

ANOTHER
COCKBURN TEMPERANCE HOTEL,

13, HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN, BEDFORD ST., STRAND, LONDON.

100 Rooms. New Passenger Elevator. Electric Light. Telephone. Very Moderate.
Telegrams: "PROMISING," LONDON. Mrs. A. D. PHILP, Proprietress.

THE **WOMAN'S**

A Weekly Record and Review devoted to the interests of Women in the Home and in the Wider World.

Edited by
MRS. FENWICK MILLER.

SIGNAL

No. 172, VOL. VII. REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER. APRIL 15TH, 1897. Every Thursday, ONE PENNY WEEKLY.

Principal
Contents
OF
This Issue.



Character Sketch: Lucas Malet. By *Frederick Dolman*.
Address from Women to the Queen on the 60th Year of Her Reign.
Home and the Family. Verses by *Annie Clegg*
A Free Lance for Woman Suffrage. By *R. Von Horrum-Schramm, LL.B., Ph.D.*
Monthly Report of Temperance Matters for the B.W.T.A.
Signals from Our Watch Tower:
Address of Women to the Queen. The Queen's Action in the Past in the Woman Movement. Medical Treatment of Women in India. Action of the Government in the Case of Plague-stricken Purdah Women. Woman's Suffrage in South Dakota. Reprieve of Catherine Kempshall. The Clergy and the Moral Aspect of Law. Departure of the Nurses for Crete, &c.
Our Free Circulation Fund: Subscription List.
Prison Treatment of Female Inebriates. By *Dr. Pitcairn*.
Treasures and Troubles: Chapter XV.
Economical Cookery: Easter Dainties.
Current News for and about Women.
Home Gardening: Asparagus.
What to Wear.
Our Open Column: Lady Gardeners. Women Guardians. Women Worshippers: Are they Inferior in God's Sight.
&c., &c., &c.

GENUINE GRAPE JUICE.
FREE FROM ALCOHOL.

Price List,
Testimonials,
Etc.,
POST FREE ON
APPLICATION.

UNFERMENTED WINES
Congress,
Madeira,
Alto-Douro,
Muscat, Marsala,
Red Alicante.

Reputed Pints, 14/- to 20/- per dozen.
Reputed Quarts, 24/- to 38/- per dozen.

EXCELLENT COMMUNION WINES.

Recommended by the Unfermented Wine Dept. of the B.W.T.A., and

Now used in upwards of 5,000 Churches of various denominations.

SMALL SAMPLES of any four of the above will be sent carriage free on receipt of 2/6.

UNFERMENTED
Highly approved and frequently prescribed by the late
Sir B. W. RICHARDSON, M.D.,
Dr. NORMAN KERR,
Dr. J. J. RIDGE,
Etc., Etc.
Prospectus giving full particulars of Dose, etc., Post Free on application.
A Sample Half-bottle free by Parcel Post for 2/9.
Specially recommended in cases of GENERAL DEBILITY, INDIGESTION and NERVOUS EXHAUSTION.
Also as an EXCELLENT NON-ALCOHOLIC TONIC AND RESTORATIVE after Typhoid, Scarlet and Rheumatic Fevers, Influenza, &c.

F. WRIGHT, MUNDY & CO.,

Merton Road, Kensington Court,
LONDON, W.


Paris Kid, 2/11, 3/6, 3/11, 4-Button. Paris Suede, 2/11, 3/6, 3/11, 4-Button.
Chevette, 2/11, 3/11.

Price Lists free on application.

GLOVES * GLOVES * GLOVES

Of any make fitted on previous to purchase at
J. S. GREGG'S (FIRST FLOOR), 92, New Bond St.


Carter's Little Liver Pills



1s. 1½d.
at Chemists.

Cure all Liver ills.

Exact size and shape of Package.



Cure Torpid Liver, Sallow Complexion, Bilious Headache.

BUT BE SURE THEY ARE CARTER'S.

Carter's Little Liver Pills are sometimes counterfeited. It is not enough to ask for "Little Liver Pills"; CARTER'S is the important word, and should be observed on the outside wrapper, otherwise the pills within cannot be genuine. Do not take any nameless "Little Liver Pills" that may be offered. But be sure they are CARTER'S.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

HOVIS BREAD

Strengthens the Digestion and
improves the General Health.

SOLD BY ALL LEADING BAKERS AND GROCERS.

6d. and 1s. Samples of Bread and Biscuits sent on receipt of Stamps, by
S. FITTON & SON, Millers, MACCLESFIELD.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE EDUCATION OF GIRLS AND WOMEN IN GREAT BRITAIN.

By C. S. BREMNER. With a Preface by Miss E. P. HUGHES, of Cambridge. 4s. 6d.
This book is the first attempt that has been made to examine the whole field of women's education. It briefly surveys the agencies in existence both before and after the Reformation, the share that women and girls had in such agencies, and shows the effect of the Reformation on their education. The great development in the education of women and girls, inaugurated in the middle of the nineteenth century, is treated at length. The field divides itself into four sections: Elementary, or Primary, Secondary, Higher, Technical-Professional.
A chapter on Scottish education is appended, the work of Mr. G. Alexander, Clerk to the School Board of Glasgow, and Miss Jane Galloway, of Queen Margaret's College.

THE TIMES.—"A valuable repository of information."
THE SCOTSMAN.—"A clear and full account of the historical development and present state of the organisation by which girls and women are taught in this country. Well founded in a wide and philosophic knowledge of its subjects, the book is an interesting record of the progress and results of a movement the importance of which is every day more and more recognised. Without the least trace of controversial partiality."
THE BRITISH REVIEW.—"Miss Bremner is to be congratulated upon her thoroughness and her moderation."
JOURNAL OF EDUCATION.—"A full and able survey of women's education in England and Scotland."

SWAN SONNENSCHNEIN & CO., LD., LONDON.

A BOOK FOR LADIES.

The information contained in this book ought to be known by every Married Woman, and it will not harm the unmarried to read. No book is written which goes so thoroughly into matters relating to married women. Some may think too much is told; such can scarcely be the case, for knowledge is power and the means of attaining happiness. The book can be had in envelope from Dr. ALLINSON, Box Z, Spanish Place, Manchester Square, London, W., in return for a Postal Order for 1s. 2d.

JUST PUBLISHED. DISEASES OF CHILDREN.

By DR. ALICE VICKERY.

Price 1/-
HENRY RENSHAW, 356, Strand, W.C.

SOUPS. SAVORIES. SWEETS.
With a Chapter on Breads. By H. B. T. 2nd Edition. Price 1s. 6d. Published by JOHN HEYWOOD, Manchester and London.

Our Private Advertisement Column.

READ CAREFULLY.

TERMS:—Sixpence per insertion for the first twelve words, and one penny for each further four words; four insertions for the price of three if no change made in words. Figures count as one word, if in a group. Advertisements should reach us by Monday morning for the same week's issue. We reserve the right to refuse any advertisement without giving a reason.

In replying to an advertisement in this column, when the advertiser's own address is not given, but only an office number, write your letter to the advertiser and enclose it in an envelope; close this, and write (where the stamp should go), on the outside, the letter and number of the advertisement, and nothing more. Put the reply or replies thus sealed down in another envelope, together with a penny stamp for each letter you want sent on, loose in your envelope to us; address the outer envelope "WOMAN'S SIGNAL OFFICE, 30 MAIDEN LANE, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.," stamp to the proper weight, and post. We will then take out and address and forward your replies to the advertiser, and further communications will be direct between you both. Postcards will not be forwarded.

Dress.

A. 249. FRENCH Boots, Mellie's best glove kid, size 37.8 (narrow fit), hygienic heels, smart and best quality, suit slender tall girl, too narrow for owner, never worn. Cost 25s. at Peter Robinson's, sell 12s. 6d., great bargain.

Situation Wanted.

F. 116. GOVERNNESS (35) desires engagement. Higher Cambridge honours. Four years abroad. English, French, German, music, painting.

To Let.

C. 125. TO LET, well furnished modern House, near best parts of Epping Forest, Churches and Station. High ground, healthy, pleasant. 4 Bedrooms, bath, &c.

INSTITUTIONS, EDUCATIONAL, APARTMENTS, SITUATIONS VACANT AND WANTED, and Similar Matter.

16 words for 1s., each 10 Additional Words, 6d. Four insertions for the price of Three. ADVERTISEMENTS must be prepaid and sent to the Office, 30, MAIDEN LANE, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.

HOTELS, HYDROS, &c.

**THE DEVONSHIRE HOUSE
TEMPERANCE HOTEL,**
12, Bishopsgate Street Without, LONDON, E.C.
This First-Class Temperance Hotel is centrally situated for business or pleasure in the heart of the City.
Telephone No. 2,486.
Telegraphic Address, "Exterior, London."
H. G. CHALKLEY & SONS, PROPRIETORS.

BOURNEMOUTH.

MIDLAND HOTEL, opposite Bournemouth West Station.
Well-appointed Family Hotel and Boarding House. Electric Light. Excellent Cuisine. Tariff moderate. Buses to all parts. Special boarding terms. Apply—MANAGERESS.

PARIS.

Boarding House.
Central, near Louvre.
Comfortable Rooms, with or without board, from 3 to 8 francs.
Ladies and families. Paris Branch of W.C.T.U. Temperance Restaurant. English Reading Room. Moderate Terms.
Apply (enclosing 2d. stamps), Lady Secretary, 205, Rue St. Honore.

NEW CROSS HYGIENIC HOME AND SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL CULTURE.

