

WOMAN AND HOME.

LIFE HISTORY OF A GIRL STOWED AWAY FROM SCOTLAND.

Good Manners at Home—School Hygiene. Ignorance of Girls—Ventilation of Bedrooms—Advice to Mothers—Pretty Kitchens—Helpful Hints and Items.

Here is the life history of a woman who is well known to many New York shoppers as the forewoman in the suit department. She is still quite young—on the sunny side of 35—with a pleasant face, a sweet, low voice and a manner that helps her greatly in her profession. This may not seem a very exalted position to some people, but when they consider the long, steep road she has climbed her present stand may appear an enviable one. At all events, her work is light, though the responsibilities are heavy. She gets very nearly \$2,500 a year, and has a cheerful, pretty little flat of her own, where she has books and birds, and flowers, and she considers herself an individual greatly to be envied.

This is the story: Twenty-five years ago a man died in a little Scottish village by the sea and a few miles from a port where the smaller sort of sailing vessels cleared for harbors all over the world. There was nothing uncommon concerning this man's death; in fact, it was the usual business, helpless widow, three crying orphans, no money and no prospect of any. The eldest son was an orphan with a sharp tongue that offended a close friend who offered to take the mother into his home as housekeeper and the two boys to work on the farm as soon as they were able, but wouldn't have the girl at any price. She heard his proposition and her eyes flashed. She wouldn't stand in her mother's way or that of the little brothers, so the 10-year-old boy packed her one or two dresses and a few childish treasures in an old handkerchief, kissed the three tenderly, and when they were asleep stole away to the neighboring town through the darkness. She hung about the wharf for two days until she found a ship bound for America.

When that ship sailed she wasn't in Scotland, and yet she didn't seem to be on the ship. Third day out came a white faced boat from the hold, glistly with hunger. The captain saw a little, then laughed, and the women fell, clothed and cosseted the only girl stowaway they had ever seen. When the ship reached New York one of the women took the child to mind her babies at home. She learned to read from the children's books and picture books; she learned to write and figure from one of the older girls, who was going to a primary school and liked to help in her lessons. At 15 she was behind a counter in a shop; at 20 she was at the head of her department. The uncle was dead, the boys apprenticed and the mother alone; so she sent for her and took two rooms. In five years more she was the headwoman in the dry shop, and every two or three years her salary increased. She lives as she saves something each year, has an account in the savings bank and is as plucky as ever.—New York World.

Good Manners at Home.
I know a woman who is always harping about "culture" and "refinement" and "etiquette," and who does not this minute know the meaning of that old fashioned term, "good manners." She is always regretting the lack of culture among her neighbors, and there is not one of them who is more polite than she is. I have heard her actually yell at her servants, and storm at her children, and I do not think her husband is the happiest man in the world. In society she is a charming woman. She knows always just what to say and how to say it. I never saw a woman who could excel her in gliding across a room and sinking gracefully into a chair. Her little boys can tip their hats so prettily to ladies on the street, her little girls can enter a room with less properly turned out and with the grace of little queens; and, alas! both the little boys and the little girls can be as impertinent and display the worst manners of any children I ever saw. And they literally fight among themselves. They are not taught to be polite to each other. Their mother seldom favors them with her own properly chosen words and graceful manners when they are alone with her. Discord reigns until the door bell rings and then the entire household must put on good manners.

"If we don't," one of the children said, "we catch it when the company's gone!" This is an extreme case, but do we not all have our "company manners"? Do we speak just as gently and sweetly to our children, to our husbands and wives, when we are alone with them as when in the presence of the chance caller? Do we say to a transgressing Johnnie or Katie, "Don't do that, dear," or "Stop that minute, I tell you!" which is it? Do we say "please" and "thank you" to each other and to our servants at all times, or are these pleasing little words held in reserve with the rest of our "company manners"? Is it only in the presence of strangers that we smilingly overlook or gently chide the trifling faults of our children? Oh, these "company manners"! They are the ruination of a household. They cannot always be put on and off at will. Traces of the every day disordered and lack of harmony will manifest themselves through the affection of all the mere "company manners" one can assume. Habitual politeness and kindness and gentleness should be the unwavering rule in every house, even on "Blue Mondays."—Zenias Dune in Good Housekeeping.

