THE GROWING SCARCITY OF YOUNG WOMEN FOR HOUSEWORK.

Good Health and Physical Beauty-Made Dishes-Plain Talk for Husbands-"Noah's Ark" Quilt-A Fat Woman's Complaint-Hints for the Household.

An elderly wife, who had advertised in

vain for several months, said: "The great evil in America, as I have learned it from many housewives from many cities, is the growing scarcity of females for housework. The factories, mills, sewing rooms, offices of all kinds, shops, etc., are attracting young women, who consider housework a disgrace. Very many young women would rather toil from morning until night for \$3 a week and pay for their own board than do housework, which would yield them twice as much money. There is entirely too much false pride among the young women of the country. They imagine doing housework is a disgrace. They forget the honest toil of their mothers. In many instances mothers are to blame, of course. They don't want to see the delicate hands of their daughters soiled. They don't want them to be drudges in any family, for fear their chances for suitable marriages will be lessened. All that is talse and pernicious teaching. The ability to do housework as it should be done should be the aim and object of every young woman, rich or poor. But as long as this false idea of the humiliation of doing housework exists, so long will young women rather work and starve at doing something else. With the present custom of abstaining from housework, the dearth of suitable help in the household has become an alarming annoyance. We find it almost impossible to get any well trained help. Families are giving up housekeeping and going.
There are too many 'ladies' with beautiful

"They want to be taught the dignity of labor. They want to be informed that honest young mechanics want wives who can house. They want to know that sewing girls are not wanted for housewives, and the entire community must know, sooner or later, that the great underlying cause for so much unhappiness in the home circle, not to say poverty, distress and absolute crime, is the fact that young women who marry know nothing of housekeeping. Their mothers are deserving of the most severe censure for this. They connive with their daughters to deceive prospective husbands, and when the young women become wives they disappoint their husbands, home becomes a mockery, the income of the husband is frittered away, nothing is saved and chaos comes into that home circle. I have no pity for young women who starve at fifty cents a day and who must 'board' themselves. If they would shake off their false pride, think less of the fine texture of their hands, leave the mill and factory, drop the needle and vacate the garret, and take up respectable housework, they would be far better off. Such young women can solve this whole problem themselves.

"The supply of housework girls is drained, and the supply of needle girls with beautiful hands is flooded. Both must be adjusted. and poverty among women will disappear. but false pride must lead the way. The best women in the land do housework of some kind, and no honest girl need be ashamed of that sort of employment. On the contrary, she should be proud of it, because every sensible man will think the more of a young woman if he is told that she is doing house work for a living and thus being correctly schooled for the practical responsibilities of married life. Then, if she is well married and does not need to do housework, she will know how it ought to be done and her help cannot deceive her. She will be independent and thoroughly capable to care for herself. Therefore, to sum up, I would advise sewing n to drop the needle and take up house work."-New York Sun.

Good Health and Physical Beauty.

The handsomest woman I ever saw was one who took great care of her health. When I knew her she was over 30, but no girl of 10 that I have ever seen had rosier cheeks o brighter eyes. Of course she was naturally fine looking, but the attention she gave to matters of hygiene added to and preserved her beauty. What did she do? I don't know that I can recount all, but I remember her telling me she took a sponge bath every morning; was particular about the ventila tion of her apartments; took long walks when she could; ate but little meat, much fruit and cereals whenever she could get them. Another thing she did which she tried without success to get me to do, she drank her coffee without milk or cream, diluted with water.

The reason she took her coffee so was be cause her physicians told her it was healthier to drink it in this way. Whether the practice added to her personal charms or not I don't know. On the whole she was certainly repaid for her systematic habits, and as certainly there was nothing arduous about the performance of them. Nor was there any thing bizarre about them as, it seems to me, there is about the following account I read of a Chicago belle:

"To keep the suppleness of her figure she stands one hour daily, fifteen minutes at a time, with her hands on her hips before a long mirror, and bending her knees out from each other she sinks slowly down to the floor as low as possible, then as slowly uprising, meantime moving her arms in any direction to their utmost length, out or up, forward or back, until when she stands erect they are ready to be placed on her hips again.