Under the Care of Miss RHODA ANSTEE, New Cross, South Petherton, Somerset.
For delicate Girls and Ladies. To strengthen and restore to health by means of Gymnastics, Swedish Medical Movements and Massage, Pure Air, Pure Food, Out-door Occupations, &c. Specially recommended for the Cure of Spinal Curvature, Flat Chest and Round Shoulders, Anemia, Dyspepsia, and many Nervous Affections. Apply for Particulars.

APARTMENTS.

FURNISHED Bedrooms and attendance, or Bed and Sitting Rooms for Ladies engaged during the day. Moderate charges. References exchanged. 43, Doughty Street, London, W.C.

A CERTIFICATED Monthly Nurse (L.O.S. diploma) disengaged; abstainer. Apply Nurse Marshall, Penerebar, High View-road, Upper Norwood, S.E.

THE VEGETARIAN DEPOT.—Domestic Agency Department. All kinds of goods kept.—Food specialities, soap, candles, gloves, crockery, books, &c. 90 Crawford Street, Baker Street, W.

WOMEN'S LONDON GARDENING ASSOCIATION, 62, Lower Sloane-street.—Floral Decorations of all kinds. Care of gardens, conservatories, window boxes, in town and suburbs, contracted for. Home-made jams, jellies, fruit, pickles, &c.

THE WOMAN'S SIGNAL

A WEEKLY RECORD AND REVIEW FOR LADIES.

VOL. VII., No. 172.]

APRIL 15, 1897.

One Penny Weekly.

Character Sketch.

"LUCAS MALET."

By FREDERICK DOLMAN.

"CARISSIMA," which most recently engaged the attention of the reviewers, was "Lucas Malet's" sixth novel. Her reputation has been a plant of slow growth, but with a novelist who publishes only six books in 15 years it was not likely to be otherwise. Mrs. Lorimer, the first, was published in 1882, when the authoress had already reached her thirtieth year. Her maiden effort was deferred thus comparatively late out of respect and veneration for her distinguished father, Charles Kingsley; the sum total of her work has since been contracted by her own ill-health.

As a girl in her teens "Lucas Malet" wrote many short stories and sketches. But Charles Kingsley, with all his Radicalism, had some old-fashioned feelings about women, considering that they should not work for themselves but always be worked for by male relations. Awed by his great name in literature, "Lucas Malet" probably never dared to think of seeking his encouragement in her work as an art, and consequently all her girlish productions were destroyed almost as soon as they were born. Kingsley died when his daughter Mary was 23, and shortly afterwards she married the Rev. W. Harrison, who had been her father's curate at Eversley. With marriage, all thoughts of a literary career were banished for the time being. But, in the course of time, Mrs. Harrison found herself observing the scenery of Warwickshire, where her husband had his first living, and studying the manner and character of its people, with a view to the novel which, after three years' intermittent work, was ultimately published with the name of Mrs. Lorimer. But even when publication was decided upon Mrs. Harrison was determined to withhold her own name from the book. She was fearful lest she should do anything to compromise the lustre which the name of Kingsley had gained in our literature, and she was anxious that her own work should stand or fall on its own merits without reference to her father's reputation. At first she thought of putting "Mary St. Leger" on the title-page, but this disguise was thin enough to be at the mercy of any friend who suspected her of literary ambition, and remembered that these were her two first names. Finally, she constructed "Malet" out of the letters forming these names, and bethought herself of "Lucas" because it was borne by an ancestress of literary tastes.

It must be admitted that, in the adoption of this pseudonym, Mrs. Harrison's purpose was well served. Most people now know that "Lucas Malet" is one of the two clever daughters whom Kingsley left behind him. But Mrs. Lorimer was received—and received favourably—as the work of a new writer about whose sex there was considerable doubt. When, several years later, *The Wages of Sin* moved

the critics to enthusiasm by its brilliant fulfilment of the promise of Mrs. Lorimer, the critics were no wiser as to the identity of the author. But, with the growing success of this novel, the secret became more and more difficult for Mr. and Mrs. Harrison to keep. It was, I believe, the fidelity of the Clovelly scenes which hastened the betrayal. Under the name of "Beera Mills" Mrs. Harrison has given a charming description of this most charming of places, where Kingsley spent his boyhood, and where Mr. Harrison is now rector, and by such names as "Yeomouth" for Bideford, and "Buckland Head" for Hartland Point, various noteworthy features on this picturesque North Devon coast are also introduced. But before the discovery was made "Lucas Malet" had achieved for herself a reputation for fiction which was full of bright talk, dramatic incident, and well-drawn characters, and was not wanting in a certain distinction of style.

"Lucas Malet" was born at Eversley in June, 1852, and she lived there until her father's death in 1875. Of her childhood and girlhood she always speaks with enthusiasm. Having read Kingsley's letters and visited the Hampshire village which was for so many years his home, I can enter into the spirit of this enthusiasm. At Eversley, Kingsley's children had the freedom and pleasure of the open air and wild country, with the intellectual tone of such men as Kingsley and his friends. Such was "Parson Lot's" belief that even on Sunday, after the morning service, the children could have their games in the garden of the rectory. Their father's talk was for them a liberal education. "Lucas Malet" says that Kingsley never tired of answering her questions, and whenever she wanted to know anything she went to him instead of searching through a book. These talks with her father naturally impressed themselves upon her mind, with their rich garnishing of fancy and learning, in a way that no amount of reading could ever do. Then came the intellectual feasts which the two girls enjoyed as soon as they were old enough to go in to dessert at the dinner-parties which, as occasions of relaxation, Kingsley sometimes assembled. These parties included the most brilliant men of the day and the memory of these *causeries* is still an inspiration with "Lucas Malet."

For Clovelly she would doubtless have a greater affection if its cold, humid climate in winter had not proved so inimical to her health. The present rectory was built by her grandfather, and was the home of her father until he went to the University, as well as his holiday place for many years after. This large stone-built house, surrounded by large gardens, is consequently endeared to "Lucas Malet" as is no other place, now that Eversley Rectory is in the occupation of a stranger. Clovelly Rectory stands on the top of the rocky hill, in a cleft of which the quaint little village has been built. To traverse "the narrow paved cranny of a street, vanishing downwards, stair below stair" is rather difficult for a lady, but, when at the

rectory, "Lucas Malet" is frequently seen by the villagers, who esteem her if only for the sake of "Master Charlie," as some of them still speak of the leader of men who passed away more than 20 years ago. The author of *The Wages of Sin* is not adapted, I should say, for the part of Lady Bountiful; but by the Clovelly folk, the sturdy fishermen and their simple wives, the innate kindness of her nature is doubtless appreciated at its true worth.

As a rule, "Lucas Malet" is obliged by consideration of health to spend the winter away from Clovelly, and health is in this case the ally of work. She finds that social intercourse—such as can be enjoyed in London or at some English resort on the Continent—is the best stimulus in the writing of a novel. One winter she spent in India, an experience which has borne good fruit in her literary work. But even when the fever of composition is upon her "Lucas Malet" finds the labour of writing exceptionally arduous. It is due to her laggard pen—her "laziness" Mrs. Harrison herself declares—that she has published such a comparatively small amount of work. Sitting in an easy chair "Lucas Malet" mentally draws the outlines of her characters, and forms the words of the dialogue with great rapidity, but it is only with great effort that she can commit her thoughts to paper.

"Lucas Malet's" literary style has been largely influenced by the French authors, among whom Balzac, De Maupassant, and Daudet are favourites, whilst their tone has probably gained something from Russian fiction of which, in the form of translations from Tolstoi, Turgenieff, and Dostoevski, she has also read much. Reading is Mrs. Harrison's principal recreation, but she is also very fond of music, in which she herself has no inconsiderable skill. Both Mrs. Harrison and her sister, Miss Rose Kingsley, are popular with a large circle of acquaintances, to whom they appear to personify the two principal features of their father's character. The authoress of *The Wages of Sin* stands, of course, for that love of literature, which he was so well able to gratify, whilst zealously fulfilling the duties he had undertaken as a clergyman; the explorer of unknown Africa had that spirit of adventure which the circumstances of his life did not equally favour but which he never altogether succeeded in suppressing.

WOMEN ON PUBLIC BODIES.

It does not follow that women should be compelled to sit on a jury; or in a legislature, unless they want to, because they have the vote for it; but I am strongly inclined to think that any woman who did wish to be nominated for a legislature, to have any chance of success, would have to be a woman of considerable intelligence and good character, as I do not believe that any large number of women would ever vote to place any woman of little intelligence or doubtful character in such a position.—G. T. Angell.

WOMEN'S ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN

ON THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF HER ACCESSION.

OUR readers will hear with interest of the preparation of an address to Her Majesty, to be signed by all classes of representative women.

The purpose of the address is to congratulate our Queen most warmly on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of her reign, and in wishing her a continuance of health and happiness, to bring prominently before her the great advance in the position of women effected during the last half century. The address asks for a royal word of sympathy in the efforts that are being made still further to enlarge the sphere of women's activity and usefulness. The signatures to the address are intended to be those of women engaged in public work, or in some manner representative; though, perhaps, differing widely on many points, they all agree in hearty loyalty to their Queen, and in a conviction that her reign has produced a very wonderful and beneficial change in the position and public influence of her sex in many directions, and this they attribute in a large measure to her unique influence.

Signatures desired are those of women holding some public office—Mayoresses, Members of School Boards, Guardian Boards, and the like; Presidents of Societies or Committees; women engaged in carrying on large and important works as head mistresses of schools, matrons of workhouses, hospitals, &c.; women working in responsible new professions that have been opened to them in recent years, doctors, editors, librarians, and the like; widely-read authoresses, whose numerous readers give them a representative position—in short, the women who are the special product of the Queen's reign and who are fulfilling in a hundred spheres duties as public and as important, if not so magnificent, as those Royal ones that the Queen has so competently performed, as well as living a virtuous and admirable private life.

