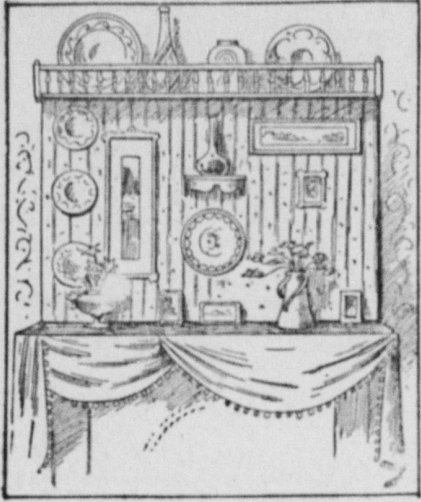


MANTEL ADORNMENT.

Original and Artistic Scheme Easily Carried Into Effect.

Mantelpiece adornment is always more or less a difficult matter, and since one is apt to get a little tired nowadays of the ordinary overmantel the following suggestions for a change may be of use, as they are distinctly original and artistic.

The sketch shows the wall draped with art canvas, which can be either tacked on the wall direct or else hung from a rod. Personally I prefer the rod, as it allows the drapery being shaken easily. The color of the wall



PRETTY MANTEL SCHEME.

drapery must be repeated in the material covering the mantelpiece, as two colors would have a patchy effect. Choose as a background something that will show up with your little bits of pottery and pictures and yet will not clash with the room. I should suggest a warm rose pink, not too pink, however, with a stencil design in green. All the frames should be stained green; also the bracket, which gives a quaint touch.

The pottery rail will not be found an expensive item. I think it can be bought by the foot ready made and afterward nailed to a piece of wood the required width of the shelf and fixed to the wall with the usual small iron supports. The rail must be stained green and the drapery fixed under, care, however, being taken not to let the rod or nails show.

This decoration would also look charming in blue, the woodwork stained brown, or equally pretty in lemon yellow, with dull black frames and rail.—Home Notes.

About Home Tones.

"You can tell the atmosphere of a home, the general character of the family as a whole, as inevitably from the manners and personality of the maid who opens the door for you as from the furnishings of the domicile itself," said an observant householder the other day. "Both unconsciously reflect the dominant tone in the domestic menage. I would rather do without a maid and compass my own work with the help of an errand runner than have a loud voiced, ill-mannered person about my apartment. I would as soon hang an advertising chromo in my hall or drape my windows with red bunting." This may be an extreme view, but the fact remains that too little attention is paid to this important detail of the home. A guest is often seriously inconvenienced by a thoughtless, discourteous maid, and nothing adds more to the comfort of an entire household than a gentlewoman, whatever her color or class, as servitor.

For the Teeth.

About once a week put a few drops of tincture of myrrh in the water with which you brush your teeth. It helps to sweeten the breath. A good dentifrice is made of fine chalk, three drams; Spanish soap, one dram; Florentine oris root, one dram; carbonate of soda, one-half dram. Shave the soap very fine. It is a good plan to keep a small piece of white castle soap on the toilet table and rub the toothbrush over it when brushing the teeth. Used once a day it cleanses teeth and gums. A good tooth wash for occasional use is made by dissolving two ounces of powdered borax in three pints of boiling water. As the solution cools mix with it one tablespoonful of spirits of camphor and one teaspoonful of tincture of myrrh. Keep in a well stopped bottle and for use mix about two tablespoonfuls with a gill of lukewarm water. Use this once a week instead of the tincture of myrrh.

Oil For the Hands.

A certain woman whose hands had been neglected until they were yellow and blue and gray—all colors except flesh color—went to a manicurist to have her hands treated. The manicurist, who was a very wise woman, took a bowl of pure oil of sweet almonds and immersed the hands of her patient in the oil. Keeping them there for some minutes, she took them out and gently massaged them until there was not a particle of oil on the surface. It is astonishing how much oil can be absorbed by the hands and amazing to see it disappear almost as fast as it is applied. If this is done patiently and intelligently and for fifteen minutes at a time the hands will begin to plump out and the skin to be pretty again. The hands should not be washed afterward, for the oil will surely sink in if well massaged.

Floor Wax.

To make wax for a floor shave a pound of beeswax very thin, mix it in a gallon of turpentine and let the whole stand overnight. The wax will thus become thoroughly incorporated with the turpentine. Apply it when it is a smooth, even mixture to the floor and polish the floor afterward with a heavy rough cloth or a waxing brush which comes for the purpose. Success in the work depends upon the thorough polishing done after the preparation of wax is applied.

