

### SHOULD HE COME BACK.

(Translation from Masterlinck.)  
 "Should he come back this way  
 To seek your gate?"  
 "Tell him how each long day  
 I did but wait."  
 "And should he question still,  
 Knowing me not?"  
 "Pity, as sisters will,  
 His grievous lot."  
 "And if he ask your place?  
 How speak the thing?"  
 "Give him (and turn your face)  
 My golden ring."  
 "And if he quest the damp,  
 Dull dwelling o'er?"  
 "Show him the lightless lamp,  
 The open door."  
 "And if his heart ask wild  
 How tell your sleep?"  
 "Then tell him that I smiled,  
 Lest he should weep."  
 —Agnes Lee in *The Bookman*.

I felt proud and happy to play the cavalier to my lovely acquaintance. Of course, no conversation was possible on account of the rattling of the wheels. The widow talked exclusively with her friend, but often looked at me with an enchanting smile. From time to time she raised her voice to ask me if I did not wish to turn back, and when I declared that no power on earth could induce me to leave them until they had reached their destination she blushed and seemed pleased, which completely turned my head.

When we arrived at Dreux M. Berlot, of course, invited me to luncheon. Her friend was present at the meal, but left us afterward. Then, partly to start the conversation, partly because I really longed to hear her play, I reminded Mme. Berlot of her promise of the evening before. She at once declared herself ready to comply with my wish and preceded me to the drawing room. Then she took pains to insure my comfort.

I was at sit in a large armchair, and when the coffee was brought she put it on a small table at my side. She remarked, smiling, that it was plainly written in my face how much I longed for a smoke, and brought me an expensive Havana. As she offered it to me with her beautiful, aristocratic fingers, I lost my head. I seized one of her hands and pressed a passionate kiss upon it. When I refused to let the hand go, she gave me a slight tap with the other, then, in confusion, she fled to the piano and began to play.

She played on for more than an hour—played excellently, classic and modern compositions, and perhaps her own improvisations among them. My glance rested on her; sometimes I closed my eyes in the ecstasy of listening to the music. I smoked my splendid cigar, while enchanting dreams of the future passed through my brain. Then something happened which I can never forget.

It is always my habit to lunch lightly. My new friend, however, had set before me a rich repast, and physically exhausted as I was, I went to sleep during a wonderfully soft pianissimo. That is the awful truth.

When I again opened my eyes her place at the piano was empty, and I was alone in the room. My only thought was flight. My cap was in the hall and my wheel was leaning against the stairs. At the speed with which I fled I could have won a race.

### QUEER INDUSTRIES.

#### Alligator Farms, Elk Pastures, Skunk Ranches and Leech Ponds.

It was not until the buffaloes were practically extinct that it became generally known that "buffalo robes" were exceedingly warm and desirable. Whalebone has, of course, increased in price with the development of the methods of hunting. The story of ivory and elephants is much the same. Now comes a story from Florida that a number of French dealers are on the way to the Southern swamps to secure a supply of healthy young alligators for breeding purposes. It is proposed, according to a Florida authority, to establish in the south of France a farm for the propagation of the saurians. Alligator skin is made into leather that seems to strike the French aesthetic taste as the nearest for all forms of ornamental work, as well as for bags and shoes.

It is not generally known, perhaps, that a number of industries quite as queer as alligator farming have been established in this country. A Vermont man is said to make \$4,500 a year raising elk, and a New York newsboy a number of years ago went West and in time had an extensive elk pasture at the foot of the Rocky Mountains. He got customers from the owners of game preserves all over the country, and found it difficult to supply the demand. The man who proposes to establish a skunk ranch in the South said of his plan: "The skunks feed upon anything so long as it is good, but they like grasshoppers better than anything else. After being killed and skinned the skunk is roasted over a slow fire for its oil. This usually sells for \$5 a gallon to druggists. The black skins fetch about \$1.25. A skunk will yield from one to three pints of oil. The average is about a quart." The leech farmer has no such cheerful word. It is true that leeches feed upon "anything so long as it is good," but they have decided that few things are good. In spite, therefore, of the fact that a fine, hungry leech has a good market value, there are only five farms where they are cultivated in the country.—*New York Post*.

