The past week has been unusually dull in a social way. Perhaps the near approach of Christmas appalls the feminine head of the family and causes preparing for the holiday festivities the present. The receptions given by Mr. and Mrs. Sturges and a few informal dinners have made up most of the society dissipations. "What shall I give him?" "What on earth can I get for her?" are the all absorbing thoughts of the day behind which shrink the one time important topics of what shall we eat; where withal shall we be clothed, and whom shall we leave out of the ever-increasing invita-

This question of Christmas gifts ngain looms up in colossal proportions. Of course it is a burden because we it such in our mad tearing around and in our frantic endeavors to prune here and there. No matter how much curtailing is done we never seem to be able to reduce the dimensions of our self-imposed burdens, and every year we assume more and it is n wonder that many of us before Christmas retrograde almost to the condition of gibbering idiots in wondering how we are going to manage to carry out our 'plans, and afterward drop into nervous prostration, while wendering why we all so anyway.

If the average man were seriously consulted or seriously considered after being consulted he would probably express a desire for each member of his household to buy his or her own Christmas presents. It isn't every head of the family who is so angelic as to b really pleased at the gift of a side saddle from his wife, as was one of whom it is said that he was delighted because she could take so much pleasure with it. If this sort of spirit were general there would probably be found. in the husbands' stockings Christmas morning an embarrassing supply of ladies' '98 wheels, and sent skin conts

Everybody remembers the pathetic story of the man to whom his wife submitted an extensive list of articles suitable for his Christmas present, from which he was commanded to make a selection or to which he might add some other yearned for attraction. After long and deliberate consideration he finally remarked, patiently: "No Maria, I don't seem to think of anything else I really need unless it may be a pair of face curtains or a new sewing machine."

The first large social event of the season took place Thursday at the handsome suburban home of Mr. and Mrs. E, B. Sturges on North Washington avenue, when two large receptions were given in honor of Mrs. Clarence Sturges and Miss Helen Douglas Saxe, the fiancee of Mr. George Sturges.

The beautiful rooms rich with criental treasures, were lavishly decor ated from the host's own hot houses Bauer's orchestral furnished music. The receiving party, both afternoon and evening, occupied the front drawing

Mrs. Sturges who wore mauve moire and Duchesse lace was assisted in receiving by Mrs. Clarence Sturges and Miss Saxe. The former was attired in her brittal gown of white satin. Miss Saxe's costume was pink crepe. About the rooms were Mrs. J. Gardner San-Sanderson. Mr. and Mrs. Sturges greeted many guests during the hours Later in the evening of receiving. dancing was enjoyed by the younger Refreshments were served by Scranton caterors.

Among the out of town guests were Mrs. M. G. Waterman, of Southport, Conn.; Dr. N. G. Parke, Pittston; Mrs. Burr, Carbondale; Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Atherton, Messrs, Darte and Ryman, of Wilkes-Barre.

The peception at the Rowing association Tuesday evening in honor of Congressman William Connell, was one of the pleasantest events which have taken place in years at that popular club so noted for its social affairs in

The marriage of Miss Marie Schlenz to Rev. Wilhelm Brucker, of Woodville O., was a pretty event which took place in the Chestnut Street German Presbyterian church Wednesday evening. A reception was held at the close of the ceremony at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John

Mrs. A. D. Blackinton, with her customary thought for the young people, and their pleasure, with give a Christmas eve dance at the bicycle club for her niece, Miss Galpin, and her nephew. Mr. John Galpin.

Beidleman's holiday book rooms, in escasion of the opening. It was quite the money, but the girl.

the scene of a reception with flowers,

the basement of the church. A large number of patrons were present. Mrs. C. W. Kirkpatrick was chairman of the committee, and as usual most ably directed the arrangements. The ladies her to think more about shopping and who served were: Mrs. A. H. Christy, preparing for the holiday festivities Mrs. Parrish, Mrs. L. A. Sylvester, than of planning entertainments for Mrs. J. M. Chittenden, Mrs. H. Stelle, Mrs. C. H. Welles, Mrs. Henry Belin, Mrs. M. Wilson, Mrs. C. E. Wade, Mrs. Dunkle, Mrs. James Moir, Mrs. E. G. Coursen, Mrs. Albro, Mrs. E. H. Lynde, Mrs. Guernsey, Mrs. Faurot, Mrs. La Bar, Mrs. Fleitz, Mrs. Kissenger, Mrs. Connell, Mrs. Frank Connell, Mrs. E. Selden Blair, Mrs. T. H. Watkins, Mrs. A. C. Brugles, Mrs. Stelle, Mrs. Carter, Miss Hurlbutt.

