

Our Daily Fare.

PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 14, 1864.

SUITABLE FOR A GENTLEMAN.

PROBABLY there are few things among the rich and vast varieties exhibited at our Great Fair, so difficult to find as a present "suitable for a gentleman." We are not prepared to take very high ground on this subject at present, and to attribute the difficulty to the superiority of the male sex in being entirely above the adventitious aids and requirements of the fair; we are content to state the fact. Nobody ever was at a loss for a present to a woman. The only question to be considered is the amount you desire to appropriate for the purpose,—given that, as the mathematicians say, and the problem is easy. Diamonds and cashmeres float high up among the thousands; corals and crapes are among the hundreds, while the vulgar fractions of those sums represent to the bewildered vision every thing that is "neat and appropriate." There are things, too, which all sorts and conditions of men can, with propriety, offer to all sorts and conditions of women. You can present something expressive of gratitude, love, approbation, esteem, friendship, or even colder sentiments—mere politeness, for instance. There are abundant things which a man may want, but they are awkward things to present. You may send a man a cow or a piece of beef, not at the present time unacceptable, but certainly ungraceful. So, too, a pair of boots are not a pleasant thing to press into the hand of a friend in parting, nor is it quite delicate to order a ton of coal to be put in his cellar. A suit of clothes is by no means to be despised as a present, but so arbitrary is fashion, that although a lady might accept your suit, you could not with much delicacy accept hers.

Women, however, are not to be thwarted of their right to be generous by such slight obstacles as these, and they have, by common consent, decided that certain things are suitable for a gentleman, and they persist arbitrarily and obstinately upon it until the man has at last yielded and admits that if the articles in question do not suit him, it is his misfortune, and by no means their fault. What is called an "Afghan" would, to the uninstructed mind, appear, perhaps, as absurd an article as ever was devised for the use of man. Not so, however, to the person of enlightened intelligence. Few things, I am told, are more essential to a gentleman; in fact, life is a burden without one. In being very dear and very useless, it, in fact, unites the qualifications which have raised the diamond itself to its peerless position among gems.

An observing female, having noticed that when a chimney smoked, a cap was immediately put upon it, suggested to her sex, that man should, under peculiar circumstances, be treated in the same way. This gave rise to what are called "smoking caps," articles worked by ladies and worn on the stage by dissipated and designing characters. In fact, what is called the "get up," technically, of the bold, bad man of the melodrama, comprises the articles generally pronounced by female authorities as "suitable for gentlemen." The elaborate dressing gown, the smoking cap, and the worked slippers, present Captain HAWKLEY to the audience as the prince and type of the accomplished swindler and man of the world. There are also traditions that the clergy, in the bosoms of their families, and sometimes in the presence of the fair donors, array themselves from their stores of these articles, of which they have an unfailing supply.

It is high time, however, that the male sex generally should accommodate themselves to the necessities of their position. Why should they continue to deny themselves the use of what the highest authorities in matters of taste deem appropriate for them. The articles may be disagreeable, they may be uncomfortable, but their adoption will now not only please those whom we most desire to gratify, but at the same time make a demand which will soon fill the treasury of the Sanitary Fair. Look around you, approach any table, and you will be supplied with articles exactly suited to your wants. It is only necessary to abandon your own vitiated tastes, and lay aside the prejudices of early education, to find something precisely "suitable for a gentleman."

BOUNTIES.

During the American Revolution this subject claimed the early attention of WASHINGTON, who, soon after he was chosen commander-in-chief of the army of the United States, wrote the following admirable letter to the President of Congress, then sitting in Philadelphia:

"HAARLEM HEIGHTS, Sept. 4th, 1776.

"Something is due to the man who puts his life in your hands; hazards his health, and forsakes the sweets of domestic enjoyment.

"My opinion is, that a good bounty should be offered, aided by the proffer of at least 100 to 150 acres of land, and a suit of clothes; and a blanket to a non-commissioned officer. However high the men's pay may appear, it is barely sufficient, in the present scarcity and dearth of all kinds of goods, to keep them in clothes, much less to support their families."

His suggestions were approved by Congress soon after the receipt of the letter. It is equally applicable to our brave and gallant soldiers at the present time.

If you once make a rule that a man cannot be gay, and at the same time godly, you will be more apt to decrease godliness than to de-stroy gaiety.

A NEW AND INTERESTING FEATURE.

In yesterday's number of our little journal we published the first of a series of letters from the army, written by a gentleman sent to White House for that special purpose. These letters are designed to explain the system and methods by which the Sanitary Commission carry on their grand work of benevolence. They will show every operation of the Sanitary from the time a package of goods is received by a branch office or society, to the time when the goods are distributed on the field or in the hospital; how the contributions are collected together in depots, receipted for and recorded; how they are sent forward on requisition; how they are taken care of both in the depots and on the field; how the quantities of the various articles required are ascertained; how they are issued, and the issues are recorded; how they are dispensed to the suffering soldier, and, in a word, how all the vast and multifarious proceedings of this noble organization are carried into effective operation.

To give these letters a living interest, the proceedings and actions described are those going on now at the White House, on the Pamunkey, among the sick, wounded, and suffering soldiers of the army of the Potomac—now while that army is in actual conflict, and now while our Fair to give them aid and comfort is claiming public attention and patronage.

This feature of the Fair journal, in addition to the history of the Fair movement in the loyal States, now in course of publication in these columns, and the full report of Our Own Great Central Fair, will make *Our Daily Fare* a complete record of all such matters down to date, and give the series of twelve numbers a permanent value.

SCHOOLS FOR VETERANS.

Among the maimed soldiers returned to us by the war are many young men who, though disqualified by the loss of a limb from pursuing mechanical callings, might succeed as teachers or professional men, and, in fact, in many "higher pursuits," were they well educated; and thousands among them are still capable of receiving the proper degree of culture.

Let there be an organized "movement" for the purpose of educating such men. Many are trained gratis to become officers for war; why should there not be education without price for the arts of peace? Their countryman can well afford to support and teach these brave fellows any calling which they may see fit to choose, and it will be found, in the end, that our industry has gained by doing so. After all, "one brain is worth two pair of hands—any day."

THE GREAT object of an American is to die rich; of a Frenchman, to live rich.