

The Home Circle.

MRS. HARRIOT T. CLARKE, Editor.

A BIT OF EXPERIENCE

I have met with a good many people
In jogging o'er life's varied way;
I've encountered the clever, the simple
The crabbed, the grave and the gray,
I've traveled with beauty, with virtue,
I've been with the ugly, the bad,
I've laughed with the ones who were merry,
And wept with the ones who were sad.

One thing I have learned in my journey—
Ne'er to judge one by what he appears.
The eyes that seem sparkling with laughter
Oft battle to keep back the tears.
And long sanctimonious faces
Hide often the souls that are vile;
While the heart that is merry and cheerful
Is often the freshest from guile.

And I have learned not to look for perfection
In one of our frail human kind;
In hearts the most gentle and loving,
Some blemish of fault we can find.
But yet I have ne'er found the creature
So low, so depraved, or so mean,
But had some good impulse—some virtue
That 'mong his bad traits might be seen.

And, too, I've learned that most friendships
We make, are brittle as glass,
Just let a reverse overtake us—
Our "friends" on the "otherside" pass.
But, ah! I have found some few loyal—
Some hearts ever loving and true!
And the joy and peace they have brought
me,
Have cheered me my whole journey thro'
—Boston Traveler.

Alsatian Lace.

Cast on 15 stitches and knit across plain.
1st row—Knit 8, narrow, over, knit 3, over, knit 2.
2d—Knit 2, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 7.
3d row—Knit 6, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 2.
4th row—Knit 2, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1, 1, over, narrow, knit 5.
5th row—Knit 4, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1, over, knit 2.
6th row—Knit 2, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 2, over, narrow, knit 1, over narrow, knit 3.
7th row—Knit 5, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow.
8th row—Bind off 1, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 6.
9th row—Knit 7, over, narrow, knit 1, over, slip 1, narrow, pass slipped stitch over, over, knit 1, narrow, knit 1, and narrow.
10th row—Knit 2, over, narrow, knit 3, narrow, over, knit 8.
11th row—Knit 9, over, narrow, knit 1, narrow, over, knit 3.
12th row—Bind off 2, knit 1, over, knit 3 together, over, knit ten.

Narrow Edge Lace.

Cast on 8 stitches and knit across plain. 1st row—knit 2, seam 1, knit 2, over twice, narrow, knit 1. 2d row—knit 2, seam 1, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1. 3d row—knit 2, seam 1, knit 3, over twice, narrow, knit 1. 4th row—knit 3, seam 1, knit 3, over, narrow, knit 1. 5th row—knit 2, seam 1, knit rest plain. 6th row—bind off 2, knit 4, over, narrow, knit 1.

Value of the Apron.

If there can be found one reason why a woman can succeed better with fowls than a man it is because she wears an apron. She goes out to feed the fowls and in the apron she carries the grain, in it she brings back the eggs; a chicken is sick and needs doctoring, the apron is pinned around its neck lest it escape while the dose is being administered. She goes out to the nest of a setting hen, finds a lot of chicks and into the apron they go. A strange hen gets into the yard; a man will shoot in vain, but one shake of that apron and out goes the hen. Women who advocate masculine apparel for women most certainly never raised chickens or they would be glad enough to wear the dresses just for the sake of the aprons.—Agriculturist.

Mr. Beecher on Dancing.

People ask me frequently, "Do you think that there is any harm in dancing?" No, I do not. There is much good in it. "Do you, then, object to dancing parties?" No; in themselves, I do not. But where unkempt youth, unripe muscle, unsettled and unhardened nerves, are put through an excess of excitement, treated with stimulants, fed irregularly and with unwholesome food, surrounded with gayety which is excessive, and which is privetized through hours when they should be asleep. I object, not because of the dancing, but

because of the dissipation. It is taking the time that unquestionably was intended for sleep, and spending it in the highest state of exhilaration and excitement. The harm is not in the dancing itself; for if they danced as do the peasants, in the open air, upon the grass under the trees, and in the day, it might be commended, not as virtuous, but still as belonging to those negative things that may be beautiful. But the wassail in the night, the wastefulness—I will not say of precious hours, for hours are not half so precious as nerves are—the dissipation, continued night after night, and week after week through the whole season, it is this I deprecate as eating out the very life. I am not superstitious of observances, but I am always thankful that there are forty days of Lent in the year, when folks can rest from their debauches and dissipations; when no round of excessive excitement in the pursuit of pleasure is permitted to come in and ruin the health and cripple the natural powers of the young.—American Magazine.

CHOICE RECIPES.