> The bride of Henry George is a fine musician and received a diamond med-al for her proficiency when at the Chieago Musical college. She is also much interested in politics as befits the wife chosen by the late distinguished lead-

Movements of People.

Dr. G. E. Hill is in Rochester. Attorney A. A. Vosburg is in New York, Mr. J. P. Dickson has been ill for sev-Hon, L. A. Watres was in Harrisburg

Mrs. C. D. Simpson went to New York esterday. Mrs. W. D. Kennedy has returned from

Miss Cora Griffin has returned from Philadelphia Mrs. E. H. Lynde was in Wilkes-

Miss Adeline Hall is spending the winer in New York. Mrs. E. W. Burr, of Carbondale, was in be city Thursday Afterney C. B. Little has been in Tunk-

annock this week. Miss Frances Pratt has returned from a isit in New York.

John Spruks, jr., of Honesdale, was in Scranton Thursday. Mrs. G. H. Birdsall has returned from visit in Honesdale

Rev. John Finnen, of Pittston, was in the city yesterday.

Dr. Dwyer, of Carbondale, was a cen-ral city visitor this week. William Kranz, of Honesdale, visited

eranton friends Thursday, Frederick White, former proprietor of the Wyoming, is in the city.
Dr. and Mrs. R. M. Stratton will spend he Christmas holidays in New York. Miss Margaret Walsh, of Price street, as returned from a trip to New York

Reuben Staples, of South Lincoln ave-ne, has been visiting friends at Strends-

Anthony Comstock was in the city this veck on his way home from Euffalo to

Miss Manness, who spent the past few onths in the west, has returned home

Miss Molly Hughes, of Dayton, O., is guest of her aunt, Mrs. M. J. Ruddy, n Cedar avenue. Mrs. M. G. Waterman, of Southport.

onn, is the guest of her daughter, Mrs.

company, is ill at his home on Monsey avenue.

Mrs. Preston, of Wilkes-Barre, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. M. J. Andrews. n Mulberry street.

Mrs. George Evans, of Plymouth, has returned home after visiting Mrs. H. H. Bamford, of North Sumner avenue. Menzo Wells, might manager of Han-

G. R. Ammerman, Mr. and Mrs. J. P.
Gilsson, C. F. Bryant, J. T. Dunn and
N. Jackson were registered at the 8t.
Denis, in New York, this week.
Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Reynolds, who were

have taken up their residence at 431 Main

Doom of the Hungarian Lottery.

'rom the Pali Mali Gazette. This week raw the so-called "Little Lot-ery" (Klein Lotto) borro to the grave. break the lette to the tune of 184,000 opportunely given and gratefully actionance, too. One winter, when the frozen Danube prevented any crossing from Bula to Pest, a young clerk, whose poverty had been an insurmountable obstacle to his suit for a rich girl's hand, raw a man on the opposite side waving his arms in a steady, methodical mander. Having heard of a similar jettery swindle before, he guessed that the man was sixadling the winning numbers to an a the Board of Trade building seemed to be a popular place last evening, on the complex of the results of the res

the scene of a reception with flowers, music and the best decorations of all, beautiful books on every side. To these were added a brave display of calendars, which, with a pretty grouping of tables, attracted many visitors. The ladies of the Second Presbyterian church served an elaborate and bountiful turkey supper last night in the basement of the church. A large number of patrons were present. Mrs.

Bishop Ninde and Dr. Schell have sent out a letter to Epworth League chapters which contains the following: "The growth of the Epworth League still attracts comment. We now have in the Methodist Episcopal church alone 18,000 regular and nearly 6,000 Junior chapters-fully 1,650,000 members, Bishop Joyce has rendered active E. L. Fuller, Mrs. W. W. Watson, Mrs. service in extending and perfecting the McComb, Mrs. F. C. Hand, Mrs. Fred organization in China, Japan and Korea. New chapters have been or-G. Coursen, Mrs. C. E. Wade, Mrs. A. ganized in Bermah, Liberia, and in the D. Spencer, Mrs. G. B. Thompson, Mrs. Pepublic of Hawaii. During the year our Wesleyan brethren in England L. A. Watres, Mrs. Arthur Lee, Mrs. have adopted an organization similar Ross, Mrs. Roberts, Miss Moir, Mrs. to our ewn, under the name of the Wesley Guild. The Epworth league prospers greatly in the Methodist Episcopal church, South, and in the Can-

