WOMAN'S WORLD.

A WOMAN WHO INVENTS AND DOES OTHER THINGS WELL.

Women as Shipping Clerks—Octavia Williams Bates—The Breakfast Jacket—International Woman's Congress—Working Girls' Clubs.

The first woman who has invented any mechanical appliance relating to the bicycle is Mrs. Sadie W. Bodine of New York city.

An invention for women by a woman has a practical ring to it, and an enthusiastic wheelwoman is bound to know the needs of her fellow wheelwomen as no mere man could, however laudable his intentions. In riding a wheel Mrs. Bodine found that the greatest drawback to her comfort was her inability to keep her skirt from being blown about with the wind, no matter how substantial the material used or how heavily it was weighted. She set

MRS. SADIE BODINE.

about to design some contrivance for her own convenience, and a clever invention was the result.

Mrs. Bodine comes honestly by her knack of inventing useful contrivances. She is a great-great-granddaughter of Gethne Wood, the inventor of the cast iron plow and the metal door lock. Her father, the late Albert H. Wood, made some of the most valuable inventions in plate forks and was the first to introduce rubber into their construction.

Mrs. Bodine's first invention was an improved variety of sewing machine needles. Besides her ingenuity in mechanical lines, she is well known as a designer and furnisher of artistic apartments, and has written several popular musical songs. This remarkably versatile woman has seen but a quarter of a century, and possesses a charm of manner and grace of person that are somewhat startling to associate with machinery and patent offices.—New York Tribune.

Women as Shipping Clerks.

One of New York's biggest dry goods emporiums demonstrates his faith in women's executive ability. From basement to roof his establishment is almost entirely under feminine control.

The delivery department was the first one intrusted to the care of the gentler sex, its success inviting others to follow. The young woman superintendent is not masculine in her appearance. She has entire charge of this department, engaging and discharging help at her pleasure. She is personally responsible to the firm for the correct delivery of all goods purchased in the store.

Directly under her supervision come the delivery wagons, as many drivers and between 25 and 30 boys. There are also a number of shipping clerks assisting her in various ways and between 10 and 12 porters.

Practically she must arrange the routes and assign them to the drivers, listen to all complaints and smooth out difficulties arising therefrom. Withal she is a very charming little person.

"You know, I am merely a wage earner, that's all. Yes, I believe my place is rather unusual, but not more so than many of the other young women's places," were her replies to questions. "I have complete charge of my department, but do not find the work too laborious. Of course I employ as many of my own sex as possible, and things generally run very smoothly. Women are more reliable, I believe, in their business relations than men. That is why they are preferred here."

Among 50 women employed in superior places in the main office of the firm there was scarcely a plain face.—New York Sun.

Octavia Williams Bates.

Miss Octavia Williams Bates of Detroit enjoys the unique distinction of being president of the postgraduate law class of the University of Michigan. The honor in the greater as the law class to graduate this school year will be the first to complete the new four years' course. The presidency of the law classes is as eagerly sought as any political office. There are but three or four women in the law department, and Miss Bates is leader of the coterie. She has been honored before by minor offices in her class. Her prompt experience at the university is not her first. She was one of the first women to enter, and in 1877 she took the degree of bachelor of arts.

Regarding her first experience, Miss Bates has said, "When I entered the university, as the higher education of women was still in its experimental stage, I anticipated a great deal that would be difficult and hard to bear; but, having determined to secure a thorough education, I nerved myself to endure all things to that end." She says that she has found herself having a good time.

She is taking the law course, not with the idea of practicing law, but that she may be able to disentangle legal knots in her own business and may be able to put her knowledge to use in the interest of women. Miss Bates has been president of the Woman's club of Detroit, has been a member of the board of directors of the Association for the Advancement of Women and a member of the board of directors of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

The Breakfast Jacket.