Each movement is repeated, every time a little accelerated, until at the c: t of thirteen minutes it is done quickly, and line color is in her cheek. She then lies d on a perfectly flat couch, without a pall until her breath comes smooth and regular s it will in the two minutes left in her quies r of an bour. When she plays a good deashe cuts down her exercising one-l .if." Of course, the benefit to be derived from this procedure is not to be questioned, whatever may be thought of it besides. It is easy to see her whole body thus receives good exereise, adding to the grace of her own form, beautifying her complexion and making her stronger and healthier. -- San Francisco Post,

Less Selfish Than Men.

Recorder McCord, of the probate court in Cincinnati, says that as a rule women are less selfish than men. He comes to this conclusion after reading 100 old wills, in which he found many cases where the husband made provision to cut off the widow's supplies in case she remarried, and in his whole experience he has read but one will of a married woman wherein any such stipulation was made respecting her husband.-New

A "Noah's Ark" Quilt.

One of the fashionable things in fancy work is a Noah's ark quilt. The quilt can be of serge, cloth, satin sheeting or plain cream seting, and is designed and commenced by the lady who undertakes it. If she is an experienced worker she embroiders or appliques the Noah s ark, which is near the center of the quilt, but placed high up. The animals

are all in coupler, and form a long procession around the entire quilt, marching toward the ark. Sometimes the procession is curved so as to form a design over the entire surface, but this depends on individual taste or fancy. One can ask her friends and neighbors to work the pairs of animals, usually giving them some choice in the matter. Some of these quilts are very amusing and really worth keeping.

At a recent starting of one a lady volunteered to work two fleas, which she actually did with wonderful care and dexterity. In cream sheeting the animals may be all in red turkey quill, worked with red ingrained thread or in various colors. This may be an idea of many busy fingers. The baby's crawling blanket or cot coverlids probably gave the idea of the Noah's ark quilt and also suggested the same style of perambulator cover. The animals are generally cut in paper first and then in whatever material they are to be worked, and are copied from a child's colored picture book. Scraps of fur and skin are used to represent the specimen as true to nature as possible. It is occasionally worked on a foundation of double width diagonal serge, with the various animals portrayed in wools, sometimes in cross stitch, first worked on pieces of ordinary canvas, afterwards drawn away or in outline stitch, in crewels or in another stitch, which is being now used a good deal for traveling rugs, bath blankets, etc., which is done by laying wool in strands on the outline pattern and tacking it down by small stitches of silk or a contrasting color. In two shades of color this works well and the edges are usually widely buttonholed in both shades.-Mrs, Lucia Ludwig in Detroit Free Press,

The Era of Woman.

The present is pre-eminently the era of woman. The vast progress made by the sex toward a higher physical and intellectual plane is exerting its effect upon body and mind to produce that species of development which we term beauty. This evolution will go on until it reackes a climax, when deterioration will commence. Women have for ages been under restraint, like plants kept where there is deficient sunlight. The growing tendencies toward emancipation remove the physical restraint and illumine the intellectual atmosphere, and so improvement goes on, but finally there will come a time when there will be too much sunshine, and an excess of growth without the pruning or training which are necessary to maintain perfect development.

Then the deterioration will commence Women will become in strength, energy and physical prowess more like men, and, alas! more like men in morals, while the men will grow correspondingly effeminate and physically feeble. This will simply be the result of excessive luxury, the swing of the pendulum to the extreme of civilization in contrast to its starting point in savagery. But it will be a long time before the ultimate limit of social revolution can be reached, and we will venture to prophesy that the American women of the Twentieth century will reach a physical and intellectual perfection that will make them the most beautiful in the world, goddesses indeed in stature and in intellectuality.-New Orleans Picayune.

omething About "Made" Dishes. "It's all very well to talk of made dishes," broke out a woman one day in a council of housekeepers, "but what is one going to do if her family won't touch them! Now there's my husband; he won't eat hashes or stews or made overs of any kind. He always wants steaks or chops or veal cutlets for his breakfast, and the boys are just like him. If I were to put a scallop on the table he'd call it baked hash or boarding house fare, and it would be just the same with croquettes or anything else of the kind. He says he wants something solid for his meals."