School Hygiene in Winter.
In summer the child is greatly favored by the free, natural ventilation of the school room, the wide range of his sports, his sympathy with exuberant nature and the long vacation, with its varied rambles, its frequent bathings, its exhilarating sense of freedom, and, perhaps, with its change of air. The absence of these favoring circumstances in winter suggest greater attention at that time to the physical condition of school children.

Their food should be suited to the season. Fat is to the body what coal is to the stove. It is simply fuel. No sailors are allowed in expeditions to the North Pole who cannot digest an abundance of fat. The child can safely withstand an northern cold only as he carries within him a copious source of heat. He not only should have, but should, if necessary, be trained to love, fat meat, gravies and well cooked rashers.

Where oatmeal is an important part of the daily diet the large proportion of fat it contains meets the need in part, and so does the well buttered bread, but it is well to add daily the fat of meat.

But while we introduce heat producing food within the system, we must guard the heat from too rapid loss. The child may be exposed to extremely low temperatures. Good woollen flannel should be worn next the skin all winter, while an outside clothing should be thick and warm. Woollen stockings, thick boots and good rubbers are indispensable, and the child should be taught the danger of going with cold or with damp feet.

It is important, also, to remember the physical difference in children. In some of them the recuperative power is strong, and

asserts itself at once; in others a slight cold means death, or a protracted invalidism. But the school room itself needs constant looking after. If it is not properly ventilated, the vitiated air lowers the tone of the physical system, and renders it very susceptible to colds and other ailments. A tendency to colds will also be caused by too high a temperature, which weakens the resisting power of the skin. On the other hand, the weakly are sure to suffer from too low a temperature. This should be regulated by a thermometer, and should not be allowed to vary much from 70 degs. Fahrenheit.—Youth's Companion.

Ignorance of Girls.
If a girl never hears a word about economy from her birth, and is only conscious that to secure the means to gratify her slightest wish she needs only to stretch out her hands and they will be abundantly filled, how can one expect after marriage that she can have the faintest knowledge of the duties that must belong to her in the care of her household? She has never been called upon to know anything about her own expenses. What she fancied she wanted she bought without a thought that it might be well to learn whether she could afford the money. How money came, how it was always ready for her when she asked, were questions she had never been taught that she ought to ask and to understand the answer.

As far as any teaching she has ever received, she might imagine that money grew in the woods, and her father had it gathered for her as wanted—and of course her husband would do the same. No education before marriage ever taught her anything more rational. With such a girlhood, free from every thought save that of her own personal gratification, what reason can there be for surprise if she makes many mistakes—well for her if they are not irreparable. Duty was something never mentioned to her when a girl. After marriage her husband gives her no insight into his business affairs, no cautions as to expenses, never talks to her or consults or advises with her about their mutual expenditures. The same cruel love and indulgence—or it may be indifference—surrounds her in her new home, and thus she continues to be left in utter ignorance of all practical knowledge, simply a toy, a butterfly, seeking only sunshine and personal enjoyment.

And yet under proper training what a noble specimen of womanhood she perhaps was capable of being made!—Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher in New York Star.

Air of Sleeping Apartments.
What of sleeping apartments? Shall they be warmed or left cool? Perhaps, in a Yankee way, these questions may be answered by another: How shall fresh air be admitted if windows are closed? And, since plenty of fresh air is absolutely essential, and warmth sufficient may readily be secured by bedcovering, it seems better to have them open to outside air and rooms unheated. There are certainly fewer cases of acute catarrh among those who adopt the open air plan than where warm rooms are indulged in during sleep; and less liability, less sensitiveness to those lurking, sneezing bronchial coughs that are so annoying and so difficult to cure.

But it is only during sleep that chambers should be cool. While dressing or preparing for bed they should be as warm as the rest of the house—that is, 68 degs. This plunging into a cold bed with skin all tense and protesting, is a good way to insure a sleepless night to any one over twenty-five years of age, and is a relic of the unscientific past that looked upon a warm sleeping room as a piece of folly or unmanly codding.

