

# WOMAN'S SPHERE

## FOR BABY'S PATTERNS.

A Case Which Would Delight the Heart of any Young Mother.

One of the daintiest gifts which could be made for a young mother, and one, too, which she would be sure to appreciate and find very useful, is a case for the patterns of baby clothes which will be sure to accumulate. To make such a case you must purchase one dozen large white envelopes at least nine and a half by four and a half inches in size. Very handsome envelopes may readily be made from some of the heavy white art papers, sold at any art stationery store, by using a common envelope for a pattern. When the envelopes are ready, cut a small hole through each lower corner of the entire twelve. Now place them in a pile, all opening the same way, and run a piece of white silk elastic through the holes at each end. Do not draw it tightly, but sew the ends loosely together so that the envelopes may be opened like the leaves of a book. When each elastic is joined sew on a pretty bow of white ribbon. To the upper side of the upper bow attach a piece of white baby ribbon about ten inches long, to which fasten a short lead pencil having a rubber in the end. Next make a band of the white elastic which shall fit rather loosely around the bunch of envelopes, and fasten it, where it is joined, to the under side of the lower bow. This is to serve to keep the whole in shape when filled with patterns, and is made loose in order to take in the requisite number.

If the giver is skillful with brush or pen and ink, a pretty baby's head or child's figure may be painted or drawn upon the outer part of the upper envelope, and beneath it the word "Patterns." If the drawing cannot be done, the words may be applied with fancy lettering in gilt, or prettier still, in silver. If the pencil attached be not white, it may be given a coat of gilding or silver, according to the color chosen for the lettering.

If it is desired to make the gift quite elaborate, a sketch may be drawn upon each envelope, or, in place of the sketch, a line or a verse may be lettered upon several, if not on all. Any of the following would be appropriate:



PATTERN CASE.

Doth wear out more apparel than the man," says Shakespeare.

"He not the first by whom the new is tried, Nor yet the last to lay the old aside." Pope.

"Order is Heaven's first law." Pope.

"Oh, what a world of beauty fades away With the winged hours of youth!"

"Nae shoos to hide her tiny tae, Nae stockin' on her feet, Her supple ankles white as snaw, Or early blossoms sweet."

"Her simple dress o' sprinkled pink, Her double, dimpled chin, Her puckered lips and balmy mou' With nae ane tooth within."

"Our wean's the most wonderfu' wean e'er I saw."

It is not wise to place the names of the patterns of the wardrobe upon the various envelopes, as the mother will find it more convenient to write these in pencil upon the flap of the envelope so they may be erased and re-written when the patterns are changed.

The same idea may be carried out for the patterns of the household as well as those for baby, and manilla envelopes may take the place of the more elaborate white ones.—J. D. Cowles, in Demorest's Magazine.

### Lack of Care Ruins Clothes.

It is not wear, but lack of care, that makes a bedraggled mass of one's best gown in a couple of months, and often it suffers most when not being worn. The way shopkeepers care for ready-made garments is an excellent object lesson. Coat-hangers are cheap, but half a barrel-hook, linen-wound, with a loop in the middle, is even cheaper, and answers the purpose as well. These are for the heavy skirts, waists and jackets. Thin garments should not be hung at all, as they grow stringy. These should be folded with light paper stuffed in sleeves and bows.

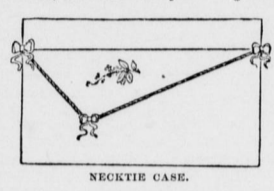
### Baked Liver and Bacon.

Have the liver sliced thin, pour boiling water over it, let stand a few minutes, then drain. Lay a layer of liver in a bake pan, then flour it well, pepper and salt, then a layer of thinly-cut bacon, and so on till all the liver is in, put a layer of bacon on top, pour a cup of boiling water over, and bake.

## VIOLET NECKTIE CASE.

Something Useful for Gentlemen of Fastidious Tastes.

A very dainty gift for a gentleman is a necktie case, and the one described cannot fail to please the most fastidious taste. The materials required are violet-colored plush and cream-colored satin, each twelve by twenty-one inches, and one and a half yards of two-inch cream color ribbon, and nearly two yards of silk cord. Cut one end of both materials as shown in the illustration, sew the two pieces together



NECKTIE CASE.

with layers of wadding, sprinkled with sachet powder between, and finish the edge with the silk cord.