#### A Russian Heroine.

The doughty deeds of a brave Russian girl, who on close acquaintance proves to be a Karaim Jewess, are graphically reported from Mukdun. This courageous Hebrew, who is only 20, dresses as a man, calls herself Michael Smolko and has played a brilliant and helpful part as scout and dragoon. Recently, when some specially dangerous work was necessary, and qualified military men were called upon to volunteer, she was the first to offer her services and reconnoiter the Japanese position in the forest. On June 21 she headed a small party of Cossacks and not only obtained information needed by the Russian commander, but successfully drove back a large number of cattle which, having been looted by the Japanese, were being taken to their camp by Chinese auxiliaries.

At the University of Heidelberg the first woman student of theology was regularly matriculated this year.

### COURTESY AT SEA.

#### An Impressive Experience When Ships Exchange Salutations.

The passing of two vessels within speaking distance in mid-ocean is always an impressive experience. Even the most indifferent of travelers must feel a thrill at the exchange of salutations in such circumstances. The account of such a meeting, told by a sailor on the United States training ship Hartford, and reported in the *New York Tribune*, is of more than ordinary interest. The Hartford, Farragut's old flagship, was ten days out from Madeira. Supper was over and the crew, 500 strong, were enjoying the leisure hour in the soft light of the full moon, when a full-rigged ship was sighted, every stitch of canvas set. She was bound to cross close in the Hartford's wake, but the thickening evening haze soon hid her from view.

Presently the watch officer cried out, "I saw a white light flash from where the ship ought to be!" We thought it might be the glint of the moon on her sails; but it appeared again, this time long continued and plainly visible, a signal of distress, a call for aid. Many were the conjectures as to what it could mean. Probably the crew were short of water, or someone was desperately ill and a surgeon was wanted from our steamer, or the vessel might have sprung a leak.

Without a moment's delay our captain ordered the helm to starboard. The great ship swung slowly about and bore down upon the stranger. Gradually the two vessels drew together until the lights shone clear and the outlines were well defined.

Now the order rang out, quick and distinct:

"Stand by to clear the lifeboat; make ready to lower!"

The approaching vessel was now close to our port bow, but we heard no hail.

"Try her!" ordered our captain. "Hail her with the megaphone."

"Ship ahoy! Can we be of any assistance?"

"No," came back the answer. "We did not know you were a man-of-war."

"We saw your light, and thought you signaled for help."

"No, thank you. We saw your light and bore down to assist if you needed help."

"No, thanks."

"Same to you."

"What is your nationality?"

"German."

Our ship struck up the German national anthem, while the sailors on the stranger gathered on her poop, gave us three rousing cheers, which were returned with good will by our boys, and our band played "Columbia," as the German squared on her course and passed on like a vision. But we followed her, and, running in under her stern, hailed her once more.

"We are the United States ship Hartford; what ship are you?"

"The Ariadne, of Bremen, bound home."

Our hand struck up "Die Wacht am Rhein," and with three more lusty cheers from the Ariadne and three more from the 500 throats on our ship, we parted, we to the west; she, with her great gleaming spread of canvas, toward the rising moon.

She had mistaken the electric lights of our band for distress signals, and we had thought the name of her answering light. Each had gone miles out of her course to aid the other.

#### How the House Happened.

"Yes," said Mr. Mutt, "it was rather odd, the way I came to rebuild my house. You see, Mrs. Mutt was in town one day and happened to buy a very handsome hall lamp—one of the kind that stands on the post of the stair banisters," and then, says London Tit-Bits, he went on to describe the development of the house:

"Well, as soon as she got the lamp home, we saw that it was too large for the style of stairs, so I had to get the carpenters to come in and widen them and put in new balustrades and posts, and set them over more toward the center of the hall. When that was done the hall didn't look like a hall at all, and I had to have the carpenters tear out the walls and make the old dining room into a new hall.