It is easy to shut a register upon opening windows, and to open it again in the morning when they are shut down, to let the room get warm enough to dress comfortably. Then a little nap extra, a leisurely toilet under comfortable circumstances, and one goes down to coffee with a sense of readiness to meet whatever the day may bring forth.—Family Physician in American Magazine.

Advice to Mothers.
If you say "No," mean "No." Unless you have a good reason for changing a given command, hold to it.
Take an interest in your children's amusements; mother's share in what pleases them is a great delight.
Be honest with them in small things, as well as in great. If you cannot tell them what they wished to know, say so, rather than deceive them.
As long as it is possible kiss the children good night after they are in bed; they like it, and it keeps them very close.
Make your boys and girls study physiology; when they are ill, try to make them comprehend why, and how the complaint arose, and the remedy, so far as you know it.
Impress upon them from early infancy that their actions have results, and that they cannot escape consequences, even by being sorry when they have done wrong.
Reveal their little secrets; if they have confidences, fretting them will never make them tell, and time and patience will.

Allow them, as they grow older, to have opinions of their own, make them individuals, and not mere echoes.
Mothers, whatever else you may teach your girls, do not neglect to instruct them in the mysteries of housekeeping; so shall you teach them in the way of making home happy.—Herald of Health.

Pretty Kitchens.
There is no objection to a pretty kitchen, or to a girl filling one up with bric-a-brac if she keeps it free from dust. A kitchen to those who do the work in it is the living room, and why should it not be made convenient and pretty? If the kitchen is a comfortable, cheery room, most girls will take a pride in keeping it so. Give them pink colored tissue paper for the shelves, if they wish it, and a fancy lamp shade to rest by after the kitchen is tidied up for the night. See, too, that they have convenient utensils to cook with, a good clothes wringer and plenty of clothes pins and a good stove.

It will pay you well to look after those things in the good, wholesome dishes that will come on to the table well cooked. Many girls have to do with makeshifts that you would not think possible for yourself to use—a broken wringer, a tub without handles or a wash boiler or teakettle, with a rag run through a hole to prevent leaking. No girl likes to ask for repairs, and oftentimes the mistress is too careless to look well after the little things of her kitchen. I would add: Let the girl's sleeping room be a pleasant, attractive place. Many a horse has better quarters for rest than our servants have. Look well to the comfort of the servants. If not appreciative at first they may learn to be so.—Detroit Tribune.

How to Choose Roast Beef.
If possible buy the meat of a butcher personally known to be an honest man. If the meat has a reasonable proportion of fat upon the back and running in little lines through the lean, and if the color is fresh and not very darkened, the meat is good; if the butcher has kept it properly for a week or ten days it may be supposed to be reasonably tender. Most butchers are willing to keep meat the right length of time for customers if they take it at its first weight; it

loses a little weight by keeping. When this is the intention have some of the bone trimmed off, and the fat which is not needed for cooking, and let these trimmings be sent home with the day's marketing, the bones for the soup pot, and the fat to be tried out, to use in the form of drippings.
These small economies are not at all desirable, on the contrary, they are of considerable consequence in the aggregate. After the meat is trimmed, let it be hung in the butcher's refrigerator until he pronounces it tender, but not long enough to spoil. In this connection remember that meat which has been kept on ice is very susceptible to changes of temperature, and should be cooked as soon as possible after it is taken from the ice, and cooked at a very hot fire, because a slow heat might taint it at the beginning of the cooking.—Talmant Analyst.

The Needed Word of Praise.
Many a man ruins the peace of his household forever by neglecting to speak the word of praise which his hungry hearted wife has earned all day to hear, and bestowing it upon some chance caller or stranger. The man who fails to notice the careful toilet his wife has made for his sake, and compliments the good taste in dress exhibited by some neighbor, sows the seed of jealousy in a disappointed heart.