Mrs. Alice Cliff Scatterd, of Morley Hall, near Leeds, has generously undertaken the burden of correspondence and detailed labour that is involved, and signatures (giving the name and address, and the nature of the representative position) may be sent either to her, or to the Editor of the SIGNAL to transmit to her. It is suggested that the address shall be read in the meetings of our various women's societies, and the president of the local branch be formally requested to add her name, as such, to the signatures. It is, let it be clearly understood, a democratic representative signature that is asked. The name of a clergyman's wife appended at the request of a mother's meeting, the name of a local chair-woman of a co-operative guild (every member of which is a working woman), the name of a president for the evening of a modest little meeting for any religious or moral purpose, is as much in place and as much desired as that of a lady mayoress or a titled leader. It is desired that each name shall represent other women besides the signer herself, either by virtue of the position in which she has been placed or in which she is upheld by other women, or by the actual vote of others delegating the one to sign; but it is democratic, so let nobody hold back from mistaken modesty in bringing up the subject at meetings of every sort of society and all conditions of womanliness.

The Organising Committee consists of our revered friend and "Mother in Israel," Mrs.

Priscilla Bright McLaren; Mrs. Jacob Bright, to whom, above anybody, women owe the Married Women's Property Act; Mrs. Cobden Unwin, Richard Cobden's daughter, and one of the ladies elected on the first London County Council; and the Editor of the WOMAN'S SIGNAL; with Mrs. Scatterd as hon. secretary.

Amongst the large number of representative signatures already appended, may be mentioned those of Lady Tweedmouth, Lady Henry Somerset, Lady Elizabeth Biddulph, the Hon. Mrs. Maclagan (wife of the Archbishop of York), Lady Alice Fitzgerald, Lady Hampden; Lady Leigh, of Manchester; Lady Cameron, of Glasgow; Lady Grove, Lady Helen Munro-Fergusson, Mrs. Kitchin (wife of the Dean of Durham), Lady (Arthur) Arnold, Lady (James) Stansfeld, Miss Frances Power Cobbe, Mrs. Olive Schreiner, Mrs. Annie Swan, Miss Marianne Farningham, Miss Edna Lyall; Mrs. Homan and Mrs. Maitland, Members of the London School Board; Doctors Sophia Jex-Blake, Katherine Maguire, Annie Anderson, Annie Clark, and other medical women; Mrs. Wynford Philipps, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Mrs. Haweis, Miss Abney Walker, Miss Agnes Slack; Mrs. Beddoe and Mrs. Tanner, of Bristol; Mrs. Spence Watson, of Newcastle; Mrs. Richardson, of York; Mrs. Robert Cameron, of Sunderland; and many other equally representative women of the "Woman's Reign."

The address in full is appended, so that our readers may bring it before any meetings, or show it to ladies whose signatures would be suitable, and send in the names either to Mrs. Scatterd, Morley Hall, near Leeds, or Mrs. Fenwick Miller, WOMAN'S SIGNAL Office, 80, Maiden-lane, London, W.C., as soon as possible.

ADDRESS TO
HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY
THE QUEEN,

ON THE
60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER REIGN,
From the undersigned Women of Great
Britain, Ireland, and the Colonies:
Her Loyal Subjects.

MADAM, may it please your Majesty,
We, the undersigned, loyal subjects of your Majesty, venture on this the sixtieth anniversary of your gracious reign, to approach you with hearty congratulations and sympathy and with warm wishes for your continued health and happiness.

On this auspicious day, memorable in the life of your people as in your own, the nation rejoices in the longest and most prosperous record of rule yet achieved by any sovereign of these realms.

We believe that the growing sense in women of their responsibility in public affairs, and the opening out to them of useful employments and positions of honour and emolument, with the greater freedom and respect now accorded to them, are due in no small degree to the fact that a woman has filled the position of supreme head of the greatest empire of the world for so long a period, not only with dignity and honour, and without in any degree impairing in the mind of her people the high ideal they have formed of the domestic claims and duties of the wife and mother, but so as to exalt that ideal.

Much has been done during the last half century to raise the position of women through educational culture in many directions. We know that your Majesty's sympathetic heart has rejoiced in the laws passed to give women the right to earn their own living and to control what they have earned, reforms which have proved an immense protection to those

who most needed such protection. Other measures of importance to women have also received your gracious assent.

Your Majesty's reign has seen also new bread-winning employments thrown open to women, while the undertaking by them of unpaid public work on Boards of Guardians, School Boards, and Parish and District Councils is bearing fruit in economy and efficiency, and in greater tenderness and care in the management of the young, the poor, the sick, and the aged.

Although much has been done, much still remains undone, and we present our earnest appeal to your Majesty on this unparalleled occasion, still further to encourage the good work of extending to your women subjects the legal protection, the educational opportunities, and the equality of civil rights for which they have so long and ardently striven.

One royal word of sympathy with the progress which women have achieved during your Majesty's illustrious reign, one expression of gracious confidence and hope in the happy results which may be expected to follow from still further enlarging the area brought under the influence of women, would greatly promote and consolidate throughout your Majesty's realms those principles of justice and equity which will sustain in permanence the vast empire over which your Majesty reigns.

We pray that your Majesty may see fit to grant this our petition, and we subscribe ourselves,

With loyalty and respect,
Your Majesty's obedient servants.

HOME.

THERE is a word to English ears conveys
A treasury of meaning filled with good.
Pronounce it to the exile—and his blood
Is stirred, and his imagination plays
Around it longingly; recalling days
Of childhood's games and loving brotherhood—
His home he sees exactly as it stood,
With father's doings, mother's tender ways,
And mixed emotions well up from his heart,
Contrasting how midst strangers, anchorless,
He drifts from that dear centre, where is
warm
Glad welcome still. He finds the better part
Whose eyes see daily those who love and
bless.
Whom Home holds captive in its potent
charm.

* * * ANNE CLEGG.

THE FAMILY.

At home the children gather round our feet,
Where loving thought and care on them are
shed;
The wife as mother, to new life is wed;
The father, with his queen, assumes the seat
Of equal rule; her influence complete,
At home, where work is great for hands and
head,
Whilst gladly goes the husband—daily bread
To win, and all besides that makes life sweet
For those he loves. In Christ's command-
ment new
Of "love each other," home has primal place.
The best within us to the child is due;
The worst restrained; so by our children led,
We gain and pass on good to bless the Race,
Which by the family is perfected.

* * * ANNE CLEGG.

THE family life should be the model of the National. If God had intended male and female to lead lives separate and apart from each other; to be trained both mentally and physically upon entirely different principles, and to be governed by a body representing one sex only; do you think He would have placed them together in one family—that of the same parents would be born both male and female?—Lisle.

A FREE LANCE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

By R. VON HORRUM-SCHRAMM, LL.B. AND PH.D.

ANYONE who is familiar with the practical working of the ballot, both in our cities and in our rural districts, knows that the imperfections of its condition are the direct causes of the continued tyranny of political rings over the people. The one fast principle, "The end halloweth the means" has free scope in our political campaigns, or as a young politician tersely expressed the idea in a party meeting: "This is not Sunday School, this is politics," by which remark he intended to express that principles of Christian morality were not to hamper a political party in its actions. Professional politics, as they are at present in most countries, often interfere in their results with the enjoyment of civic liberty, and by their methods often degrade human self-respect. It is well to remember that the murders of Lincoln and of Garfield were acts of political partisans in our own times. Trickery, falsehood, corruption, coarse abuse, and sometimes even acts of violence characterise many election contests. Can a man who has just contaminated his soul with some, if not with all of these crimes in the course of fulfilling the highest duties of citizenship, strip off their degrading effect as he would a soiled garment at the close of the campaign, or will he not rather bring into his private relations with his fellow-men the same blunted feeling of moral responsibility? If you have the right to use unworthy means in political campaigns, you have the right to use them in business relations against competitors, or in your attitude against unsympathetic neighbours. By such methods human society would virtually return to the original savage state, no matter how much polished veneering disguised it.

The active participation of woman in the exercise of the franchise cannot fail to materially assist in the purification of the field of politics and to add to the strength of the element of morality in our legislative and executive institutions. The presence alone of woman exercises a refining and subduing influence on men in politics, as the experience of the last Colorado Legislature has proved. Happily, woman's intuitive, yet firmly-fixed ideas on what is morally right or wrong are not easily shaken by considerations of expediency. To the eyes of woman "dishonesty" does not easily transform itself into "smartness," as which it so often appears to man, and a woman has the courage to openly condemn what a man will often, from fear of ridicule, pass over with an apologetic or even with an approving smile.

In woman, immutable fundamental principles of humanity find their more distinct representation, and give inspiration to both plastic and pictorial art, as, for instance, in the representation of such qualities as justice, charity, mercy, liberty, &c., and even to the religious apotheosis of the Virgin Mary as the Mother of God.

In men, the process of evolution comes into stronger but ever-changing evidence. From the blending of both influences surer progress is likely to result than from the exclusive rule of one of them alone.

