The Inn: An Old Epitaph. Post-haste we ride the road of men From shadow through to shade again, At that old inn yelept "The Earth." There some delay to dine and sup, While some but taste a stirrup-cup: And some have ease and ample fare, And some find little comfort there. His score is large who bides a day; Who soonest goes hath least to pay. -Arthur Gulterman, in the New York Times.

52525252525252525252525252525 Right across the wintry plains and desert stretches of Eastern Europe, a woman was wandering alone, sometimes on foot, sometimes in a peasant's wagon, seldom resting by the way, for Nadia Seliedof had not much money, but she had a certain object which she kept unflinchingly in view -to join her husband, who was under going a long sentence in the Siberian mines.

Karl Seliedof's crime was a simple ture, and had written a book-only a breathe the hateful word of liberty, and for this helnous fault he had been consigned to a felon's doom.

He was all Nadia had in the world; not allow herself to be utterly stricken down by the blow when they took him away from her. No; she set about | mine. at once devising ways and means to obtain his freedom.

lady named Princess Nariskine, who was said to possess much influence haughty to her inferiors; but Nadla sought her, relying upon that universal and undefinable sympathy which did she rely upon it altogether in ing!" vain. Moreover, the princess had read and admired Selledof's work, and for its sake received the author's wife kindly and graciously.

bathed in grateful tears, "Nadia, believe me, you have all my sympathy. Whatever may lie in my power, I will last, when she had calmed down a do for you; but do not expect too much: I cannot promise success."

Many weeks-long, lonely, miserable weeks of expectancy-passed after this, and the wife of Karl Selledof received no news. At last the yearning to be near him again, and to whisper in his ear that there was hope for him, grew stronger and stronger day by day, until she could withstand it no longer; and then it was that she conceived and under dia!" took this terrible journey upon which She spoke and thought only of him, we find her, across the North Russian plateau, over the Ural Mountains, into the terrible land of exile.

The winter was already far advanced when she reached the little settlement on the banks of the river Savda, to which her husband had been consigned. She had by some means ascertained his number when ing, and wrapped in each other's arms he was sentenced, and by this indication she traced him out.

This time she avoided the un, the little village, and the peasants whose loving hearts were once more togethr. friendship she had hitherto sought to help her on the way. She would do nothing that should attract observation, nothing that might interfere with her purpose; so she made straight for the mines. But, strangely enough, now that she had almost reached her destination, her heart began to sink within her bosom. Suppose she could not find him. And if she did, and he were not pardoned, they would never allow her to remain there. Then how should she face that fearful journey back again, away from him?

The wild thought now entered her mind that she would defy the authorities; she would commit some crime; and then surely they would imprison her too. Ah,, yes; that would be something. She would perhaps be made to toil as he was tolling, be allowed to time while I go to work?" remain somewhere near him who was dearer to her than her own life and soul.

Such were the thoughts that passed stood by the mouth of an old, disused pit. The gray twilight shadows were darkened down, and snow was falling softly.

She shivered with the intense had become ragged and torn, and ex- out. posed her arms and feet to the wintry blast. The place was quite deserted; not ever a military guard had been posted there; but there was a basket attached to a windlass which had been used to descend the shaft. Withthat her weight would carry her down; but the rope was rotten, and she was instantly precipitated headlong into the black abyss.

away her consciousness, but it was dashing them full in his face. only for a moment, and then she was aroused by the shock of ice-cold him off, yelled out: water. She had plunged in it up to her neck, and was wildly struggling

for breath. In throwing out her hand, however, ing frantically, managed at last to threw herself over his prostrate form. drag herself out of the subterranean But at this moment there was some pool. She was now on dry ground, fresh stir and commotion. Several but endless difficulties still surrounded her.

