THE MANAGING WIFE.

EZRA NEWTON had just finished looking over his yearly accounts. "Well," asked his wife, looking up, "how do you come out?" ... I find," said her husband, " that my

expenses during the last year have been thirty-seven cents over a thousand dol-

" And your income has been a thousand dollars?

"Yes, I managed pretty well, didn't

" Do you think it managing well to exceed your income?" said his wife, "What's thirty-seven cents?" asked

Mr. Newton, lightly.

"Not much, to be sure, but still something. It seems to me that we ought to have saved, instead of falling behind."

"But how can we save on this salary, Elizabeth? We haven't lived extravagant-ly. Still it seems to have taken it all." "Perhaps there is something in which we might retrench. Suppose you mention some of your items."

"The most important are house rent, one hundred and fifty dollars, and articles of food, five hundred dollars."

"Just half."

"Yes, and you'll admit that we can't retrench there, Elizabeth. I like to live well. I had enough of poor board before I married. Now I mean to live as well as I can."

"Still we ought to be saving up something against a rainy day, Ezra.

"That would be something like carrying an umbrella when the sun shines.

"Still it is well to have an umbrella in the house." "I can't controvert your logic, Eliza-

beth, but I'm afraid we shan't be able to save anything this year. When I get my salary raised, it will be time enough to think of that."

"Let me make a proposition to you," said Mrs. Newton. "You say one-half of your income has been expended on articles of food. Are you willing to allow me that sum for that purpose?

"You guarantee to pay all bills out of it ?"

"Then I will shift the responsibility upon you with pleasure. But I can tell you beforehand you won't be able to save much out of it."

"Perhaps not. At any rate I will engage not to exceed it."

"That's well. I shouldn't relish having any additional bills to pay. As I ampaid every month, I will at each payment hand you half the money."

The characters of harbord and mife

The characters of husband and wife may be judged from the conversation which has been recorded. Mr. Newton had but little prudence or foresight. He lived chiefly for the present, and seemed to fancy that whatever contingencies might arise in the future, would somehow be provided for. Now trust in Providence is a very proper feeling, but there is a good deal of truth in the old adage that God will help those who will help themselves.

Mrs. Newton on the contrary, had been brought up in a family which was compelled to be economical, and although she was not disposed to deny herself comforts, yet she felt that it was desirable to procure them at a fair price.

The time at which this conversation took place was at the commencement of the whole or not. cond year of their married life.

The first step which Mrs. Newton took, on accepting the charge of the household expenses, was to institute the practice of der her department. She accordingly called on the butcher and inquired:

"How often have you been in the habit of presenting your bills, Mr. Williams

" Once in six months," was the reply. "And I suppose you sometimes have bad bills ?"

"Yes, one-third of my profits, on an average, are swept off by them."

"And you could afford, I suppose, to sell somewhat cheaper for ready money?"

"Yes, and I would be glad if all my customers would give me a chance to do

"I will set them an example then," said Mrs. Newton. "Hereafter whatever articles shall be purchased of you will be paid for on the spot, and we ex-pect you to sell as reasonable as you can."

This arrangement was also made with the others, who, it is scarcely needful to say, were very glad to enter into the arrangement. Ready money is the great support of trade, and a cash customer is before engaging one."

worth two who purchase on credit.

Fortunately Mrs. Newton had a small supply of money by her which lasted till the first monthly installment for her husband became due. Thus she was enabled to carry out her cash plan from the be-

ginning. Another plan which occurred to her as likely to save expense, was to purchase articles in larger quantities. She had soon saved enough from the money allowed her to do this. For example, instead of buying sugar a few pounds at a time, she purchased a barrel, and so succeeded in saving a cent or more on the pound .- This , perhaps, amounted to but a trifle in the course of a year, but the same system carried out in regard to other articles yielded a result which was by no means a trifle.

There were other ways in which a careful housekeeper is able to limit expense which Mrs. Newton did not overlook .-With this object in view, she was always on the lookout to prevent waste, and to get the full value of whatever was expen-

The result was beyond her anticipations.

At the close of the year, on examining her bank book-for she had regularly deposited whatever money she had not occasion to use in one of these institutions she found that she had one hundred and fifty dollars besides reimbursing herself for the money the first month, and

having enough to last another. "Well, Elizabeth, have you kept with-in your allowance?" asked her husband at this time. "I guess you have not found it so easy to save as you thought

"I have saved something, however," said his wife. " But how is it with

"That's more than I can say. However I have not exceeded my income, that's one good thing. We have lived full as well, and I don't know but better than last year, when we spent five hun-

"It's knack, Ezra," said his wife smil-

She was not inclined to mention how much she had saved. She wanted some time or other to surprise him with it when | found astonishment. it would be of some service.

"She may possibly have saved up twenty-five dollars," thought Mr. Newton or some such trifle," and so dismissed the matter from his mind.

At the end of the second year, Mrs. Newton's savings, including the interest amounted to three hundred and fifty dollars, and she began to feel quite rich.

Her husband did not think to inquire how she had succeeded in saving, supposing as before, that it could be but a very small sum.