The breakfast jacket this season has taken the place of the breakfast gown. It is made of a variety of materials and is worn generally with a skirt to match. The most inexpensive are made of flannelette, and the most costly of silk. Some of the elaborate ones, with a skirt to match, are almost as expensive as a party gown. The silk skirt is trimmed with lace ruffles and the jacket made with a lace bolero. But for everyday wear the breakfast jacket of flannelette is the most serviceable. One dainty French model recently seen was of pale violet flannelette, trimmed with baby ribbon in deep violet. The jacket was made with a full loose front and a bolero of coarse cream lace. The yoke was striped with lines of the baby ribbon, which in the center were fastened in a knot with many loops. The collar was a high frill of violet silk, edged with three rows of the ribbon velvet. The sleeve was made with a short puff at the shoulder, which was finished with five rows of the ribbon wound about the arm and then tied in a bow. The deep cuff of the sleeve was made of two lace frills and headed by rows of baby ribbon.

The skirt to be worn with this jacket was made of flannelette of the same color. A deep flounce of violet silk finished it at the bottom. The flounce was almost entirely covered by rows of the baby velvet ribbon in the dark shade of violet. Cashmere breakfast jackets trimmed with lace are also very pretty. They may be worn with a skirt to match, or one of silk. One seen recently was of bright scarlet cashmere trimmed with black lace insertions and narrow black velvet ribbons.—Chicago Times-Herald.

International Woman's Congress.

The international woman's congress, which met last September in Berlin has been a wonderful success. It has been a genuine revelation in the German community. The tone of the press has undergone a complete change. Instead of flippant sarcasm or serious disapproval the newspapers are now animated by a friendly spirit. The women and their doings are treated with respectful attention. The calm and dignified tone of the discussions has won universal approval. The New York Nation says:

Even the exchange of views between the Socialdemokratinnen and the more conservative majority of the participants in the congress did not lead to intemperance of language or exhibitions of violent antagonism, a circumstance with which foreign delegates have been favorably impressed. English and French delegates have expressed their surprise at the remarkable self control and matter of fact ways of the German women. The latter, in their turn, are deriving from occurrences at the congress encouragement for the future reconciliation of the classes through the mediation of women. One of their special objects of agitation just now is the revision by the new reichstag two years hence of certain sections of the new civil code of the empire, which will not take effect till the year 1900.

Working Girls' Clubs.

There is a federation comprising 23 working girls' clubs of Boston and vicinity. The work of one of these clubs, the Shawmut, was described by Miss Edith M. Howe at a recent meeting of the good citizenship class:

For the past year the club has interested itself especially in the outside lives of the working women.

An investigation of the moral conditions in which they are placed has been carried on. Factory girls have been most ready to report, and their reports have in general been much more favorable than those of girls employed in stores, but even here girls of innate purity of character and motive are safe, with a few exceptions. Only one or two employers were found in Boston who subjected girls to extraordinary temptations, and against these men working girls were warned.

Some of the girls rather resented this sort of investigation and asked why the club workers did not do something practical, such as taking measures for the bettering of wages and the obtaining of shorter hours. In consequence the subject of early closing was agitated, and an organization was formed among the women, similar to the beneficial association of young men clerks, with a membership of over 100.

Women and Money Matters.

It has often been noted that women are more honorable in money matters than men, and that it is far less rare to have a small loan paid back by a woman than by a man. This fact, again, appears to us to be fully explained by the trustee theory of woman's attitude toward money. Women are not honester in other things than men, but the notion of money being a trust overrides and dominates other considerations. The man who borrows is very apt to forget all about the matter. The woman who borrows feels that a double trust runs with the money, and she cannot rest till she has repaid it. No doubt there are here also many exceptions, because there are many bad women, but at least it is safe to say that women are far less careless about money matters than men, and therefore less likely to commit the small acts of pecuniary dishonorableness which come from negligence. Take it as a whole, women are more careful about money matters than men and attach more importance to money; hence it happens that they never make great fortunes, seldom go bankrupt, and generally are rather more scrupulous than men in small pecuniary transactions.—London Spectator.

Heroism in Women.

Miss Mona Barrows, a young teacher in the Home For Feeble Minded Children, Vineland, N. J., rescued a boy of 14 from the flames when the home was destroyed by fire yesterday. She had helped to guide the children out of the burning house, and, discovering that the boy had been forgotten in his room, she dashed into the building, ascended to his room and by main force and against his will carried him into the open air. In performing this heroic feat Miss Barrows was seriously injured and is now under the care of a physician.

