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debeau's voice called over the fence in rasping accents: 'There's a chicken dinner for you, Binkford.'

Binkford set down his ash pan and picked up a Plymouth Rock pullet with its neck wrung. He looked at the chicken and then he looked at Ganderbeau, who was scowling over the fence at him. But, being a very good-natured man, he said pleasantly, 'Thank you, old man. This is very kind of you.' Then he took the chicken back into the house.

Two more Plymouth Rock pullets with their necks wrung were discovered by Binkford in his garden the morning following, and the day after that there was another one. Shortly after this he saw Ganderbeau in his garden and remonstrated with his good-natured way.

'It's all very well to be neighborly, Gand,' he said, 'but you're carrying it to an extreme. Those pullets are dandy eating-tenner as they can be. I believe I could eat such pullets for another week without getting tired of them, but I don't want you to rob yourself.'

'What do you mean?' snarled Ganderbeau. 'If you've got too many pullets, why don't you turn 'em in to Stenson?' said Binkford. 'He'd be glad to have 'em. By the way, have you noticed that there's a hole in your wire netting? It's big enough for rats to get in—or pullets to get out. Right over in the corner there. There's a hen trying to get through now.'

Ganderbeau looked and then dashed for the hole with a howl of rage. It is since then that he has been so particularly grumpy when he meets Binkford.

But Binkford says 'Shucks! It takes two to make a quarrel'—Chicago News.

IRELAND'S ANIMALS. There are no Moles and No Snakes, But Many Variants Abound.

It is not correct to say that there are no frogs or toads in Ireland, though it is very remarkable that the common toad is not found there. The natterjack toad is a native of Kerry, though it does not appear to be found elsewhere. It is an example of the mania which some people have for meddling with nature that a Dr. Gulliver in 1699 took the trouble to procure frogs' spawn from England, since which time they have multiplied in Ireland. But the common lizard is found in many parts of the island. The slowworm is not. Though the common toad, and until recent times the frog, was not found in Ireland, it is worth remembering that the English reptiles and batrachians are very local in their distribution.

The natterjack toad is only found in certain counties. The edible frog was formerly only found in Fountains Fen, in Cambridgeshire, and the sand lizard is most capricious in the choice of a home. The 'beautiful green insect' which Gilbert White saw on the sunny banks near Farnham, are to be found there still, the males being of the green color; and also near Bournemouth, and in Dorsetshire beyond Poole Harbor. Yet there are many suitable places where none are seen, and then they reappear again on some sand hills on the coast of Lancashire, near Southport.

# Woman's Health

Some Refined Distinctions. There was a delightful schoolmistress who used thus to impress on her scholars certain refined distinctions: 'My dears, horses sweat, young men perspire, young women are all in a glow.' In those outspoken days, when a spade is called at the very mildest a spade, the gentle emphasis is a matter for amusement, to be laughed at with affectionate patronage like an old-time gown out of grand-mother's chest.

Young ladies have disappeared and girls get quite as warm as their brothers nowadays, and on the whole the change is vastly for the better, frankness being own sister to truth and mortal foe to affectation. Yet, the farther we go from the bovine days, the more inevitably we must recognize a price paid for our freedom, a certain stately charm gone out of life and human intercourse.

The formality of those times made barriers, and in barriers, after all, lie the half of romance. It is the face beneath the veil that we are most eager to see, the voice behind the wall that tempts us to the most strenuous climbing. What could be prettier or more inaccessible than a young woman all in a glow?

Man is still at heart essentially old-fashioned, and the modern girl, rebelling in her new equipment of frankness and courage and unconventionality, sometimes finds him strangely unresponsive. Theoretically he is thoroughly in sympathy with her, as a reasonable being must needs be, but for all that he dimly realizes that something is missing—a price has been paid. The ostentatiously modest scoop bonnet, with its defensive ruffle behind and its lace curtain across the front, give a piquancy that the unveiled intercourse of today can never attain.—Indianapolis News.

Danger in High Heels. Since the accident to a French Countess through the wearing of high-heeled shoes, their merits and demerits have been discussed by several French women's papers. Sarah Bernhardt, who was interviewed on the subject, says: 'High heels are exquisite for the woman who knows how to wear them. Everyone does not know how. A happy medium must be struck. I can see no reason in the world why there should be any danger from wearing high heels. The great argument in their favor is that they are prettier than low ones.'

