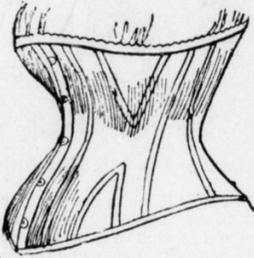




SELECTING A CORSET.

It is an Important Task and Requires the Exercise of Great Care and Ripe Judgment.

Comfort and beauty both considered, a woman's corset is her most important article of apparel. A good corset will accentuate the good points in her figure, and help to conceal imperfections. There has been a great deal of nonsense written and spoken for and

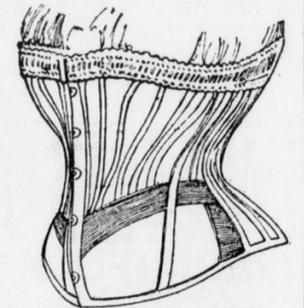


AN ILL-FITTING CORSET.

against the corset. This being a free country, there is no reason why a woman who prefers to go about without stays, whether from physical reasons or personal convictions in the matter, should not be allowed to follow her own sweet inclination.

Personally, I consider a well-fitting, properly constructed corset a blessing. There are, of course, some slight, willowy figures which can do without the support of a corset. But they are very rare exceptions. Take, for example, Mrs. Leslie Carter. Mrs. Carter wears a little girdle about her waist, which is all she requires, her figure being naturally slender, and the physical culture she has received in her years of hard training having given her extraordinary liteness and poise. But the average woman has not the advantage of Mrs. Carter's figure, nor the benefit of long and harmonious physical training. This everyday woman requires a corset, and not any or every corset which she may chance to discover that happens to have a certain number attached to it. There are two things which she must observe with the greatest care. First, whether the corset itself is made in the proper form and well-constructed. Secondly, whether it fits her. How many women, who are so careful about the way their gowns or coats fit, when purchasing corsets ignore either one or both of these precautions!

There are many good ready-made as well as custom-made corsets in the market, and before making her purchase she should first decide which form is more suitable for her figure. There are corsets for slender figures and others adapted only to over-stout women; there are some for long waists and some for short waists. Having selected her corset, she should insist upon trying it on, and, above all, she should never select a cheaper corset just because it is cheaper. In stays, as in toilet soap, a woman cannot afford to economize, for health and comfort as well as personal appearance are vitally concerned. No matter how handsome a gown may be, if it is fitted and worn



A WELL-FITTING CORSET.

over a badly-made corset the effect will be ruined.

To show just how great a factor her corset is in a woman's appearance, I induced a lady who was wearing a most hideous corset to allow me to make two little sketches of her.

In No. 1 she is wearing the corset of her own selection, while No. 2 shows the same figure in a well-fitting corset. Everyone who sees these pictures will recognize the first figure as one she knows very well. The second corset is not heavily boned, but is so cut that the ugly curve at the waist is entirely suppressed and objectionable embonpoint, caused by the wretched shape of the old corset, has entirely disappeared.—Gertrude M. Anderson, in Detroit Free Press.

Book Clubs for Small Towns.

A writer in the Ladies' Home Journal, telling how to organize book clubs in small communities, says that one successful club was started in a small country town of from 1,000 to 1,500 inhabitants, in which there was no public library of any kind. Its charter members numbered 17. Each member, except one, who was chosen secretary and gave service instead of money, paid into the general treasury five dollars a year. With the sum so raised the club was able to subscribe for 17 periodicals, weeklies and monthlies, and to buy from 17 to 34 books chosen in general from among the new publications.

MALICIOUS GOSSIPS.

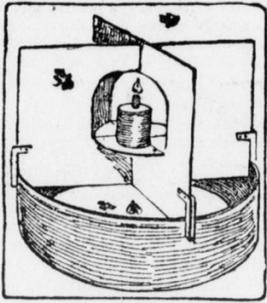
They are a Constant Menace to the Peace of the Community in Which They Live.

Habitual gossips ought to be shunned as well as despised. They are so dangerous that one is afraid to accept even their offers of assistance in domestic affliction lest they violate the sanctities of the sick chamber. In their presence no one feels safe. Even though people may never think of believing what they say, they are a disturbing element in any community, and every true person dreads them as the coils of a viper, even though the bite may have been rendered harmless. Falseness is loathsome, and a relief is felt when men get away from it. It is needless to say that such persons are more open to criticism than anyone else, and that the faults and foibles they charge upon others are the best indicators of their own besetting sins. In nine cases out of ten, they criticize most severely that fault in others which is peculiar to themselves. Uncharitable remarks about the character and conduct of others, or even about their dress or taste—words often so unkind and wounding—might in 99 cases out of 100, be applied with more justice to the person uttering them than to those in regard to whom they are uttered; and, as a general thing, sensible, observant people see this, and attach but little importance to their slander. Why people delight in commenting upon the faults of others, even if they are conspicuously apparent, is a question that can be answered only on the ground of perverted human nature, which is prone to hate its neighbor; but such persons help to add to the sorrows of the world, and inflict misery upon themselves. The difficulty is one that concerns personal character. The man's own inward spirit rather than the foibles of his fellows, is what is to be corrected.—N. Y. Weekly.