Undoubtedly many women have to battle with this sort of opposition in their endeavors to raise the standard of cookery in their Still there are many men who relish made dishes, and there are others who can be brought to do so by a little iunocent diplomacy. It is not worth while to advertise by blowing trumpets before it that the ragout or pate that presents such an attractive appearance is composed of scraps from yesterday's roast, the gravy made of the bones and a little boiled rice or macaroni. It would be no gratification to most men to know that the whole dish cost just thirtyseven and a half cents. With the woman, on the other hand, the knowledge of the fact causes her to thrill with mild exultation and imparts a flavor to the food that would be quite missing in a meal that was three times as expensive.-Christine Terhune Herrick in Harper's Bazar.

A Fat Woman's Complaint.

"There is a fortune for anybody who will start a 'Fat Woman's Journal,'" said a woman who weighed more than 200 pounds; 'or if you want to be more euphemistic and euphonious, a fashion magazine and christen it 'A la Jolie Embonpointe.' In this there shouldn't be a fashion or a fashion plate that did not pertain to a woman weighing at least 175 pounds-and upward, as they say in the cheap stores. At present you can't find a fashion plate that does not represent a slender, long waisted woman. For this sylph everything is designed-gowns, wraps, bonnets. It impossible to find anything intended for large women. Apparently nobody gives us consideration, and we clothe ourselves, as it were, by faith.

"It is absurd," continued the lady, "for the fact is well established that American women have lost the approach of scrawniness. Go where you will, at least among the leisure classes, and you will find the large proportion of women broad shouldered, well developed and a generous overflow of figure. And we are worth considering. There is a fortune in avoirdupois for whoever is far enough sighted to perceive it. Send out the prospectus 'A la Jolie Embonpointe' or the 'Fat Woman's Journal' and see how quickly we will rally to its support from every part of the land." New York Evening Sun.

Care of the Complexion.

In closing my talk with the ladies on this subject I would classify and sum up my advice something like this: Train your features to composure, and avoid all grimacing habits.

Exercise much in the open air, Use oils, creams and fruit freely in your

Drink simple, blood purifying herb teas frequently. Do not wash your faces oftener than once a

day, but apply some harmless cream or meal at least twice in twenty-four hours. If niggardly Nature or jealous Time on a hot summer day necessitates the addition of a powder puff to your toilet articles, use it

with discretion and moderation. And in addition to all this you must keep your minds busy, your thoughts cheerful and your souls free from bitterness if you would preserve a fresh, attractive exterior

beyond the fleeting springtime of youth .-

Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

Plain Talk for Husbands. Then there is another thing, sir! Often and often have I marked you turning to watch pretty face, or commenting with your men companions upon the outlines of a handsome form or a slender foot. Have you any more

business to do this than she has? What a rumpus there would be about the family bearthstone if you were to catch her flirting with a man or following a bearded face through the streets to see where its owner be onged! What particular blazes would play about the walls of "Home, Sweet Home," if she indulged in such harmless foibles! Yet I say unto you, yea and verily, her latitude in

that direction is just as wide as yours. What if the wife you married is getting faded, like a fabric that has been often washed; what if the lines have come where the smile in its dimplement was, and the ugly crow tracks, like birds' feet on the wet and shining sands, have traced the skin that once was softer than a rose leaf; what if the graceful shoulders are bent a little and the aughter has left her eyes! If you have the chivalry of a true man in your soul, you will revers and honor that wife with greater and increasing tenderness as she grows old and wan and faded; for what is it that has aged her? What has stolen away her bloom and robbed her glance of its sunny light? What but ministering to you, and toiling for you, and serving you? Your children have stolen the rose tint from her cheeks and lips, and tending to their wants by night and day, ministering to them in sickness and health, if she be a fond mother, has deprived her of the grace and bloom of youth.—"Amber" in Chicago Journal.