It was pitch dark. Whither must she turn? She could not go back, for there was the water. The only thing to Karl Seliedof!"

ing her way by the walls of the plt. drenched to the skin and the wet could walk more freely. A little fur- of the good tidings. ther on, her feet touched something but drew away her hand again in horror as she felt the face of a man

dead! Evidently some unhappy prisoner who had perished there and been for- | Seliedof!" gotten. A wild cry broke from her lips, which, echoing through the dark cavern, frightened even herself, and brings pardon to a dead man!" she fled at full speed, like one pos-

sessed, away from that accursed spot. was his body! That thought froze the you shall live to repent it!" young blood in her veins. But it was one enough. He was of a gentle na- ily to the ground. She strove to rise, Out here Tchehatchief was all powernovel; but in it he had dared to ankle; it was so painful that she sank back again.

Then she looked about and began her that Seliedof was, indeed, dead. to realize her position, and that she could plainly distinguish surrounding native place,' she said. "Take the but she was a brage woman, and did objects. There was a wide opening poor lady to my carriage, and bid my here from above, and the silvery women see to her." moon shone clear and cold into the

A few feet from her there lay what Happily, poor Nadia had swooned appeared to be a bundle of rags, but, away, and was unconscious of all that In their neighborhood there resided on looking more closely, she could passed. part of the year a great and powerful distinguish the outline of a man lying on a bed of straw. She called faintly the Princess Nariskine as her friend, for help. The bundle moved. The at court. She was popularly supposed man came toward her. In that mo- and painful Illness-white-haired, a to be cold and proud to her equals, ment she knew him, though he was prematurely old woman now, a sad woefully changed.

"Karl!" should exist between all women; nor no, no! Heavens! I must be dream-

But he soon knew it was realty, for Nadia was locked in his arms, her face pressed close to his, covering his lips and sunken, bearded cheeks with "Nadia," she said, when the young kisses, weeping and laughing hysteriwoman was about to leave, her eyes cally, all in a breath, from the wildness of her joy.

"Oh, my poor love!" Karl said, at little, and lay upon his rude coucn; "how-why did you come to this fear-

ful place?" "The longing to be near you once more was more than I could bear. Besides, listen, I have good news to tell you. I went to the Princess Nariskine: she promised to intercede for you, and at any moment you may receive your pardon."

"My own brave, true-hearted Na-

not of her own perils and sufferings; but he soon found that her arms and feet were terribly lacerated, and her ankle so contused that she was unable to move.

With loving care he tended and soothed her, binding up her wounds with strips torn from his own cloththey lay, finding comfort and happiness in their misery, even in that world-forsaken place, since those two

The pale dawn was lighting up the sky when an officer and some armed guards descended the mine. "Come, No. 49," said the former,

roughly, "get to work." Seliedof rose obediently.

"Hello! what is this? Whom have

we here? A woman!" "It is my wife," the prisoner said. quietly, "who has come the breadth of Russia to see me.'

'That is a very pretty story, I must say: but she will have to clear out of here. Tramp, begone!"

Nadia strove to rise, but her ankle had swollen terribly, and she fell back exhausted.

"You see, captain, she cannot rise," Karl said, in beseeching tones. "Can she not remain here at least a little

"No," the chief answered, brutally. "We will soon find means to make her move;" and he made a sign to one of his attendants, who brought down his through Nadia's fevered brain as she great whip upon the poor woman's scantily protected shoulders.

A sharp cry of pain broke from her lips, which went right to her husband's heart and aroused the man in him which Russian despotism had cold, for on the journey her clothes been trying its very hardest to crush

"She is not your prisoner," he cried; "do not dare to touch her!" But the petty despot laughed a

laugh of conscious power, and the great lash was raised again, and feli on Nadia's back and naked arms, out hesitation she got in, knowing causing the blood to flow. This maddened Seliedof as all the tortures which had been inflicted on himself had never succeeded in doing, and, raising the heavy chains that bound The suddenness of the fall took his feet, he rushed upon the tyrant, The later drew back and, shaking

"Mutiny! Shoot him down!" One of his zealous myrmidons, drawing a pistol, fired, and Karl Seliedof fell lifeless to the ground, while more people were present and a calm, cold woman's voice from out of the Ireland.

