The Home Circle.

MRS HARRIOT T. CLARKE, EDITOR

A SPIDERS WEB.

'Tis only a spider's web," we say, As we brush the filmy lace away," Without a single thought or care, For the wonderous beauty hidden there.

And yet that common web may vie With famous ancient tapestry; Its varied patterns may compare With Spanish lace so rich and rare,

And when 'tis gemmed with morning dew, Which reflects the sun's resplendent hue Though unadmired, more fair and bright That silken lace with gems bedight.

Little we think as careless hands Rudely break the silken strands, Hidden away in dust and gloom, They're fairer than lace from an Eastern loor

So bounteous Nature holds in store Volumes of wonderous, unwritten lore, Which well we might with profit read Beautiful lessons 'twere well to heed.

Like the spider let us strand by strand Weave the web of life with careful hand, That when at last our work is done, We may leave a shining web well spun. -Cal. Potron.

Comparative Profits in Dairying.

Milk made into ordinary butter and cheese does not average to the producer more than 14 cents per quart. At this price it is as milk exceedingly cheap food, but it cannot be delivered in cities at twice this figure, even under the most favorable circumstances. In winter milk always advances in price, for the good reason that with cold weather and a considerable portion of dry feed, it is impossible to keep up as large a flow as the cow under better conditions will give in summer. Milk spoils or waters rapidly, and it also requires considerable labor to care for it properly. It is this reason, more than the cost of producing milk, which makes it dear to city buyers at all seasons of the year. In summer, when it is produced most cheaply, it cannot be easily kept sweet for many hours. There are comparatively few places where milk can be bought in cities. Grocers find the demand very uncertain. Sometimes they will have not half enough, and within a day or two the same amount will leave a surplus to go to waste. For this reason, as well as the unpleasant labor of cleaning vessels that have contained milk, it is not in much favor with grocery dealers. It is unfortunate for all parties that milk and its products are not more gen-erally used for food.

The question is sometimes asked What is the Grange doing? To those who will not close their eyes to its work it more and more demonstrates by its acts, its influence for good, in local, State, and national affairs. Here is an instance of its local work. An extract from the minutes of Millis Grange, No. 112, Massachusettes:

"The discussion of the question, How hot water suddenly. in the Grange increase the property of the town of Millis? brought out the following points:

- 1. That we do all we can for the Grange.
- 2. That we set out trees by the road side.
- 3. That we help build sidewalks in the middle of the town.
- 4. That we mow the bushes by the roadside adjoining our farms.
- 5. That we vote to keep the Danville school running.
- 6. That we create a public sentiment that the town may vote to grant money to keep the cometery in repair.
- 7. That we do all we can to repres the sale of intoxicating liquors.
- 8. That we attend the church and Sabbath-school.
- 9. That we support the lectures and moral entertainments.

In a number of our States the time has nearly or quite come around for the celebration of "Arbor Day," a day set apart by law and under proclamation of the Governor, devoted to the planting of trees in groves, along highways and around buildings; not only beautifying the home and the neighborhood, but aiding in the restoration of tree growth, so necessary to maintain a proper climate and conditions of rainfall and moisture, so essential to the growth of all our crops. In several States, by direct and united action of the Grange, the proper legislation has been secured for an Arbor Day. In other States Patrons still have this work to do. The day should be observed, and in due form. Organized effort in this, as in all other directions, secures better results. Prepare for it; talk it over in meetings. What are the best varieties of trees to plant; when and how shall we plant them, etc.? The number of Granges that regularly observe Arbor Day is in-

creasing. Oregon Kidney Tea cures backache.

OLEOMARGARINE.