PATENT MOTH TRAP.

A Clever Little Device in Whose Success Almost Every Housekeeper is Interested.

The affinity of the moth for the flame is well known, and this inordinate love is utilized in the device illustrated herewith to exterminate the insect. A metallic receptacle is provided which has the sides sloping toward each other at the top. On this receptacle are placed two plates of



A TRAP FOR MOTHS.

tin or other polished metal, provided with slots, which allow them to be set at right angles to each other, supporting a small lamp on the shelf formed at the center. The receptacle underneath is partially filled with water and a small quantity of coal oil is placed on the surface to kill the moths or other insects which, attracted by the bright flame and the numerous reflections on the surface of the tin, will circle around the apparatus until they strike against one of the reflectors, falling into the liquid. The slanting sides prevent the insects from falling out, and the oil soon puts an end to their existence. When the room has been cleared the lamp and reflectors are lifted off the basin and the contents thrown out. A patent on this device has been granted to Seward A. Haseltine, of Springfield, Mo.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Sweet Potato Croquettes.

Bake sweet potatoes until they are tender; then scoop out the centers and put them through a vegetable press. To each two cups of mashed potatoes allow a tablespoonful of butter, a level teaspoonful of salt, a tablespoonful of sugar and a half teaspoonful of white pepper; mix thoroughly. Form into cylinders, dip in egg, then in bread-crumbs and fry in smoking-hot fat.—Ladies' Home Journal.

A Hint Worth Remembering.

In making up pillows of pine needles a little curled hair added will keep the needles from matting and render the pillows more comfortable.

For the Liver.

Stubb—What are you doing with these digestive tablets?
Penn—I am going to take them for the liver.

Stubb—Digestive tablets for the liver?
Penn—Yes; for the liver I get every morning. You know I am boarding now.—Chicago Daily News.

Grateful.

"My dear," said Mr. Sirius Barker, "that box of cigars you bought me has resulted in great benefit. I want to thank you for them more earnestly than I did at first."
"Did you enjoy them?"
"No. But I'm better off. They made me realize what a terrible habit smoking can become."—Washington Star.

She Thought Otherwise.

Ada—Here is a professor that objects to coeducation because much time is lost in flirting.
May—Goodness! Does he consider that an objection?—Puck.



CORN SMUT DESCRIBED.

Little Evidence is at Hand to Prove That It is Injurious or Dangerous to Stock.

Prof. Plumb, in his work on Corn Culture, says: Smut, as seen by the farmer, is either a distorted, greenish-white piece of vegetable tissue, or a mass of black greasy powder, which generally appears breaking out from an ear of corn or from the leaf or stalk when green or succulent. The source is a simple, tubular, minute plant, too small to be seen by the naked eye. It grows in the tissues of the



SMUT BREAKING OUT ON AN EAR OF CORN.

corn plant, and feeds upon its juice. These little plants, of which there are vast numbers, branch out in tubular form when they find a spot in the corn plant that is especially nourishing. Then, inside these tubes, minute bodies termed spores (seeds) develop, and finally the spot becomes a mass of these, and then all of the little plants except the spores wither away. The dark-colored, loose smut, is mostly the mass of spores, of which there are countless numbers.

Smut is generally thought by farmers to be injurious to stock, yet but little satisfactory evidence is at hand to prove that such is the case, as it is commonly eaten.

HIRE-HELP PROBLEM.

Its Solution Puzzles Western Farmers as Well as Housekeepers in the Large Cities.

It is the hired-help problem that I have not yet been able to solve. I have to pay good prices. Day hands have commanded \$1.50 a day right along this summer, and it is mostly unreliable help at that. So if I desire to reap any profits on their labor at ordinary prices of produce I have to look after them pretty closely, and if possible work with them right along. I contracted to have my corn cut at \$1.50 an acre rather than pay \$1.50 a day. The corn was heavy, but the man cut five acres in about 3 1/2 days. At day wages it would have taken him five or six days to cut that number of acres. Years ago, I remember, when we had hands cradling and binding grain or digging potatoes, the practice was to "race" it; that is, to see who could cut or bind his swath or dig his row of potatoes the quickest. It kept everyone on the move, and the work progressed at a good rate. The employer never had reason to find fault with his men for idling or shirking. Every hand was ready to give his best service, and the "racing" feature seemed to be a great stimulus; indeed, rather an enjoyment. But times seem to have changed. Many of the helpers of the present day work only for what they can get out of the job.—Farm and Fireside.