gloom said: "I bring the Czar's gracious pardon

to be done was to go blindly on, feel- It was the Princess Nariskine, poses of navigation.

whose sympathy has assumed practi-But it was a terrible journey. Sho | cal shape. Having gained her point had lost her shoes in the pool, and at with the sovereign, she, had under-But rein, to breathe or tighten girth, every stop her naked feet were cut taken that terrible journey, traveling and torn by sharp stones. She was posthaste the whole width of the Russian Empire, for she full well knew skirts clinging to her legs impeded how tardy in delivery these rare, graher progress; so she took off her up- clous messages often were, and thereper garments, and found that she fore resolved to be herself the bearer

Those who were there knew her, soft and clammy. She stooped down, and uncovered their heads; but she wondered why there was so deep a silence-why no one answered her, covered with a grizzly beard, cold and and again she sald, more imperiously this time:

"I bring the Czar's pardon to Karl

"I fear Madame la Princesse is too late," the officer replied; since she

"I trust that is not so. You will see by this paper, Capt. Tchehatchief, What if this were the fate of Karl that you have fire! upon a free sub-Seliedof, too! Perhaps-perhaps this ject of the Czar, and, if he be dead,

The captain bowed, taking the dangerous to run thus in the dark- paper in silence; but he had turned ness. She had not gone many yards deadly pale. He read his doom in the ere she came in violent contact with dangerous glitter of her eyes. It was a huge projecting rock and fell heav- the grand, old philosophy of Swift. but must have sprained or broken her ful, but, beside the name and presence of Princess Nariskane, he had become a very pigmy. Then they told

"His body shall be buried in h.s

As Nariskine turned away there were tears in her bright, blue eyes.

From that day she remained with and when she recovered from a long emblem of Russian tyranny-it was a mercy that her memory was a "Nadia!" he cried; "you here! Oh, blank; a peaceful present and future; but her happy wifehood, her terrible journey, the Czar's pardon that came too late-all, all blotted out forever! -New York Weekly.

EVOLUTION OF THE KITCHEN.

Rapid Progress Made in Conveniences in Recent Years.

The evolution of the modern kitchen is just as interesting a story as that of the evolution of any other feature of present day life in enlightened countries.

It has come straight from the outdoor fire, just as modern dress has evolved from the blanket and loin. cloth of the savage.

When the Romans invaded Britain they found the inhabitants living in one room, partially underground. The cooking, however, was done mainly in the open air, as a matter of convenience. When it was done in the house the smoke and odor escaped through a hole in the roof, as it does in the huts of savages today. One of the greatest, most civilizing and most elegant inventions ever made was the fireplace, which brought the first semblance of modern decency, neatness and comfort into the home. The fireplace seems very old fashioned, yet the mother of the present writer, not a very aged woman, can remember when the first stove was brought into her home in Northern Vermont.

Later, as a young married woman, she possessed one of the first three lamps brought into St. Lawrence

County, N. Y. It was the middle ages before the kitchen had been raised to the dignity of an established apartment. Strange doings went on in those mediaevel kitchens. Butchers slaughtered animals there, which were skinned and dressed, as well as cooked, in the kitchen. The family blacksmith kept his fire there, and repaired the ploughs and wheels of the estate.

Coal began to be used as a kitchen fuel in 1245, though not generally for two hundred years after. The oven did not come into use until the year 1400, and then it was the old fashioned brick oven, which persisted for hundreds of years. The stove, when invented, took the place of the separate oven and the fireplace, with its spit, crane and hanging pots.-New requisite. York Tribune.

"No Rest in the Trade."

In the second act of a certain melo drama one of the actors, in the "role" of a poacher, was supposed to be killed. A rival poacher, after shooting him, ran off, and the curtain descended on the dead man lying alone in the center of the stage. The piece was being performed in a small coun- of paper beyond. Half an inch wide try town. At the end of the second act the victim was duly shot and the murderer as duly made his escapo. Something, however, went wrong with the curtain, and it did not descend. It came down to within seven feet or so of the stage, and there it stopped. Then whispers and frantic orders, given in low, hoarse voices, sounded from the wings. The audience tittered. Suddenly, the "dead" man rose weartly. He advanced to the footlights. "No rest, even in the grave," he said, in a sepulchral tone Then with his long, thin arms he the ribbion used; daisles require more she struck against a rock, and cling. Nadia, with a wild scream of anguish | reached up and pulled the curtain down .- The Independent.