Themselves to Blame. For many of the sins of mankind women have themselves to blame. First, for their viciousness and coarseness, women being either too ignorant or too cowardly to exact from men the same standard of virtue which men expect from them. Secondly, for their tyranny, because the laws and customs of many generations have placed women far too much in the power of men, and even were it not so their own warm affections make them too easy slaves. Thirdly, for the selfishness which-doubtless with righteous reasonis so deeply implanted in the masculine breast that a thoroughly unselfish man is almost a lusus nature. And no wonder, since from his cradle his womenkind have adored him. Mothers, nurses, sisters all join in sweet flattery, the perpetual acquiescence, which makes him as boy and man think far

too much of himself. Then, perhaps, comes a period of innocent tyranny from his sweetheart, which he soon repays by tyrannizing over his wife. Thus, except that brief season when love has

Struck the chord of self, which, trembling, passed in music out of sight, there is for the ordinary man-I do not say the ideal man, or even the specially good man-no time in his life when he was not bolstered up in his only too natural egotism by the foolish subservience or adoring love servitude of the women about him.—Corn-hill Magazine.

Education for Girls.

"If I had a girl I would send her to college, but I have put my son at work in my office, said a prominent business man, himself a college graduate, the other day.

"Why do you make such a distinction?" he was asked.

"Because a girl needs the best education she can get in order to earn a living, while a boy is often as well, and sometimes better off, without. A woman physician can get into practice more easily than a man because there is yet so little competition. A woman teacher must be fit for a position in the highest grade of school if she isn't to starve. A woman stenographer must have that general information that a man gets rubbing about the world, but that usually comes to a woman through books, to make her intelligent enough to make wages. That's the girl's side of it; as to the boy, there are too many men in the professions, and as a preparation for business, too many years of schooling waste a young man's time. He might lay the foundation for a fortune while he is fooling with the Greek particle."—Detroit News.

To prevent pie juices from running out in ven, make a little opening in the upper crust and insert a little roll of brown paper perpendicularly. The steam will escape from it as from a chimney, and all the jtice will be retained in the pie.

Try the experiment of finding at what boys know, and what they don't know. Help them to do a little thinking for thenselves. and see how quickly they will acquire more knowledge, and use it intelligently or your

To keep moths out of closets, closes and carpets, take green tansy. It is beter before it goes to seed. Put it around the edges of carpets and hang it up in closet where ever come where it is,

For bunions get five cents worthof saltpeter and put it into a bottle with afficient olive oil to nearly dissolve it; shakeap well and rub the inflamed joints night an morning, and more frequently if painful.

A starch superior to gloss starch fe calico and chambrey can be made of flour, y wetting the flour up with very warm day before you need the starch; addoiling water and cook when you want to usat.

It is said that in canning fruit, der the far is filled, if the fruit is stirred with a spoon that reaches the bottom of the ar until all the air bubbles rise to the top te contents will never mold on top.

A Boston lady says that Kate Greaway and her picturesque drawings in clidren's books are responsible for more absurdy and discomfort in children's clothing the anybody is aware of. The best way to fry apples is to halthem

remove core, put some butter in fryg pan and put in the halves, the cut siddlown; then add a little water and let them HI dry, then fry. To take grease spots out of clothig wet

thoroughly in ammonia water, the lay white soft paper over it and iron wil a hot iron. One can save all the bread scraps y dry-

ing them in the stove, then with theolling pin they can be crushed for pudding toma toes and soup. Galvanized iron pails for drinkin water should not be used. The zinc coating read-

ily acted upon by water, forming a pionous Do not allow the spice boxes to becke disorderly. Have each division caredy labeled and permit no mixing of the dtents.

Put dried sweet corn in a coffee grind, and see what a quick and nicish of soup you will have with seasoning.

According to Joaquin Miller the Cornia woman talks less than any other wan in the world.

If possible, keep one utensil sacred onion A much worn broom is very harm the

Alaska, three at Juneau and one at the

CHAT ABOUT DRUGS.

A FEW OF THE MEDICINES THAT PATIENTS HAVE TO SWALLOW.

What a Physician Has to Say-Applications of the Most Important Drugs. Watching for the Leading Symptoms. A Professional Secret.