Admirable as the national system of education may be, its results are endangered as far as public morals are concerned by the post-graduate course in our present practical politics. The introduction of Woman Suffrage can in no way unsettle the foundations of society, but it will affect the forms and it will surely cure our present suffrage of its chief defect of incompleteness by making it complete and

universal in a proper sense. In commercial centres and countries men are apt to be so engrossed by material pursuits, that the women surpass them in the enjoyment of intellectual life, and are therefore at least as well qualified as men to give the great social problems the calm and continued consideration which they require. In our rural districts there is often a lack of competent and trustworthy men for local public office, and the introduction of Woman Suffrage in local affairs has already supplied a much needed reinforcement to the means of good government. Could such hotbeds of municipal corruption and iniquity as have existed so long in many American cities, like New York and Chicago, have continued if women had been able to defend the interests of society by the ballot? The writer believes not, and in declaring himself in favour of Woman Suffrage, he is convinced that the revolution in our ideas which it will entail will prove a great blessing for our nation. Even professional politicians will not dare to arouse public indignation against themselves by any intrigues to render the actual exercise of the franchise disagreeable for women; and the true explanation of their present opposition is that Woman Suffrage will make it impossible for them to continue the trickery and corrupt practices which have in the past played such an important part in their achievements.

Our conclusion is that the introduction of Woman Suffrage will, after righting any existing legislative discrimination against women, prove of immense general benefit and will mark an epoch in the advance of human civilization. This will especially be the case where and when universal adult suffrage obtains. In America, for instance, to-day, every worthless vagabond, who neither contributes to the burdens of the State nor of family, has equal rights with the head of a family in the government of town, state, and country. If Woman Suffrage were introduced the married man would have the help of his wife and daughters to defend the common interests of the family and after his death those interests would not remain unrepresented as they do under our present legislation.

Writing truly as a free lance, and not as a regular adherent of either of the opposing parties, we do not try to collect and present arguments that have been advanced on either side, but simply state what to our mind appears as the probable result of the introduction of Woman Suffrage. We must, however, admit that we are not afraid of the influence which religious preachers might have over the vote of their female devotees, because in some of our best aims for social reforms, such men are with us, and because we feel that if the great question of the public schools can only be placed beyond attack, there is no fear of the bulk of grown-up persons falling victims to undue priestly influence. We urge, therefore, that the utmost efforts shall be made in the defence of the schools from sectarianism.

Some speakers against Woman Suffrage, assert that the right to vote is founded solely on the ability of man to bear arms, and that the issue of a vote receives its final sanction from the power of the male majority to enforce their will. In connection with these views, it is stated that the element of war, or the armed struggle for supremacy, is the real foundation of human society, as we see it to-day. To our mind, the right to vote is the outcome of a social contract, and the tendency is even to give the wishes of the minority representation. Force based upon man's power as a soldier was

the foundation of absolutism and of despotism, of which woman's exclusion from suffrage is a relic, but modern constitutional government is based upon contract. So, at one time, women were married by force and by capture; but now "solus consensus facit nuptias," consent alone makes marriage, and from this principle springs the human family, which is the foundation of the State.

The armed defence of the State is only one of the important cares of a nation; and even that one way of supporting the State, with the advance of civilisation, is becoming more and more a scientific attainment and less and less an attribute of physical strength. With the exception of military duty, all other rights of citizenship are now almost generally admitted to be susceptible of exercise by woman. Is it not a startling fact, that from the earliest times the human race has admitted the qualification of woman to rule a state, but still pretends to doubt her capacity of deciding questions of ordinary political importance by a vote, or of holding minor offices. The British Empire, in whose vast possessions the sun never sets, is ruled by a woman whose mental gifts have left their imprint in the history of our times. Spain and Holland are both at the present time ruled by Queen-Regents, to whom those countries not only confide present cares of state, but also the education of their future sovereigns.

To maintain, therefore, that woman is unqualified to vote on questions involving her highest interests, because she may not make a good infantry or cavalry soldier, seems to us open to grave criticism, particularly in view of the strong probability that those useful and ornamental but unproductive vocations are likely in the near future to be entirely superseded by the triumphs of the modern science of electricity, which is producing a revolution in warfare similar to that which was effected by the discovery of gunpowder.

The introduction of Woman Suffrage must not be mistaken for an experiment of radical politics because it is an innovation. On the contrary, it is of an eminently conservative tendency, calculated to strengthen and protect the very best interests of society. It is an act of justice, because woman shares with man the burden of taxation, and is, like him, a producer in the industrial world. It is an act of good policy, because it will correct the abuses which have resulted from the very great lowering of the qualification for male suffrage. Since our legislation has established no standard of education or of mental development as a necessary qualification for suffrage for man, and even the most ignorant white or black man can vote, it is idle to discuss the question of woman's mental superiority or inferiority to man. It is self-evident that some women are superior to some men and vice versa.

It must be admitted now that a woman can hold her own against man in the most intricate fields of effort which seemed beyond her reach; her achievements in the intellectual world, in the domain of literature, art, science, education and music are beyond cavil.

To pretend that women might sacrifice higher considerations and aims under the influence of personal vanity or of whims, is an unworthy argument, when all past experience points to the contrary, and the fact of her receiving the franchise cannot change her nature. If she has shown herself public spirited and patriotic in the past, she will prove herself more so when given the right to participate directly in the government of her country.

Just as the institution of slavery is corrupting to the nature of a nation, so the exclusion of women from the rights of citizenship is a cause of the corruption of public life. Freedom of suffrage has been evolved by modern civilisation, but as yet the prejudices of past ages have been strong enough to prevent its full realisation. Not until woman shall cast her vote can a widely-based suffrage fulfill its promises. Until then it will remain in an incomplete state, often an obstacle instead of an element of progress.

MONTHLY REPORT OF TEMPERANCE MATTERS FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE B.W.T.A.

BRITISH WOMEN'S TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.—QUARTERLY COUNCIL MEETING AT BRISTOL.

The series of meetings announced in last week's *SIGNAL* duly took place. All were very successful, though the inability of Lady Henry Somerset to be present from delicate health was much regretted. In her absence the chair was taken at the Conference by the vice-president, Mrs. Eva McLaren. She remarked that they did a great deal of work that seemed to be in quite other spheres than temperance, and the explanation of that was that they found the temperance question running through everything. They believed very strongly that a great deal of intemperance came from the fact that people were ignorant on the subject of food, ventilation, dress, and things that affected public health, and they, therefore, had what was called a health and science department, under which lectures and information were given on those various points. They believed that a great many women were hampered in their work on local governing bodies, because they had not sufficient help in doing temperance work, and therefore, they had a department which affected their work to which women could turn for information. They all knew how much women guardians might do if they had the temperance question at heart, and they, therefore, wanted to bring as many women as possible into that field of the temperance movement. (Applause.) There was another department about which they were very anxious, viz., the women electors, because it was through them that they could return to the local governing bodies those who would institute temperance reforms. In fact, they took every opportunity, in every department they could think of, to preach temperance principles, and bring in their temperance influence.

Miss Lile (London) spoke of the political department of the society's work. They did not say that British women must belong to a Primrose League or a Liberal Association, but they did say that it was most important for them to take action so far as temperance legislation was concerned. They wanted temperance legislation very badly, because a large number of British women were mothers, sisters, or wives, and they wanted their sons, brothers and husbands protected. They wanted their children protected from the evils against which the Bill first introduced by Mr. Conybeare was directed, which prevented children under a certain age being served with intoxicants. They wanted the laws affecting women to be made so that it should be easy for women to keep them. If there were more women than men in the world, then women were the majority of the people who had to keep the laws, and why should they have the laws made for them by the minority? (Hear, hear.)

Mrs. Dann (Oxford) suggested that greater effort should be made to interest village women in the temperance question.

Miss Pearce (Maidenhead) made a strong appeal to women to make their voices heard in matters of social reform. There was, she thought, too much hesitation in demanding a reform in legislation affecting women.

Miss Priestman (Clifton) urged that women's influence should never cease to be exerted in

the cause of peace and arbitration. They wanted to make it impossible for men to be sent out to take away the lives of others, and for English troops to fire upon the Cretons in their struggle for freedom.

The President said these were questions which were coming to the front, and they, as women, must take their part in bringing about justice. They must say what was right to be done to their fellow women.

The Hon. Mrs. Bertrand Russell (Haslemere) gave an address on the work of the Loyal Temperance Legion. Miss Edith Wilson, superintendent of the department, gave supplemental information, and Mrs. Pearsall Smith expressed a hope that branches would be formed in all districts by the society.

It was announced that Miss Ford, of Westbury-on-Trym, had made a present of a valuable knitting machine to Lady Henry Somerset for use at the Women's Home at Duxhurst.

EVENING MEETING.

In the evening at the largest of the Victoria Rooms a public meeting was presided over by Mr. W. H. Davies. There was a numerous attendance.

The Chairman said as president of the Bristol and Gloucestershire part of the National Temperance Council he had been asked to extend a hearty welcome to the Association, and he had pleasure in doing so.

The principal speech was made by Mrs. Ormiston Chant, and addresses were also delivered by the Hon. Mrs. B. Russell, Miss Gorham and Mrs. Pearsall Smith.

MISS WESTON AND THE DUCHESS OF YORK.

A few days ago a number of sailors' wives in Portsmouth forwarded to the Duchess of York, through Miss Agnes Weston, a handsome baby's robe in white silk and Valenciennes lace. The robe is made entirely by sailors' wives, and such of these as could not have a hand in the making of it got up amongst themselves a penny subscription to pay for the cost of the materials, which amounted to nearly £10. In asking her Royal Highness to accept the robe the women described it as "a gift from sailors' wives to a sailor's wife," and this expression has much pleased the Duchess, as she informs the donors in a gracefully worded letter of thanks and acceptance which she has sent them.

LADY H. SOMERSET AT BRIGHTON.