It seems that Prof. Wiley of the department of agriculture at Washington has been making tests of bogus butter and recent news give the following results. Prof. Wiley's experiments have been progressing more than a year. The materials for investigation were purchased in open market in all parts of the country, no intimation being given in any case of the purpose for which the purchase was intended. In not more than one-third of the cases did the purchase prove to be adulteration, except when something else than butter was asked for, and fraudulent articles were those secured when lowpriced materials were called for. In no case was it found that an article sold in the market as butterine was entirely fradulent. The adulterated article usually contained between 30 and 40 per cent, of butter, the rest most commonly consisting of beef-fat, lard and cottonseed oil. Prof. Wiley devotes some space to the consideration of the opinions of scientific men with regard to the wholesomeness of oleomargarine and kindred compounds. He finds that about nine out of every ten of the scientists who have expressed themselves declare the belief that oleomargarine is unobjectionable and whole some. The larger and more important part of this report is devoted to an analysis of dairy products and their substitutes and the methods determining adulterations. The chemists' opportunity for investigation are greater than have ever before been recorded, and the result is a treatise which covers every detail of this important subject. The conclusion is reached that a microscope is a much more useful instrument in this direction than European chemists have ever been willing to admit, and is in fact an invaluable adjunct to the chemical laboratory for this particular

It seems, then, that very few adultera tions are attempted of pure butter and cheese and the articles in use as "butterine" and other names are seldom at-tempted to be palmed off as a pure article; also, these imitations of butter are not often unhealthy, or in any sense injurious to public health.

Hot Water Baths.

A good way to season glass and china so that they will remain sound if exposed to sudden heat or cold is to place the articles in cold water, bringing it gradually up to boiling point, and then allowing it to cool very slowly, taking several hours to do it. The commoner the materials the more care is required, for the best glass and china is seasoned before it is placed on the market.

If the wares are properly seasoned in this way they may be washed in boiling water without fear of fracture except in frosty weather, when, if they have been exposed to the effects of the cold, care it is one way of passing time to the best little folks letters. Yours Truly, must be taken not to put them into too advantage.

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His Mother's Work.

"My mother gets me up, builds the fire, and gets my breakfast and sends me off," said a bright youth. "Then she gets my father up, gets his breakfast and sends him off. Then she gives the other children their breakfast and sends them off to school; and then she and the baby have their breakfast." "How old is the baby?" asked the reporter. "Oh, she is 'most two, but she can talk and walk as well as any of us." "Are you well paid?" "I get \$3 a week, and father gets \$2 a day." "How much does your mother get?" With a bewildered look, the boy said, "Mother, why she don't work for anybody." "I thought you said she worked for all of you." "O yes, for us, she does; but there ain't no money in it."—Ex.

For The Children.

THAT BOY.

Through the house with laugh and shout, Knees threadbare and elbows out, Mamma hears with anxious doubt,

Vain are all the lessons taught; In one short hour they are forgot, Gentle manner learneth not

Thus she muses, while she tries To sooth the wakened baby's cries; While to other mischief hies

With sching head, this mother mild, Looks to the future of her shild, Still heedless, yells in accents wild, That boy

She hears the dread, unearthly tone, And stifles something like a groan. To some bad end will surely That boy.

Patient mother, wait awhile ; Summons back thy loving smile; Soon will graver care beguile That boy.

Soon the boy 'with cheek of tan' Will be the brawny, bearded man. If thou wouldst trust and honor then That boy.

Trust him now, and let thy care Shield his soul from every snare That waits to capture, unaware,

And when, though worn and oft distressed Thou knowest that God thy work has bless Then trust with him for all the rest. That boy.

OUR LETTER BOX.

All those who wish to have a fine soon to prepare for it. There is always is Cap. Mayville is a small town a has been cut for the house. The drop- livery stable, a hotel, and several dwell pings from the chicken house is an exings. I will close for this time. cellent fertilizer, but it must be well mixed with earth, for it is apt to be too burning. It is best to spread it on the ground and then spade it in. All the earth must be pulverized fine, so that the tiny flower seeds will have a chance to grow. But the hardest part of garden scratching about it. The chickens are snow is nearly all gone and I am so not to be disposed of. One may do glad, for I do not like to see the cattle no convenient fence to separate the garden from the chickens, the flowers must Uncle Albert Baxter going to school this be let alone, except one might have winter. School is out now. I got for bushes and shrubs that can be protected Christmas a breastpin, a pair of rubber try and make an effort to have a flower turkey for our Christmas dinner. Papa

For the child, life is full of energy, that must find outlet in vigorous use o hand and feet.

