

# A WOMAN COMPOSER.

Mrs. Florence McPherran of Chicago Is a Promising Musical Student. Mrs. Florence McPherran, a writer of catchy and melodious music, is one of the most talented women in Chicago. She began her musical studies at an early age, and from the time she was a child of six years it was her delight to improvise upon the planoforte. When she took up the study of harmony and composition later it became natural and easy, and she at once became ambitious to become known as a composer

Mrs. McPherran was educated in Chicago. She studied under the most noted teachers and today is considered



#### MRS. FLORENCE M'PHERRAN.

one of Chicago's talented amateur pianists. She has done a great deal of accompanying for public singers, but of late has given up her public playing and now devotes her entire time to writing music.

Her first composition was published but three years ago. It was a tone poem, "The Spinning Song," and at once became popular. The greater part of Mrs. McPherran's work is still in manuscript, and most of it which has appeared lately is of recent composition. Mrs. McPherran will undoubtedly be heard of in a larger way in the near future, and it would not be surprising If one day her name were placed upon the roll of famous women composers.

# Value of Good Stenographers.

The average office girl recently graduated from a "business college" is paid little enough, and the great majority of stenographers receive less than a living wage. The fact remains that they are usually paid all they earn. The ignorance and general inability of many of them is appalling. But this of guests, and its refinement radiates class, and it is a very large one, does not affect the condition of the superior class, without which it is difficult to say how the machinery of great business enterprises would work smoothly. Neither does it tend to lower wages. There are plenty of women stenographers in New York who receive \$25 a week; there are a few who command \$30 and more. They are highly educated, refined, and have a talent for affairs. Such women are constantly in demand. One of them is the secretary of a certain trust magnate. When he is interviewed by the newspapers it is through her. She knows what he wishes to say, and it is almost impossible for any one to get any expression from him. "Ask Miss Blank," he says. "She knows all about it." And she does know every detail of the great enterprises of which he is the head. Another woman is the principal stenographer of a large law firm. In the same office are a number of men clerks, graduates of law schools, intrusted with important legal work. They receive exactly half her salary. A first class stenographer is certain to receive good wages, whether she lives at home or elsewhere.

their best treasures "for company." Frequently the looked for company fail to appear at the time they are expected, and the things saved for their delectation are useless to any one else. Many a good woman who prides herself on her housekeeping has this fault, and no matter how many times she may be disappointed she never seems to learn the folly of keeping the best of everything for visitors. As a consequence the husband and children stand in mortal terror of using something that they have been taught is only for company. The best chairs are not to be sat in for fear they will look shabby or the springs be out of order when guests arrive. The best china must never under any condition appear at the family board for mere home use. The table linen is hoarded with care, and if no company ever appeared on the scene it would continue to rest undisturbed on the shelves of the linen closet until the trump of Gabriel's horn .-- Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

#### Tulle In Table Decoration.

The women of Canada have a unique way of decorating their lunch and dinner tables. Around the centerpiece of flowers or ferns they fluff a lot of tulle. They use pink, green, yellow or white to match the flowers, but usually white for dinner or for a bridal feast. The tulle is pulled out its full width, then crushed at intervals, upon which flowers are nestled. Sometimes a bit of soft colored silk is laid underneath the tulle to intensify the color scheme. Upon one occasion American Beauty roses formed the central decoration, while underneath pale pink tulle were scattered silk tissue roses, and in the center of each rose was a tiny incandescent light. Lilles of the valley and green ferns formed the end pleces, as it was an oblong table, and roses and lilles of the valley were at each cover, the roses for the ladies and the lilies for boutonnieres.

## The Art of Serving.

Many a good meal has been spoiled by the appearance of the table and the manner in which the viands themselves were served. The housekeeper should always bear in mind that the most frugal meal is made enjoyable if the table linen is neat and fresh and a small vase of flowers occupies the center of the board. Another important item is the arrangement of the dishes on the table. If they are piled on in a helter skelter way the table cannot help having a tumbled, mussy look. If things are put on neatly with some regard to their relative value to each other and the effect of the various dishes on each other the result will be of undoubted value to the mistress of the house.

#### The Charming Woman,

The power of the charming woman is almost infinite. She may not be witty or unusually intellectual or notably brilliant in conversation. Neither may she possess any marked talents, but she is always hospitable, her great gift being in meeting others with a gracious cordiality that wins and holds under its spell the best powers of all. To her home come a multitude to the ends of the earth. Her influence is an enviable one, exerted by sheer force of this one all prevailing quality and without necessarily having any of what the world calls accomplishments.



# No. 285.-Metagram.

1. Orange peel cut thin. 2. Pestilence. 3. Standard. 4. That which is left. 5. To put in possession. 6. To make sport. 7. In the highest degree. 8. A collection of boxes. 9. A point of the compass.

# No. 286 .- Dry Water.



A ring or coin is thrown into a basin filled with water. The performer announces that he will take the article out of the water without wetting his hand.