On April 1st Lady H. Somerset spoke in the Dome. Sir Joseph Ewart, J.P., presided, and among those on the platform were Miss Ewart, Mrs. Eva McLaren (Hon. Treas. of Duxhurst Colony), Mrs. Wight (President of the local branch of the Women's Temperance Association), the Rev. A. D. Spong, the Rev. S. Terry, Alderman Martin, Councillor Carter, Councillor Fowler, Mr. R. H. Penney, J.P., Mr. Bernard Roth, J.P., and other well-known supporters of the Temperance cause in Brighton and Hove. A special choir also occupied the platform and sang several hymns. The Chairman read letters apologising for inability to be present from the Lord Bishop of Chichester, Mr. Loder, M.P., the Mayor (Alderman J. G. Blaker), and the Rev. Prebendary Hannah. The lights were then lowered for a time, and limelight pictures of the Duxhurst Colony were thrown on the screen, these being explained by Mrs. McLaren.

When the lights had been put up again Lady Henry Somerset rose amid enthusiastic cheering. She is a speaker of great charm, and closely held the attention of the immense audience. She did not describe in detail the working of the Duxhurst Colony, but rather dealt with the broader aspects of the problem of the reclamation of female drunkards. Reclamation was the ambulance work of the Temperance Army. Lady Henry gave a graphic and touching account of the condition of many women who had given way to drunkenness. She believed that drunkenness was to-day in thousands of cases an inherited evil, and they had failed largely to remedy it because they had treated it as a crime only. What was habitual drunkenness but a disease of the brain? She had been asked "Are not women drunkards absolutely

hopeless?" Hopeless! there was no such thing as a hopeless human being. (Loud applause.) But why should women drunkards be more hopeless than men drunkards? (Applause.) There was now at the Colony a woman who had been 288 times in prison for drunkenness. But she was now an absolutely sober and trustworthy person—so much so indeed that she was to be her (Lady Henry's) housekeeper in the little cottage now in course of erection at the Colony (applause). In fact, they had only had nine cases at the Colony where the women had not been in prison.—

After an eloquent appeal, Lady Henry Somerset resumed her seat amid prolonged cheering; and Mrs. McLaren then briefly explained the financial state of the Colony, saying they had a debt of £2,500.—On the motion of the Rev. S. Terry, seconded by Mr. Bernard Roth, J.P. (who promised £20), a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Lady Henry Somerset for her address.—A vote of thanks to Sir Joseph Ewart for presiding ended the meeting.

A PROMOTED SISTER.

Mrs. Anna R. Whiting, of Leeds, died suddenly in London on March 6th, while attending the yearly meeting of the Society of Friends to which she belonged.

Anna R. Whiting belonged to a Bristol family. Her brother, the late Charles Gilpin, was at one time Member of Parliament for Northampton Born in 1829, she was educated at Sidcot and Wigton Schools, where her vivacity and good-nature made her a general favourite. On her mother's side, she was a niece of the late Joseph Sturge, and it is interesting to note that she and some other members of the family have shown similar qualities of heart to those which distinguished that philanthropist. She was married to John Whiting, of Leeds, in 1850, when she was at once introduced to the responsibilities of a business house employing eleven young men. At the age of twenty-five she felt a call to speak in meetings for worship, though it was not till five years later, and after some encouraging words from the late Benjamin Seebohm, that her voice was heard in the ministry. She was recorded a minister in 1870, and exercised her gift with much acceptance to the end of her life. Soon after being recorded a minister, she had an attack of typhoid fever, and lay unconscious for ten days, and her first address when she recovered and again entered on the sphere of her active life, will be long remembered as peculiarly solemn. The last occasion on which she spoke in public was at the morning meeting at Carlton Hill, Leeds, on the First-day before she died. She had an excellent voice, an easy manner, and great facility of expression, which qualified her for addressing the largest audiences, and she was well known and much appreciated in the County of York, where she frequently spoke to very large audiences of both sexes.

Employing the simplest of language, she never got beyond the range of her audience. Several times has she faced assemblies that have filled the largest halls in Leeds, and raised up her strong and convincing voice on behalf of some social or moral reform. She was frequently called upon to take the chair at women's meetings, and always discharged the duties with a charming dignity, and in an unassuming, yet sufficiently strict manner. She was an ardent supporter of the temperance cause. In various ways she did all that lay within her power to combat the evils resulting from the drink traffic, and in course of time became the recognised head of the temperance women in Leeds. Our late friend did not shrink from the responsibilities of the position. She was the president of the Leeds Branch of the British Women's Temperance Association, and a vice-president of the National Society; she was a member of the committee of the Yorkshire Home for Inebriate Women; a member of the Ackworth School Committee, &c.

Perhaps the most notable feature of Anna R. Whiting's life was the success which attended her management of the orphanages which are popularly associated with her name. The institution was originally established by the wife of a former Vicar of Headingley. This lady's health broke down, and she left Leeds.

Before going, however, she prevailed upon Mrs. Whiting to carry on the orphanage. The work went on steadily, and the number of children under care grew larger and larger, the girls being eventually accommodated in a new and admirably equipped Home, the boys remaining in the old Home. The good which has been done by the institution is incalculable. Scores of boys and girls have been received into the Homes—many of them taken from undesirable surroundings. It would be impossible to overestimate the value and force of Anna R. Whiting's personality in the carrying on of the Homes. She was to the children a mother in the real sense of the word.

When she was taken ill in London her danger was not at first recognised. She herself said pleasantly to the doctor who was called in, "You know I want to get better, for I have 70 children to look after in Leeds." But it was ordered otherwise; the servant's work was done, though none of us knew it, and we may reverently believe it was well done, for it will never be known here what consolation she has administered to those in sorrow, nor what fruit shall arise from the seed she scattered with so liberal a hand.

INCREASE IN THE DRINK BILL.

Dr. Dawson Burns' annual analysis of the National Drink Bill, which is again before us, shows that in the United Kingdom and Ireland we spent last year on distilled and fermented liquors £148,972,230, being an increase on our Bill for 1895 of six and a half millions sterling. The expenditure was equal to £3 15s. 6d. per head, or £18 17s. 6d. per family of five persons. Some persons may be discouraged at this melancholy record, but others will find in it a ground for renewed efforts against so strong a foe to morality and public happiness and prosperity.

An interesting and welcome visitor to the forthcoming annual Council meeting will be Mrs. Kirk, W.C.T.U. secretary of Australia.

"WORK AMONGST FAIRS," B.W.T.A.

To the Editor of the WOMAN'S SIGNAL.

MADAM,—May I call your attention to an important matter which needs to be taken up at once?

It appears that in some districts—possibly in many—a custom prevails at the Oddfellows' and Foresters' annual fetes, of offering as prize for racing, &c., large quantities of wine, beer and spirits.

Several programmes have been shown to me in which bottles of gin, whisky and brandy, and barrels of ale form by far the larger portion of

the prizes. In one of these I have counted 18 such prizes, comprising 5 barrels of ale, 12 bottles of wine, 3 dozen of stout, and 6 bottles of brandy, whisky and gin!

You will, I am sure, unite in the feeling that this, added to the usual amount of drinking on such occasions (a special license being granted on the field) is a very grave evil.

The Malvern Branch has very bravely set itself to the task of doing what it can to lessen it, and with some success. It is in the hope that others will follow the example of our sisters at Malvern that I venture to address other branches, hoping they will kindly aid by obtaining and passing on to me any information they can possibly collect about the matter in their own neighbourhoods, and, if necessary, by using all their influence to lessen the evil. I shall also be very grateful for suggestions or for reports of work done in this direction in due time. The fetes are usually held in the months of May, June, and July, and almost invariably under the patronage of the local clergymen. If these evils were pointed out to them doubtless much good would result.

The Oddfellows' and Foresters' Provident clubs are excellent institutions, it is this abuse of them only we wish to put an end to.

Programmes of the sports, &c., can generally be obtained some weeks before the fetes take place, either from shops, public-houses, or the printers, and may be seen posted on the walls.

May I also take this opportunity of reminding your readers that our *van population* will soon be moving out of their winter quarters to begin "travelling." Now is the time, therefore, for making plans for work amongst them. I shall be so glad to hear of any new openings, and of anything already being done for the showmen.

Whatever information or help I can render is always at the service of my fellow-members.—Believe me, yours faithfully,

EDITH SESSIONS.

HERE is a story which is told of a prominent member of society, who had a habit of tying a knot in her pocket-handkerchief when she wished to fix anything in her mind which must be attended to. She was engaged in a desperate flirtation on a certain occasion, and in her abstraction dropped the handkerchief on the floor. This was noticed by her hostess, who endeavoured to break up the flirtation by inviting her guest into another part of the house. As the lady rose from her chair she stooped and picked up her handkerchief, noticing as she did so the knot in one corner. "What have I forgotten to-day?" she asked, audibly. "That you have a husband," replied the hostess. The story was repeated, and the lady always keeps her handkerchief free from knots now.

OUR DUTY IN SELF-GOVERNMENT.

PARISHES are little states, which ought to exhibit in finished miniature the principal features of large ones. They should be preparatory schools for the art of government, full of rivalry in themselves, and with one another, in promoting the public welfare—moral farms, divided, drained and tilled, so as to produce the richest harvests and the fewest weeds.