Turn the revers back at one end and fasten the point to the case.

Turn two inches of the other end down over the revers and secure at each end under a bow of ribbon; place a bow on the point of revers.

A bunch of violets should be either painted or embroidered with Asiatic filo on the satin revers before putting the pieces together.

The neckties are to be slipped in at the end.—Good Housekeeping.

## ABOUT CAKE-MAKING.

### Some Hints Which Housewives Would Do Well to Remember.

There are many people who think they have fulfilled their duty as cake-bakers if they present a light cake. Yet a light cake may be as complete a failure as a heavy one. It may be perfectly risen, yet hard or dry and feathery, like so many bakers' cakes, suggesting nothing but sawdust. A perfect cake is delicate and moist in texture, and of such constituency as to fulfill the old housewife's phrase and "melt in the mouth." No cakes made by baking powder are quite as tender and moist as those risen with cream tartar and soda or with eggs alone. It is easy enough to make a cake tough by overbeating at one stage or underbeating at another. Where butter and sugar are used, they must be thoroughly creamed together, and the well-beaten yolks of the eggs added. The milk must now be put in by degrees. If it is poured in too rapidly the cake will surely curdle, and it is impossible to make a cake of fine grain from a curdled mixture. When the cake has reached this stage the whites of the eggs must be beaten to a stiff froth, but not too tough a froth or the cake will have a leathery constituency. A large majority of cakes are spoiled at this stage by toughening the white. It is unsafe to use any of the patented beaters, because with such a beater it is an easy matter to beat the eggs too much. The old-fashioned whisk, or spoon, of fine wire, which costs about five or six cents, is the safest and best egg-beater. Patented beaters are invaluable for beating salad dressing and for many other purposes. Beat the whites merely long enough for them to cling to the inverted whisk. Add them to the cake after the flour, folding them in with a slender wooden spoon, which is used by all the best cake-makers to stir cake. When the whites of the eggs have been put in the oven should be ready. There should be a strong body of fire, but the heat should be turned off so that the oven is only moderately hot. Put in the cake carefully, and take care that it raises in the pan before it begins to brown. When it is fully risen, increase the heat. A loaf of ordinary cake of average size will bake in forty or fifty minutes. Loaf cake will take an hour or an hour and a quarter. A pound cake ought to bake very slowly for two hours, and fruit cake should be baked four hours.—N. Y. Tribune.

### Foreign Particles in the Eye.

As the summer is the season of travel, and accidents to the eye are apt to occur from dust and cinders, a simple remedy for removing foreign particles from the eye will be found useful. Oculists are not always procurable in small places, so it is well for the tourist to provide against accidents. A small package of flaxseed will be found useful. If cinders or dust render the eye painful, place a flaxseed under the lid of the eye and close it; the mucilage which exudes from the seed alleviates the irritation, and the objectionable particle is apt to attach itself to the gelatinous seed, so that when it is removed the cinder or particles of dust are also removed.—Godey's Magazine.

### Goes Well with Creamed Chicken.

Potato puff is delicious with creamed chicken. To one pint of hot mashed potato add one teaspoonful of salt, one tablespoonful of pepper, half that quantity of celery salt, and hot milk enough to moisten well. When partly cooled add the yolks of two eggs beaten well and then put in the whites beaten stiff. Bake ten minutes in a hot oven and it comes out in a golden brown meringue that Delmonico might envy. That is an especially good way to serve old potatoes that have to be cut up a good deal in paring them.

### Trunks as Veranda Seats.

If your country house is unpretentious in size and there are more trunks to be stored away than there are rooms to accommodate them, let one or two of them stand on the veranda. Unpack them first, and if they are round-topped trunks have a carpenter to make a flat board cover to put over the rounded top so that they may be upholstered and made into a comfortable seat. Denim is the best material to use for this purpose, as its wearing capacity is great. The top of the board cover should be cushioned comfortably and then a deep valance of the denim hung from the cover to the bottom, entirely screening the trunk from view.

## BADGES OF MATRIMONY.

Worn by Women Everywhere, Except in the United States.