However, he had a piece of good news to communicate. His salary had been raised from a thousand to twelve hundred

He added: "As I before allowed you one-half my income for household expenses, it is no more than fair I should do so now. That will give you a better chance to save part of it than before. Iudeed, I dont know how you have succeeded in saving anything thus far."

As before Mrs. Newton merely said that she had saved something, without specifying the amount.

Her allowance was increased to six

hundred dollars, but her expenses were not proportionally increased at all; so that her savings for the third year were larger than before. His expenses had increased by a hundred dollars, though he would have found it difficult to tell in what way his comfort or happiness had been increased thereby.

In spite of his carelessness in regard to his own affairs, Mr. Newton was an excellent man in regard to his business, and his services were valuable to his employers. They accordingly increased his salary, from time to time, till it reached six-teen hundred dollars. He had steadily preserved the custom of assigning onehalf to his wife for the same purpose as heretofore, and this had become such a habit that he never thought to inquire whether she found it necessary to employ

Thus ten years rolled away. During all this time Mr. Newton lived in the same hired house for which he had paid an annual rent of one hundred and fifty paying cash for all articles that came un- dollars. Latterly, however, he had become dissatisfied with it. It had passed into the hands of a new landlord, who was not disposed to keep it in the repair which he considered desirable.

About this time a block of excellent houses were erected by a capatalist, who designed to sell them or let them as he might have an opportunity. They were more modern and much better arranged than the one in which Mr. Newton now lived, and he felt a strong desire to move in one of them. He mentioned it to his wife one morning.

"What is the rent, Ezra?" inquired

" Two hundred and twenty-five dollars for the corner house; two hundred for either of the others.' "The corner one would be preferable,

on account of the side window. " Yes and they have a large yard be-

sides. I think we must hire one of them.

" For what reason?"

"I should like to examine the house." Soon after breakfast Mrs. Newton called on 'Squire Bent, the owner of the new block, and intimated her desire to be shown the corner house. The request he readily complied with; Mrs. Newton was quite delighted with all the arrangements, and expressed her satisfaction.

" Are these houses for sale or to let ?"

she inquired.

" Either," said the owner. "The rent is, I understand, two-hundred

and twenty-five dollars." "Yes, I consider the corner house

worth at least twenty-five dollars more than the rest."

"And what do you charge for the house to a cash purchaser?" asked Mrs. Newton with subdued eagerness.

" Four thousand dollars cash," was the reply, and that is but a small advance on the cost."

"Very well, I will buy it of you," added Mrs. Newton quietly.
"What did I understand you to say?" asked the 'Squire, scarcely believing his

"I repeat that I will buy this house at your price, and pay the money within a week.

"Then the house is yours. But your husband said nothing of his intention, and in fact I did not know..." "That he had the money to invest, I

suppose you would say. Neither does he know it, and I must ask you not to tell him for the present." The next morning Mrs. Newton invi-

ted her husband to take a walk, but without specifying the direction. They soon stood in front of the house

in which he desired to live. "Wouldn't you like to go in?" she

"Yes. It's a pity we haven't got the key."

"I have the key," said his wife, and forthwith walked up the steps and proceeded to open the door.

"When did you get the key of Squire Bent ?" asked the husband. "Yesterday when I bought the house,"

said his wife quietly. Mr. Newton gazed at his wife in pro-

What on earth do you mean, Elizabeth ?" he inquired.

"Just what I say. The house is mine, and what is mine is thine. So the house is yours Ezra."

Where in the name of goodness did you raise the money?" asked her hus-band, his amazement still as great as over-

"I haven't been a managing wife for ten years for nothing," said Mrs. Newton smiling.

With some difficulty Mrs. Newton persuaded her husband that the price of the house was really the result of her savings. He felt when he surveyed the commodious arrangements of the new house that he had reasons to be grateful for the prudence of his managing wife.

A Two Dollar Sell.

Joe Dobbin's was exceedingly fond of duck hunting and one afternoon last fall started out for some fun. He travelled nearly all the afternoon without seeing a single duck or other game worth the price of a charge of powder and shot and just before night came across the fields to the road where a fine flock of ducks were paddling around in a puddle near a farm house. Close by was the old farmer who after greeted Joe said :

"You don't seem to have had much luck; guess you aint much of a shot." "If you think so" replied Joe "what

will you take for a shot at those ducks?" "Well I don't know, what do you think it would be worth to you?" answered the farmer.

" I'll give you two dollars for a shot, from where I now stand, if you have a mind to take it.'

"Well, replied the farmer "hand me your two dollars and blaze away for all I

This offer was at once accepted by Joe, who hastened to pass over that amount of ed from soaking my clothes twice a day stamps, and taking a deliberate aim was in salt water, and putting them on withfortunate enough to kill and wound six out wringing. It was a considerable time ducks. Turning to the farmer he ex- before I could make the people comply claimed, in tones of exultation, "rather a with this measure, although from seeing dear two dollars to you I guess you think by this time, don't you?'

"Oh I don't know but what I am satisfied" replied the farmer. "Don't you consider them six ducks

worth more than two dollars?" asked

"They aint worth that to me," was the reply. "Why not to you?"

