sixteen hundred omnibus drivers and conductors are asking for more wages, the letter carriers threaten a strike, and all the mechanics are in a state of ferment. But the condition of the clerks, salesmen, small traders, professional men with small incomes and annuitants is even more painful. A sovereign is worth only about 14s. as compared with its purchasing power a few years ago; and he who had £200 a year in 1862 is now no better off than if he had only £140.

Mr. Stewart, the most successful practitioner this country has ever known, and whose great work on the American horse has had a sale greater than that of all other works put together, places horse racing under the head of "Abuses of the Horse."

P. D. & S. L. RAILROAD.—A few days ago Mr. Daniel Chaplain, our U. S. land officer and a competent engineer, left La Grande, with the proper assistants, to make a preliminary survey through the Blue mountain, with the intention, if possible, of finding a better route from the summit of the mountains north than that known as the Hudnutt route, for the Portland, Dalles and Salt Lake Railroad. Col. Chapman, accompanied by the Chief Engineer, Mr. Blain, left the Dalles some days ago and will meet Mr. Chaplain at what is known as the Grande Ronde Landing on the Columbia river, about twelve miles below Umatilla. From this point the united parties will proceed eastward, probably arriving at La Grande in about two weeks.—*Scout.*

WHEAT.—On our table we have a sample of wheat grown on the farm of Mr. Sterling, of the firm of Caviness & Sterling, being the third crop from the sowing or the second volunteer crop. It averaged thirty-five bushels to the acre—and there was a hundred acres of it! The grain is average in size, plump and beautiful. This we are informed is no uncommon occurrence for Grande Ronde valley.—*La Grande Scout.*

UNION COUNTY.—The late rains in Union county did considerable damage to the grain lately harvested. The citizens of Union county are to organize an agricultural society on the 28th instant. The public school at La Grand commenced its fall term a fortnight since, with 63 scholars. J. L. Curtis has been appointed Land agent for Union county by the State Land commissioners. B. H. Lewis, while hewing logs on the mountain near La Grand, the other day, injured his knee very badly.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Attorney General Williams replied to Alexander H. Stephens' petition for the pardon of all Ku-klux confined in the Albany prison. The Attorney General denies the allegation of Stephens that the conviction of the Ku-klux was illegal, and that their pardon would be an act of justice and friendly feeling towards the South. He says to pardon all of them would have no more political significance than the pardon of those convicted for violation of other statutes.

Work has been commenced on the new road from Walla Walla to Somerville, Grand Ronde Valley. Farmers are doing the work in order that they can avail themselves of the superior market privileges which the former place affords.

The officer having in charge the river improvements on the Upper Willamette has a force of men at work constructing about one thousand feet of a wing-dam on Humphrey's slough.

Mr. Coggan, the manager of the stage line from Olympia to the Cowlitz river, has been notified that after Tuesday, 17th, passengers will be conveyed to McDonald station, 15 miles north of Pumphreys, by rail.

In accordance with instructions, a committee of citizens of Walla Walla examined three candidates as to their qualifications for admission to the Naval Academy. The successful youth was Charles Overholzer.

The Olympia Transcript says the railroad work is being pushed ahead. In a few days the locomotive will be running through Lewis county.

Volney V. Smith, son of the late Hon. Delazon Smith, of this state, is the Radical Republican candidate for Lieutenant Governor of Arkansas.

After having examined 950 persons summoned, a jury has at last been found to try Mrs. Fair for murder.

ISTHMUS EXPLORATIONS.—Elaborate reports of Commander Selfridge's exploration of the Isthmus of Darien, in search of an inter-oceanic canal route, are being prepared by the Navy Department, and will be sent to Congress early in the session. The Napipi route, the earliest survey, will undoubtedly be selected as the most practicable. The capitalists of this country and Europe are ready to embark in the enterprise as soon as the route is decided upon and Congress perfects the necessary legislation for rendering pecuniary aid. The Government of Columbia is very anxious that the work shall be commenced at an early date, in order that the vast mineral resources of the Atrato country may be developed, which cannot be accomplished without the aid of the projected canal.

NO FRIENDSHIP ON EARTH is more constant than that contracted by the reading of a journal which makes an honest and earnest effort to merit his continued support. Hence the newspaper which is conscientiously conducted becomes a favorite in the family.

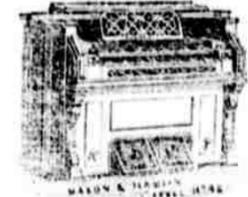
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