Americans are the only women in the world who do not exhibit some sign of matrimony. Of course those who follow in the wake of European etiquette would not appear with their daughters wearing a hat without strings, but the universal American woman buys what she likes, regardless of whether it be mantrony or not and, what is worse, her daughters will select articles of dress only suitable to married women.

In no other country is this the case. Among the Germans the badge of a married woman consists of a little cap or hood of which she is very proud, and "donning the cap" is the feature of the wedding day among the peasants of certain localities.

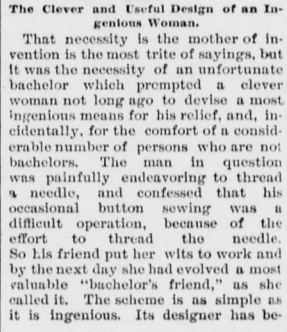
The married women in Little Russia are always seen, even in the hottest weather, with a thick cloth of a dark hue twisted about their heads. In New Guinea a young woman lets her hair hang about her shoulders, but when she is married this is cut short. In Wadai the wives color their lips by tattooing them with iron filings; in parts of Africa, the married women perforate the outer edges of their ears and their lips and stick rows of grass stalks in them; and among a certain Mongolian tribe of people, the Manthes, the women wear suspended from one ear a little basket full of cotton, to which a spindle is attached. Thus in every country, savage and civilized, but our own, there is a sign or symbol of some kind that distinguishes the matron from the spinster.—St. Louis Republic.

## NOVEL SEWING CASE.

### The Clever and Useful Design of an Ingenious Woman.

That necessity is the mother of invention is the most trite of sayings, but it was the necessity of an unfortunate bachelor which prompted a clever woman not long ago to devise a most ingenious means for his relief, and, incidentally, for the comfort of a considerable number of persons who are not bachelors. The man in question was painfully endeavoring to thread a needle, and confessed that his occasional button sewing was a difficult operation, because of the effort to thread the needle.

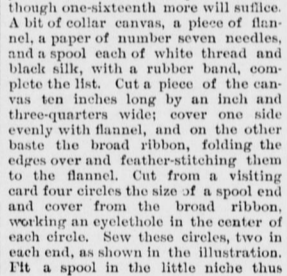
So his friend put her wits to work and by the next day she had evolved a most valuable "bachelor's friend," as she called it. The scheme is as simple as it is ingenious. Its designer has be-



THE CASE OPEN.

stowed them upon many another than the one for whom her efforts were first undertaken.

The materials required for the "friend" are a little over a half yard of ribbon, two and one-half inches wide, and a yard of half-inch ribbon matching or contrasting in color. Half a yard of the wide is not quite enough, though one-sixteenth more will suffice. A bit of collar canvas, a piece of flannel, a paper of number seven needles, and a spool each of white thread and black silk, with a rubber band, complete the list. Cut a piece of the canvas ten inches long by an inch and three-quarters wide; cover one side evenly with flannel, and on the other base the broad ribbon, folding the edges over and feather-stitching them to the flannel. Cut from a visiting card four circles the size of a spool end and cover from the broad ribbon, working an eyelet-hole in the center of each circle. Sew these circles, two in each end, as shown in the illustration. Put a spool in the little niche thus



THE CASE CLOSED.

made in each end, passing the narrow ribbon through the spool and eyelet-holes and tying it on the top in a single bow, or securing it at either end in a bow that is sewed fast to the spool ribbon.

The needles are placed in the flannel, with eyes and points alternating; through each row of eyes is passed a continuous thread from one of the spools, and when it is necessary to sew a needle is found threaded and ready.

The second sketch shows the case closed, with a rubber band holding it.

### Chronology of the Fork.

Two-pronged forks were made at Sheffield in 1608. Three-pronged forks were manufactured in England and on the continent in 1750, and silver forks did not come either in England or in France until 1814.

### Melanicholia.

The watermelon causes joy Among both white and colored folks, And humorists their time employ In writing melon-colic jokes.—N. Y. Herald.

## Down in Kentucky.

"I swan!" exclaimed Judge Sugarwith.

"Seems to me that's a mighty childish sort of an oath," commented the major in a tone of disgust.

"The reason the judge swears by the swan," explained Col. Ochiltzielet, with courteous interruption, "is because he admires anything that has such a delightful neck and can get along on an inch and a half of water."—N. Y. Recorder.