The Newark Advertiser says: "Heroism of men is recognized and rewarded by the national, state and municipal governments. The federal government gives medals to life savers and has a host of pensioners on its rolls. The state has voted medals and pensions for heroic acts or injuries received in the performance of duty. Municipalities have their methods of rewarding heroism in men. The state of New Jersey has the opportunity now to honor heroism in women."

A Serious, Earnest Woman.

Mrs. Lucinda H. Stone, whose pioneer work in Michigan along suffrage, educational, journalistic and club lines has won her golden opinions, is spending the winter in Washington, the honored guest of a former pupil, Mrs. Blount, who is prominent in club and intellectual life in that city. In a letter to the Charlotte (Mich.) Tribune Mrs. Stone writes interestingly of distinguished persons she has recently met and says: "There was Mrs. Warren, wife of Senator Warren of Wyoming, with whom I had a very interesting conversation on the Wyoming subject, woman suffrage, in which she is an enthusiastic believer. She is a fine looking woman and very interesting—a serious, earnest woman, who talks because she has something to say; believes in woman suffrage because she believes in women; that they are the mother heart of the nation and just as necessary to it as the individual heart is to the individual person."

Women and Parliament.

There seems to be still a chance for those few members of our sex who covet the right to sit in parliament. It appears that, in the views of some who are qualified to form an opinion on such matters, the supply of parliamentary candidates is decreasing, and the decline is likely to become still more serious as those who are eligible for such service come to realize more and more the inadequacy of the reward which the life of an "M. P." offers, as compared with the trouble and expense necessary to secure election. But if the supply of male candidates fail there will be nothing for it but to fall back upon the "emancipators" of our sex, who may thus be provided with an opportunity of rushing in where the male creature refuses any longer to tread.—Lady's Pictorial.

Mrs. Avery Is Not Wealthy.

Mrs. Rachel Foster Avery, while attending the recent executive meeting of the Woman's National Council in Boston, was described by some of the papers as a woman worth $2,500,000. A few years ago Mrs. Avery had abundant means and gave liberally to the suffrage cause. A few years hence she is likely to have abundant means again and will then no doubt contribute with her usual generosity. But we have the best authority for saying that, through certain business complications, Mrs. Avery is at present the reverse of rich. The newspaper report about her millions, by which many women would have been flattered, has been a cause of sorrow to her, as it has brought her many applications to which she is quite unable to respond.—Boston Letter.

China Closet Hints.

Irregular edges are in favor for plates, saucers and all sorts of dishes except cups. They are, so far, smooth edged.

White and gold china is enjoying as much popularity as in our grandmothers' day, the plain gilt band being now, as then, the favorite decoration. Filigree borders are also seen, and gilt monograms of varying degrees of ornateness are set in the center of the dishes.

Gray china is one of the season's novelties. Another is a peculiar faint green known as Flemish.

All the new coffee and tea cups are in the low bowl shapes, with outturned tops. The after dinner coffee cups are smaller than ever. In the heart shape they are very dainty.

The Fourth Star.

The supreme court of Idaho has decided that the woman suffrage amendment is carried. Any other decision would have been clearly unjust, since the vote in favor of the women was nearly two to one. The political equality clubs can now take out the stars which they had prepared to sew upon the suffrage flags for California and sew them on for Idaho. We have our fourth star, after all.—Boston Woman's Journal.

The disposition to utilize all unusual and foreign products is illustrated in the chairs seen in some shops. They are made of the plaited Malay mats, mounted, to form a sweeping back, upon an American frame. They suitably contribute to the odd and artistic furniture which abounds in these days.

Lovely medallions of Coalport and Doulton china, exquisitely hand painted and about the size of a silver dollar, are sold singly for use in confining the lace of a corsage or throat band.

The Grangers of New York have generally favored woman suffrage and are probably as yet the largest body of supporters of this reform in that state.—American Cultivator.

Much of the beautiful decorative work in the hall of the new horticultural building, in Philadelphia, was done by the women students of the School of Industrial Art.

The Women's Educational and Industrial union of Buffalo owns one of the largest and finest buildings in the city and has a membership of 1,038.