"Because they don't belong to me, for I don't live here, I am just waiting for Mr. Johnson who lives here to come home," was the startling answer.

Joe hastily left that locality but before

doing so, was strongly tempted to empty the other load into the carcass of the old fellow who had sold him so completely, and ever after before buying a shot, ascertains who is the owner of the property.

Spoiled Children.

Like many unwise mothers a certain lady would never allow her child to be contradicted, for fear that it might make him sick. Her friends, as well as her husband, in vain remonstrated with her, informing he that such a course would be sure to spoil the child. One day she heard him screaming with anger in the garden. In an instant she ascrtained the cause; the nurse had refused to give him what he desired.

" You impertinent creature," said the angry mother, " not to give him what he "By my troth," said the girl, "he may

ery till morning, and he'll not get it." Enraged beyond bounds, she complained to her husband. The man was as weak as the woman.

" Do you have the impudence to disobey your mistress?"
"It is true sir, that I did not obey her.

The child has been crying for the moon, which he sees reflected in the fountain. I could not give it to him, though comSCIENTIFIC READING.

White Lead.

A mixture of carbonate and hydrated oxide of lead, known as white lead, is a chief ingredient of most oil paints. Its pure white hue and great opaqueness make it a good basis to which other coloring matter can be added. Paint made from it will completely cover and hide a larger surface than if made from any other material. The relative "body," or covering power of different samples may be tested by weighing out 100 grains of each, and adding, if the lead is ground in oil, three drops of boiled linseed oil; eighteen or twenty, if the lead is dry; then spread the different samples as uniformly as may be on pieces of glass. Hold them between yourself and the window, and that which looks darkest-most opaque-has most

White lend is made by the Dutch process, which was invented two or three hundred years ago, and introduced into England and America about the beginning of this century. It was first made in this country at Philadelphia. The process probably differs in detail, in every establishment, but substantially consists in exposing pieces of the metal, so cut or east as to offer a large surface to the action of vaporized vinegar or acetic acid, which forms a tribasic acetate of lead (three parts lead to one of acid); commonly placing clay pots, containing lead at top and vinegar some distance below, on layers of spent tan bark, whose fermentation heats and evaporates the acid and at the same time gives out gaseous carbonic acid, which takes the place of the acetic acid as fast as the latter is drawn away from the acctate by the attraction of the still uncoroded lead. Layers of tan and pots, separated by boards, are piled up to the top of the building, and then shut up for about three months; at the end of which time the lead has become a white erumbling mass. This is then put through revolving screens, so that any bits of metallic or 'blue' lead remaining are sifted out. The weight of the white mass is not far from the sum of the weight of lead and vinegar. After screening, it is thoroughly washed with water to remove any free acetic acid, acetates of lead or other metals that may have been mixed with the lead, and like impurities. It is then dried by evaporation and ground in oil, eight pounds of oil to one hundred pounds of white lead. It is packed in small iron-hooped kegs or tin cans, and is then ready for market.

Thirst Quenched Without Drinking.

It may not be generally known to our readers that water, even salt water, imbibed through the skin appeases thirst almost as well as fresh water taken inwardly. In illustration of this subject, a correspondent has sent us the following abridged quotafion from a "Narrative of Captain Kennedy's losing his Vessel, and his Distresses Afterwards," which was noticed in "Dodsley's Annual Register for 1869."

"I cannot conclude without making mention of the great advantage I receivthe good effects produced, they afterward practiced it twice a day of their own accord. To this discovery I may with justice attribute the preservation of my own life and six other persons who must have perished if it had not been put in use .-The hint was first communicated to me from the perusal of a treatise written by Dr. Lind. The water absorbed through the pores of the skin produced in every respect the same effect as would have resulted from the moderate drinking of any liquid. The saline particles, however, which remained in our clothes became incrusted by the heat of the sun and that of our own bodies lacerating our skins and being otherwise inconvenient; but we found that by washing out these particles and frequently wetting our clothes without wringing twice in the course of a day, the skin became well in a short time. After these operations we uniformly found that the violent thirst went off. and the parched tongue was cured in a few minutes after bathing and washing our clothes; and at the same time we found ourselves as much refreshed as if we had received some actual nourishment. Four persons in the boat who drank salt water went delirious and died, but those who avoided this and followed the above practice experienced no such symptoms.

A Glue which will Unite Polished Steel.

The following is a receipt for a cement used to fasten diamond and other precious stones to metalic surfaces, and which is said to be capable of strongly uniting surfaces of polishing steel. Dissolve five or six bits of gum mastic, each the size of a large pea, in as much spirit of wine as will suffice to render it liquid. In another vessel dissolve in brandy as much is-inglass, previously softened in water, as will make a two-ounce phial of strong glue, adding two small bits of gum ammoniac, which must be rubbed until dis-solved. Then mix the whole with heat. manded to do so. Perhaps my lady can."

There was a general laugh, in which the lady joined, while she possessed sufficient sense to treasure up the lesson.

solved. Then mix the whole with heat. Keep in a phial closely stopped. When it is to be used set the phial in boiling water. it is to be used set the phial in boiling THE NEW

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