

FEMINE SACRIFICES.

Sharp Criticism of the Fad of Needless Self-Denial.

The doctrine of self-sacrifice is a thoroughly pernicious one as interpreted by most women. They generally understand it as meaning that it is rather a fine thing to marry the man whom they have ceased to love, to refuse to marry the man who has ceased to love another woman, to make themselves the slaves of their children, to neglect their health for the sake of their "duty" and to make themselves generally idiotic.

One of the forms of sacrifice in which women particularly delight is the skipping of meals. Breakfasts and dinners have to be prepared with consideration for the masculine members of the household. But luncheon! How women love to sacrifice it! They will say: "Now we'll have a good, long day of sewing. I guess I'll just tell Mary to bring up some crackers and tea at noon, so that we needn't break in our work. I think we may manage to get Lucy's shirt waists done today." As if it made the slightest particle of difference when Lucy's shirt waists were finished. So they stimulate themselves with tea, court headache by sitting in a close room all day, work and strain their nerves and muscles and flatter themselves that they are model mothers.

The really model mother regards her health as of importance to herself and to her children. Therefore she takes pains to preserve it. She eats regularly and well, she sleeps a sufficient number of hours at night, she gets plenty of exercise and fresh air and she keeps herself bright and cheerful with the companionship of her friends, with books, plays and outside interests. She has to sacrifice her inborn desire to make a slave of herself in order to do this, but that is a noble and necessary sacrifice and should content all the women of the community.

An Avalanche in Maine.

When nature does anything in the vast northern Maine wilderness, she does it on a grand scale, and now comes news of a landslide there, compared with which the famous avalanche of the Crawford notch was but child's play. One evening not long ago, during one of the heavy thunder showers, lightning struck the summit of Mt. Baker. Mr. Randall, who lives alone in his camp about five miles from the mountain, heard amid the crashes of thunder a long-drawn roaring unlike anything he had heard before. It startled him so as to drive sleep from him during the night, and in the morning he started out to find whence the sound came. One glance at Baker mountain solved the mystery. Thousands of tons of rocks, loosened probably by the lightning shock, had ploughed a trough an eighth of a mile wide from summit to base of the peak. For several miles the enormous trees had been swept before the avalanche and buried under twenty-five feet of gravel. The news reached the lower settlements a day or two later, being borne by the thick, muddy water that changed the character of Lyford Ponds, Silver lake and Pleasant river. An expedition started northward to learn the cause of this mud, and heard the whole story at Randall's camp.—Lewiston Journal.

The "Idea Men" in Chicago.

There are three men in Chicago who make a fairly good living by marketing ideas. That is their business. Suppose a man opens a new restaurant. The "idea" man goes into the place and says, "Why not put out a sign that you'll give a dish of ice cream free to every red-headed man? It would cause talk." If the restaurant man adopts the suggestion, the "idea" man will expect to be paid for it.

He writes poetry for soaps and patent medicines, and submits it to the proprietors. If they like it, he names his price. At the big retail stores he drops in and confides new and startling schemes for advertising. He goes to the theatrical manager and says, "Here, wouldn't this be a good catch-line?" Day by day he pokes into other people's business, and is well paid for it, because, after all, there is nothing more valuable than ideas of the right kind.

Hope for the Miner.

As the result of elaborate investigation, Dr. J. S. Haldane arrived at the conclusion that in colliery explosions the deaths from suffocation were due, not, as was generally supposed, to carbonic acid gas, but to the preponderance of nitrogen and the deficiency of oxygen. Life could be saved if the colliers could be supplied with oxygen for an hour or so, and he had devised and exhibited an apparatus for enabling a man to breathe oxygen, of which sixty liters were compressed into a one-half liter bottle, with tube and regulating taps, supplemented by a wire compressor for the nose to prevent breathing through that organ.

Mormon Wealth.

The great wealth, either of the Mormon church or of the individuals at its head, has been again demonstrated by the recent investment of \$10,000,000 by the "first presidency" in a new corporation called the Utah company. This new company is to operate gold mines, a railroad, a bathing beach and pleasure resort at the Great Salt Lake, and build, equip and operate telegraph and telephone lines. This is purely a church scheme, in which Gentiles have no part and is like the Zion co-operative company, to be managed to add to the wealthiest of the church.—Springfield Republican.

HER MIND WAS ELSEWHERE.

And Yet They Tell Us the Dear Things Want to Vote.