Solution: Get a few cents' worth of lycopodium powder and strew it over the surface of the water. The hand when being immersed will have to go through the layer of powder. The powder clinging to the hand forms a sort of water tight cover. As the powder is invisible at some distance the performer can show his band without fear of detection. The hand holding the object taken from the water will be absolutely dry.

This trick, if done with some cleverness, will not fail to be successful and entertaining .- New York Tribune.

#### No. 287 .- Double Rhymes.

The crowded \*\*\* had little \*\*\*\* She had, to \*\*\*, a pleasant \*\*\*\*\*. Her robe was \*\*\* a queen to \*\*\*\*\* She cared no \*\*\*\* the plot to \*\*\*\*\*. With fair face \*\*\* she watched the \*\*\*\*\* She did not \*\*\*\* away her \*\*\*\*. She often \*\*\*\* some dainty \*\*\*\* And used her \*\*\* in diverse \*\*\*\*.

#### No. 288 .- Additions.

Add a letter to a body of water and have a marine animal. Add a letter to twirl and have thorny.

Add a letter to a pungent spice and have cleft.

#### No. 289.-Riddle.

To my first there daily come Sounds of sorrow, sounds of mirth. My second holds small feathered folk, As in cradles o'er the earth. In my whole you never lie, For then e'en small things signify.

# No. 290 .- Double Acrostic.

My primals spell the title of a popular book, and my finals spell the surname of the author. Crosswords (of unequal length): 1.

Interchange of goods. 2. A temporary 3. A Biblical nam A round piece used in a game. 5, Anything preserved in remembrance. A measure of length. 7. A prefix signifying half. 8. The very same. 9. A guard

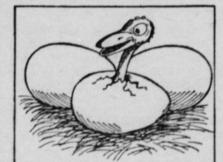


Have you ever seen a duckling? A duckling is a small duck, and they are the cutest, yellowest little things you ever came across, without a single feather, their little bodies being covered only with fine down, from which the feathers later grow.

There was once a duckling-not a very old one either; in fact, he had just got his head thrust through the shell of an egg and taken his first peep at the wide, wide world.

"My," he exclaimed, "isn't this grand to be able to leave this old shell and see the sights!"

"But," cried a spring chicken who was standing near, "you may not like



HIS HEAD THRUST THBOUGH THE SHELL. it after awhile. The rain may pour down and wet you as it did me the first day I was in the barnyard."

That gave the duckling something to think about. Presently he made up his mind as to what to do.

"I shall simply stay in my shell," said he. "When it rains I shall draw in my head, and if the water rises about me my shell will float like a boat."

Of course Master Duckling was very much pleased with his idea, and he drew in his head and went to sleep. While he slept a great storm came up, and the shell, instead of floating like a boat, sank in the water like a rock. Master Duckling was sure that he would drown before help could reach him.

"Come out of your shell!" cried a big duck, who was swimming about in the water.

Then the duckling, with a mighty effort, burst the sides of his shell and in a few minutes was paddling around as happy as he could be.

"Isn't it a shame," said he to himself, "that I did not have sense enough to come out of my shell before?"-Detroit Journal.

## Be Moderate.

A great writer tells us that "moderation is the inseparable companion of wisdom," and another writer says, "Moderation is the silken string running through the pearl chain of all virtues." When we try to do too many things at once we are unfitting ourselves for that practical usefulness which holds no overcrowded state of affairs. She is a wise woman who regulates her life to take upon herself no morê duties than she can attend to properly and successfully. She not only saves her health and her strength, but her work is satisfactory and her pleasures, though few, are thoroughly enjoyed. Indeed, there is no greater blessing than a well regulated life.

# Rusty Flatirons.

Rusty flatirons can be made clean and as smooth as glass by the use of beeswax and salt. The a lump of wax in a piece of cloth and keep it for the purpose. When the iron is hot rub it with the wax and then scour with a paper or cloth sprinkled with salt. Wax the iron again before putting it away, for the little film of wax will prevent the formation of rust.

#### Fainting.

A fainting fit often spreads consternation, but this is unnecessary. It is caused by the blood leaving the brain, and the patient must be laid down at once, with the head somewhat lower than the body. Sprinkle the face with cold water, hold smelling salts to the nose, and give a dose of aromatic spirits of ammonia, haif a teaspoonful in a wineglass of water.

The sun always has time to burn.

The fellow who never swears may still give a cursory glance.

Certain patrons, through negligence, or for peculiar reasons known to themselves, remove from one locality to another, without notifying this office. We are anxi-us to locate them so that they may receive their paper regularly and for other reasons, important to us. Any one who can furnish the present address of the following will confer a special favor. We give the former address: GEO. A. MILLER, Aaronsburg. J. C. SPRANKLE, Stormstown J. A. WHITEMAN, Ashtola, Pa. IRA ATRES, Gardean, Pa. E. F. GARDNER, HOWARD, Pa.

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#### Let There Be Light.

In and throughout the house there is an old, old saw, as good as it is old, that where the light seldom enters the physician often comes.