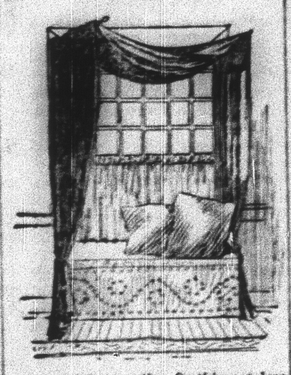
A Woman's Literary club in Paterson, N. J., has decided to organize for a political organization.

A COZY CORNER.

A Simple and Effective Way of Arranging a Window Seat.

Artistic hangings for windows may be made by placing a piece of fretwork across the upper pane of the window, and from it hanging a deep ruffle of dotted madras or lace of any pretty design.

A comfortable window divan may be easily made by nailing a wooden seat of good width along the window sill. This should be upholstered in a color which will harmonize with the other draperies in the room. The front of the seat should be made of brown leather, decorated with brass nails. On this seat place several bright, soft pillows. The curtains, which add so much to the artistic effect of the window, are hung on brackets or poles and are made of madras figured with gilt designs.



With a little ingenuity another window seat can be made by covering a large sized packing box with chintz or denim, richly embroidered, or any pretty material that suits the fancy and harmonizes with the rest of the room.

Brooklyn Catholic Women.

The work of the Catholic ladies in Brooklyn who have the management of the Women's Catholic association of that city is something of a departure from the usual routine of benevolent work undertaken by the women of that sect. The association, which is now three years old and very prosperous, is modeled closely on the lines of the Young Women's Christian association. It is a clubhouse for young women, where they can get almost any sort of helpful instruction and entertainment. There are free classes in plain sewing, preparatory dressmaking, penmanship and elementary English, and classes, at which a nominal fee is charged, in typewriting, stenography, bookkeeping, physical culture and other departments of direct commercial value to the members. On two evenings in the week a class of hospital nurses meets to receive instruction in invalid cookery, and a chafing dish course is engaging the attention of another class on one afternoon. An elaboration of the course in domestic science is intended to give its participants most thorough training in all home work. A series of entertainments, to consist of lectures, concerts and the like, is to be given on succeeding Wednesday evenings during the season.

Educational Facilities For Women.

Five or six years ago Mr. Washington Duke of Durham gave $85,000 to secure the location of Trinity college in Durham, being then the largest single donation for educational purposes ever given by a North Carolinian. At the recent session of the North Carolina Methodist conference at Kinston Mr. Duke, through President Kilgo, gave $100,000 to the endowment of Trinity college, with the solitary but far reaching condition that the trustees, upon its acceptance, will arrange for the admission of girls. Mr. Duke is a man of great practical sense. He has been studying Trinity college since it first moved to Durham. He has become convinced, just as Ezra Cornell came to believe, that when larger opportunities of higher education are offered to men they ought also to be given to women. In North Carolina Elon, Catawba, Guilford and Rutherford have been open to women, and the practice has worked well.—Raleigh (N. C.) News and Observer.

The Mothers' Congress.

The following are a few of the subjects to be discussed at the national congress of mothers to be held in Washington during the month of February: "The Moral, Physical and Mental Training of the Young," "Kindergarten Work and its Extension of Its Principles to More Advanced Studies," "A Love of Humanity and of Country," "The Physical and Mental Evils Resulting From Some of the Present Methods of Our Schools," "The Advantages That Follow From a Closer Relation Between the Influence of the Home and That of Institutions of Learning" and "The Best Means of Developing In Children Traits Which Will Elevate and Ennoble and Thus Assist In Overcoming the Conditions Which Now Prompt Crime and Make Necessary the Maintenance of Jails, Workhouses and Reformatories."

A Great Organization.

On Dec. 15, 23 years ago, the so called woman's crusade began in Fredonia, Chautauqua county, N. Y. It was a surprise to the country, and in the beginning was the subject of pleasantries and even ridicule.

Within a year, however, it had spread through so many states and had produced so many able leaders, from Miss Frances E. Willard and Mrs. Louise S. Rounds down to the officers of local unions, that the laughing died away, and the public realized that a new force had entered into American social and political life.