TRY IT ANYWAY.

If the Plan Does Not Succeed, Then You Are Not to Blame.

A beautiful answer was that given by the sapient wife to her half-repentant, still belligerent husband once upon a time. There had been a matrimonial tiff, more possibly a storm that had burst in angry words and looks upon the domestic horizon. Thunders and lightnings, passing, as they always do, into the distance, left the couple really devoted, but also really determined, in the sorry and ashamed of yourself frame of mind usual. The man, very sorry and ashamed and very obstinate, wanted to "make up."

"When two people," said he, with gloomy emphasis, "have disagreed and both have been right and both wrong, which one should make peaceful overtures to the other?" The wife, tears welling in her soft eyes, pondered with care and farreaching thought before answering; then, "The best natured and wisest of the two," said she, putting up her sweet, trembling lips for his ready kiss.

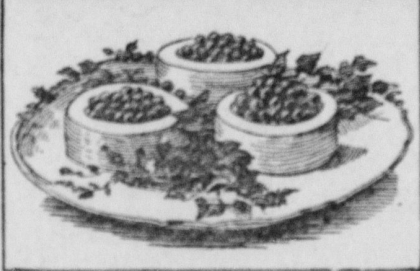
Dear woman, whose eyes, dwelling upon these words, may have been filled with tears through some intentional or, most likely, unintentional, word or slight from the man you worship, bear in your heart the Biblical injunction, "A soft answer turneth away wrath," and try it, if you never have, or again and yet again, if needed, rather than the scolding, waspish tongue that aggravates like a swarm of gnats.

Never mind, my dear, if it is "his" fault. You may not be able to tell in words how nervous and weary your own poor soul and body are. You may have many times the cause for outbursts loud and deep that the partner of your life's joys and sorrows has. You cannot stop in these crises to think of yourself. You must, at all hazards, place the matter on a basis of mutual entente cordiale. There must not, cannot be between you two anything like a veiled hostility, because that road leads to untold misery. It leads to recrimination, which is useless; to constant fault finding, which is ruinous to temper and disposition; to coldness of demeanor, which effectually freezes love.

Only where such method has been tried long and faithfully and its virtues have proved themselves faults, inasmuch as you are imposed upon without mercy, may you change it to the other of demand for peace. You have, beyond doubt, the right to be considered and your wishes complied with to some extent. But remember you are far more likely to bring that consideration to pass by gentleness than by rancor and wrangling with the average man. Try it first, my dear, anyway. You can always fall into the other way with wonderful ease, can you not?—Exchange.

To Serve Peas.

If you wish to serve peas as an entree cut out with a cooky cutter a round of bread from an ordinary sized



PEAS FOR AN ENTREE.

slice of bread, then two rings with a doughnut cutter. Dip them in melted butter and toast delicately brown in the oven. Fill the cavities with peas cooked in a delicate cream sauce.—Good Housekeeping.

Men Love the Neat Woman.

There is an attraction in neatness and order all their own. Their lack is felt even when there is great beauty to dazzle the eye. I know that there are men who tolerate slack, untidy women, but I have always regarded them as martyrs to duty, mistaken in the size of the obligation laid upon them. I have never blamed the man who shunned untidiness at home, be he father, husband, son or brother, and that, my friends, is the real whip that drives some men from their own firesides. The really neat woman is neat at all times, and the slack one is very unwise when she indulges her propensities at home. Cleanliness may be next to godliness, and certainly neatness is next to beauty.—Chicago Post.

Fine Laundry Work.

Fine laundry work is the means by which two women in an eastern city are earning a comfortable living. Being suddenly thrown on their own resources and having no special talent beyond a thorough knowledge of the art of clear starching, lace cleaning and fine ironing, they started in with some fine handkerchiefs, collars and cuffs and dollys sent by a few interested friends. At the end of a few months they were overtaxed with orders and able to employ a couple of assistants and a delivery boy. In addition to fine underwear, they also admitted babies' clothes until now their exclusive establishment is known best as the "babies' laundry."

Soap Jelly.

To make soap jelly gather together all the bits of soap from the washstands and dry them. Put them in a piece of muslin and pound them to powder. Put on the stove with enough water to cover them and add one tablespoonful of olive oil to one cup of powdered soap. Heat all together. Pour into a wide mouthed jar to cool into jelly. If the jelly becomes too stiff reheat it and add a little more olive oil. Keep a jar of this soap jelly on the washstand and use occasionally when you want a good lather for hands, arms or neck.