The principal reasons which deter men of honourable feelings, and of habits of attention to their own affairs, from taking much part in public concerns, I apprehend to be—the difficulty, from want of proper organisation, of effecting much good; the fleeting nature, from the same cause, of any good effected; the want of co-operation on the part of others like themselves; the opposition of the interested and the factious; and the grievous annoyances of popular elections. All these objections should give place before the urgency of the necessity for public affairs to be well managed. One strong inducement to men of character and business to take the lead in the affairs of their respective divisions must be the apprehension of personal annoyance to themselves, and of injury to their every-day interests, if they allowed ill-qualified persons to be set in authority over them. Whenever means can be devised to excite the respectable portion of the community to take an active part in public affairs, that portion, all experience shows, is sure to prevail. It is the general supineness of the deserving that gives to the undeserving any chance of ascendancy, and that supineness should not exist under the democratic principle.

SCOTCH WOMEN STUDENTS.

WOMEN students at the Scottish Universities are winning their way into academic life much more rapidly than their sisters across the border. Not only have they secured the magic letters of "M.A.," and the vote in Rectorial elections, with, of course, admission to all the arts and most of the science classes, formerly open to men only, but they are gradually overcoming the prejudices which have hitherto debared them from their share in academic merrymakings. For instance, at Edinburgh they are at last, by a decision of the Students' Union, to have their part in the great occasions known as "students' nights" at the principal theatres of the city. The Glasgow men students have followed the generous lead of their Edinburgh colleagues by deciding to admit lady students as members of the University Tennis Club.

IMPERFECTION means perfection hid,
Reserved in part to grace the aftertime.
Browning.

IN THE KITCHEN.

LIEBIG COMPANY'S EXTRACT



For Liebig



GOES FARTHEST.

Added to gravies and soups it acts like a cook's talisman; but always look for the BLUE SIGNATURE; there are imitations which do not taste so nice, and are not so carefully manufactured.

THE
WOMAN'S SIGNAL.

A Weekly Record and Review of Woman's Work and Interests at Home and in the Wider World.

Editor—MRS. FLORENCE FENWICK MILLER.
Corresponding Editors—THE LADY HENRY SOMERSET and MISS FRANCES E. WILLARD.

Editorial Rooms and Business Offices, to which all letters, advertisements, subscriptions, and enquiries should be addressed, 80 Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

THE WOMAN'S SIGNAL will be sent post paid to any address, in Great Britain or abroad, on receipt of subscriptions:

12 months for ...	6s. 6d.
6 " " " " " "	8s. 8d.
8 " " " " " "	1s. 8d.

Or can be had to order, One Penny weekly, from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom; also sold at Messrs. Smith's Railway Bookstalls.

Published Every Thursday, Price One Penny.

THE TRADE SUPPLIED

By MARSHALL AND SONS, 125 Fleet Street.

NOTICE

All communications intended for insertion must be written on one side only of the paper, and the writer's name and address must be given, not necessarily for publication. The Editor cannot answer correspondents privately, except on the business of the paper strictly.

If a stamped and addressed wrapper be attached to a manuscript offered for publication, it will be returned if declined; but the Editor cannot be responsible for the accidental loss of manuscripts, and any not accompanied by a wrapper for return will be destroyed if unaccepted. Space being limited and many manuscripts offered, the Editor begs respectfully to intimate that an article being declined does not necessarily imply that it is not considered an excellent composition.

SIGNALS FROM OUR
WATCH TOWER.

In printing the address to the Queen, which appears on page 228 of our present issue, the *Times* appends a letter signed "Observer," remarking that the writer is "led by the names attached to the document" to infer that the object is to obtain from the Queen some expression of sympathy with Woman's Suffrage. Why, surely, that fact is obvious on the face of the address, and did not need an ingenious wit to discover it. Not only, however, does "Observer" take credit for this recondite discovery, but the wife of a prominent Liberal party leader, having appended her signature, wrote to withdraw it on the ground that she had not realised on first reading that "equal civil rights" must mean, amongst other things, the right of Suffrage, to which her husband (alas! for his Liberalism) is opposed. Of course, the right to vote is the most important of all "equal civil rights" in a Democratic State like ours, the foundation and the guard of every other right.

We know, of course, that the Queen refrains from participating in public discussion, and that at best we cannot hope for much support from her in a cause that is yet to gain. But we do hope that some measure of sympathy may be shown by her, and in any case we believe that the reprinting

of the address in newspapers, the reading of it in women's meetings, the obtaining by its very existence of a degree of what Frances Willard calls "an arrest of thought" on women's questions, will be valuable.

It is not easy to say how much the Queen is or is not in favour of the "woman's movement" that her personality and her career, at any rate, have so powerfully helped. Only one incident betokening lack of sympathy with the efforts of her women subjects to enlarge their sphere of usefulness and effort could be cited, and there are many opposing indications. For instance, the Queen in person opened Holloway College, designed to prepare women for University degrees; and when Miss Ramsay made her great triumph at Cambridge University by coming out first on the list, above all the candidates for honours of the men's colleges, in classics, the Queen sent the brilliant young student a letter of congratulation and asked for her photograph for Her Majesty's album. Several similar facts could be cited, to set against the one reverse indication alluded to above, which was this: When women first were seeking to study medicine, in the course of the debates as to their admission to Edinburgh University, Professor Christison, one of the strongest opponents, asserted that he had Her Majesty's commission to state that she disapproved of women studying medicine. He would not have made this assertion without some authority, doubtless; but he may have exaggerated his commission. Even if this were the Queen's first feeling on that point, however, she has given such sanction and approval to the training of medical women for India that we may fairly assume that she has changed her mind. We are not without hope, therefore, of receiving some gracious word from her now; and, at worst, the reading and circulation of the address, we think, must do good; so we hope our women's societies will take it up at once and warmly.

The annual meeting of the Dufferin Fund was recently held in Calcutta, the Viceroy, Lord Elgin, presiding. The report shows that over 1,300,000 women have been treated in the hospitals connected with the fund—or more than double the number treated in 1893. The committee state that the progress made proves that the people of India regard the efforts of the association for affording medical aid to women, with sympathy, and ever-increasing interest in its success. The income during last year exceeded two lakhs. The provincial reports show that the prejudice against the medical treatment of purdah women is dying out. The Viceroy alluded to the Queen as follows:—"The Patron of our association is the Patron of the Famine Relief Fund. I have received many letters from the Queen-Empress, written with her own hand, which I can only describe as overflowing with sympathy. It is Her Majesty's command that I should miss no opportunity of declaring in public the distress and grief caused to her by the suffering of her Indian subjects. I am sure that there is no one who doubts that. I hope that no one here will think that I have transgressed by taking advantage of this opportunity for carrying out Her Majesty's orders."

In face of the urgency of the plague, a great step has been taken by the Government of India in antagonism to all the prejudices of the natives. The plague

attacks hundreds of victims weekly, and nine out of ten of those attacked die! This appalling record has determined the Government to pass the Epidemic Diseases' Act, under which they obtain power to take all the sick of whatever caste into hospital. They may even take a high-caste woman out of her zenana, send her to a hospital, and segregate her from her family. Before the plague, this Act would have been regarded as an outrage on the most cherished feelings of both Mussulmans and Hindus. Indeed, as it is, great objection was raised by members of the Municipal Council, and also by native members of the Governor's Council. The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal plainly told the native members of Council, however, that considerations of caste must give way to the public safety; and that segregation of patients, whatever their position in life, was the first and indispensable condition for arresting the plague. Cases in which adequate guarantees for segregation can be obtained may, of course, be dealt with privately. But the great majority even of high-caste patients cannot give such guarantees, since high caste in India by no means implies wealth, or the possibility of isolating a patient in the private home, which in crowded cities often consists of one or two small rooms.

To the plea that the women, accustomed from infancy to regard seclusion as an essential element in their modesty, and even a portion of their religious life, should be exempted from this rule, the Governor-General sternly replied—"It is perfectly certain that we could not allow the whole town to run the risk of plague infection merely because the source of that infection happened to be a woman. I think that segregation can be enforced with every due regard to purdah requirements. We have lady doctors, lady nurses, and female nurses of various creeds, whose services we can indent for. But the powers of effective segregation appear to be absolutely essential. For nothing is clearer than this, that mere sanitary measures, when once disease has got hold of a town, are not sufficient to prevent its spread."

Poor Indian women! This will add a new terror to death for them! But if it is safely carried through it may eventually be a beneficial event for future generations, for it must convince the British rulers that what the Government really wills to do, it can do, even with regard to the women, and will prevent them from pretending that they cannot raise the "age of consent" for child-wives, and take other needful legal steps to protect Indian girls and women, for fear of causing a revolt thereby.

Mrs. Baxter desires to say that, owing to an unfortunate accident in her office, a few names were wrongly given in the list, in the last report of the Suffrage Society, of Members of Parliament who had promised to vote for Woman's Suffrage, but failed to be in their places on February 3rd. The gentlemen to whom apology is due, and is now offered with much sincerity, are the following:—

L. Mr. E. H. Pickersgill, Bethnal Green, N.E.
C. Mr. F. Platt-Higgins, Salford, North.
C. Mr. E. Pryce-Jones, Montgomery Boroughs.
U. Mr. R. Purvis, Peterborough.
C. Mr. Guy Pym, Bedford.
L. Mr. D. Randall, Glamorgan—Gower.
C. Mr. J. Rankin, Herefordshire—Leominster

Each of these Members duly fulfilled his pledge, and voted for Mr. Faithful Begg's Bill, and are therefore included in our deeply-felt, grateful thanks to the Members who made up our majority.

The Hon. Ella Scarlett, sister of Lord Abinger, is studying surgery at the London School of Medicine with a view to qualifying for medical work in India. She has still two years of study before her, and throws herself heart and soul into her work—her only relaxation is bicycling.