### A Deep One.

"Heah's one for you, deah boy," said Sapsmith to Sissington, as they were sitting at the club window. "Why are you like the moon?"

"G'vacious! I dahn't know. Why am I like the moon?"

"Because you look wound. See it? He-ah! He-ah!"

"But I dahn't always look wound, bah Javve!"

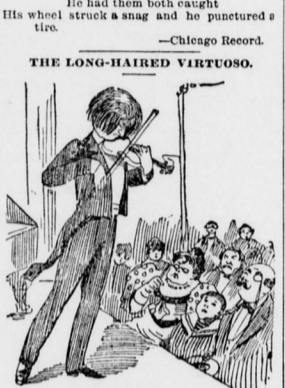
"Neeithah does the moon. He-ah! He-ah!"—Truth.

### A Revised Version.

Out of the west young Lochinvar rode; Her father scorched on, too, with increasing ire. And just as he thought He had them both caught His wheel struck a snag and he punctured a tire.

—Chicago Record.

## THE LONG-HAIRED VIRTUOSO.



Little Tommy (who is attending a concert with his mother)—Mamma, is that an Angora fiddler?—Flegende Blaetter.

Quite Incredible. Gibbs—Did you know that the latest census returns in Chicago show that there are about one thousand deaf mutes living in the city, industrious and uncomplaining.

Nibbs—I don't believe it! A man can't live in Chicago uncomplainingly if he never has a chance to talk about what a great town it is.—Detroit Free Press.

### Solved the Problem.

Tired Housekeeper (in employment agency)—Oh, dear, I wonder if there'll ever be any solution to the servant-girl problem?

Employment Agent—Oh, yes, mum. My wife solved it long ago.

"Well, well! How?"

"She got rid of the hull gang, an' did 't work herself."—N. Y. Weekly.

### Wouldn't Tip Even a Boat.

Miss Budleigh—Jenkins, do you think it would be safe for me to go out in the boat with Mr. Deadweight? Do you think he will tip it over?

Jenkins (with a scornful glance at Mr. Deadweight)—No danger, mum. He never "tips" anything.—Town Topics.

### His Supposition.

"I see," said the shoe clerk boarder, "that a man in New York has succeeded in growing a new crop of hair by sheer will power."

"I suppose," said the Cheerful Idiot, "that as soon as the new woman heats of the case she will start in to grow a beard."—Indianapolis Journal.

### Imitating the Drop Curtain.

"Where are you going?" said Mrs. Murray Hill, as her husband started to go out at the end of the first act.

"Oh, no place much," he replied, "I notice that the curtain has taken a drop, and I thought of doing the same thing myself."—Tammany Times.

### Didn't Dare.

Dimpleton—I was talking with your wife this morning about your riding the bicycle. Are you going to take it up?

Von Blumer—No. Somebody's got to look after the house.—Brooklyn Life.

### Itching for the Chance.

"I dreamed last night that I met that scoundrel Riggs."

"What did you do?"

"Nothing; that's the worst of it."

"Well, if I ever catch him out in a dream I'll knock him down."—Chicago Record.

### Caught Napping.

Mrs. Hicks—I thought you seemed to agree pretty well with Dr. Thirdly's sermon this morning.

Hicks—How so?

Mrs. Hicks—You nodded to about everything he said.—N. Y. World.

### Deferring the Trouble.

"What in the world shall I do with the baby, John? She's crying for the moon."

"That's nothing. Wait till she's eighteen and she'll want the earth."—Truth.

### Placing the Responsibility.

He—Will you be my wife?

She—Oh, this is such a surprise!

He—It can't help that. It isn't my fault that you've never heard anything like it before.—Life.

### Sisters-in-Law.

Jinks—What tender care your wife takes of you. Always worrying about your health.

Blinks—Yes, I have my life insured in favor of my sister.—N. Y. Weekly.

### Melanicholia.

The watermelon causes joy Among both white and colored folks, And humorists their time employ In writing melon-colic jokes.—N. Y. Herald.

## A COLUMN OF VERS.

### A Boy's Bell-F.

It isn't much fun to live in a grandpa's way of life is true, But this is the jolliest time of life That I'm a-passing through. I'm afraid he can't remember, It's been so awful long. I'm sure if he could recollect He'd know that he was wrong.