The population of the island of Times. Pombay is twice that of Scotland and

France has 3,045 miles of canals and 4,665 of rivers improved for pur-



RAG CARPET REVIVED.

it an heirloom.

ed years ago. With all the fad for will have a shiny appearance. things old fashioned, the homely but To press sleeves use a sleeve of silk in the shape of fancy rugs. for the cuffs. Press sleeves on the but the real old fashloned carpet that right side also. It is wonderful how is woven of real rags, even if they the pressing will freshen even a wash it is woven of real rags, even if they dress; these, however, should be are without family and neighborly as pressed on the wrong side, using a sociations. This particular manufac damp cloth to rub over the creases turer uses samples of curtains and and then applying the iron directly upholsteries which have served their to the gown.-Washington Times. purpose as samples to make his rag carpets.

Some of them are woven with a striped effect, just as all the old fash- ize, add much character to a room. ioned ones were seen, the light and Like cushions and rugs and books dark stripes alternating with more or they give that delicious air of comless regularity, while others, showing fort so often lacking in the stately, the more elaborate results of modern | yet stiff drawing rooms of some of our machinery, are woven in checks modern homes, colors should contribute to the gen- fact is the utility of the shelf coneral cheerfulness of a room. For stitutes much of its beauty. housekeepers who have only bare People have become educated to floors and do not care for carpets, seeing bookshelves in a library or there are rugs made of this rag car- sitting room in perference to bookpeting, just as there are rugs made cases, for these always seem designed of every other conceivable kind of more as showcases for books and material for covering floors. These their buildings than to hold books are made in all the shapes and sizes ready for intimate use. Brooklyn Eagle.

WOMAN AND THE PROVERES.

a hood."

be sorry he lost the farthing."

good women in the world-one dead -Indianapolis News.

and the other can't be found." ry soon, wise men never."

In Fife they say: "The next best thing to no wife is a good wife." are women; deeds are men."

The Persian sage says that a woman's wisdom is under her heel." The German affirms that every

beautiful than good. The Corsican says: "Just as a good

the stick." The Hindoo: "A man is not obeyed above the head. by his wife in his own house, nor

dob proverb says: "Drive out a wom- grace and vigor in every motion delphia Inquirer.

HANDSOME EFFECTS IN COL-LARS.

Very handsome effects by way of collars and berthas may be produced from the new lace ribbon work at really the cost of very little time or trouble, compared with the result: neither is a great deal of skill necessary, neat sewing being the chief

A strikingly pretty collar of this description, to be worn with a black evening gown, was a deep bertha, shaped to fit the shoulders in tones of mauve. The pattern is first cut in tough brown paper, one quarter of an inch larger than necessary, then black satin ribbon, one third of an inch wide, is basted down to the paper all around, leaving the quarter inch green shaded ribbon forms the leaves. Loops of ribbons are cut the necessary length, the ends secured by a thread of green filoselle, then at the back of the leaf, within half in inch at the top, the ribbon is gathered across, when a leaf will be found to be formed. When there are in readiness, prepare the flowers. Those with points are made by turning the ribbons inward from left to right and from right to left. Five to eight will be required for these, according to the flower desired, and the width of petals, orchids less; the collar of the ribbon, of course, depending upon the flower to be formed .- Richmond

SPONGING GARMENTS

After a thorough brushing, sponging and pressing is recommended to restore cloth to its pristine beauty, especially if the garment has been tucks.