It appears that the Suffrage for women has once previously been submitted to the men of South Dakota. The leader of the local workers there writes to the *Woman's Journal*, of Boston:—"It will be eight years at the next general election since it was voted on, along with the question of enfranchising the Indian. The ignorant, half-civilised red men were voted in, and South Dakota's intelligent, refined, civilised women were voted out. This action reacted in our favour all over our State. That was a campaign of education. The seed sown at that time by our heroic workers has been springing up all over our State. Our cause to-day is very strong. It needs to be concentrated into power. Wyoming, our neighbour on the west, has full Woman Suffrage; so have Idaho, on our north-west, and Colorado on the south, and Utah, west of Colorado, cornering south and west on Wyoming. Get down your map and see the beautiful chain of States we shall have when South Dakota wheels into line as a fifth Woman Suffrage State."

This is not too sanguine, for it is the rule of all reforms that they must be rejected, a few times at any rate, before they are accepted. We all know how this was the case with our own extensions of the male franchise, with the Ballot Act, with the measures for State-aided elementary education, in fact with absolutely every great change; so that persons who are discouraged by defeat are blind to the teaching of history. Each discussion, if the cause be intrinsically good, by arousing thought and compelling attention to the arguments pro and con, gains opinion in favour of the change, and the sowing will be reaped in due course. So it appears that, in the American States, the extension of the vote to women has been frequently preceded by defeat, but the election at which the cause was thus presented to the male electorate was really the occasion on which they for the first time thought about it, and when the next opportunity was presented to them they showed they had been thinking by voting right.

Lady Henry Somerset's promised monthly articles for the *WOMAN'S SIGNAL* have been broken in upon by her regretted accident and subsequent illness, but now we are glad to be able to announce that next week we shall publish another paper from her brilliant pen, entitled "The Welcome Child."

A strong illustration of an improvement in the sympathy of women with women is the story of the eagerness of the Liverpool women to obtain the reprieve of Catherine Kempshall, sentenced to death for the murder of a merchant named Holland. We read that the places where the petition

for her reprieve lay were "besieged," and that parties of work-girls, employed in the same shops, would go together, ten, twenty, or a hundred of them, to sign. The Home Secretary has ordered a reprieve on the ground of insanity, and the unhappy woman has been removed to the Criminal Lunatic Asylum. We are not, of course, in favour of any person of either sex becoming executioner in his or her own cause, but it is painful to reflect that there are many wrongs of the cruellest kind suffered by women, for which the law provides absolutely no remedy, and that one of those wrongs had been committed by the murdered man against this woman, and doubtless directly caused her insanity.

On this point, the *Nursing Record*, which often speaks out very courageously, observes:—

"This sad case has not received the notice due to its importance in the press, but alas! when do questions of real importance to women receive such notice? In judging of this poor woman's actions we must not forget her terrible provocation, and the fact which came out in court, and which was alluded over by counsel on both sides, that not only did the murdered man prove faithless to his mistress, but he deserted her after having injured her physically for life, sowing the wind of the whirlwind of resulting insanity, which ultimately swept him into his grave. As women learn to understand the true significance of this terrible cruelty, it is not surprising that insanity should result. We cannot affect any sympathy with the human being who commits what should be regarded as a criminal act, almost worthy of death, but our deepest sympathy is aroused for his unhappy victim, who, tainted and insane, has to linger out her wretched life in a Criminal Lunatic Asylum."

We learn in the biography of the good Lord Shaftesbury that he was often and terribly depressed in spirit by the opposition that he met with from religious people, in matters in which he felt that he was standing for right against wrong—for God against the Devil. His biographer, after mentioning some of his noble and generous efforts, adds—"As usual, he found himself either left almost alone to fight these battles, or else supported only by those from whom he had the least reason to expect help," and then quotes for us from his "Journal" the following melancholy heart-sick cry:—

"January 5th.—Prepared as I am, I am oftentimes distressed and puzzled by the strange contrasts I find: support from infidels or non-professors, opposition or coldness from religionists or declaimers! I sometimes pause to reflect whether I can be right; whether I have followed the true course; whether, when so many 'pious' people either thwart or discourage me, I must not be altogether in error? They read and study the Bible, they pray for guidance and light; they ask, and surely obtain God's grace to judge aright; they surely, too, must make (is it so in fact?) their conduct the subject and consequence of fervent supplication before and after they have resolved to weaken my efforts? What can I do which they do not do? If I say with fervour before I act, 'Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings,' &c., so do they, doubtless, when they prepare a resistance to me. They implore Almighty God that all their works 'may be begun, continued, and ended in Him.' Is it so? If it be, I am indeed gratified."

This pathetic cry is recalled to my mind by the amazement and indignation with which I see Christian ministers not fearing to put their names—nay, adding their religious titles and position after their names to increase the authority of the words they print deliberately—to letters urging the re-introduction of Contagious Diseases Acts. These laws are not merely opposed to elementary principles of morality, but are explicitly condemned in anticipation by many passages of Scripture. So much in our world is in opposition to the teachings of Jesus that one can understand a certain fear or unwillingness in ministers to urge reform and to press more Christian life in many directions. But for a Christian minister to deliberately and needlessly sit down in his parsonage, and interfere on the wrong side, and, using his clerical character as a pedestal to secure attention, urge and implore the re-introduction of laws to foster immorality, is truly an extraordinary phenomenon. How can they thus ignore the most plain and repeated teachings of the Scripture they profess to regard as God's law?

A considerable crowd assembled at the Charing-cross Station of the South-Eastern Railway on Thursday morning to see the departure for Athens of Mrs. Chant and a staff of nurses, who are going to Athens to offer their services to the Greek Government in case of an outbreak of hostilities. Mrs. Chant wore a uniform of grey and crimson, designed by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick. The nurses who accompanied her were Miss Farnsworth, Miss Fawkes, Miss Flanagan, and Miss Warriner, from the Registered Nurses' Society; Sister Lees, from the Lewisham Infirmary, and Miss Emma Curtis, from the London Association of Nurses. These ladies wore blue and scarlet uniforms, also designed by Mrs. Fenwick. Each had a long dark blue cape with a red Maltese cross on the left breast, and a smart bonnet to match. Among those on the platform were Dr. Chant, Mrs. Fenwick, Lady Henry Somerset, and Mrs. Barker, the wife of Prebendary Barker. Lady Henry Somerset presented Mrs. Chant with a bouquet of white roses. Hearty cheers were raised as the train moved away, and one lady waved a Greek flag with which she had come provided. Mrs. Chant told a correspondent before leaving that, war or no war, they hoped to find some work of kindness and mercy, so that their journey would not be an idle one.

For the first time in Austria the degree of Doctor of Medicine has been conferred in Vienna upon a woman, in the person of the Baroness Possauer. She matriculated in Vienna, and studied later in Zurich, where she obtained the M.D., but she had to pass another examination in order to have that degree confirmed in her native country. The Rector of the University, when congratulating the new doctor, said that when women occupying thrones can, by their wisdom, obtain immortal fame in history, the time had certainly arrived for considering the sex eligible for university degrees.

Mrs. Humphrey Ward delivered a speech and performed the opening ceremony at the new Free Public Library presented to Edmonton by Mr. Passmore Edwards.

FREE CIRCULATION FUND

For placing the WOMAN'S SIGNAL in public libraries, reading rooms, and sending to Editors of newspapers and other influential persons.

Whatever total amount is generously placed at the Editor's disposal will be strictly applied to the purpose named. A separate list and accounts will be kept for this money, and duly audited in six months' time.

FIFTH LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Edmund J. Eldridge, Esq., Smyrna...	0	10	0
"A Friend," Vienna ...	0	7	4
Miss E. Shewell, 26, Victoria-avenue,			
Harrogate ...	0	5	0
"R. M." ...	0	2	6
Amounts previously acknowledged ...	67	1	0

£68 5 10

Further subscriptions are respectfully asked for.

THE PRISON TREATMENT OF FEMALE INEBRIATES.

Selections from an Address delivered before the Medical Society for the study of Inebriety.

By J. J. PITCAIRN, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. (Assistant-Surgeon, H.M. Prisons, Holloway and Newgate).

LARGE as is the number of drunkards of both sexes in our prisons, the proportion in the case of the females is simply appalling. Female crime, if by "crime" we understand offences against the persons and property of others, does not account for much more than ten per cent. of the gross female prison population. It follows then that our prisons are swollen to repletion by the slaves of the most imperious and degrading vice known to mankind. Personally I cannot remember to have met more than ten or a dozen male drunkards whose convictions exceeded or even reached a score; but the records of the police courts conclusively show that "once a drunkard always a drunkard" is almost an axiom in the case of females.

The greater number of women whom I have questioned have told me that they began to drink in comparative youth, the majority having first made the acquaintance of prison before the age of twenty. It is obvious that such an early familiarity with prison must be objectionable on every ground. To the young, at least, a prison should wear an air of severe mystery. To many its idea is usually associated with darkness, chains, and such physical discomforts as Dante pictured in the *Inferno*. But how different is the reality! The prisoner finds herself treated with kindness, is warmly clad, fed amply, if plainly, works to a considerably less degree than when at liberty, and sleeps amid good and sufficient bedding in a warmed and ventilated chamber.

When we remember the class from which the drunkard as seen in our prisons is usually drawn, their precarious food, their insanitary homes, their scanty clothing, and their frequent exposure to the weather, can it be wondered at that in a couple of visits prison is deprived of all its deterrent terrors? I have watched a previously healthy girl gradually lose all her youthful freshness and attraction, and become in the course of a few convictions a confirmed inebriate with the air of a drink-sodden virago.