"Then, of course, the kitchen had to be torn away and rebuilt at the back of the house, so that the old kitchen would do for a sitting room, and there had to be a new dining room built to match the finish in the hall. And when things got so far we saw at once that we had to have a library off the hall, and then the veranda had to go to make room for the library, and my pet rose bushes came up to give a chance to build the new veranda.

"Well, to make a long story short, I had to remodel the second story to match the first, and put a third story on in order to take care of the rooms that were crowded out by the changes in the second. And so I had a new house all around."

"And was your wife pleased?"

"Only partly. You see, just on the last day when the carpenters had completed the third story and were finishing work on the whole job, one of them dropped his hammer through the skylight and it fell to the hall and smashed the lamp that had started the whole thing."

Both at Bonn and at Breslau new colleges for girls have been opened, offering a six-year course after graduation from the high school.

# IDEAS FOR THE FAIR ONES

#### BYRON'S OWN OPINION.

It would be rather interesting to know the date of a letter written by Byron's mother, which has lately been offered for sale. In it she says that her son has "no opinion of his talents." "I had a letter from Byron yesterday, and he abuses himself worse than the Edinburgh Reviewer. He says if I have any regard for him I never will mention his poetry to him more, as he wishes to forget it; as a school boy it was well enough, but as a man he has done with it—forever."

#### OUR BOYS SHOULD LEARN.

To laugh; to run; to swim; to be neat; to make a fire; to be punctual; to do an errand; to cut kindlings; to sing, if they can; to help their mothers; to hang up their hats; to respect their teachers; to hold their heads erect; to sew on their own buttons; to wipe their boots on the mat; to speak pleasantly to older persons; to put every garment in its proper place; to remove their hats upon entering a house; to attend strictly to their own business; to be as kind and helpful to their sisters as to other boys' sisters.

#### SIMPLE NEEDLEWORK.

Here is a suggestion for ornamenting a white cambric shirtwaist which looks quite elaborate, but is not difficult to manage. Draw or trace a life-size butterfly on white paper. Cut it out, pin it on a shirt front that has been tucked a short distance from the neck, and with a pencil draw its outline on the muslin. Then cut out the material and lay under it a piece of point d'esprit, and with a narrow wash braid turn in and cover the edges of the muslin. The body of the butterfly can be embroidered with linen floss and the markings of the wings put in with a darning stitch. As many butterflies can be inserted as desired, and they can be of different sizes, thereby adding to the effect.

#### WHEN GIRLS SHOULD WED.

What is the ideal age for a girl to marry? Twenty-six years, Edwin Warfield, Governor of Maryland, told a class of sweet girl graduates the other day. "I do think," he said, "that many lives are made failures by persons marrying before their characters have been formed. You know 'whom first we love we rarely wed.' This is a very true saying. Young people are impressionable and romantic, and, if left to their own free will, are apt to rush into matrimony without properly considering the grave responsibilities of married life. Many cases have come under my observation where youthful and hasty marriages have resulted in unhappiness, discontent and lives of druggery. The old saying, 'Marry in haste and repent at leisure,' proves too often true. Young men and women should remember that the romantic attachments of youth are not generally lasting.

"I would not wish to be regarded as laying down iron-clad rules concerning the exact age when a girl should marry; it might be at 22, 24, 25 or 26 years—it all depends upon the physical and mental development of the girl. I meant rather to indicate that a girl should not marry until she was over 21 and of an age to comprehend the responsibility of the marriage state and to make an intelligent choice of the man whose companionship will be either a help or a hindrance to her life."

#### AS TO THE DRESS WAIST.

The prophecy has been made that dress waists will be more popular next fall than tailored shirtwaists. The former are prettiest made of some dainty material, lace, allover net, crepe de chine, or Liberty chiffon. In the allover lace the point de Paris and the new Valenciennes seem to be most favored. Point d'esprit and bobinette come in this class, and both bid fair to be frequently seen made up in the dressy waist. A pretty effect is given when these thin stuffs are made on foundations of contrasting color.

According to an authority: "With the printed nets, black grounds with trailing motifs in colors, pink, green, blue or violet, the illuminating silk would be of pale pink or coral, reseda green, wistaria or old blue, with an outside suggestion of color at the throat, the girle or life waist."