People who live in dark houses become sadly pale, anæmic, nervous and the first prey of diseases, for there is no life without air and there is no health without light.

We do not breathe with the lungs alone; we also breathe with the skin, whose capillary vessels circulate millions of blood corpuscles which are hungry for oxygen and whose millions of nerve filaments are thirsty for light.

When we cogitate a minute on the potency of light in the vegetable and animal worlds we are better able to understand how considerable must be Its influence on the growth, development and health of our noble selves.

Plants are bloodless without the light and fruits grown without the light never arrive at maturity.

"More light!" Goethe's words, have become a watchword in today's me lcines, and baths of light irradiating elther from Old Sol or from a giant electric jet are one of the latest successful physician's prescriptions.

But those who live in sunny rooms and flood their homes with fresh sunlight will not need to leave their own inglesides to go to the hospitals for sun baths which they might and should have at home.

"Kept For Company." There are still a few benighted bousekeepers who persist in keeping

#### Steadying the Table.

Every jar given my extension table caused it to spread apart, which was very annoying. To remedy this I got two brass hooks and eyes at the hardware store, screwed them on the under side of the table, booked them, and now it can be moved around and jarred with no danger of its opening and catching the tablecloth or anything else which happens to be there. Window catches may be used in the same way and are generally put on good tables by the makers. - Good Housekeeping.

# Comfort and Beauty.

There was a time when women thought they could not have pretty figures unless they were uncomfortable. Now all beauty doctors emphasize the fact that discomfort means ugliness. Comfort and health go hand in hand, and beauty is impossible without health. And physical discomfort, moreover, gives a strained expression to the face and tends to bring that bete noire of womanhood, wrinkles.

# A Tip on Cleaning Furniture.

Furniture which has been finished with shellac or varnish, whether in glossy or dull finish, should never be cleansed with soap or water. Soap is made to cut olly substances, and in the performance of the service for which it is made it eats the oil out of the waxed, olled or shellacked surface it touches and destroys it.

#### Curly Hair.

Many preparations for keeping the hair in curl are sold, but they are generally unpleasant to use, as they make the hair pasty and stiff. If it is possible to get on without curling, it is much better to do, so, as nothing looks more untidy than hair which is half out of curl.

Women are especially prone to put off making a will. They shrink from contemplating the possibility of their own demise. It is a great mistake and fruitful of trouble.

When walking don't throw the shoulders far back of the line of the hips and do not hold the arms rigidly at the sides.

A jewel rarest of all under the sun is the woman whose heart is warm and whose head is cool.

Don't have heavy curtains at bedroom windows. Let the sunshine pour plement. Presentiment. Detriment.

# No. 291,-Jumbled Quotations.

1. Eternal in springs breast the human hope.

2. Never but always blest man to be is.

#### No. 292 .- A Few Pets.

1. Part of a flower. 2. A long winged sea bird. 3. An inflammable liquid. 4. Foot stalk of a leaf. 5. A supplication. 6. Has become like stone.

# Not Meant For Blowing.

"What's the matter with the rhinoceros these days?" inquired the lion. "It's all on account of that conceited monkey who came back from the circus recently," replied the hyena. "He told the rhinoceros that nobody amounted to anything nowadays unless he 'blew his own horn.' and the rhinoceros has been breaking his back almost trying to blow his."

#### Fickle Mary.

Mary had a little calf; It was a pet, you know, And every time she rode her wheel The silly calf was bound to go Until it worried Mary so She would not out a-riding gol

#### Key to the Puzzler.

No. 276 .- Word Building: 1. A. 2. At. 8. Bat. 4. Beat. 5. Bleat, 6. Battle, No. 277 .- Hidden Cities: Rome, Lyons, Frankfort, Paris, Nice,

No. 278 .- Numerical Enigmas: Crabbed. Sexton.

No. 279 .- Novel Double Acrostic: Second row, Beethoven; fifth row, moonlight. Crosswords: 1. Abram's. 2. Nelson. 3. Censor. 4. String. 5. Should. 6. Tomtit. 7. Avenge. 8. Weight. 9. Invite

No. 280 .- Picture Puzzle: The stile in the lane.

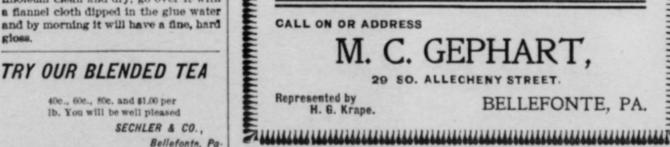


No. 284. -- Intentions: Compliment. Inducement. Tenement. Element. Sup-

If finoleum is losing its freshness it may be restored and made to last twice as long. Melt a little ordinary glue in a plot of water. At night have the linoleum clean and dry, go over it with a fiannel cloth dipped in the glue water and by morning it will have a fine, hard gloss.

We offer this week a number of excellent Pianos just returned from rent. They were new when they went out, and have been in use only a few months. A special price will be made on them.

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