worn in the rain. After sponging al-And still another old fashion is be low the garment to become nearly ing revived. There has been a return dry before pressing. Never put a hot to favor of old clocks and bedsteads, iron on woolen cloth; always have tables and chairs and wall papers, a white cotton cloth that will not deuntil it seemed as though there was no posit lint, to place between the garaccessory to an old fashioned house ment and the iron. Wet right side that has not had its counterpart put of the garment to be pressed. With upon the modern market, with very a hot iron pass quickly over the white often a pretty story attached to prove cloth, removing it instantly and allowing the garment to steam. Do not There is one thing, however, that put the iron directly on the garment until very recently has remained in until it is dry, otherwise the print of the oblivion to which it was consign- the iron will be visible and the seams

structed until a short time ago, when by curving the corners of a piece of Rush, N. P. when by curving the corners of a piece of Rush, N. P. E. P. S. P. the venture. It is a real thing, too, about the same shape as the larger snow Shoe, E. P., Lawre not a paraphrase of rag carpet made ironing board; use the smaller end

> SHELVES SUPPLANT BOOKCASES. Shelves, as perhaps few of us real-

about two inches square. In red and | Many people do not take to the idea black and other colors producing a of shelves, associating the shelf with vivid contrast, these checks when the homely uses of the kitchen, the like Scotch plaid, and their bright pantry, and cellar, whereas the real

and patterns that could possibly be Fewer bookcases are sold nowa- 10 40 ... desired, with prices accordingly .- days than formerly, for everybody seems to appreciate the charm of the low book shelves built in around a room for occupying zom'e special The Spanish rhyme has it: "Were nook or corner in a bay window or a woman as little as she is good, a alcove. On the top of these shelves pea pod would make her a gown and one can always have plants, photographs, magazines, all the hundred An old English saying: "If a man and one little furnishings that add lose a woman and a farthing he will to the beauty of a room. The high corner book shelves are always good. The French adage: "A man of for they use space often otherwise straw is worth a woman of gold." | wasted, and this is an important fac-The German: "There are only two tor in these days of apartment houses

The Scotch say: "Honest men mar. KEEP YOURSELF IN CONDITION. To cure dyspepsia by means of exercise, try punching a bag. Suspend it at a convenient height from the The Abrabian declares: "Words | floor to permit of pounding it vigorously, after the manner of a prize flighter. You must wear gloves to protect your knuckles. Twisting the body around in both direction from daughter of Eve would rather he the waist is a good exercise for you. Leaning forward and then backward. The Persian asserts that women as far as possible, also to the right and dragons are best out of the world, and left, is good practice. Interlock the thumbs and with the knees and a bad horse both need the spur, straight, bend forward until the tips a good and a bad woman both need of the fingers touch the floor. Rise to an upright possition, with the arms

Besides curing your dyspepsia, does she consider him her husband these athletics should expand your unless he beats her." Another Hin- chest, put roses in your cheeks and an's nature with a pitchfork and it Don't say that you are too weak and will return again and again."-Phila- breathless to take exercise. This is a delusion. The weakness and the quick and short respiration arise from want of exercise. The less exercise one takes, the less one is fitted for and the more one needs it. Nerves will become disordered, the blood thick and sluggish and muscles will grow flaccid without exercise.

IN PLACE OF SHOE HORNS.

You've seen the girl who is at the mercy of a shoe horn, says the Philadelphia Bulletin. If she has lost or forgotten her own, she goes from room to room, seeking to beg, borrow or steal one, as if a pair of slippers might not actually be gotten on without a shoe horn.

Now, here is a pointer for her. If you can't get a shoe horn, use a spoon. That is what college girls do, and they find it just as convenient as the article designed for that purpose.

Not a teaspoon; but a tablespoon. Put the handle into the heel of a slipper and use it just as you do a shoe horn. When the shoe is on, the spoon handle really comes out easier than a shoe horn.

Of course, this is merely a substitute, but if there doesn't happen to be a shoe horn around, it's handy to know about the useful spoon.

FASHION HINTS.

Snakeskin is among the smartest leathers for the modish bag. Back and side combs come in sets with handsome shell, metal or jeweled

mountings. Much favor appears to attach to golden-brown, and to brownish-olive and olive-green.

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