"What are some of the most important drugs and their applications?" said a leading physician as he repeated the reporter's interrogatory. "Why, you will be surprised," he said, "when I make the statement that not over a dozen of the hundred and odd drugs upon the shelves of any city prescription store are in general use among the profession or considered important in combating disease, No need for astonishment, it is a fact; and my experience from day to day, based upon observations in an extended practice, leads me to the conclusion that there is only one drug-quinine-which can be relied on to produce uniform results. Quinine approaches a specific more closely than any other remedy known to medical practice. All other drugs vary, and at times to an alarming extent, in the results produced by their administration, but quinine is very nearly infallible in the treatment of that class of disease popularly termed malarial, and about one-half the mortality of the world may be traced to those diseases. In fact in all cases of blood poisoning this drug is the favorite. In the valley of the Loire, in France; along certain portions of the Thames river, in England; the Roman Campagna and the Pontine marshes, in Italy, the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, and the mangrove swamps of the tropical regions, where malaria is endemic, the continued use of quinine is an absolute necessity, and from these regions no dire results have ever been recorded against it. Is there a quinine habit! I have never met but one case. The effect of the drug is not speedy enough to have its use deteriorate into a habit.

"Next to quinine iodide and bromide of potassium lay tribute on the profession, although their action at times is sadly erratic. The former with iron constitutes the basis of blood purifiers, so called, although such a thing as a blood purifier, in the popular acceptation of the term, is unknown in medicine. It exists only on the cure all placards of the patent medicine compounder, and in the materia medica of the quack. Iodide of potassium acts as an absorbent in the blood. and its efficacy as a remover of impurities is brought about in that way.

"Bromide of potassium and with it chloral are used principally in the treatment of nervous diseases. They lessen the flow of blood to the brain, moderate nervous activity, and calm exciting emotions, producing a state of mental rest. Thus they are used largely in the treatment of the insane, and in cases of mental exhaustion. Digitalis is probably entitled to the next place from its importance as a heart tonic. We appeal to it in cases of weakness of the heart, and in most cases of diseases affecting that organ, although its use does not cover every species of heart disease. Bismuth and pepsin are the remedies the profession considers the most efficacious in the treatment of the internal organs of digestion. The former is used in disturbances of the stomach and bowels, while the latter is supposed to supply the lack of acid, which is one of the instruments by which food is digested in the stomach. In surgery carbolic acid and iodoform are the principal drugs used. The acid acts as a disinfectant, the other has important properties in heal-

Drugs," the doctor continued, "and their administration is the least arduous part of a physician's business; the great field that exercises skill and acknowledges ability in the profession and out of it lies in the determining of disease or the study of its symptoms. Here is where the physician pauses. We only know disease by its symptoms, and when we are called to the bedside of the sick person our energies are bent to discover the most prominent existing symptoms, and, knowing these, the great traditions of the science and our own experiences point out the remedies that are applicable. And here let me say that there is scarcely such a thing as wrong treatment, so often heard assailing members of the profession when they fail to effect a speedy cure. As I have said, we always treat the leading symptoms first. This is the invariable and only rule that can guide us, but frequently the drugs that have done most efficacions work before in combating exactly the same symptoms appear perfectly useless in the present case; this is owing, of course. to the existence of the latent symptoms which will determine the nature of the diswoolen clothes are hung, and no mth will ease, and for which we are compelled to wait -unless dismissed in the meantime as incompetent in the opinion of the patient or his friends, and a new man called.

"Do many people consult you, doctor, whose ills are imaginary?" interrogated the scribe. The doctor smiled and relighted his

cigar. "In answering your inquiry," he said, "it will be necessary for me to unload a professional secret, but I guess it has leaked out before this. Many of our office consultations are with people who are laboring under the apprehension that they are about to become invalids. Why, a case of that character left my office not an hour ago. He is a railroad engineer, and thought his kidneys were affected, an idea produced, I suppose, by an occasional pain in the muscles of the back men are compelled to assume. I gave him a prescription and told him he would be all right, although he didn't need it any more than you or I. I'll guarantee, though, that that prescription, which will fill a large bottle, will not hurt him, for it's nothing but a little syrup and water, with sufficient sarsaparilla added to color it. Why did I give it no medicine he would in all probability go to some other physician 'who knew his business and get the worth of his money, as he would term it. By giving him that prescription I have saved him another fee. I used to tell such people when I first began practice that they needed no medicine, but I found that my honest advice was attributed to ignorance on my part of their hypothetical disease. Strange, isn't it, but it is a fact, that the majority of persons who visit a physician want something for their money, and generally the more medicine they can get and, as a consequence, the larger their druggist's bill becomes the better you please them.