Woman was made to be loved, petted and appreciated by man. Whatever else she may achieve in life, she feels herself cheated out of her birthright unless this happiness has come to her. She is jealous of whatever and whoever may stand between her and that desired joy. I have known two mothers who were jealous of their own children. Unnatural and terrible as this may seem, I felt the greatest sympathy for both women. In each case the husband utterly ignored the wife for her offspring. She was a secondary consideration, neglected and rebuked where the children were caressed and appreciated.—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

Concerning Early Marriages.
It is, I think, an erroneous idea that early marriages are a hindrance rather than a help to success in life and the mental development and happiness of the parties. That this is sometimes the case is true; but I believe that more young men, and girls too, have been saved from ruin and wretchedness by an early marriage than have been ruined by it. There is something inspiring and ennobling in the possession of a home and a family; work for and beauty, and if the girl and boy are poor, I should still say, marry young and work together for the home and the competence, which will be all the more enjoyable because they are the result of toil and self denial. Don't wait until you can afford to be off just when your father and mother leave off, for then the freshness of youth will be gone, and although it may be morning with you still, the shades will be stretching on towards the noonday, and habits will have been formed which are hard to break, while the chances are they will never be broken at all.—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

The Best Pot of All.
The best pot of all is the little child old enough to talk and to understand, with a child's comprehension. The child that is a pet is always promising to be a better pet, because a more appreciative one. Its receptive and retentive mind is greedily gathering ten thousand facts and then ten thousand more, all with each added year the little one not only fills a larger place in your affections, but you are becoming more to the youngster, to be treasured in fond regard through all the years of mature life.

Every month, and week, and day is a step toward manhood or womanhood, evincing expanding intelligence and growing affections, and cementing the bonds of friendship and love between the little pet and the elder persons who are nourishing its absorbing mind and are guiding its otherwise uncertain footsteps in the best path of life toward the goal of thought, love and action.—Good Housekeeping.

Hot Fomentations.
We all know the value of hot applications, but in almost every home and the applying differ in almost every house. An exchange gives the following: "Wring several times of flannel out of cold water, so it will not drip; place between two folds of paper, and lay it upon a hot register or top of a stove. Steam will generate and permeate the whole cloth, and thus the required temperature will be obtained. In this way there is no running long distances to a kitchen, no burning of the hands, no uncomfortable moisture in the bed and no ruffled tempers. A hot fomentation is beneficial in almost every acute disease accompanied by severe pain, and is often of great service in chronic inflammations. It is more effectual and more accessible than any other therapeutic agent. By quick, prompt and thorough use severe attacks of illness are often prevented."—Herald of Health.

Let Us Not Fret.
Sometimes my wife and I say on Sunday: "Now let us agree that we will not say a single cross word to any one this whole week. Let us be studiously polite to each other and to the children. Let us be very mindful of the feelings of every person with whom we may come into contact. Let us not fret nor complain nor do anything that good, decent, well behaved Christians should not do." And if when the next Sunday comes, we have, through the grace of God, kept this resolve, it goes without saying that we have been happy and the world has perhaps been made a little better for our being in it.—Zenias Dune in Good Housekeeping.

Advice to Young Girls.
A word of advice to the young girls; never contract acquaintances with strange young men unless they come in company with those with whom you are well acquainted and in whom you place confidence. Even then be on your guard, and see that the proprieties of life are not exceeded.
For bunions get five cents' worth of saltpeter and put it into a bottle with sufficient olive oil to nearly dissolve it; shake up well and rub the inflamed joints night and morning, and more frequently if painful.
When the rubber rollers of your wringer become sticky, as they very often do after wringing flannels, rub with kerosene and wipe dry, and they will be nice and smooth.
For washing flannels use two spoonfuls of borax to three gallons of water; use no soap, and the flannels will be soft and clean and will not shrink.

Never use a sharp knife in cleaning the nails. Fill under the nails with soap, and then remove it by brushing with a nail brush.
Crackers that are stale can be freshened by heating them in the oven, but do not let them stay long.
Ceilings that have been smoked by a kerosene lamp should be washed off by soda water.

Use good soap in the kitchen, as it saves the hands.
Senators Edmunds, Hoar, Sherman and Curtis read French like native Parisians.

MEXICAN LOVE MAKING.

THE SOCIAL LAW OF MEXICO WHICH SEPARATES LOVERS.

A Case of "Doing the Bear Act"—One of the Peculiar Social Customs of Our Sister Republic Which is Sometimes Waived.

