



FANCIES FOR THE FAIR.

Points on Home Decoration and the Trouble that it Entails on the Hostess. Settings on Fashion and Society—A Pittsburg Girl in Gotham.

Now that the holidays are upon us, home decoration will soon be a phrase so nagged at and abused that before the Christmas tree is fairly down and out in the alleys the subject of "art decorative" will be black and blue for six months says the Upholterer of Philadelphia.

John, says the wife, "when you take off your shirt at night, then the box for your collar buttons; when you want your slippers, there's a case over there you will find them in. This is for burnt matches, and that a catch-all for hair combs, and there's the pin cushion," and forthwith she tucks all her bairpins at night under the yellow and sticks pins in the foot of the bed, where John's feet invariably find them.

Up and away the best thing for washing the hair is hard soap, procured from the kitchen. Make a strong suds, rub it quickly on the hair, and just as quickly wash it off again.

How Pittsburgers Fare in Gotham. A young lady from Pittsburg entered a New York millinery establishment the other day—one that has no end of a reputation in this city and elsewhere—and selected a perfectly satisfactory bonnet, says the New York Sun. She wanted another, but she felt that the price demanded would not warrant her making a second purchase.

ONLY LOVE'S TOKEN.

A Christmas Gift in and of Itself Doesn't Amount to Much. IT'S THE HEART THAT'S BEHIND IT. A Beggar's Doll is as Important as a Millionaire's Diamonds.

THE SPIRIT OF THE DAY CAN'T DIE.

There is great lamentation among some people over what they call the decadence of Christmas. They hold that it is degenerating into a mere holiday, a common giving of gifts, a time when people lose their heads, run themselves into debt, indulge in excesses that make them not happy, but unhappy. They say people go racing around for weeks, wearing themselves out, making themselves nervous, taking both physical and nervous energy to the utmost stretch by the strain between their desires and their means, and to what end? Not happiness, because the philosophers contend that that is an illusion, and experience seems to confirm it, but simply as a sacrifice to the spirit of Christmas.

A Realistic Hat Rack.

The most curious hat rack we ever saw, says Upholterer, is fashioned to represent a screen. It is made of a wire mesh, and is hung on a wall. It is a very simple and practical device, and is well adapted for use in a room where a screen is not desired.

The Power of an Heiress.

Miss Rockefeller's bedroom at Rockwood Hall, in Tarrytown, is a most dainty and unique little apartment, with its walls and ceiling painted with leaves and garlands. In one of the panels is set an ornate clock with a silvered pendulum reaching to the floor and richly chased golden hands moving up among the carved garlands.

The Scent of Lavender.

There is no more delicious scent than one of lavender flowers for underwear or bed-linen. It is one of the least expensive of scents, and, though faint, is peculiarly refreshing and soothing to the nerves. Lavender used to be grown in old gardens; but, like most English garden herbs, it does not always survive our uneven climate with its alternate periods of frost and thawing in winter. The plant cannot be obtained now, and florists who are honest tell you plainly that the herb they advertise as lavender is not the genuine English flower, but a lavender blue with nothing in common with the true lavender but a name.

A Pretty Daisy Frock.

Flower dresses are decidedly in vogue, and are exceeding pretty and becoming for evening wear. The daisy frock we give as an illustration would be very appropriate for a young girl. A corsete and a beautiful dress.

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RULES FOR BEAUTY.

How to Drive Away Wrinkles and Bring Back Youth's Bloom. SHARP ELBOWS AND UGLY NECKS. Care to be Exercised in Bathing on These Cold Wintry Days.

PIRACY IN ADVERTISING SCHEMES.

Can anything excel in dishonesty the first of the season? They all crowd now before my eyes on the quiet hillside. The little wood which girdles it looks soft as a richly toned engraving upon the gauze of the flakes. The place is still as the quiet after death, but wrapped in warmth and comfort deep as the silence. Summer days hardly have anything sweeter than this quiet of fulfillment and rest of work.

WINTER IN THE COUNTRY.

A house warm with wood fires and furnished from one end to the other, where the glad sun looks into five windows in the sitting room, with many tables heaped with periodicals and manuscripts, plenty of new books and newspapers, a comfortable and comfortable-looking lounge, the city at one's elbow, its glow lighting the sky by night, the house to one's self, with a warm fire, a hot water pipe for working to the best advantage—is not this to be envied by the sincere brain-toiler? You rise when rested; if it has been a waking night, you get up at a quarter of eight, sleep after the first cool hour, and no more awakes you at the late breakfast, the coffee is as hot and the muffins as fresh as if you had dragged yourself aching down at a canonical hour.

HOW TO RETIRE.