The King's Head.

The king's head was first used as one of the hall marks on English silver in 1784. The story is that George III, having attended a dinner at Goldsmith's hall, was greatly impressed with the rich display of plate used on that occasion. His majesty was in need of money, it being just after the close of the American war, and the idea was suggested that silver plate was a good article for taxation. Soon after the duty act was passed, which imposed a tax of sixpence per ounce on all silver made in England, and also enacted that the additional stamp of the king's head or duty mark should be placed on all articles as an evidence that the duty had been paid. The sovereign's head is the fifth mark, there-fore any piece of English silver with only four marks is certainly over 100 years old. There are many fine specimens of the earlier period owned in Boston.—Boston Transcript.

IN A KOCHA RESTAURANT.

in Eating House Where Hebrew Epicures Congregate-Some Cheap Places. Kocha is a Hebrew word signifying clean," and a kocha restaurant is one where the Mosaic law regarding the preparation of food is observed to the letter. There are several of these places in New York, all of them well patronized, for a strictly orthodox Jew seldom eats elsewhere away from his own

The Delmonico of the Israelites is Lustig His restaurant is on Mercer street, in the beart of the dry goods district, and his chef is a German Jew. Here at midday the wealthy Hebrews of the vicinity congregate for luncheon. For forty cents an admirable meal is served in the German style of cooking. It consists of several courses, barley or chicken soup, boiled beef or Hamburger steak, with fried potatoes and sauerkraut, veal cutlet, roast duck or broiled chicken, with salad, and a compote of prunes and raisins or some delicate pastry. A dish of the choicest fruit and a jar of celery stands always on the table. A small cup of black coffee completes the meal. No butter is served with the bread. No milk or milk product is allowed in the restaurant, the Mosaic law expressly forbidding the eating of milk and meat in any form at the same time. For this reason the Jew drinks his coffee clear or abstains from it altogether.

At noonday Lustig's is always crowded with Hebrews of a distinctively German type. A spirit of jollity pervades the place, and for a time all thought of business is cast aside. This is especially true on feast days, when the menu is considerably amplified. On such occasions poultry of all kinds is zerved; turkeys, ducks, chickens, geese, snipe, quail, whatever fowl is in season can be had fresh, and cooked deliciously with herbs and spices. On fast days Lustig's and all the strictly kecha restaurants are closed.

On the great east side of the city, in Essex. Norfolk, Ludlow and adjoining streets, there are many so called kocha restaurants. They are kocha, however, only in name, as the service is filthy and the food scarcely fit to eat. Any one passing through the Jewish quarter may see them. They are mostly small cooms in the cellars or upon the ground floors of tenements, turnished with a few wooden tables and chairs, with a bill of fare, printed in Hebrew characters, hanging outside the door. In the windows the shrunken carcasses of geese are allowed to hang until blackened with exposure.

A substantial meal, such as it is, can be purchased in any of these places for from eight to fifteen cents. A favorite dish here s a fish stew, strongly flavored with garlic and redolent with odor. A strictly orthodox Hebrew would turn in horror from such restaurants, for the u derlying principle of the Mosaic law concerning food is cleanliness .-New York Evening Sun.

An Irreligious Mussulman.

Osman's chief characteristic is a reckless disregard for the conventionalities of social life and religion; he never seems to tother himself about either washing his person or saying his prayers. Somewhere, not far away, every evening the faithful are summoned to prayer by a muezzin with the most musical and pathetic voice I have neard in ali Islam. The voice of this muezzin calling 'Allah-il-A-l-l-a-h" as it comes floating over the houses and gardens in the calm silence of the summer evenings is wonderfully im-

From the pulpits of all Christendom I have yet to hear an utterance so full of pathos and supplication or that carries with it the impressions of such deep sincerity as the 'Allah-il-A-l-l-a-h" of this Afghan muezzin in the Herat valley. It is a supplication to the throne of grace that rings in my ears even as I write months after, and-it touches the heart of every Afghan within bearing and taps the fountain of their piety like magic. It calls forth responsive prayers and pious sighings from everybody around my bungalow-everybody but Osman. Osman can scarcely be called imperturbable, for he has his daily and hourly moods and is of varying temper, but he carries himself always as though conscious of being an outcast whom nothing can either elevate or defile. When his fellow Mussulmans are piously prostrating themselves and uttering religious ighs sincere as fanaticism can make them Osman is either curied up beneath a pomegranate bush asleep, feeding the borse or atending to the peewit.-Thomas Stevens in Outing.