This was the starting of the Woman's Christian Temperance union, now a giant world's organization, out of which have grown a dozen other national organizations.—New York Mail and Express.

Little Sister of the Nation.

One of the most interesting personalities which the national congress of mothers brought to New York recently was that of Miss Jane Richards of Washington. Little Sister of the Nation would far more accurately describe Miss Richards' peculiar form of activity. Her special province is what she calls "Hilltop Talks of the World."

It is not in the sense of mothering her listeners that she talks; it is merely as an enthusiastic leader, in a mental jaunt over our civilization, noting salient facts. "All questions of international conflict are primarily questions of geography" is her maxim. Congressional affairs come under her broad review, and senators' wives are of those who peep at congress through the medium of her bright discourse.

When Li Hung Chang consented to receive Miss Richards and, after his habit, exhibited a determination to interview rather than be interviewed, the clever little woman aroused his curiosity by offering to tell him why so many American women remained unmarried.

"Why?" demanded his Chinese highness.

"For one reason," replied Miss Richards, "they have so many other resources. But the main cause is that they are rarely asked to marry by men who are their equals in intelligence."

And the earl pondered afresh on the many sided American woman.—New York World.

Dress Interlinings.

The general tendency is to discard all stiff interlinings on the newest gowns. This does very well where one can afford a crisp taffeta silk lining in each new dress, but when this is not possible not a few women are protesting against the use of nothing but a soft finished percaline lining, with no sort of interlining added even as a facing. They argue, and justly so, that a skirt so finished has a lank, unstylish appearance (especially if of soft wool fabric) after the so recent vogue of interlined, undulating skirts with a crisp flare and a certain cachet wholly absent in a soft lined model whose folds or bread the fall limp around the feet like those of a Quakeress. There are a number of fashionable modistes who have come to the rescue in this matter. They make an underskirt nearly as long as the dress skirt, employing crinoline, haircloth, moreen, etc., as may be preferred, for the foundation. This skirt can be covered with silk of some dark shade and if well cared for will last a long time. This skirt is gored on the front and sides, with a deep flounce at the bottom, and the three or four shirred or box plaited ruffles at the back are run through the inch wide hem at their edges with a single band of feather bone. Worn under the dress, all the slightly flaring effect of an interlined skirt is given.—New York Post.

The Army of Housekeepers.

As there are about the same number of women in this country as men, it will be seen that the proportion of the former at work at gainful occupations is smaller than is popularly supposed, only one in five being engaged at any work from which she derives a revenue, either in the form of wages and salary or profit in business. This does not mean that the other four-fifths of the women are idle, for they probably work as hard as the men, but that the labor they do produces nothing in a financial way. They are the housekeepers of the country, doing the sewing, cooking, nursing and other domestic service for most of the families. The prevalent belief that a majority of the women are typewriting, clerking or filling other positions from which they have crowded out the men is founded on error. The great majority of them are still at home attending to their household duties, and only a very small proportion are out in the world struggling with the other sex for a living.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

The Latest In Watches.

Watches are worn smaller than ever, and, although an effort was made last season to revive the watch chain, the effort met with no response, for watches are still fastened to the bodice with a jeweled brooch, and the chatelaine proudly holds its own. In Paris and New York the latest fad is to have a watch in the form of a bull, thickly incrusted with emeralds or diamonds with glittering green. Another watch, in fashion of a beetle, has a body of dull gold shining with gems. You touch a spring, and the wings open as if to fly, disclosing a peep of the time of day. Among other items of new jewelry are the Russian girdles with belts of white or colored enamel, wicked out with gems either false or real, according to the price one can afford.

How It Used to Be.

Here is a story told by a relative of Lady Langford, the original of Lady Kew in Thackeray's "Newcomes." Lady Langford had only once seen her cousin, Lord Langford, when he came to visit her grandmother, and the next day the old lady told her she was to marry him. 'Very well, grandmamma. But when?' 'I never in my life heard such an impertinent question,' said the grandmother. 'What business is it of yours when you are to marry him? You will marry him when I tell you. However, whenever you hear me order six horses to the carriage you may know that you are going to be married.' And so it was."

New Suffrage Association.