A shoemaker famous for his Louis XV. heel, has also written upon this all-important topic. 'Some women,' he says, 'are content with the heel moderately high, but many of them ask for it high enough to make a lover of feet gasp. 'We sell a great many two and one-half inches high. A heel of that measurement looks something like a stile, for to have any style about it it must be very slender and curved. The high heel certainly throws a woman somewhat out of balance unless the shoe is properly manufactured, but if the front of the foot rests well on the ground, —as it should in a properly made Louis XV. shoe—the danger is well overcome.'

Doctors, of course, consider high heels most harmful, and women who have much walking exercise have long since given them up. But so long as the high-heeled shoe reduces the apparent size of the foot and increases the height of the wearer, the vanity of women will prevent its banishment.—Philadelphia Record.

Chevrons on a Rain Coat. Chevrons of stitched cloth or of gilt bullion, originally meant to decorate the upper part of the sleeve, have now abandoned their arm station and have taken their place on the front panel of rain coats and cloaks. They are used like stitched straps, partly for ornament and partly to support the buttons or buttonholes, which help to fasten these outdoor garments.

This is especially noticeable where a box-front is used. This is the case with a smart raincoat of Army blue cloth entirely waterproof and not too heavy. It is double faced and shows a crimson and blue check on the inside. The coat has a box front produced by a straight panel, machine stitched, cut in one with the entire shoulder yoke. The coat has been fitted to the shoulders and lies quite smooth and the fronts, of course, are double-breasted. Below the broad yoke which rests low on the shoulder descends a smart little cape of stitched cloth, which falls to the elbow. Beneath this cape descend sleeves of comfortable fulness, gathered into roomy cuffs. From the front panel or box front are spaced seven chevrons of stitched cloth. These have each two buttonholes and a single button stitched to the right side. The buttonholes to the left receive the buttons sewed to the left side of the cloak, which folds under the box panel and so fastens the garment.

# Simple Fashions

New York City.—Every woman who has ever been ill knows the necessity of a light wrap that can be slipped on over the night gown without effort.



INVALID WRAP.

This one, designed by May Manton, amply fulfills that requirement and is dainty and attractive at the same time that it is comfortable. In addition to serving this first legitimate use it becomes a most satisfactory simple negligee or lounging jacket. As shown the material is French damask, in a Persian design, with bands of plain Habutai silk in harmonizing color, and is tied with soft ribbons, but any soft wool material is appropriate. The wrap can be made in one piece or seamed at the back as preferred and is cut out beneath the arms, the edges being tied together, after it is thrown over the shoulders, to form the sleeves.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is three and one-quarter yards twenty-seven or thirty-six inches wide when made without a seam, three and one-quarter yards twenty-seven, or two and one-quarter yards thirty-six inches wide when made with a seam with two yards twenty-one, or one yard twenty-seven or thirty-six inches wide for bands.

Velvet in Great Variety. Velvet, which is being much used for sitting and reception gowns, is of a new and wonderful softness and comes in many varieties. Besides the many stamped and printed designs there are some inlaid with satin spots and stripes and others of changeable colors, which shade from brown to deep

# A Late Design by May Manton.



orange or from petunia to pale heliotrope. The trimming of velvet gowns is, of necessity, simple, and lace—Irish or renaissance—is much used for this purpose.

Variety in Silks. Never were silks more lovely or more varied. There are a dozen new weaves, some of the richest showing disks and figures of velvet ombre of the color of the ground or a contrasting shade. Many of the light colored silks are woven with velvet figures, flowers and leaves of the natural colors. Martele velvets resemble embossed velvets, but have gone through a slightly different process, giving the pattern a vague, shadowy effect.

Skirt of Black Broadcloth. Nothing could be prettier for the blue-eyed, blond-haired lass than a short-skirt of black broadcloth, cut so as to show the graceful lines of the lithe young figure, and a black knitted jacket. The latter has knitted revers in a baby blue running the length of the blouse front, and the narrow cuffs and rather wide rolling collar are of the same delicate shade.

White and Brown. The combination of white and brown is also popular. White cloth or white suede embroidered in browns and showing a glint of gold forms delightful waistcoats, collars, cuffs, etc., and one handsome evening coat is of white cloth applique in brown velvet, embroidered in brown and gold, and lined with frills of brown chiffon on a soft silk foundation.