A stylish and refined looking woman got into a Broadway car recently. Seating herself in a comfortable position, she gazed with placid contentment on those about her. "Fare, please!" recalled her to stern reality. With a confident air she put her hand in her pocket—horror! nothing there but a hairpin! Madly she thrust her hand inside her mysteriously made bodice—nothing! Her face assumed an almost tragic fear as she gasped, "Oh, I have lost it!"

"Lost what?" gruffly asked the conductor. "My purse," she moaned. "Isn't that it?" and he pointed to a neat little leather case lying innocently on her lap. "Ah, so it is. Oh, dear, how very stupid!" Picking it up, she handed him a brand-new dollar from its contents. "I am sorry to have kept you waiting so long," she apologized. The passengers smiled, the woman blushed, and the conductor stepped out on the platform to make change. In a moment he returned and handed it to her, and his features had gone back to that indifferent, cold stare of a thoroughbred horse car conductor. Thanking him humbly, she began counting it. Over and over she counted that money, each time her face becoming more and more puzzled. Once more she tried, but with the same result. Flushing into an angry look, she beckoned him to "come hither."

"Sir, did I not give you one dollar?" "You did, mum," replied he. "Well, there are but ninety-five cents here!" And she almost threw the silver at him. "And did you expect to ride free? What's the matter with you?" "Oh—my—of course—what AM I thinking about—I forgot the fare—I hope—but her voice faded away as she noticed the suppressed laughter of the passengers, while the conductor scratched his chin and wondered when "them things would vote."—Life.

Pat's View of It.

The Hungarians, Poles, Italians and other cheap laborers who come into the coal regions are regarded with great disfavor by the resident population. I was walking near the railroad with an Irish laborer returning from work one evening, when I saw one of the despised class walking on the tracks. I turned to my companion and said:

"Pat, you had better run down there and make that fellow understand that he is in danger. Make him get off those tracks."

"Shure, sor, he's nothin' but a Hungarian," said Pat. "But he has a soul," I retorted. "Pat chuckled: 'The only soul he has is on his fut.'" "Well, Pat, he belongs to your church; he's probably a Romanist."

"Indade, then, the sooner he's in purgatory, the sooner he'll be out!" replied Patrick.—Harper's Drawer.

He Loves to Work.

The foreman of a boot-blacking shop in Madison Square is a continual surprise to the customers. His employer is a padrone, and he is left in complete control. His conduct justifies his employer's confidence. He is the hardest worker among the half-dozen employees, and frequently takes the brushes from one of his subordinates when there are not enough customers to keep all busy. He never allows a customer to go away unless he is satisfied that his boots have been polished in the best manner possible. He is ever full of enthusiasm, and works with as much energy at the end of a busy day as at the beginning. His humor never lags, and his muscles never tire.

"It is as good as a brace to watch that fellow," said a rounder; "he is the only man I ever saw who always seems to love to work."—New York Sun.

He Was No Judge.

In the studio of a fashionable painter before his last picture. "Well, what do you think of it?" "In the first place, I ought to tell you, sir, that I am no judge."

"Never mind, let us have your opinion." "To tell the truth, I—I think it splendid."

"There, see what a capital judge you are!"—Boston Home Journal.

The Hand of Time.

Mother—Why, my dear, what's the matter? Daughter (tearfully)—I—I am losing my beauty. "Nonsense!"

"Oh, it's true. I went to Bargain & Co.'s to price goods, and the clerk who waited on me began to look tired before I'd been there an hour—boo, boo, hoo!"—New York Weekly.

Knew His Work.

First Reporter—What is your assignment to-day? Second Reporter—The Rev. Dr. Slumsky's sermon.

First Reporter—Why, church is all over. What are you going to do? Second Reporter—That's nothing. I'll just write a couple of columns attacking the Police and Health Departments, and it will go all right.—Truth.

Sister's Plan.

"In Russia criminals are often sentenced to be kept awake until insanity and death result. Now, how do you suppose they keep them from falling asleep?"

Little Girl (oldest of a small family)—I expect they give 'em a baby to take care of."

Preparing for the Fray.

Mrs. Gadder—Doctor, I need a good, strong tonic, I think. Doctor—Feeling run down and nervous? Mrs. Gadder—Not exactly; but there's to be a big millinery opening and a special cloak sale next week.—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

A Western Idea.

"Spillatt is an awful mean man." "What did he do?" "His wife's a political candidate, and he gave his vote to her for a birthday present."—Chicago Record.

THE SEEDING OF CLOVER

Some of the Disadvantages of Broadcasting. With Advice as to Fertilizers.