THE PUZZLER

No. 410.—Geographical Queries.
What cape in South America is a drinking cup?
What cape in the United States keeps watch day and night?

No. 411.—Terminations.
The following, when rightly guessed, will end with the same conjunction:
1. To spread. 2. Splendid. 3. Found on the seashore. 4. A piece of furniture. 5. A mark. 6. To go on shore. 7. To claim.

No. 412.—Geographical Acrostic.
Four rivers in England, all bearing the same name; one is in Yorkshire, another in Sussex, also one in Northamptonshire and another between Norfolk and Suffolk.
1. A group of islands to the north of Scotland, from which they are separated by the Pentland frith.
2. A chain of mountains in Russia about 1,100 miles long and forming part of a boundary between Europe and Asia.
3. A group of islands and rocks lying off the coast of Cornwall.
4. A river in Germany which rises in the Giant mountains and falls into the German ocean.

No. 413.—Diagonal.
Each word contains nine letters. The diagonal, beginning with the upper left hand letter and ending with the lower right hand letter, will spell the name of a plant used in Christmas decorations.
Crosswords: 1. Attraction. 2. A game. 3. To point out. 4. An officer in a ship. 5. Owners of houses having tenants. 6. Like a brother. 7. Forms of ceremony. 8. American crocodile. 9. To contend in words.

No. 414.—Beheaded Words.
Your horse is too —; it might run away. I fear it is — to drive him today.
The merchant sold — at the old stand. This rugged old —, isn't it grand!
The mild-mannered — who first saw the blaze. He thought not of —, so kindly his ways.
A — transaction consummate in greed. May be a wrong action and — in deed.
A — fire still burns in the hall. And still clings the vine to the — wall.

No. 415.—Transpositions.
[Familiar quotations.]
The wise is of reason weapon. Then are you sure go be right ahead. Sleep now blessings light that on invented him first.
Stand serve also wait they who only and.

No. 416.—Anagram.
Solid hay—A pleasant season.
No. 417.—A Literary Puzzle.

No. 418.—Triangles in Quadrangle.
1. 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2
0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0
3. 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 4
From 1 to 2, bristly; from 3 to 4, a thing not existing; from 1 to 3, a punctuation mark; from 2 to 4, subordinate.
Triangles: A consonant. An exclamation. A girl's name. Perfume. A woman who does odd work. A man's name. One-half of witten. An article. A consonant.

No. 419.—Curtailments.
Curtail a shelter and have shelter. Curtail part of a chimney and have to wedge in. Curtail to dwell and have to order. Curtail to repel and have a marsh.



The picture suggests the surname of a poet noted for humor.

No. 420.—Marked Down.
Madge—Nellie says she is twenty-four.
Marjorie—Yes; twenty-four marked down from thirty-nine.—Judge.

Key to the Puzzler.
No. 403.—Synonyms: 1. Se-er. 2. Ru-b-ic. 3. Wi-e-ld. 4. Re-s-in.
No. 404.—Illustrated Acrostic: Clover. 1. Cotton. 2. Ledger. 3. Orange. 4. Vallise. 5. Ermine. 6. Rabbit.
No. 405.—Additions: Mill, Milton, Wall, Walton, Boss, Boston, Crow, Croton.
No. 406.—Arithmograph: A burnt child dreads the fire.
No. 407.—Anagram Verse: Limes, miles, Daniel, nallied, Claimed, decimal.
No. 408.—Terminations: 1. Tract. 2. Fact. 3. Enact. 4. Pact. 5. Tact. 6. Impact. 7. Contract. 8. Exact. 9. Refract. 10. Detract. 11. Retract.
No. 409.—Crossword Enigma: Enigma.

Can You Write a Note Well?
A young girl can have no more exquisite accomplishment than the ability to write a thoroughly graceful note. Much of our social intercourse is carried on in this way, and one should know how to express herself clearly and to the point in sending an invitation or when she accepts or declines one herself. Not long ago I heard a lady of middle age excuse herself for not having written a note of acknowledgment in return for some courtesy. "It is so difficult to write a note," she said. My girls, never do this. Always write a note of thanks very promptly when you have received a present. Always write at once on receipt of an invitation. Whether you say yes or no, let the answer be prompt. Write notes of sympathy when people are in trouble, of congratulation when some good fortune has befallen them.—Margaret Sangster in Harper's Young People.

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