An American, just arrived in the city of Mexico, made, as he thought, a sensational discovery. He was going out of his hotel one afternoon, when the actions of a Mexican in an upper window across the street attracted him. The Mexican was well dressed. His silk hat was glossy. His little high heeled boots were polished, and he carried an ornamental walking stick. He was keeping back from the window with the evident design of concealing himself from general view, and at the same time was trying to get somebody in the upper part of the hotel to look his way.

"A masher," the American said to himself. "And a mighty bold one," he added, after watching the antics for ten minutes and failing to discover that any response was made to them.
The next day about the same hour the American repeated his discovery. Mr. Mexican, in all his glory, was at the upper window, and the one sided pantomime for the benefit of somebody in the hotel was still going on. This hotel was the one most patronized by visitors from the states. So the American minister was living there. So were the representatives of a big American syndicate engaged in consummating a land deal. Altogether there were probably as many American as Mexican guests. What if this persistent gaffer was trying to force his unwelcome attentions upon an American lady? The thought was enough to start a throb of patriotic indignation. The American went on about his business, but he said to himself, with a menacing look toward the supposed masher, "Somebody will be kicked down stairs before he is much older."

That night Mr. Fresh, the American, got together two or three of his fellow countrymen at the hotel, told what he had seen and invited suggestions as to the proper remedy. The Americans listened, looked at each other and grined. There was one in the party a six footer from West Point. In his mind's eye the discoverer of the masher had already seen the big lieutenant administering punishment to the impudent Mexican. But the widest grin of all was that which spread over the army man's face.

"My friend," said the American lieutenant, "you've run up against a case of hanc'el doing. In other words, you now know what 'doing the bear act' means in Mexico."

One of the curious social customs of the sister republic bars the door when two young people become engaged to be married. Thereafter the lover visits his beloved only in the presence of the rest of her family and at formal intervals. In lieu of "sitting up" with his girl he "does the bear act." This consists in finding an advantageous position which commands a view of the senorita's window, and taking possession of it during leisure hours. Long loving looks are exchanged, also pantomime, and occasionally when the street is deserted the maiden will come from behind the lattice, and stand on the balcony carry on a rather restrained conversation with the wooer on the pavement level or perhaps across the street. This is what is called "doing the bear act." The young Mexican whose queer conduct opposite the hotel had excited indignation was not a masher, but an exemplary young gentleman of most honorable intentions. He was the accepted lover of a high born senorita, whose father had apartments in the hotel, and he was pursuing his courtship according to the custom of his country. It would have been a sad mistake if he had kicked him down stairs, and might have led to international complications.

Sometimes engagements are protracted in this country by circumstances over which the lovers have no control. In these cases "the bear act" goes on season after season until everybody for blocks around gets in the way of expecting to see the faithful swain put in his appearance at a certain hour of the day and misses him almost as much as the girl does if he stays away. Instances where the lovers have kept up this wooing at a distance for three and four years are told of. The custom is not often waived, but bluff old Gen. Mier y Teran set society at defiance not long ago. His adopted daughter had become engaged to a worthy young gentleman. The latter had hired the use of a room in a house across the street and had begun to carry on the usual pantomime.

"Tell him to quit that," said Gen. Teran to the ladies of his family, "and to come here and see the girl whenever and as much as he likes. They are going to be married in a couple of months and there needn't be any nonsense about it."
The young man came. Everybody talked, but the comments didn't bother the old general half as much as the buzzing of so many flies would during his sista's.

An American railroad engineer on the Mexican National, who married a Mexican lady, told how he put his foot down against the idea that an engaged couple must be allowed no privacy. After it had been arranged that there was to be a wedding he wanted to see his betrothed. The members of her family, one and all, came into the room immediately and endeavored to make things agreeable for him. They sat him out and he went away disappointed. The second visit was no different. Mother, sisters, brothers and even the father remained in the room all the time.