Taffeta waists will not be left out of the wardrobe for the autumn of 1904. Plain colors will stand before checks or stripes in popularity, although the two latter will be used as trimming to a noticeable extent. Narrow, fancy silk braid is also counted upon as a trimming accessory.

Two materials which are pretty certain to be revived are moire and brocades. They are most appropriate in these days of "Louis tendencies," and are certainly charming made with yokes of lace, girles and sleeves with puffs on sleeves at the elbow.

#### THINGS SHE SHOULD KNOW.

To care for milk and make good butter.

To sweep a room and never neglect the corners or the spaces behind the doors.

To make the beds fit for a king to sleep in.

To read and enjoy the papers of the week, especially those published for farmers.

To get ready for company if mother is away from home or unable for any reason to do it herself.

To read and speak in public if called upon.

To be well enough posted in the everyday doings of the world to talk or write about them whenever necessary.

To read good books and to know them when she sees them.

To milk a cow if help is short or work progressing.

To harness a horse and drive it anywhere.

To write a letter and sign her name to it so that no matter who receives it she may have no doubt who his correspondent is.

To keep her own room in order.

To tell a man when she sees him and waste no time with those who are not worthy the name.

To make a good home for some man.

#### THE WAY SOME GIRLS EARN MONEY.

Many girls who are educating themselves look to summer as the time when they must earn most money. One finds at numerous resorts waitresses and housemaids recruited from this class of young women.

For girls who cannot leave home both summer and winter (summer for work and winter for study), these hints from Harper's Bazar may be found useful:

Often the mother of a family of children cannot afford to take a nurse into the country with her, paying both board and wages, who would be thankful to pay a nice, intelligent girl to relieve her of the care for a few hours each day. If the girl wanting work lives near (within walking or bicycling distance) a country hotel or boarding house, all she would have to do would be to explain her willingness to do such work to the manager and get permission to put up a written card in the office, giving her address and qualifications.

Another employment would be to sit with and read to or amuse an old person or invalid, thus leaving the family and friends free.

One clever girl earned several hundreds of dollars last summer by announcing that she would do mending, pressing and delicate lace washing. She had all that she could do. The mending varied from the three-cornered tear in the small child's frock to gloves and lace waists; the pressing from a boy's tumbled sailor suit to the most delicate chiffon gown, and the delicate washing from cobweb handkerchiefs to lace boas! All this work was done at home, but this year the hotel management, realizing the convenience to their guests, have rented her an office in the building and she has someone to help her beside.

Girls who are clever in putting up fruit can often secure many orders from summer visitors, and home made cakes find a ready sale to boarders tired of the monotony of even the best hotel fare.

#### FASHION NOTES.

Girdles of taffeta are platted or shirred to fit the curves of the figure. Taffeta sunshades are frilled their entire surface with tiniest ruffles.

Quaint porcelains—for instance, a white ground sprigged with tiny rose clusters on a lattice of little gray dots—are French fancies copied from old designs.

Piques make simple little frocks for very small girls, and the one piece Russian dress is in favor.

The most popular fad which has struck New York for many years is the wearing of colored spats.

Something really quite new, which has come to us from Paris, is to line your little Eton jacket with chiffon instead of silk.

A pongee petticoat will be found of greatest service for morning wear. These petticoats are light, but have sufficient body to be worn with comfort, shed the dust as well or better than brilliantine, launder perfectly and wear extremely well.

A hat made of coarse brown straw is trimmed with a leather peacock feather. The hat is in sailor shape. Around the low crown is a stitched band of leather and on the left side a handsome peacock feather made of leather and painted in the natural colors.

Vest effects, both for simple and elaborate styles of tailor gowns, are going to be very popular the coming season.



#### TO AIR THE CELLAR.

When cellars become musty or foul and odors are noticed the best thing to do is to close all the doors and windows and burn enough sulphur to fill the cellar room with dense fumes. Leave it closed for an hour or two, and then open the doors and windows. Next whitewash the walls and ceilings with two coats of good white-wash. Sulphur gas is heavy and settles, hence care must be used to agitate the air in the cellar by selecting a windy day for the work. Sulphur fumes will destroy all kinds of germs.