# HOUSEHOLD MATTERS

To Cut Off a Bottle. A bottle may be cut off by wrapping a cord saturated in coal oil around it several times, then setting fire to the cord and just when it has finished burning, plunging the bottle in cold water and tapping on one end to break. Oddly shaped or prettily colored bottles make good vases. The top of a large bottle having a small neck makes a good funnel. Large round bottles make good jelly glasses. Sheet glass may be cut in the same way when one has no glass cutter.—Good Housekeeping.

Rejoice For the Cooks. Twenty thousand different sorts of articles is said to be a conservative estimate of the contents of a single house furnishing department. A large proportion of the wares are inventions for lightening kitchen and dining room work. No cook or laundress with ordinary will do her work in an anxious, laborious manner, when her friends are furnished with 'short cuts' to the same ends. A rack for cooking forks and spoons could be easily home made. It is simply a strip of wood perforated with round holes big enough to admit the long handles. The rack has screw eyes with which to hang it. An egg boiler alarm clock has a dial marked with seven minutes and a tone that would wake the cook if she were asleep. It can be set at any minute within the limit of the dial. By a backward motion the hand points off the seconds until the gong announces 'time up.' A little iron contrivance that screws to the kitchen table pares, cores and slices an apple while a person with a knife could think about it. With a more clumsy looking machine peas are shelled and 'looked over.'

A little bent and fluted instrument draws the butter from the lump into an individual shell shape in a twinkling. A 'handy dish' of papier mache has a division in the middle through which is cut a clutch handle. This is to accompany the scrubber with soap, hand soap and other needfuls. A screwdriver holds the head of a screw while it turns it to its place. For beating eggs, whipping cream and making mayonnaise dressing there is no end to inventions.

A Pie Cabinet. To protect pies and other provisions from the ants, make a swinging cabinet. This is more satisfactory than a swing shelf, as it may be closed with a door.

The original of the illustration is about three feet long and about eighteen inches in depth and width.



At each end is a series of shelves made of thin boards two inches apart to receive the pies, either on plates or in the baking tins. These shelves are narrower than the width of a pie, to admit of ease in handling. At the top is another shallow shelf for similar use. Then there is a larger open space in the centre to receive deep dishes, jars or cakes, as needed. The front is a door opening downward and fastening at the top.

A strong wire passes down the corners inside, through the bottom board and up on the opposite side, both ends terminating in a loop. To hang the box, ceiling hooks are inserted so as to enter the joists, and the wire loops caught over them. Four hooks make the box hang steeper, but two will do. It should be hung within easy reach, but must not touch the wall or anything as it hangs.—American Agriculturist.

# HINTS FOR THE HOUSEKEEPER

It saves time and strength when beating up a sponge to use a spoon with a perforated bowl. A wee bunch of cotton pressed firmly into the tip of thumb and fingers of kid gloves will prevent ripping and postpone the day of shabbiness indefinitely. Do not fail to save the best parts of old undershirts for wash rags. Bound with white braid or white ribbon they may be dainty enough for even the spare room. A small scrubbing brush kept solely for the purpose is convenient for cleaning spots from garments. It is also useful on wash day for articles which are too stiff to rub on the washboard. Such things as heavy air-burn holders made of several pieces of cloth can be laid on the scrub board and scrubbed clean with this brush and strong suds. Sauerkraut is fine eating with fresh pork. However, it is well to remember that kraut will not keep well; if you remove too much of the juice it will not keep well in too warm place. On the other hand, it is not injured by freezing, as one might suppose. We have a German family in our town who make a barrel of sauerkraut every fall, which lasts them all winter until late in the spring. A good soap for those who have rough work to do with their hands, such as tending fires, sifting ashes, etc., is made by melting some good soap, as castile, by cutting it in small pieces, moistening it with water and setting it on the stove where it will gradually melt. When it simmers, and there are no lumps, stir in Indian meal until it is thick and add one teaspoonful of tincture of benzoin. Best until it is cold; then pour into a mold.—Farm Journal.

There were at the time of the last statement 90,935 stockholders in the Steel Corporation. The number of ants in a nest varies from 12,293 to 93,094. These figures are from a recent count of five nests.