Tobacco in Venezuela.

An impression seems to prevail abroad that the ladies of Venezuela, being direct descendants of the Spaniards, are great smokers. I have made particular inquiries, but have found the contrary to be the case. How could it be different ! The caraquennas show such excellent taste and so much refinement that they could not possibly stoop to such vices. It seems, however, that certain elderly ladies occasionally enjoy a good cigar when among themselves, but never in the society of gentle men. Probably they would indulge in it a little more if cigars and tobacco were better in Venezuela. But there are no good cigars to be had.

The native tobacco, although grown in large quantity, is far below the average, and Havana cigars are very expensive. Of cigarettes, American or Turkish are almost unknown, and but those of Havana make are used. Among the women of the lower classes caused by the continued position which those | eigarette smoking is far more common, and women of a certain, or, to express it more plainly, of an uncertain, age indulge a great deal in cigar smoking. A curious and very general habit among them is smoking cigars inverted, with the burning end inside the I have seen this frequently in the West India Islands, at Curacao, and among the women of Venezuela, but I never noticed to him? Because if I told him that he needed men indulging in this risky practice. They say cigars taste much better if smoked in this way, but I must leave it to the readers to decide for themselves.-E. De Hesse Wartegg in New York Sun.

Fountainless London.

London is a fountainless city. It is not for want of urging; we have before now pointed out that there are many nooks and corners in London which would be almost beautified by the addition of a little water in an ornamental form. We have, of course, the Trafalgar square squirts, but they are only apologies | Herald. for fountains. We want something really beautiful and refreshing to the eye, not that miserable sort of thing which has given the nickname of "Squirt square" to the space behind the Town hall in Birmingham. Fountains can be made per se attractive by the mere arrangement of water.-London Globe.

Seen at Night.

It is surprising to be told, as we are by a writer who is an experienced yachtsman, that dark tanned sails are much more easily distinguished at night than are white ones. The same remark holds true of buoys, which are seen against the water and not against the sky. In their case, black can be seen farther and more distinctly than white in the night time.-Youth's Companion.

The dead letter office received during the last fiscal year 5,578,965 pieces of mail matter, or more than 18,000 per day, or an average of 46 a minute.

CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

LITTLE ONES WITH MERRY HEARTS AND WITHERED LIMBS.

Sunshine and Shadow, Mirth and Pathos in a Hospital for Unfortunate Children. How They Forget Pain in Play-Scenes in the Wards.

Only a crippled newsboy, swinging himself along with the aid of a crutch. Ah! It's hard lines for such a lad! But there is a place in this city where there are scores of such children even more helpless than he. It is the Crippled Children's hospital on Fortysecond street.

They look bright and happy enough at first glance, as you see them at play in the big hall at the top of the building, with its four great wide windowed towers. Happy enough! As they swing high in the air in high backed chairs suspended from strong ropes or play hide and seek around the pillars, in the depths of the big windows and behind the screens. And they are very happy and bright when, for awhile, they forget their pain and quivering nerves, and shout with laughter quite as gleeful as if many of the little heads and crooked backs were not bound up in hideous iron frames. And they trudge around the room after a runaway ball with as much zest as though the halting, tedious step and clanking braces did not hold them back at every turn.

Hark! What a rumble! Look down to the end of the hall. There is a great chattering going on, and out from the crowd fly half a dozen tricycles abreast, each manned by a girl of ten or thereabouts, With swiftly working feet and hands and shining eyes they roll down the long hall side by side. Evidently they are running a race. At the further end they wheel round and roll back again more slowly, guiding with dexterity their wheels through the score or more of advancing riders who had followed in their wake.