The Brooklyn Woman Suffrage association has just been incorporated. Its object, as stated in its charter, is to promote not only the political, but the industrial equality of women. The trustees of the organization for the first year are Mrs. Cornelia E. Hood, Mrs. Anna C. Field, Mrs. P. D. Halkstaff, Mrs. J. O. Perry, Mrs. C. K. Kary, Mrs. R. C. Talbot Perkins, Mrs. Mary H. Loomis, Mrs. Abbie L. Hass, Mrs. M. H. Hooper and Mrs. Marianna W. Chapman, all of Brooklyn.

FOR LITTLE FOLKS.

BARNEY AND DUKE.

How a Little Lost Boy Was Protected by His Big Dog.

Policeman Louis Schmidt of the Tremont station found a child and his dog at One Hundred and Seventy-sixth street and Third avenue. The little fellow, muffled up warmly, was seated on his red sled crying, and Duke was licking his face. If Duke could talk, he would probably have said:

"Don't be afraid, little one. I am here, and no one can harm you."

The snowflakes fell upon these two and made them just like a little snow boy and a big snow dog. Policeman Schmidt put his hand on the child, but Duke sprang at him and growled viciously. Duke is not a bad dog, but he was afraid something might happen to his little friend. Policeman Schmidt induced the child to follow him to the station house. He talked kindly to Duke, but the big Newfoundland did not trust him and would not make friends. The policeman was afraid of

Duke, so he walked ahead, and the little boy followed, dragging his red sleigh, with Duke close at his heels.

This picturesque group entered the station house about 2 p. m.

They were led into the section room, where Duke seemed to gain more confidence in those around him. He wanted help, not for himself, but for his little master. Finally he let a policeman examine his collar, and the bluecoat read aloud to the sergeant No. 21,563, the license number.

Then the telephone bell rang, and the sergeant repeated the numerals to the clerk away down town in the office of the Society For the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Duke's name is on its books alongside his license number. He is described there and his age is recorded, but best of all were his master's name and address.

There was only a few minutes' delay, when the clerk told the sergeant the name of Duke's master. The little boy's papa was thus learned to be Berthold Tismar, who lives at 502 Brook avenue. The little boy's name is Bernard. He is called Barney.

It was 3 p. m. when Mr. Tismar entered the station house. Barney ran to him. The father lifted the child in his arms and kissed him on his forehead, eyes, lips and his fat nose and little, dimpled chin. And Duke was very happy!—New York Journal.

A Bright Little Prince.

Prince Oscar, the son of the empress of Germany, is a very bright, cheerful little fellow just turned 8 years of age. He is passionately fond of all things relating to seafaring matters, and if his present bent may be taken as an indication of what he eventually may become it is very probable that he may represent the children of the German emperor in the navy. He has a magnificent collection of river craft of all kinds, from a towing boat to a man-o'-war. The wealthy subjects of the emperor get to know all his children's likes and purchase for them most expensive toys, which they ask permission to present.

Prince Oscar's collection of marine toys would be sufficient to stock a good sized toyshop, and they present a very pretty sight when they are all let loose on one of the lakes adjoining the royal residence.

When They Were Naughty.

There were some queer modes of punishment for naughty girls and boys in our grandmothers' days. When stitches went awry in patchwork, the small fingers were smartly mapped with the sinewy forefinger and thumb, the former capped with a heavy thimble of huge dimensions. This was much more severe than the mere telling would imply, and the young culprits soon learned to dread it. Another punishment for minor offenses was to tie the naughty child's pinafore over its head and rapping the victim with a stiff busk, snatched out from the bosom of her dress, evidently carried there for that purpose.

A Merry Game.

Shadow buff is a right merry game, partaking somewhat of the form of a shadow pantomine. A threefold clothes-horse is brought up from the laundry, one about 5 feet high for preference. Across the three panels a sheet is tightly stretched, and a little lady who is to play the part of Mile. Buff is seated in front of the screen at a distance of a few feet. At the back a couple of candles are placed about 18 inches from the frame.

The various performers then pass behind the screen, disguising themselves by dress and gesture as much as possible, and it is the duty of Mile. Buff to guess the correct name.