CUSTARD PIE—Take two eggs, beat the yolks with one heaping tablespoonful of white sugar, add 1 1/2 cups of milk and ten drops of vanilla, or grated nutmeg if liked better. Make a crust out of pastry flour, a piece of lard as large as a walnut and twice as much butter; work together, add enough cold water to make into a dough; roll to about the thickness of a quarter of an inch, always rolling one way; cover the bottom of a well buttered pie plate with the crust; pour in the custard; set in a moderate oven. When the custard is firm and just beginning to brown, add the whites of the eggs whipped stiff, with five teaspoonfuls of sugar; brown and serve either warm or cold.

STOCK FOR SOUP—Stock enough to last a family of five for one week can be made of five pounds of beef (leg is the best) and two pounds of veal. Cover it with cold water and let it remain for at least half an hour before putting it on the fire. Place it on some part of the range where it will simmer slowly for from eight to ten hours, or until the meat is boiled into shreds. Strain it into your stock pot, and when it becomes cold remove the grease, cover the pot tightly and set in some cold place. Any soup is possible to you now.

SALT CODFISH WITH WHITE SAUCE—Set it to soak as long as necessary, put it into cold water over the fire in a vessel; when just upon boiling, skim it and take it off as soon as it boils; cover it over and leave it thus for a quarter of an hour, then take it out of the vessel and let it drain. Put into a sauce pan a piece of butter, a little flour, pepper and capers, celery or parsley, add to it a little milk, pour it over the fish and serve.

LENT SOUP—Peel and slice six large onions, six potatoes, six carrots and four turnips; fry them in half a pound of butter or olive oil, and pour over them four quarts of boiling water; toast a crust of bread brown and hard as possible, but do not burn it, and put it in with some celery and a little turnip, and put it in with some celery and a little turnip, and stew them tender in the soup; a tablespoonful or so of tomato catsup improves this soup.

PARSNIP FRITTERS—Three large parsnips, boil till soft, which will require about two hours; scrape and mash fine, picking out strings and lumps, add two beaten eggs, two tablespoonfuls of milk and two of sifted flour, or even teaspoonful of salt and quarter of a teaspoonful of pepper; mix thoroughly; make into small cakes, flour them and fry brown in butter or oil; eat with butter.

SOFT GINGERBREAD—One cup molasses; one cup sugar; one cup butter; one cup sweet milk; four cups flour; four eggs; one tablespoonful ginger; one small teaspoonful of soda dissolve in milk. Beat the molasses, butter, sugar, and spice to a cream; whip in the beaten yolks, the milk, and lastly the whites, alternating with the flour. Bake in two loaves.

DOMESTIC CAKE—One cup of butter, two cups of sugar, one cup of water and an even teaspoonful of soda. Make a stiff paste and knead until it does not stick to the hands or rolling board. Roll very thin and cut in any fancy shape with cake cutters and bake a light brown in a quick oven. An egg may be added if desired, and rolled out, jumble shape in dry sugar.

Dr. Stryker has opened a private dispensary at 266 Commercial street, where he will successfully treat all curable cases of chronic and private diseases, such as consumption its first stages, piles, scrofula, and diseases of women, etc. Correspondence solicited. Electric belts and appliances for sale. mar-25-m

For The Children.

MEASURING THE BABY.

We measured the riotous baby
Against the cottage wall.
A lily grew at the threshold,
And the baby was just as tall,
A royal tiger lily,
With spots of purple and gold,
And the heart of a jeweled chalice
The fragrant dew to hold.

Without the blue-birds whist'ed
High up in the old roof trees,
And to and fro at the window
The red rose rocked her bees;
And the wee pink flat of the baby
Were never a moment still,
Snapping at shine and shadow
That danced at the lattice sill.

His eyes were wide as bluebells,
His mouth like a flower unblown;
Two little bare feet, like funny white mice
Peeped out from his snowy gown;
And we thought with a thrill of rapture,
That yet had a thrill of pain.
When June rolls around with the roses
We'll measure the boy again.

Ah, me! in a darkened chamber,
With the sunshine shut away,
Through tears that fell like a bitter rain
We measured the boy to-day;
And the little bare feet that were dimpled
And sweet as a budding rose,
Lay side by side together,
In the hush of a long repose.

Up from the dainty pillow,
White as the risen dawn,
The fair little face lay smiling,
With the light of heaven thereon;
And the dear little hands like rose leaves
Dropped from a rose, lay still,
Never to catch the sunshine
That crept to the shrouded sill.

We measured the sleeping baby
With ribbons white as snow,
For the shipping rosewood casket
That waited him below;
And out of the darkened chamber
We went with a childlike moan;
To the height of the sinless angels
Our little one had grown.