Ella sends a verse for Lizzie's album. This reminds us of something that a lady handed us to give to Lizzie, alsosome lines that were worked on her grandmother's sample. This lady is quite old, therefore the sample must be 120 years old. May be some of our girls will not know what a sample was, In old times people had no marking ink, so articles were marked with letters of silk thread, and every smart young girl would have a large piece of canvass with al! the letters of the alphabet, big and little, with figures, etc., to be used for a copy. Then was added the date of work and age of worker. These samples are now kept as valuable heirlooms in families. We had one, but it was stolen. The words on the sample re ferred to are, "Virtue and Mode ty, adorned with Grace, give the best lustre to a lovely face." Now, this is sent to Lizzie by an aged lady, who feels the greatest interest in young people, and who loves to read these little letters as

well as ever she did. Edward writes a good hand, and spells correctly. These two requirements are necessary to good letter writing, and every boy should commence early to practice this important part of education. We hope "Cap" has a good master, one who does not fly into a passion and beat him if he does not quite understand what is wanted of him. Now, all dogs are anxious to please, and love to play as well as the dogs do, and if the sense is not kicked out of them by cruel masters, they will become intelligent

and helpful. Grace writes very well, indeed. The only fault is that the letter is too brief. Now, Grace might have told how she got her pony, and why she named it "Queen," when we know our girl must be a little republican, and does not believe in kings and queens. Then tell us if she takes care of the pony by feeding her

and combing her hair, for animals need such care when they are kept tied up in the stable. Its nice to own a pony, and Grace ought to be a happy little girl.

Mary must keep an account of her success in raising ducks. It is said that it is profitable if there is a good stream of water close by, but that they will not lay eggs in a nest. Therefore many eggs are lost. However, we shall expect Mary to observe, and tell all she can learn from experience about ducks. Yes, one must feel sad to see animals in the snow and cold, with no food or shelter. It's so wicked and cruel to allow it, No one should keep animals unless they can provide for them.

ALBANY, Or., Feb. 52, 1887. Editor Home Circle :

As I have never written to the Circle before I thought I would write. I am a little girl ten years old. I have been going to school but quit on account of bad weather. I have a little pony, her name is Queen; she is very kind and gentle. I can go up to her any place and catch her. I like to read the little letters. I will write a longer letter Yours, next time.

GRACE LOONEY.

MAYVILLE, Or., Feb. 19, 1887. Editor Home Circle:

As I have not written to the Home Circle for some time I thought I would write. We have had a bad winter. It has been eleven degrees below zero this winter. The snow is about a foot deep. The stock in this section of the country are most all poor. Feed is scarce; we have enough to feed our stock about a week. Our school has been closed about two weeks on account of cold weather; but it will begin again next Monday. Pa and ma have gone to the Grange, and me and my two brothers growing garden or flowers must begin stay at home. I have a pup, his name to be found some rich earth about free mile and a quarter from our home. It stumps, or on old chip piles where wood consists of a store, a blacksmith shop, a

Yours truly, FRANK EDWARDS.

ZENA, Feb. 25, 1887.

Editor Home Circle: As I have not written to the Circle I thought I would now. We have nine ducks and two drakes, and we are going work is to keep the chickens from to see how many we can raise. The without flowers, but no farm can do standing in the snow. I have just without those busy fowls; so if there is finished piecing a quilt. it is a ninepatch. I have been staying at my by putting sticks around them. But shoes and a new dress. We had a garden; it is refining in its influence; takes the FARMER and I like to read the

Editor Home Circle: I thought I would write to the FARMER as I have never written. I had a nice time Christmas. I went to a supper. Had a nice time New Years. My sister got married. I did not get any valentines or send any. My father does not take the FARMER, but my nearest friend takes it, and I like to read the letters, and thought I would write. I live on Row river, six miles east of Cottage Grove. We live on my grandfathers' place. I have one sister at home and a half brother. I will answer Karl Miller's question. Glass windows were first used in 1180. I will close by asking when pens were first made of quills. I will send Lizzie Parker a verse.

When we are old we'll smile and say We have no care in childhoods day It will be wrong, it won't be true,

I've this much care, I care for you. Yours Truly, ELLA COLE.

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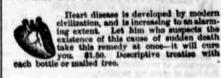
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