adian Methodist church. "But while we drill the great Ep-worth army to intelligence, let us not forget that we are a distinctively religious and soul-winning organization, Let us wait on the ministry of the word by our pastors, be faithful at the regular prayer meeting, and plan and pray for revivals of religion; and by meditation, the devotional use of the Bible, and by complete self-surrender may we be able to live in hourly communion with our Lord, 'to whom be glory forever and ever,"

The pastor of Calvary Reformed church will preach his first anniversary sermon on Sunday, Dec. 5, which will mark the close of his first year's work in this city. The programme for the morning, 10.30 a. m., will be as follows

The Apostles' Creed Solo, Tenor Wm. Benc, Cleveland, O

Authem by the choir, Scripture Lesson, I Samuel iv, 1-II and Soprano SoloMizs Edith Dulioi

Hymn and Collection. ermon by the Pastor; I Sam. vii, 12Llewellyn Jone Lord's Prayer.

Benediction In the evening the following programme will be followed: 7.30 P. M.

Invocation. Hymn, "Blessed Be the Tie." Scripture Lesson Anthracite Male Quartette, Announcements.

Hymn.

Anthera by the Chair, Led by Professor Sermon by the Pastor to Anthraelle Commandery, No. 211, General Grant, No. 239, St. Stephen's, No. 236, K. of M. Text, Gal. vi. 14.

At the Jackson Street Baptist church will be Anniversary Day. At 10 o'clock prayer meeting; leader, Will-liam Thomas. At 10.30 the pastor, Rev. anniversary sermon. At 2 p. m. Sun-day school. Evening service at 7 Su o'clock. Programme for the evening:

Harry Francis, inspector for the Pan- Scripture lesson.

"Before the Throne of Glory." Morris Thomas. Remarks by the paster. Duett, "Saved by Grace

Eddle and Edith Davis, "Praise the Lord".

Menzo Wells, man manager of Hars-ley's dinfing room, has returned from a two weeks' hunting trip in Wayne, county. Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Clarke, of Cort-land, N. Y., who have been the guests of Mrs. E. Hineline, of Halstead street, have Organist, Miss Miriam Hutchingson,

day she occupied the pulpit and quite delighted the congregation. The ladies of all the Methodist Episcopal churches of Scranton and vicinmarried on Thanksgiving evening, have ity are favited to attend the union returned from their wording trip and meeting of the Woman's Foreign Missionary society at Elm Park church Monday, at 3 o'clock. An interesting

programme has been prepared. From the union services at Ehn Park on Thanksgiving day \$56 were received by the Home for the Friendless; from The Klein Lotto bas been associated by the Home for the Friendless; from with notable swindles, of which the case of Melchior Farkas, who managed to odist church \$13, which sums are most

Religious News Notes.

norrow at 3 p. m. All are invited. John Cavanaugh, pastor, in charge.

Mrs. Abby C. Marrow, of New York
city, will be at the all-day meeting, at the Gospel Tabernacle, North Jefferon avenue, Tuesday next. She will

talk at 2.30 and 7.30 p. m. The Rev. H. A. Grant, paster of the Howard Place African Methodist Episcopal church, will address the meeting the Railroad Department Young Men's Christian association, Sunday afternoon, Dec. 5, at 2.45 o'clock. Rallroad men and their families are cordially invited.

Davy and Bress, architects, are rearranging the plans first submitted by them for the proposed new edifice of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran church, corner of Washburn and Fourteenth street. It is now intended to have a two story structure. The ground floor to be used for the Sabbath school, assembly rooms for the different church societies and a library room for the use of the voung people of the church. The second floor will be the main auditorium. The same gtyle of architecture will be carried out and the seating capacity will not be les-

altar furnishings of Holy Trinity Luth-

hurchly expression of that sanctuary. Whatever may be said about the abuse of the symbol of the cross, which is the symbol of the Christian church, there s no altar complete in its ecclesiastical furnishings without the symbol of the cross. Through the efforts of the Rev. Charles G. Spieker, the pastor, this beautiful symbol has been secured for the congregation. The Rev. Mr. Spicker has likewise introduced the

Tomorrow's Services.