It is when the snow is on the ground that some farmers seed clover on wheat land, but it is doubtful if seeding too early is of any advantage. It is true that broadcasting the seed over the surface covers every portion, and the rains carry it into the soil, but there are periods in the early spring when the ground is as hard as rock, and if the seed is not washed away it will be clustered in spots, leaving others bare, as is witnessed every season. It is not the case that all farmers venture to seed down their clover until the season is warmer, but the rule is to sow as soon as it can be done. The proper method is to harrow, sow the clover seed, and harrow the field again, which does not injure the wheat, but enables the seed to be better covered and secure lodgment. Plenty of seed is important, as the birds destroy a portion, some of the seed may be worthless, and a portion is also destroyed should a warm spell of weather be followed by severe cold. These causes have prevented good stands of clover, although the failure of the seed was attributed to something else.

Clover is a nitrogen gatherer. That is, it procures the greater proportion of its nitrogen from the full nitrogen of the atmosphere, and by its roots, which take up nitrogen as ammonia and nitric acid, when the rains bring these substances down from the air and carry it into the soil. Any nitrogenous fertilizer is therefore of but little value for clover, but the crop is greatly benefitted by potash and lime. Land plaster (sulphate of lime), which is sparingly soluble in water, gives excellent results on some soils, but land that has been heavily limed with air-slaked lime in the fall should be in excellent condition for clover. An application of a hundred pounds of sulphate of potash will often prove sufficient to induce a large yield, but wood ashes, which contain both lime and potash, cannot be excelled for clover.

Leaving the value of clover as a hay crop aside, it is one of the best crops known for restoring the fertility of the soil. Its roots, which contain nitrogen largely, restore that substance to the soil, and it is a practice with many to cut the first growth for hay and plow under the second growth, followed by an application of lime. If this is done the only forms of fertilizers required by the farmer will be potash and phosphates, which will keep the soil well supplied with plant food in fair proportions for nearly all other crops. Red clover is a biennial, but the new crimson clover, which is an annual, may be sown in the fall and plowed under in the spring, being well adapted on soils that will not produce red clover; but where red clover can be grown it should be given the preference, as it cannot be surpassed in the many advantages which it possesses by any other crop grown upon the farm.

Care of the Colt's Feet.

On the sharp, frozen ground the colts may break their hoofs especially if they are not kept trimmed down, and unless some attention is given to the matter a misshapen hoof will develop that can never be converted into a well shaped one. Sometimes a hoof is so broken off at one side while it remains long at the other the tendons of the leg are strained. A badly misshapen hoof is almost sure to make the animal awkward, and perhaps ill gaited. The way to prevent annoying, and possibly serious results, is to keep a close watch on the colts' hoofs and shape them up as often as occasion demands. It is important to use care and good judgment in this work. It will very rarely, if ever, be necessary to pare off the sole of the hoof; and if ever this work is done, it should be done with the greatest care, and the frog should be carefully avoided. Except in possibly very rare cases all that is necessary is to cut off the edges of the hoof. This is best done by setting the hoof on a solid plank or other smooth, level surface, and with a chisel cut down and through the edge of the hoof, cutting off excessive growth, and leaving the edge of the hoof as regular as possible. This trimming of the hoofs is a good training for the colt. It will soon learn to have its hoofs handled and trimmed without objection. While one must be firm, the first point is to exercise kindness. The colt is afraid; reassure it. On no account lose temper. The man that cannot control his temper is unfit to handle a colt on any occasion.

Judicious Laziness.

A little judicious laziness, says a correspondent of the Country Gentleman, will pay any farmer if indulged in at the proper time and way. Many farmers can grow a good crop, but they cannot sell it. And where is the use of growing a thing if you cannot sell it? Get the crop under way, then look round and see where will be the best market for it. Don't wait till it is ready to ship before you think where you will sell it.

Judicious Feeding.

Caked udder and milk fever in cows is more often due to their condition at time of calving than anything else. In a majority of cases such cows have been fed on highly concentrated food and are fat, or fatter than a cow should be which is about to calve. By judicious feeding for six or eight weeks before the cow calves milk fever may be avoided.

Profit in Sheep.

A writer thus sums up the sources of profit in sheep: There is the wool, the mutton, the young lambs, the sales for breeding purposes and the enrichment they give the land. Further, they are consumers of weeds, which are so constant a nuisance, and they live upon these and other things, which other animals refuse.

Care of Garden Tools.

Don't leave any garden tools out over winter. Collect them all and store in a shed or barn; and take care of the rakes and trawls. Housed over winter they will last for three or four years. If substantially made to begin with. But left out in winter they will seldom outlast the second season.

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THE MARKETS.

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