"The third time I called," said the engineer, "I took the old gentleman one side and reasoned with him. He said it was the custom of the country not to leave engaged people by themselves. I told him it wasn't the custom of my country, and I didn't like it. If I was to be trusted with the girl after marriage I could be trusted with her before. If I wouldn't visit the house and see her by herself I wouldn't stay away for good. That brought the old gentleman to terms. He consulted the rest of the family and then announced the decision—that I was to be permitted to do my courting the American way. After that when I went to call the other members of the family would greet me all round and then get up and file out of the room, formally and solemnly, as if they were doing something very serious. When I got ready to leave, the whole family, under the lead of the old gentleman, would march in and bid me good night. The programme was a little embarrassing at first. It was carried out in such a way as to make me feel that a great deal was being conceded to me."
The engineer, who is an intelligent man, went on to talk about his relations with his wife's family after marriage. He said they always made him feel at home when he visited there, and he felt as his conclusion, from personal experience and general observation, that the Mexican mother-in-law is a model. When the senorita becomes the senora she is expected to cleave to her husband, and she gets no encouragement or sympathy from the mother for her marital grievances.—Globe Democrat.

Darwin was a dunce at school and a rake at college, so says his life, recently published.
Some folks has er better way o' showin' dat da 'prosharates yer kin'ness den ulla'ders does. De long tail houn' ken 'pear ter be et heep gladder den de stump tail dog, wen de truff is dat he not not be haf so glad.—Arkansas Traveller.

ICE THAT NEVER MELTS.

Heat Equal to That of Our Latitude Without Effect in Alaska.

It is remarkable indeed that so much of the surface ground on the Yukon is frozen solid to a depth of several feet. It is all the more so when we come to realize the fact that during the summer it gets as hot here as in the south. During the heat of the past season the miners found it a great convenience to go in bathing in the streams at least twice a day, and to seek shady places in which to rock the gold out of the gravel. At the breaking up of winter the hours of sunshine are rapidly increasing, and continue so until midsummer, when the sun beams forth twenty-two hours out of the twenty-four, while on the high mountain peaks it is for a period of several days in June not entirely out of sight the twenty-four hours.

But during all this heat and long days of continuous sunshine the sun's rays do not penetrate the heavy masses that cover nearly the entire surface of the country, and consequently the frozen ground underneath lies in that state as if packed in an icehouse. After it once becomes frozen, as any damp ground will do in the winter time, it quickly becomes covered with this moss, which is of a remarkably rapid growth and attains a depth of some two feet or more. During the heat of summer this moss becomes dry to the depth of several inches, and the miners think that by a continuous burning of it as fast as it dries they will soon have the gravel bars along the creeks, at least, cleared off, being of the impression that when the gravel deposits are exposed to the scorching rays of the sun and rains and atmosphere they will readily thaw out.

When winter sets in the hours of sunshine gradually decrease until during the shortest days the sun shines but four hours out of the twenty-four. But at this period the aurora is most intense, and helps very materially in driving darkness from that dreary land. The thermometer goes down to 70 degs. in winter, but the atmosphere is very dry, and consequently the cold is not so perceptible as one would imagine.—Juneau (Alaska) Free Press.

An English Quack Doctor's Trick.

A short time ago a quack experimented in Lambeth with considerable success upon the pockets of an awe-stricken crowd. After a preliminary harangue and a terse little lecture on the viscera, which the charlatan sketched in with colored crayons upon a blackboard on which the human skeleton was outlined in white paint, the fellow came to business. "I am going to demonstrate to you," said he, "by a startling experiment upon one of you bystanders, that my miraculous remedy can cure all diseases of the lungs and chest. Now, whoever's got a bad cough or cold on the chest let stand forward." There was some little hesitation and a good deal of giggling. "Don't be afraid, my friends," said the quack; "it's all free, gratis, for nothing. Let any afflicted person come forward and I'll show him the nature of his disorder, and give him a packet of my magic lozenges or cough cure at once. The quack doctor pretended to sound his chest with a stethoscope of almost comical proportions and informed the staring crowd that the patient was in a galloping consumption.