Rules Beauty Should Observe if She is Going to Last. What is the correct method to pursue in preparing for a trip into dreamland, for a moment, and to wake up, refreshed, and ready to begin the day's work?

Perhaps you wake to see the red fire burn in the grate, and the morning star peep over the horizon, and the sun is shining brightly in the sky, and you are feeling fresh and vigorous, and you are ready to begin the day's work.

CONSCIENCE OF AN ESSAY WRITER. Now I don't pretend to be above liking pretty toilet things or all objectionable as people here say to being paid five times as much as anybody else gets, but what this druggist overlooked from beginning to end was the real value of the thing.

THE NEW YORK EXPRESS DASHES BY WITH its long steam plume flying backward half a mile—the pulse of the world's artery in this quiet fold of the east counties—and the day for 14,000,000 people is over.

IS IT ANY USE TO GO TO TEACHERS, LEAVE YOUR school behind you, and go to the city? Our school system is such a pitiless grind that I had rather be a typewriter, a dressmaker, a small bookkeeper, or a basket vendor with small wages, than a teacher in a small school.

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HER JENNIE IS DEAD.

Touching Story of Tenement Life in the Busy Metropolis. A BRIGHT, HEALTHY BABY GIRL. Dies of Suffocation, a Peanut Shell Lodging in Her Throat.

THE DEEP SORROW OF THE MOTHER.

Mrs. Isidor Bernstein, the wife of a cloak-maker who is out of work, was washing the dishes on Friday morning in her living room on the second floor of 181 Orchard street, says the New York Sun. Her baby, Jennie, 15 months old, was playing on the floor with a bagful of peanuts. The child was blue-eyed and gold-haired, and a jolly little thing, always laughing. Every now and then Mrs. Bernstein looked up from her task and said something in Hebrew baby talk to the young one.

All at once she heard Jennie cough sharply, and then came that backing spluttering sound which every mother has heard. Baby had swallowed a piece of peanut shell, and it had stuck in her throat. Dropping dishcloth and everything, the mother ran over and took Jennie in her arms, patted her on the back, held her head down, and poked in her mouth, but the thing would not come out, and already Jennie's face was turning purple.

A RACE WITH DEATH.

Throwing a shawl about her shoulders, Mrs. Bernstein wrapped Jennie in its folds and flew down the stairs. She forgot to take the key to the door, and she had to knock at the door of the nearest doctor through the bitter wind, which seemed to be striving to delay her. The doctor was at home. One favoring the doctor for him.

"An operation will be necessary," he said. Mrs. Bernstein understands English imperfectly, but the word "operation" she understood, and she cried, "I won't let you cut my baby."

She seized Jennie in her arms again, and rushed out. Her face was as white as paper, and she was shaking all over. She ran to the street and was another doctor, and to his office she ran, and people stood still to look after her and wonder. This doctor had hardly given a single word of advice when Mrs. Bernstein ran out of the house. Then she went straight to the station house, but a physician's sign on the way attracted her attention, and she stopped to ring the bell. The doctor was not at home. As she ran up the steps of the station house she panted for breath, and all she could do was to hold up her arms and cry, "My baby is dead."

NO HELP FOR THE BABY. It was a long wait, but when the ambulance came motionless the child was taken at full speed to Bellevue Hospital. Jennie was taken straight to the operating room, where Dr. Brooks found that the peanut shell had slipped down the windpipe into the bronchial tube leading to the right lung. He opened the windpipe, but could not get the shell out. The operation permitted the baby to breathe more freely, but it was not enough to extract the shell. They tried Mrs. Bernstein she had better go home. She says she went away with the doctor's assurance that baby would live, and that she need not worry.

She sent her husband to the hospital yesterday morning. He stayed away so long that the children were looking out of the neighborly eyes. She carried the shell up to the door of the house in Orchard street. Out of it stepped Mr. Bernstein in threadbare clothes. In his arms he carried a small box. His face betrayed no emotion as he entered the house and carried his burden up the stairs. His wife opened the door on hearing his footsteps, and then she saw the box and wept.

THE SCENE OF SORROW. Stepping past her as she lay on the floor, Bernstein placed the box in the middle of the room and then sat down in a chair by the window, looking at the right lung. He was speaking or shedding a tear, and stared at the little coffin with an expressionless face. Neighbors came and brought the mother to the door, and she said, "My baby is dead."

Electrical Lectures. It was recently suggested that electrical night schools be established in various cities for the benefit of those who desired to become familiar with electrical subjects, but who were fully occupied during the day. Columbia College is about to put into practice a modification of this idea, and its president, Dr. S. P. Hildreth, has written a paper to have a course of evening lectures, illustrated by experiments, on the practical applications of electricity.

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