OUR LETTER BOX.

How beautiful all nature seems just now—everything so fresh and sweet. The very air is full of perfume from the blooming trees. The birds begin to come back from their winter home, and the early morning hours is the time they choose to sing sweetest. There is a bird in a tree close to my window that sings every hour in the night, just giving one burst of song, and then is silent for a time. How can boys like to kill birds? We heard a mother not long ago say with pride that her boys had killed a hundred with bow and arrows, and that she made a pie of them. How cruel and hard-hearted one must be to wish to destroy the little songsters! There are societies formed in some places among young ladies, who promise not to wear birds on their hats and bonnets for ornaments. Just think of the tens of thousands of bright colored birds which are killed to trim hats! Some boys make a business and do nothing else but trap the pretty things to sell to merchants.

Charley lives in Eastern Oregon. He tells of the horse they use, which is twenty years old. Now we are sure that horse has had a kind owner, who fed and watered him regularly, and who did not overwork him, and who kept him from exposure to cold and wet. The horse is man's most useful friend, yet see how dreadfully he is abused and mistreated. About eight years is the average age of a horse now, while they would be strong and useful for twenty years, with merciful care. Charley does not write a very long letter, but manages to say a good deal in a small space. That is one of the secrets of being a good letter-writer. So Charley must keep writing. We are sure his sharp eye will see something to tell about. Helping mother wipe dishes is just what every boy ought to do where there is no sister to do it.

Our constant friend, Florence May, keeps us posted about herself. We count her as one of the best friends of the Circle. And so Lizzie is married! We had not thought her to be old enough to go so far away from home and loving family. We hope she will not miss the dear sister left behind. This is a very important event in a young girl's life, and it is too often that marriage comes without proper reflection. Taking this step before proper age and maturity, then comes sickness, hard work, and often premature death. Young girls should not be in too great haste to leave home, and to take care and responsibility upon themselves. We hope Florence will find as much comfort in her flowers as we do. But if she cannot keep the chickens out of it, there will be many a heart ache before blossoms come. John writes well, showing that he

takes pains to learn to write. Central Point must be a growing place. We would like to have a regular correspondence from there.

COLFAX, W. T., March 30, 1887.

Editor Home Circle:
This is my first letter to your paper. I am a little boy eight years old. I live on a farm in Whitman county, W. T. Papa is plowing now. We have some cattle and horses. We have a horse twenty-two years old. Little boys, can any of you beat that for an old horse? We have a shepherd dog twelve years old. I and my brother are catching squirrels. We get five cents a scalp. The squirrels are thick here, and destroy a great deal of grain. I help papa hitch up the horses, carry in the wood, and pump water for the stock. I sometimes help mamma wipe the dishes, and sweep the floor when she is in a hurry. School is out now. They talk of starting a summer school. Yours truly,
CHARLIE ARRASMITZ.

CENTRAL POINT, Or., April 15, '87.

Editor Home Circle:
As I have never written to the Circle, I thought I would write. I am about ten years old, and this is the first letter I have ever written to a paper. I am going to school and have fine times. I study the fourth reader, mental arithmetic, the new normal written arithmetic, and spelling. I run livery stable when my brother James is gone. There are seven houses started this summer, and twenty-one more are going to be started. Well, I will close, and if this is in print I will write again.
Yours truly,
JOHN M. HAYS.

FOSTER, Or., March 27, 1887.

Editor Home Circle:
As it has been some time since I wrote to the Circle, I will now try my hand again. I always like to read the letters from the children, and I also like to write to the Circle. As busy times are now at hand, I hope that the children will not let the Home Circle die out. I will try and write oftener than I have in the past. How many will say in their next letters that they will do the same? I see that there are two verses for Lizzie Parker's album in the last paper. I want to tell you one thing, that there is no more Lizzie Parker. She is married, and has been for two weeks. She was married on the 12th day of March. She lives seventy miles from here, and it will take her sometime to come home to see us. We have got the most of our garden in. We are milking seven cows and have six calves. We lost one cow and two calves this winter. My sister Mattie and I are going to try and raise a flower garden this year if we can keep the chickens out of it, and we are going to try. I think that there is nothing nicer than flowers. I will send some verses. The first is for the boys and the second for the girls:
Dare to do right, dare to be true,
You have a work no other can do.
Do it so bravely, so kindly, so well,
Angels will hasten your story to tell.

For the girls:—
Remember me, dear _____,
When on these lines you look,
Remember it was May,
Who wrote this for your book.
Aunt Hetty can write this in her book if she wants to. Your friend,
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