FACTS FOR FARMERS.

It is easier to start right than to get right after having been wrong.

A farmer's back yard affords an index of the man's farm life and habits.

Horse manure, land plaster and road dust are good absorbents in the cow stable. They take up the liquid and also prevent escape of nitrogen.

A dose for skunks which settles them surely is made by mixing strychnine with the contents of an egg and placing it inside the shell. Take care that only the right animal gets the bait.

Gasoline engines are being used to quite an extent in Ohio. The cost of operating is much less than for steam. There is less danger than from steam and no time is wasted in getting up steam.—T. B. Terry, in Farm and Home.

How to Figure Profit.

The larger the crop per acre the lower the cost and the greater the profit. It has been shown that, including labor, interest on capital, wear of implements, etc., a crop of 15 bushels of wheat per acre costs about 48 cents per bushel. With the same labor a crop of 30 bushels will cost 27 cents per bushel. There may be no profit at all on 15 bushels, while 30 bushels per acre may give a fair profit, much, however, depending on the market prices, the farm and distance from market.

When the Pig Has Worms.

The following simple remedies may safely be tried where worms prove troublesome: Fluid extract of spigelia and senna in equal parts, given in half-ounce doses every four hours until it causes purging. Turpentine in milk, from one to twenty drops, three times a day. Tobacco boiled down to a strong decoction in water, given in teaspoonful doses, three days in succession. All these doses are for full-grown animals.—The Cable.

Nothing Better can be had for use in the shop, factory or family than Palmer's Lotion, the great cure for every form of disease, or injury, that can be reached by an external application. A short time ago Messrs. N. H. Shearer & Co., who sell and retail druggists of York, Pa., write: "We consider Palmer's Lotion one of the best preparations we sell and we do not hesitate to recommend it." No home or place of business should be without this wonderful remedy for use in case of accident. If your own druggist does not have it don't buy anything else, but send to Solon Palmer, 374 Pearl St., New York, for free samples of Palmer's Lotion and Lotion Soap.

Detested.

"You have not gone to Europe, then, as you expected," said Mrs. Fosdick to Mrs. Spriggs.
"No," was the reply. "It is so difficult for Mr. Spriggs to leave his business, and I really couldn't go without him. And, then, remove the other day about a ship that broke her record. Think how dreadful it would be to be on a ship in the middle of the ocean with her record broken."—Detroit Free Press.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, Lucas County.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the city of Toledo, Ohio, and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of One Hundred Dollars for each and every case of catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1898.
A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.
Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Extenuating Circumstances.
Tenderfoot—Did you folks lynch the man who stole the automobile here last week?
Cactus Charlie—Nope. We intended to, but an investigating committee made some experiments and concluded that the citizenry would instead of 'takin' it, 'gittin' away with it.—Baltimore American.

Time to Go South.

For the present winter season the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company has improved its already nearly perfect through service of Pullman Vestibuled Sleeping Cars and elegant day coaches from Cincinnati, Louisville, St. Louis and Chicago, to Mobile, New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, Thomsen, Jacksonville, Jacksonville, Tampa, Palm Beach and other points in Florida. Perfect connections made with steamer lines for Cuba, Porto Rico, Nassau, West Indian and Central American Ports. Tourist and Home Seekers' excursion tickets on sale at 100 cents. Write to C. L. Stone, General Passenger Agent, Louisville, Ky., for particulars.

Not That Kind.

Angry Politician—Look here, I've a good mind to have you arrested for libel! What do you mean by picturing me as you have?
Cartoonist—But the picture looks like you.
"I know it does! I know it does! But do I look like a man who likes to look like himself?"—Modern Society.

Best for the Bowels.

No matter what ails you, headache to a cancer, you will never get well until your bowels are put right. Cascarets help nature, cure you without a gripe or pain, produce easy natural movements, cost you just 10 cents to start getting your health back. Cascarets Candy Cathartic, the genuine, put up in metal boxes, every tablet of C. C. stamped on it. Beware of imitations.

Defensive—"Just look at that garden, David; look at those weeds!" "Well, what's the matter with that? Ain't they thrifty?"
—N. O. Times-Democrat.

Coughing Leads to Consumption.
Kemp's Balsam will stop the Cough at once. Go to your druggist today and get a sample bottle free. Large bottles 25 and 50 cents. Go at once; delays are dangerous.

Strictly speaking, of course a man can't be ready to die for two different girls with one leading a double life.—Detroit Journal.