Elm Park church-Prayer and praise ervice at 9.30, preaching at 19.39 a. m. nd 7.39 p. m., by the pastor, C. M. Gif-m, D. D. Sunday school at 2 and Epworth league at 6.30 p. m. Grace Evangelical Lutheran church— Corner Madison avenue and Mulberry street, Rev. Foster U. Gift pastor, Ser-vices at 19,30 s. m. and at 7,30 p. m.

Hampton Street Methodist Episcopal burch-F. P. Doty, pastor, Quarterly neeting services in the morning, Love Coast at 2.30, followed by the usual sac-camental service, conducted by the pasor, Preaching at 7,30 p. m.

First Baptist church, Scranton street-Rev. S. F. Mathews, paster, Prayer meeting 19 a, m., leader, Frank Belden, The usual preaching service morning and evening by the pastor. The Lord's sup-per will be observed in the evening at the close of the evening's service. Sunday school, 2 p. m., Dr. Beddoe, super-intendent; Young People's prayer meet-ing, 6 p. m.; Industrial school, 2,30 p. m. Saturday, Miss Annie Morgan, leader,

Providence Methodist Episcopal church

Rev. William Edgar, pastor, The usual
services will be held. The pastor will
preach at 10.30 a, m. and 7.30 p, m. Morning subject, "Room for Improvement."
Evening subject, "A Night Vision." This
is the first in a series of sermons on
night scenes of the Bible. Sunday school at 2 p. m., Epworth league, at 6.45 p. m. Seats free; all welcome,

First Church of Christ (Scientist)-No. o'clock prayer meeting; leader, Wil-liam Thomas. At 10.30 the pastor, Rev. a. m. Testimonial meeting Friday eve-Thomas de Gruchy, will preach the ming at 8 o'clock. All welcome; seats

Summer Averue Presbyterlan Churchbrated. Evening service at 6 o'clock, morning subject, "Wh Theme for the evening sermon by the pastor, "The Curse of the Law." Sab-of the twenty-fourth as bath school at 2 p. m. Senior Christian Endeavor service at 7 p. m. Tuesday evening at 7.50 o'clock, choir and cantata clock, prayer treeting.

Primitye Methodist Church-C. Prosser, pastor. 10,59, sacrament of Lord's sup-per. Subject, "Cleansing, Then Fillium," 7 p. m., song service and preaching by pastor. Subject, "Succeeding Rippies,"

that Fool," No. 1 in series on "The Fools of the Role," Mr. Watkins will sing of the Role," Mr. Watkins will sing of the Role, "Mr. Watkins will sing of the Role," Sun lay school at 2 p. m. First service of the Nay Aug Palls mission in the new American Memorial Tabernacle, Prescott avenue, near Mulberry street, at 2.39. Monday night, at 8, in main auditorium, Dr. Dixon's illustrated lecture on "The Passing of the Role," Services 19.39 a. m. and 7 p. m. Luther league at 6 and Sunday school at 12. Hollan,"

Instructed lecture on "The Passing of the Indian."

First Welsh Congregational Chuch—South Main avenue. Rev. D. Jones, passor. Services, 19 a. m., preaching by the pastor, subject, "The Power of the Holy Trinity, Adams avenue and Mulberry street—Rev. Charles G. Spieger, pastor, Services 19.39 a. m. and 7.39 p. m. Sunday school at 12 noon.

St. Paul's, Short avenue—Rev. W. C. L. Charles G. Pristian Is Christ's Property."

Sababth school, 2 p. m.

St. Peter's, Prescott avenue—Rev. J. W. Pasteleth school 2.39 p. m.

St. Peter's, Prescott avenue—Rev. J. W. Pasteleth school.

An entertainment under the direction of Miss Degsey will be given Thursday evening in Elm Park church for the benefit of the "What-so-ever Circle" of King's Daughters.

The Free Methodists will have preaching in Co-operative hall, 126 North Main avenue, Hyde Park, to-

Epworth league, Miss Crawford, president, at 3. Epworth league, G. W. Crane eader, at 6. Evening preaching leader, at 6. Evening preaching service at 7. Sermon by the pastor. Text. Isaiah xl. 6. Subject. "The Everlasting Father." This is the fifth sermon of the series. All seats free. A cordial welcome to all. Providence Presbyterian church—Pastor. Rev. George E. Guild Morning theme. "The Pasimists Inquiry." Sunday school. Junior and Series Federal Providence.

theme, 'The Pasimists Inquiry. Sunday school, Junior and Senior Endeavor meet-ings at the usual hours. Evening preach-ing service, 7.20 o'clock. Mission service 9.30 a. m., sermon by Rev. John

Seventh Day Adventists-There will be reaching services in the Finn chapel Sunday at 230 p. m., subject, "God's Promisory Note," and Sunday evening at 7, subject, "Promise of God's Presence." All are invited.