"My friend," said the quack to the unfortunate victim, "so terrible is this disease that you can actually see it." He handed a glass tube to the patient and then poured a pint of clear water into a large tumbler. "Just you blow into that water, my friend," he said, "and at once you will see the disease. The man obeyed, and the water grew discolored, turbid, and at last as white as if it had been mixed with milk. The patient became as pale as ashes. "This unhappy man, my friends," said the quack, as he held the glass on high, "if he hadn't had the good fortune to come across me to-night wouldn't have been long for this world. I should have given him about a fortnight; that's all. Now a packet of my lung healers will cure him. What you see in the glass of water are his vitiated humors, the products of corruption. My magic lung healers destroy these humors in the body or out of the body. Observe, my friends, watch me carefully, there is no deception here." The quack dropped a pinch from one of a packet of powders into a glass, and directed the patient to stir the tube. The water became immediately clear. Then he reaped his harvest. The water was lime water, and the carbonic acid in the man's breath naturally threw down the carbonate of lime at once, and rendered the water turbid. And the miraculous lung healer was simply a little citric acid and sugar which instantly redissolved it.—Saturday Review.

A Lowly Refreshment Stand.

At the foot of the Fifty-ninth street elevated station, between a stout telegraph pole and one of the iron pillars, there sits a luxuriant colored woman attired in the proverbial blue calico dress, an immaculate white apron, and a fantastical headpiece of landanna handkerchief. An ironing board does duty in front of her as a counter. Upon this is placed at one end a huge coffee urn with an oil stove underneath. Next to this is an immense white covered table. The woman usually carries up her stand about 11 o'clock at night, and there she remains until it is nearly morning. During the few minute intervals on the elevated trains she indulges in various petty trades with the passengers. As each train deposits its load of passengers she suddenly deposits with the thought of a possible customer. The voice that has been trained in the old plantation school of music raises its notes and utters the refrain of "Hot coffee and deblled crabs." If no one stops to purchase, and the rapidly dispersing crowd warns her to infuse more life into her cry, she sings in a higher key, "Here's nice hot coffee and deblled crabs. Oh, won't you buy de deblled crabs?"
The belated passenger who does try a cup of her coffee generally adds a nickel to her price, and if his digestion be good, a jarred crab prepared in the old southern style of cooking makes him wonder that such things can be found at that time of night. The woman who keeps the stand is said to make between \$2 and \$3 per night.—New York Evening Sun.

Gems in Brown Paper.

I heard a curious story about Mrs. Paran Stevens, the other day, which was extremely characteristic. A friend called was shown up into her boudoir and took the first chair. They conversed for a while, or rather he listened with interest to her caustic comments on men and things, until she said suddenly: "Oh, you're sitting on my diamonds; get up this minute."
On examination he found that a little crumpled brown paper parcel on the seat of the chair, which he had not noticed when he sat down, let slip when he picked it up a perfect river of the most splendid gems.
"I keep them in brown paper," she explained, "to deceive the burglars. They'd never think of looking in a brown paper bag lying about anywhere on a shelf or in a drawer for some \$75,000 worth of jewels. There have been two attempts to steal them within a year, and I hit on this as a good way to keep them."—Brooklyn Citizen.

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GERMS IN THE ICE.

FREEZING WATER DOES NOT KILL ALL THE BACTERIA.

Dr. Prudden's Analysis of the Ice Consumed by the City of New York—Some Alarming Results—Suggestions for Health Boards.

It is popularly supposed that water in freezing becomes purified, and that the injurious elements that there may be in it are eliminated by the action of the frost. For a long time it was considered that even though ice was frozen over water known to be filthy the ice was nevertheless pure, and the apparent sanction of science was given to this theory. Recent investigations by learned microscopists have, however, thrown new light upon this question, and while it is still admitted that a large percentage of the injurious elements of impure water become lost when it is frozen it has also been shown that enough impurities remain in the frozen water to make it possible to spread to an alarming extent any disease the infectious elements of which were contained in the water in its liquid state.

One of the persons who has made an exhaustive study of this subject is Dr. T. Mitchell Prudden, the director of the laboratory of the College of Physicians and Surgeons in this city. In the early part of the year he contributed a long article to The Medical Record, in which he showed the result of very careful analyses of different samples of ice taken from all the sources of supply around New York. He came to the conclusion that typhoid fever and possibly cholera might easily be spread among the consumers of the ice which is formed on the Hudson.
"This river," he says, "is at the best rather shallow, and large quantities of detritus annually brought down the stream cause constant and considerable change in the bottom. The islands in the river from Coxsack to Albany are gradually formed from the sedimentary deposit. At the upper part of this section, Troy, a city of over 50,000 inhabitants, empties into the Hudson about 600 gallons of sewage into the river, which is already charged with contributions from Cohoes and Lansingburg, to say nothing of the impurities brought by the Mohawk from the west. A few miles below Troy Albany, with over 80,000 inhabitants, has also an efficient sewage system, which it pours directly into the river."