#### SOME HELPFUL HINTS.

Much labor may be saved in washing frying pans if they are wiped out clean with a piece of paper after the fat is poured from them, before they are put in the dish water. The paper should then be burned. These pans should also have a perioric boiling in soda water in a large kettle. If these two things are done they will be kept as smooth inside as when new.

To Remove Scorch Marks—Bake an onion, then squeeze out the juice and mix it with an ounce of fuller's earth, a glassful of vinegar and a small quantity of shredded soap. Heat together till the soap has melted, leave till cold, and then apply to the scorched linen. Let it dry on and then wash in the usual way.

Scented Handkerchiefs—To give handkerchiefs a faint scent of violets, hold them in water to which a little piece of orris root has been added.

#### FOR THE HOUSEKEEPER.

One of the handy things to have about the house is an emergency bag. This is really a collection of pockets, or wall bag, tacked on the wall in some convenient place, or on the inside of a closet door. In one of the pockets put all the old, soft, worn linens; another may contain ordinary cotton batting; another, coarser cloths and bandages; in another may be a roll of absorbent cotton, and so on, with a pocket for buttons, darning cotton, patches or other articles that are constantly being called for. Bits of cord, string from the grocer's packages, a rolled quantity of strips, a paper of sticking plaster and many other things will find a corner there, and will save many a weary hunt, in case of accident, or other need.

A knife rack is a thoroughly useful thing to have in the kitchen. Take a board about four inches wide and twenty inches long, held by two brackets of wood or iron. Drill holes with a gimlet along both sides of the board about an inch apart, and place in pairs. The wood between each pair of holes is cut away with a keyhole saw, and the edges of the slots thus formed are smoothed with sandpaper. Then fasten the board on its brackets. The slots are to hold the blades of the knives, and support the handle. A companion piece to this is a spoon-bar. This is made of a strip of wood a foot long and two or three inches wide. This may be fastened to the wall with screws, or hung upon hooks with eyes, or fastened to brackets. At suitable distances along the strip, put in small hooks, and on these hang spoons, cook forks, ladles, etc. Do not hang two things on one hook. If one board is likely to be crowded, make another.

One of the nicest materials for dish cloths, is a cheap grade of cheese cloth—two or three cents a yard, in the department stores; it does the work well, and does not hold the grease or gather the scum from the dishwasher, and can be easily washed clean and dried in the sun. It is cheap enough to admit of burning when it shows too much sign of usage. The cloth when new does not dry well but serves for a wash cloth admirably. It is also serviceable for the toilet and the bath.

#### RECIPES.

Minced Meat on Toast—Prepare the toast, arrange on a hot platter and keep hot; remove gristle, fat, etc. from cold, cooked meat; chop the meat very fine, measure it and put it into a saucepan; add one-half cup of gravy for each cup of meat; season to taste with salt, pepper and, if liked, with fine chopped or grated onion, or a few drops of onion juice, or a little peppery sauce; grated nutmeg may be added to lamb or mutton if liked; place saucepan over the heat and stir until meat is heated; pour over hot toast and serve at once; the toast may be buttered or not, as preferred.

Broiled Tomatoes—This is especially easy to do over a gas fire, but can be done over coals. Select fresh, firm tomatoes, wash, dry and cut into thick slices, leaving the skin on to hold them together. Heat and grease the broiler, lay on the sliced tomatoes, salted and peppered, and broil quickly. Season with a little butter and serve while hot. A variation is afforded by sprinkling with cheese while broiling.

Chocolate Sandwiches—Moisten unsweetened, grated chocolate with sweet cream; sprinkle with powdered sugar, and fill in bread cut round.

Chocolate Wafers—Two-thirds cup butter, one cup powdered sugar, one-half teaspoon salt, one-half teaspoon cinnamon, two ounces grated chocolate, melted; one teaspoon baking powder, two tablespoons milk, two and one-half cups flour; roll out thin, using a little flour as possible, and bake in a hot oven.

First Baby—what are your parents like? Second Baby—Oh, they do pretty well for amateurs!