PAIN AFTER PLEASURE.

All is not play, however, much as they enjoy it, and pretty soon some pale faced girl draws out to the side, and unfastening the straps that hold her foot in the step, she raises it on her knee and chafes it with her hands, while she moans with pain.

Every afternoon the children come up here, and the paralyzed and lame remove one or both shoes and go through these exercises to strengthen their diseased limbs. It is all done under the eye of a skillful professor, who tempers every exercise to the condition of the little one. Sometimes when he fastens the straps of the tricycle the child utters a quick cry, and oftentimes must be lifted off the machine, being too tender to endure the exercise for that day.

There are the bars for paralytics at one end, where the child seats herself and with her hands on the opposite bar works herself with a swinging motion back and forth. This is to try to bring life back into the withered muscles, and after weeks of practice it sometimes succeeds,

After play hour comes the hard part of the day, when the little ones gather in their wards, each in his or her own little chair, and wait for the surgeon to come and bandage them. Four o'clock is their dark hour, and it is with fearful faces and many a sigh that they wait the coming of the house doctor.

The nurses go from one to the other, loosening braces and straps and unwrapping bandages, and then with a quick step and business like air, albeit with a kindly touch in his skillful fingers, the surgeon comes in and begins his work. And then there are pallid cheeks and lips, clenched fingers and brave struggles to hold back the cries that seem as if they would come out, and there are tears and moans from the little ones, whose baby hearts cannot understand the suffering they have come into.

WAITING FOR B

After an hour or so he finishes, the last bandage is fastened, the last brace firmly set in place and the last strap buckled down, and then the children move about a little while, putting away the doctor's utensils, picking up the scraps he has left and getting the room ready for their evening meal. They take their chairs again and, placing them in a row, one directly behind the other, sit down to wait until the waitress brings in their bowls of milk and beauing

trays of bread. The ward is divided into two sections, with a double row of tables in each. The children are stretched out in two rows in the rear of the tables. At the tap of the nurse's bell, the first row rises and proceeds in an orderly manner up the side of the table till each child is opposite her place. They go pushing their chairs in front of them, for but few of the

little ones could walk without this support. When these were all in places the nurse tapped the bell again as a signal to those in the other section. There was a rush of wheels and a shrill, scraping sound. And then the bell tapped again, and instantly each tiny uand was folded and each head bowed, and n low, reverent voices these words sounded through the room:

"Our heavenly Father, we thank thee for iving to us this food, and we humbly ask thee to bless our strength to thy service.

And then there was a rattling of spoons, and each child fell to eating with as much enjoyment as though there were no such things as disease and braces and surgeons in the world. When the meal was over and the dishes removed the tables pushed back out of the way, and the girls brought out the bandage boxes and proceeded to roll bandages for the next twenty minutes, till every one was ready and packed away for the next day's

dressing.
At 7 o'clock the little ones went to bed. There was much bothering over inconvenient back buttons on aprons and dresses, a sudden gleam of baby arms, so thin and wasted, unlacing of shoes and adjusting of braces and straps by the nurses, and then cool white night dresses obscured the bright heads for a moment ere they were buttoned into their

Ah! these children have grown old in suffering, till out of the little features the light of careless childhood seems to have faded, and ven their gayety seems pitiful.-New York

Unlucky Days for Weddings. It is well to recall one or two interesting

superstitions that were religiously noted in the time of our grandmothers. In the first place, according to an ancient and reliable chronicle, there are thirty-two days in the year that are especially unlucky for marriages and journeys. They are as follows: Jan. 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 10 and 15; Feb. 6, 7 and 18; March 1, 6 and 8; April 6 and 11; May 5, 6 and 7; June 7 and 15; July 5 and 19; Aug. 15 and 19; Sept. 5 and 7; Oct. 7; Nov. 15 and 16, and Dec. 15, 16 and 17. Everybody knows that Friday is the most unlucky day for a wedding, while Wednesday and Thursday are the luckiest. Our grandmothers believed that it was a most unfortunate thing if the bride, after finishing her toilet and leaving her looking glass, should turn around again for a last glance at herself. It was also bad for her to see the man she was about to marry after dressing and before the time had come for the earemony .- New York Star.