All are invited.

Court Street Methodist Episcopal church—Rev. George T. Price pastor. Preaching by the pastor at 19.39 a. m. and 7.39 p. m.; Epworth league prayer meeting at 6.39 p. m.

St. Luke's parish—Rev. Rogers Israel, rector; Rev. Edward J. Haughton, curate. Second Sunday in Advent. St. Luke's church; 7.39 a. m., Holy Communion; 9.15 a. m., Sunday school; 16.39 a. m., morning prayer, sermon and Holy Communion; 1.39 p. m., evening prayer and sermon. St. Mark's, Dunmore; 7.39 a. m., Holy Communion; 19.39 a. m., morning prayer, Litany and sermon; 3 p. m., Sunday school; 7.39. m., Sunday school; 7.39.

The addition of a large cross to the Communion; 16.30 a. m., morning prayer.
Litany and sermen; 3 p. m., Sunday
school; 7.30 p. m., evening prayer and
sermon. St. George's, Olyphant. Edward's hall: 2.30 p. m., Sunday school;
2.30 p. m., evening prayer and addresses.
South Side mission, Fig street: 2.30 p. m.,
Sunday school; 2.30 p. m., evening prayer eran church has greatly improved the South Side mission, Fig street: 2.30 p. m., Sunday school; 3.30 p. m., evening prayer and sermon. East End mission, Pres-cott avenue: 2.30 p. m., Sunday school, Washburn Street Presbyterian church— Rev. John P. Moffatt, pastor, Services at

19.39 a. m. and 7.39 p. m.; Bible school, at 12 m.; Senior Christian Endeavor, at 6.29 p. m.; Junior Christian Endeavor, at Spicker has likewise introduced the Spicker has likewise introduced the proper attitude of the pastor in prayer by turning to the altar. These may seem matters of indifference and yet the Liturgical service of the Lutheran church call for both in the fullest expression in the act of public worship.

6.29 p. m.; Junior Christian Endeavor, at 2.33 p. m.; prayer meeting, Wednesday, 7.39 p. m. At the morning service the sacrament of the Lord's supper. Infant and adult baptism will be administered. New members will also be received. In the evening the pastor will preach on "Responsibility." Please hand in subscription cards for the church debt. All are cordially invited to all of these services. re cordially invited to all of these ser-

> Green Ridge Presbyterian church-The Green Ridge Presbyterian church—The sacrament of the Lord's supper will be observed at the morning service, 16,30. Evening service, at 7,30, sermon by Rev. Isaac J. Lansing, D. D. Meeting of Endeavor society at 6,30. Bible school at 12 o'clock, at which Miss Martin will sing. The public cordially welcome.

> Howard Place African Methodist Epis-opal church-Rev. H. A. Grant, B. D., copal church—Rev. H. A. Grant, B. D., pastor, 16,30 a. m., subject, "Experience;" 12,16, Sunday school and missionary society; 7 p. m., Christian Endeavor; 7,40 p. m., subject, "The God of the Christian and the God of the Infidel." At 3,45 p. m., the pastor will preach for the Rallroad Young Men's Christian association in their hall, on Luckawanna ave-

> The Prohibition Congregational church 223 Adams avenue at 19,29 a. m. and 7,3) p. m.: Sunday school at 12 m. Morning subject, "The Supreme Test;" evening subject, "Theater-going Church Mem-bers." Everybody welcome. First Fresbyterian church—Rev. James

McLeod, D. D., pastor, Services 10:39 a. m. and 7:39 p. m. Dr. McLeod will preach at both services. Strangers welcome. The service in the evening will be largely a ervice of praise. Cedar Avenue Methodist Episcopal church-Rev. J. L. Ruce, pastor. Church services at 10.30 a. m. and 7.30 p. m.,

preaching by the paster morning and evening. Sunday school at 11.30 a. m.; Epning. Sunday school at 11.39 a. m.; Ep-worth league at 6.39 p. m. All the usual week evening meetings. The Second Presbyterian church—Rev. Charles E. Robinson, D. D., pastor. Services, 19,39 a. m. and 7,39 p. m. The pastor will preach in the evening on "The Tharkerights."