Taking the results of all his analyses of ice from the various sources, he finds that the average number of living bacteria contained in one cubic centimeter of the melted ice is 2,623, or, to put it in more common terms, a pint of melted ice would harbor about 500,000 living bacteria of various kinds. He was impressed with the importance of a pure drinking water, should perfectly filter half a glass of average winter Croton water and then add to it an equal quantity of average ice, would have the satisfaction of replacing the bacteria removed with more than eight times as many from more uncertain and questionable sources.

One reason, Dr. Prudden says, why it was never before known by scientific men that ice might contain the germs of disease was that the only method of research was by chemical examination. These could not, except inferentially, determine the presence of bacteria. It is no longer necessary to infer their presence. These living germs may now be actually counted, and their species and actions on the animal body definitely determined. The new method by which this information is obtained is called the biological analysis.

In the experiments made by Dr. Prudden samples of ice which contained evident gross impurities, such as grass and straw, were in all cases rejected as not fairly representative. It has been shown, however, that bacteria may exist in enormous numbers without imparting the clearness and transparency of the ice.
Dr. Prudden made biological analyses of 153 samples taken from blocks of ice from the Hudson river at various points from West Park to the vicinity of Troy. These embraced samples from all the prominent ice fields and many of the small ones. In all of these he found a large number of bacteria of different kinds. Snow ice, Dr. Prudden found, contained many times the number of bacteria found in transparent ice taken from the same blocks. Bulbly ice was also impregnated to a much larger extent than transparent ice with these organisms, but he found that this rule as to bulbly ice and snow ice holds good only when the water from which the ice is formed contains a considerable number of bacteria.

Hudson river ice contained a much larger number of bacterial impurities than the ice taken from the other waters near New York, and while some of these bacteria may be considered harmless, others, he said, were undoubtedly injurious. The fact that two common and very important bacterial forms of disease, typhoid fever and diphtheria associated with blood poisoning, are almost constantly present in large towns like Troy and Albany, and frequently in villages along the upper Hudson, confirms the statement made by him that Hudson river water is impure for drinking purposes. He says he does not know whether the bacteria of typhoid fever may retain life indefinitely or not in ice, as a longer period in which they have been kept frozen to his knowledge is 160 days.

He suggests that the state board of health, or some other authorized body, should have full control over the ice harvesting fields, and by a system of inspection not less strict than that which should exist in the care of the ordinary water supply, determine which, if any, of the sources of ice supply are so contaminated as to imperil the health of the consumers of the ice. In the case of the Hudson river it would be necessary to establish by the most thorough scientific examination the distances from all existing sources of sewage pollution, at which it might be safely assumed that the water had freed itself from bacteria and other impurities sufficiently to form safe ice. It might in this way be possible to remove any chance of danger by permitting the questionable or bad ice to be sold only for non-drinking purposes, if such a classification is practicable, and thus not essentially interfere with the interests of the ice consumer.

Dr. Walter De F. Day, the sanitary superintendent of this city, said that the board of health does not have any supervision over the ice brought into the city at present. It has not yet been demonstrated that any danger exists, or that any infection has been caused in this way, and the question has therefore not been seriously considered. The theoretical possibility of infection from this source he admitted. Professor Chandler, of Columbia college, who is one of the most eminent microscopists in the city, has also made some examination into the existence of disease germs in ice, and has published a pamphlet on the subject, which points out the possibility of infection through the use of ice.—New York Sun.

Some folks has er better way o' showin' dat da 'prosharates yer kin'ness den ulla'ders does. De long tail houn' ken 'pear ter be et heep gladder den de stump tail dog, wen de truff is dat he not not be haf so glad.—Arkansas Traveller.