I do not believe Piso's Cure for Consumption has cured nearly as many colds.—John F. Boyer, Trinity Springs, Ind., Feb. 15, 1900.

Love has even been known to fly out of the window, just with a man at the door having difficulty finding the keyhole.—Detroit Journal.

The Public Awards the Palm to Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar for coughs. Pike's Toothache Drops Cure in one minute.

Mrs. Wunder—"We never hear of any women train robbers." Mr. Wunder—"And yet the ladies are always holding up trains."—Baltimore American.

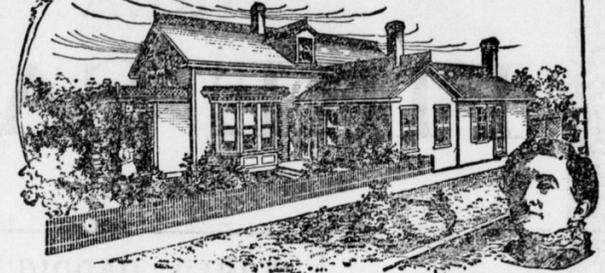
The stomach has to work hard, grinding the food we crowd into it. Make it work easy by chewing Berman's Pepsin Gum.

No man is great whose aims are small.—Ram's Horn.

THE MARKETS.

New York, December 15.
Flour—Minnesota patent \$3.95@4.20.
Wheat—No. 2 red 76 1/2c.
Corn—No. 2 45c.
Oats—No. 2 white 31c.
Beaves—Steers \$4.10@3.40. Veals \$4.00@3.25.
Sheep—Lower at \$2.50@4.25, lambs \$5.00@6.25.
Hogs—Firm at \$5.25@5.40.
Cleveland, Dec. 15.—Flour—Winter wheat, patents, \$4.20@4.40.
Wheat—No. 2 red 76c.
Corn—No. 2 yellow 40 1/2c.
Oats—No. 2 white 27 1/2c.
Butter—Best creamery 26 1/2c.
Cheese—York state 12@13c.
Eggs—Best 27c.
Potatoes—Best grades 45@48c.
Cattle—Choice steers \$4.80@5.25, light \$4.00@4.25, calves \$6.00@6.50.
Sheep—Good \$3.75@4.00, best lambs \$5.40@5.50.
Hogs—Yorkers \$5.00.
Toledo, Dec. 15.—Wheat—Cash 76c. Corn—Cash 37 1/2c. Oats—Cash 23 1/2c.
East Liberty, Dec. 15.—Cattle—Extra steers \$5.40@5.65.
Sheep—Choice lambs \$5.60@5.85, sheep \$4.10@4.25.
Hogs—Heavy \$5.10.
East Buffalo, Dec. 15.—Cattle—Demand moderate; calves \$7.50@7.75.
Sheep—Choice to extra lambs \$5.75@5.90, sheep \$3.75@4.15.
Hogs—Heavy \$5.15, pigs \$5.15@5.20.
Cincinnati, Dec. 15.—Hogs—Easy at \$3.75@4.92 1/2.

MRS. BREWER RECOMMENDS PERUNA FOR GRIP AND FEMALE CATARRH



The Home of Mrs. Lizzie M. Brewer at Westerly, R. I.

In a letter to Dr. Hartman concerning the merits of Peruna, Mrs. Brewer writes, among other things:

"Dear Dr. Hartman—I find Peruna a cure for all catarrhal affections so common in this part of the country. It cures a cold at once. There is no cough medicine that can at all equal Peruna. As for the gripple, there is no other remedy that can at all compare with Peruna.

"I am among the sick a great deal in our city and have supplied many invalids with Peruna, simply because I am enthusiastic in my faith as to its results. I have never known it to fail to quicken and permanently remove that demoralized state of the human system which follows a gripple.

"In all cases of extreme weakness I use Peruna with perfect confidence of a good result. In cases of weakness peculiar to my sex I am sure that no other remedy can ap-

proach in good results the action of Peruna. It meets all the bad symptoms to which females are subject. The irregularities and nervousness, the debility and miseries which afflict more or less the women from girlhood to change of life, are one and all met and overcome by this excellent remedy. I wish every young lady in our city could read your book.

"Mrs. Lizzie M. Brewer."

Peruna will cure the worst cases of catarrh. La gripple is acute epidemic catarrh, for which Peruna is a specific.

Mrs. J. W. Reynolds, New Lisbon, Ohio, suffered for many years with chronic catarrh of the lungs, head and throat; continuous cough; many physicians failed to cure. Permanently cured by Peruna. Thousands of testimonials could be produced. A valuable treatise on catarrh sent free by The Peruna Medicine Company, Columbus, O.

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5. An average of over a hundred timely pictures to the number.

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