Thanksgiving Aftermath." All are wel-Corner of Summer avenue and Price Grace Reformed Episcopal church-arcet. Rev. L. R. Poster, pastor. Morn- Wyoming avenue, below Mulberry street. ng service at 10.30 o'clock. Short sormon by the paster. Topic. "Communion with God." The Lord's supper will be cele-"Why We Are commemorative of the twenty-fourth anniversary of the founding of our denomination. Commun-ion in the evening. All Christians welcome to the Lord's table. Sabbath school. Wednesday evening at 7.3 12 m.: Young People's Society Christian ayer treeting.

Endeavor, 6.30 p. m. Seats all free at all services. Strangers always welcome. Thursday evening at 7.45 o'clock, the Union Bible class for lesson study. All

per. Subject, "Cleansing, Then Filling,"
7 p. m., song service and preaching by paster. Subject, "Succeeding Rippics."
All Souis Universalist church—Rev. P. W. Whippen paster. Morning subject, "A Word With Ourselves;" evening subject, "Doctrine About Gost,"
Penn Avenue Raptist Church—Dr. Dixon will preach at Penn Avenue Baptist church Sunday morning at 19,30, "The Joy of Then—the Inspiration of Now."
The ordinance of baptism will be administered. Evening, 7,30, "The Essential Fool," No. 1 in series on "The Fools of the Bible," Mr. Watkins will 6 lag "The Lord Is My Shepherd" and "In the Indian Rev. Choir. Seats free; all welcome.

NICK IN OUR CHINA THE PATHOS OF LIFE

> The Theory of Household Accidents, According to the Cook.

> > CHIPPED

POSSESSIONS

The Person Who Takes Nicks Out of Our Gowns, Our Friends, Our Warning We Should Heed.

There was never a woman in the wide world who didn't abbor nicks in china. I dare say the heathen in her blindness who has bowed down to wood and stone for generation after generation feels desolate when she discovers a nick in her favorite god and her modern civilized sister is whelmed with dismay and grief when a pet dish, by association dear is found to have mysteriously acquired a similar blemish. Of course it did itself, Nobody touched that dish. With the depravity of inanimate objects, it ran up against the faucet or tumbled it-self into a sink corner. If by the least possibility anybody knows about the matter it is sure to have been an accident, such as occurred the other day, when in the kitchen of one of the handsome bomes of the city the cook placidly poured boiling water from the tea kettle into a beautiful glass lee pitcher until the natural results ensued. The cook thereafter insisted with calm assurance that it was "an accident.

Whether produced by accident or malice aforethought a chipped dish is a horror to its owner, who will generally prefer it in the shape of a total wreck than with even the tiniest nick apparent. The average maid of all has different views and frequently exercises not a little ingentity, it would seem, in taking chips out of plates and saucers in systematic order, while a handleless cup affords superior charms. The housemistress may in desperation decide to keep out a portion of the ex-pense out of the destroyer's wages, but is sure to feel very uncomfortable after taking this course and to be con-vinced that the annoyance of the loss is aggravated by such a process. It is more than difficult to convey an

adequate idea of the cost of china to the mind of the average kitchen divinity. One I have in mind broke a valu-Rev. Dr. Bird pastor. There will be regular preaching service on Sabbath in No. rare in design. The mistress sat down rare in design. The mistress sat down and cried. She didn't often show such weakness; but the cup and saucer was a gift from a loved friend and held value beyond the cost. The cook was really touched by such grief and on her afternoon cut she returned proudly conveying an enormous moustache cup and saucer appropriately labeled "To one I love" in huge gilt letters. "It's very much bigger ma'am, than the dinky little wan that fell over when I looked at it," she explained, "and it has a great bit of gold on it." What could the poor lady do? Like

the other one to whom was presented a ten-cent dish somewhat larger than the one of cut glass, price fifteen dollars, that the second girl "dusted" one day, she couldn't say anything unless she were really very much wrought up indeed. One is always consumed with wonder as to whether the domestics continue their march of devastation through their own china when they attain to the dignity of a home. China isn't our only treasured pos-