Did he ever have, I wonder, A sister just like mine, Who'd take his skates, or break his kite, Or tangle up his twine? Did he ever chop the handling, Or fetch in coal and wool, Or offer to turn the wringer? If he did, he was awful good!

In summer, it's "Weed the garden;" In winter, it's "Shovel the snow;" For there isn't a single season But he's its work you know. And then, when a fellow's tired, And hopes he may just sit still, It's "Bring me a pail of water, son, From the spring at the foot of the hill."

### A Summer Evening.

All the air is sweet with clover, All the clover sweet with rain; And the roses, brimming over, Spill their red cups in the lane. Through the fields the cows are straying, Satin-coated, sleepy-eyed, While our Jamie walks, delaying, By the little Jersey's side.

With the wet and tangled grasses Clinging cool around his feet, Through the lane he slowly passes, When the milking is complete, Round the stones the brook is turning. With its merry, noisy flow, All the fire-fly lights are burning, And the crickets chirping low.

By their mist-blue hills tops bounded, He wanders where he can, See the fair earth, greenly rounded, Stretch before him—grown a man. But the summer wind is pleasant, And the stars are shining late; And it's sweet enough at present, Just to be a boy and wait.

—Adeleide G. Waters, in Golden Days.

### In Mother's Arms.

My aching head— So wearied— Where can I seek for rest? Rocked on thy arm, O dear one! Close, close against thy breast.

"Softly sing— Dear mothering— Some tune that is sweet and low;" My eyes now close in drowsiness; "Dear one, I love this so."

To be at rest— So deeply blest— What happiness for me! While in thy arms, O mother dear! My cares and sorrows flee."

To know no fear— But altho' here— Soothed by the music low Is by far the sweetest thing A tired child can know.

—Good Housekeeping.

### Home.

The blackbird fits through the apple-tree shadows, He sits and surely, silent alone; Then out past the hayfields and over the meadows He moves to a world that is all his own.

Here his eyes are wild, as with hurried wings He gathers his store from the apple-tree; He looks with distrust on the stranger, and sings No note of his past-up melody.

There he drops his wings with a joyful cry, And looens his over-true breast; He looks at the sky with acoustomed eye, And the world is centered around his nest.

—Philip H. Savage, in Youth's Companion.

### An Old-Time Novel.

A pretty girl With wavy curl, An evening party somewhat late; A homeward walk, A loving talk, A kissing tableau at the gate.

A moonlight night, A hand squeezed tight, A little reference to papa, A little kiss, A little bliss, A consultation with mamma, A little church, "For bad or worse" You take this maid your wife to be;" A loving yes, A loving prayer, A little wife to live with me.

—Williams' Weekly.

### The Isle of Boredom.

As you sail through life take pains and steer Away from the Isl and that lies too near The Isle of Boredom, which all men fear.

The island sets up like a shelf of rock, But to the sailor who lands at the dock And offers the people a chance to talk.

For they talk all night and they talk all day; And try as you will to get away, They pin you down and they make you stay.

They talk of the things they have done and said, They talk you awake and they talk you to bed; Till you almost wish they would talk you dead.

### In Sylvan Shade.

In sylvan shade the mole-birds sing, And thrushes pipe in dell and glade— With roses thro' through throat and wing In sylvan shade.

Shadow and sunshine daffily brail The soft grass-carpet of the spring Where woodland feet roam unafraid.

While chimcs of cheerful music ring, Nature is like some heavenly maid, To whose bright robes the dewdrops cling In sylvan shade.

—William H. Haynes, in Youth's Companion.

### My Summer Girl.

She meets me at the close of the day With a smile that is sweet as it is rare— With roses thro' through throat for a kiss— With cool, clinging arms all dimpled and bare.

She trips down the walk at the sound of my step, And the fondest embrace she bestows on me, And heeds not the fact that "the cars pass the door," For my dear summer girl is a baby of three.

—St. Louis Republic.

### A Double Loss.

When Richard fell in love with Kate— A maid who'd never felt Cupid's dart— And sighed from early morn till late, His friends said: "Dierk has lost his heart."

And when his hand Kate did decline, The lover wailed that he were dead; But still he worshiped at her shrine, And friends said: "He has lost his head."

—Puck.

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