session which suffers nicks, and the house-maids and cooks aren't the only iconoclasts. There are a great many people who enjoy nicking the dearest idols we have known and we are not privileged to charge them in dollars and cents for the costs. They take chips out of our new gloves by telling us that the particular brand we are wearing isn't as satisfactory as a different one which they have found, They nick the new gown that was before complete and utterly desirable in our estimation. We rever feel well-dressed in it thereafter. They scale a rough, jagged chip out c the new home that has cost so much sacrifice and so many anxious days and nights, by remarking sweetly: "What a dear little place it is, but how very small your rooms seem. How do you manage when you want to entertain a large company?" Perhaps the entertainment of a multitude had not entered into the calculations when the precious house was planned. It was the home we wanted. The roof tree of our own. the spot where those nearest could be gathered or with them the others whom we really wanted around us, We may be very sensible, with sturdy, independent opinions of our own, but somehow that hateful little nick is evident at times and we feel rather resentful toward the one who inificted it upon the possession we had believed beyond criticism.

There is the person who compliments your youngest son thus: "Dear me, what a fine, handsome boy Joe is growing to be. What a pity that he toes In!" Now, you've never before

felt that Joe's toeing in was likely to seriously interfere with his future career, but somehow you suddenly realize that you have been very remiss in not having a surgical operation on the offending toes in early childhood,

Then there are the people who take nicks out of your friends-real sharpedged chips that gleam in unlovely white patches against the soft coloring that made the beauty of the ones we love and trust. They know that cou ere much attached to a certain friend upon whem you look with reverence, and suddenly one day they strike a spiteful chip out by saying in Opinions. Hopes and Fears-Not response to your expressed admiration for her: "Yes, she is certainly very charming and is wonderfully attractive, but did you ever hear that little story about her in younger days " Of course you immediately declare that you didn't, and do not believe any little story that could be told derogatory to her and do not want to know about it. but it is a chip out of your beautiful treasure and loval and true as is your friendship, you often wish there were some way of repairing that chipped place, so that you couldn't even remember that it was there. That is the trouble with chipped china and other valued possessions. You don't so much fear that other people will notice the flaws, because sometimes you might be able to eleverly contrive that they may be hidden, but what you do mind is your own consciousness that the defect is there all the time.

> Sometimes the person destructively inclined breaks an ugly little chip out of your faith, which is never again so symmetrical and lovely. Sometimes it is your belief in yourself which is marred. This may not be such an irreparable calamity after all, as by careful readjustment of position, a new standpoint may develop unexpected attractions. It is more bitter when the faith in one dear as your own life is chipped even the tiniest bit, by a malicious or tactiess acquaintance. This is indeed a sorrow, often more pittless than death. When faith in some mortal has "become a passic ate intuition" it is always a weeful thing to have it even faintly disfigured by a chance word of a "frank" third person. Oh, these awful frank people and these careless servants! What a trial they are to be sure. It is a pity that we do not use them as horrible examples to warn us against rough handling of the pet notions, the foibles the reputation of others, as we would of their costly china or dainty bric-abrac. Oh, for the velvet touch of speech as well of fingers.

Saucy Bess.

Titles in Norway.

From the Chicago Inter-Ocean. To fully understand the democratic pirit and simplicity of the Norwesian it my be of interest to know that the Storthing, some years ago, abolished as incompatible with true democracy such su-perfluous ornaments as his or her mujes-ty, or his or her royal highness, etc., in officially addressing or referring to mem-hers of the royal family. The Storthing, when rendering an address or a bill, or any other communication to the king, beads it simply, "Til kongen" ("To the King"). As a matter of course, in speak. ing to the king, or to any other member of the royal family, "your majesty" or "your royal highness" is used. The press, with the exception of a few ultra-conser-vative papers, has followed the example set by the Stortkie. Such honorary titles for certain public officials as "his excellency," or "the honorable," have also fallen out of use, but many of the public officers retain their official title ancer they step out of office, as, for example, one who has once been a member of the cubinet always afterward retains the title "statsrand" (state councillors, I may also add that Norway has no re-cegnized titled notility, as the Storthin; in 1821 abolished that relie from the Mil-

No Reason to Make Fxcuse. From the Cleveland Leader,

"Come and take lunch with me today," ald one business man to another. "I can't. I've an appointment." 'Can't you break it?"

"No; a man has promised to come to my office at noen and pay me some "Oh, then, that's all right. I'll order unch for two, He won't come

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