It is notorious to every intelligent prison official that the most troublesome of all female prisoners, and those least amenable to discipline, are the drunkards. Whilst the felons are perfectly contented so long as they receive what they consider to be their rights, the drunkards would appear to pride themselves on

the fact that although technically criminals they are not actually felons, and to expect leniency of treatment.

Committed to prison in a large proportion of cases in a condition of latent alcoholism, if not one of actual *delirium tremens*, as is by no means rare, they are perforce treated as invalids throughout their entire sentence of so-called "hard labour." The prison is thus in great part an infirmary or asylum, for neither of which purposes was it ever intended, however well it may serve them. Similar treatment could not be obtained by the drunkard when at liberty, since no hospital would admit a patient to its wards who was recovering from such an event as a drinking bout. In prison, on the other hand, they are treated medically and dietetically, and in a short sentence, such as seven days, are scarcely recovered before the time comes for their discharge. . . . Homeless, and usually destitute, it is only natural that the outcast class of habitual drunkards should regard the prison as a species of infirmary, supported by the taxpayer for the benefit of the thriftless and dissipated. . . .

I cannot imagine a more pitiable spectacle than that which may be seen before 9 a.m. outside the gates of any large prison. At that hour the females whose sentences have expired are discharged. The average number is about thirty, and they are of all ages, ranging from girls "in their teens" to quite old women, who can scarcely totter from the gate on their way to the breakfasts provided by the Prisoners' Aid Societies. Their clothes, restored to them on their discharge, are dilapidated and filthy to a degree, and the neighbouring thoroughfares are usually strewn with the rags and tatters they tear from them in the endeavour to conform to the not very exacting standard of decency of their native haunts, and to obliterate the evidences of their drunken struggles in the hands of the police. The majority of them know the road to the mission house only too well, but there is one peculiarity to which there are no exceptions. Shameless and brazen-fronted they walk from the prison gates, drink having destroyed all sense of self-respect or of womanly modesty. The majority of these social pariahs have, time and again, been assisted by one or other of the numerous philanthropic institutions for the benefit of discharged prisoners, until the hopelessness of effecting any reformation in them has dried up the fount of charity, and they have no prospect but to return again and yet again until death closes the scene in the prison hospital.

These women are persons of almost no education at all, those young enough to share in its benefits having apparently escaped the operation of the Elementary Education Act. Few know any trade except coarse laundry-work, and it is rarely that they can even be got to perform the ordinary rough duties of a charwoman with any degree of thoroughness, so slipshod and careless have they become as a result of the sordid surroundings amongst which they live.

It has been repeatedly shown that a period of six months' forcible abstinence is inadequate to overcome the morbid craving for alcohol, whilst, on the other hand, it is well known amongst prison officials that female convicts, that is to say, women undergoing sentences of three years and upwards, notwithstanding previous habits of intemperance, are as a rule completely cured of the morbid propensity. It will be observed that I say "as a rule," and that brings me to the pith of my argument which is that prison is the very last place where such cases should be treated.

The treatment of our criminals is far more logical than that of our drunkards. If a man by repeated convictions affords evidence that he has definitely chosen the career of a criminal, or in other words, has declared war upon society, the law protects us from his depredations by longer, and still longer, terms of imprisonment. In the same manner the advocates of imprisonment for drunkards to be strictly logical should progressively increase their sentences. But were this done so great would be the accumulation of drunkards, amongst the women at any rate, that at least half-a-dozen extra prisons (that is to say, half-a-dozen special establishments for their treatment) would be required.

When it is remembered that quite nine-tenths of habitual inebriates have never placed themselves within the reach of the criminal law for other offences, it must be clear to the most unjudicial mind that the present system of punishment is a failure. . . . When in 1895 the turning-point in the history of the question was reached by the introduction of the Government Bill for the establishment of compulsory inebriate retreats, the chief opposition to the measure was aroused by its alleged interference with the Habeas Corpus Act. But, as I have endeavoured to show, the dipsomaniac is himself the suspender of the Act, in so far as it applies to his own drink-sodden personality.

Can it be seriously contended that a single prolonged detention under the mitigated discipline of the proposed Act would have a more baneful effect upon body and mind than repeated short imprisonments, punctuated as they are by debauches?

It is difficult to exaggerate the responsibility which must attach to the legislators who continue to oppose this salutary reform. There can be no question that, apart from its other drawbacks, the existing system tends to induce insanity. Dipsomaniacs being generally persons of unstable mental balance, and being accustomed to drink immoderately the moment they are released from prison, cases of dementia or mania are often seen with little or no warning after a series of sentences for drunkenness. It is customary with a certain class of writers to credit the prison system itself with the production of this insanity. As a matter of fact, it is really due to the repeated attacks of acute alcoholic poisoning, which the dipsomaniacs are at present allowed to sandwich between their short sentences.

In the words of the great French authority, Legrain:—"The question of the radical sequestration of inveterate drinkers is forced upon us. It will be useless for the medical profession to struggle against drunkards who enjoy their freedom. Social, anthropological, and humanitarian considerations plead for the suppression of a freedom which is abused." These premises are incontrovertible. None but the most superficial observer can deny that the habitual inebriate is one whose loss of self-respect and impaired moral sense have lessened his responsibility to the law, necessitating the regimen of an asylum, not the discipline of a gaol.

HE (the statesman) is not so much interested in the devices by which men may be influenced, as about how they ought to be influenced.

James Russell Lowell.

* * *

No man can be justly taxed by, or bound in conscience to obey, any law to which he has not given his consent in person or by his representative.—Samuel Adams.

TREASURES AND TROUBLES.

A DOMESTIC SCIENCE STORY FOR YOUNG MOTHERS.

CHAPTER XV.

THE change of scene to Restingham, and the freedom from all household responsibilities, undoubtedly were quickly beneficial to Elfie Crofton; but though her health soon improved she did not recover the tone of her mind so rapidly as her sister had hoped would be the case.

Sometimes, for a little while, she would seem to be as lively and cheerful as of old, and would talk in her wonted bright manner for ten minutes or so. But as a general rule, she sat, or yet more frequently lay down, in sadness and silence; and only too often her depression was extreme.

Bertha took as little notice as she possibly could of this state of misery. Now and then it was impossible for her to avoid talking to Elfie about the lost baby, and the change in her position and prospects. But such occasions of indulgence in feeling were made as few as possible by Bertha. This was not for lack of sympathy, but quite the reverse. It was a cruel trial to Bertha herself to appear hard and indifferent to her sister. But she knew that frequent recurrence to painful ideas only impresses them more deeply, and that the true method of ministering to a mind diseased is to give it as much change of mental atmosphere as it can be brought to tolerate. A mind in such a state has, indeed, a power of so wrapping itself up as to become impervious to fresh currents of ideas from without; but those who are in charge of such a nervous sufferer can do nothing else but quietly and unobtrusively offer the changes of thought, and trust to the healing power of time. It should be understood that it is not true kindness to encourage the mind of a hysterical or nervous patient to reflect upon the personal sufferings and symptoms. On the contrary, to withdraw the thoughts from self is the greatest service that can be done in such a case.

Mrs. Wynter was almost constantly with her sister. Elfie was never left to go out alone; at all sacrifices, Bertha would go with her, either walking or driving, for daily exercise. Thus, the poor girl was saved from temptation by finding no chance open to her of taking wine at a confectioner's, or of buying drink in any shape. Within the house, no one took alcohol in any form. Even the light dinner ale which they had been accustomed to drink was abolished. Elfie had nothing of the kind put before her, or, indeed, allowed to come within her reach.

Had the case been an older one, Dr. Wynter said that he might not have thought this stern treatment—this sudden and complete deprivation—desirable; but in such circumstances as these were, he held it the best plan to cut off altogether the source of the mischief, in order that a healthy state might be as quickly as possible restored. Meantime, poor Elfie suffered terribly, and everybody connected with her suffered too.

Bertha was much disappointed that her sister took so little interest in the baby. Maggie had been one of Bertha's firm anchors of hope. But, in place of "taking to" the baby, Elfie seemed almost to dislike to have the little one about her, and never took any real notice of its little lively ways and merry tricks. Mrs. Wynter had indulged in castles in the air, in which she had seen visions of Elfie taking the

care of Maggie for half an hour or so at a time, and growing so interested and amused with what the mamma naturally thought to be the most wonderful and attractive infant that ever existed, as to be thus weaned from the memory of her own loss. But these glowing pictures vanished into thin air. Bertha could not but suspect the truth that her sister, in her morbid state, felt the happiness of a more fortunate mother as almost an offence.

It was not Maggie's fault that her aunt did not get fascinated by her, for she was a child of a sweet disposition, and full of pretty ways. She was nine months old just at this time, and was, therefore, a good deal worried by the slow and troublesome performance of cutting her teeth. Born, like all other babies, with her teeth already sprouting within her gums, her constitution had to weary through the troublesome time in which the ivories cut their way, by the slow and gradual pressure of their growth upwards, through the substance of the gums.

Having been healthily fed, kept in a light, airy nursery, warmly, but not tightly clad, with plenty of flannel both for night and day wear, and taken out for exercise every day that the weather permitted, Maggie was going through her teething as well as could be expected. The first teeth to come are almost always the two middle teeth in the lower jaw. They arrive generally about seven months old, a little sooner or later being of no consequence. Some exceptional babies bring these first teeth along with them; Napoleon the First was born with two teeth, and was not quite so singular in this as in the rest of his career. Maggie Wynter was not ambitious, and had cut her first teeth, like an ordinary child, when she was between seven and eight months old. Maggie's next two teeth—the middle ones at the top—were cut within three weeks afterwards, and when her Aunt Crofton came to stay at Restingham, the third and fourth teeth in each jaw—one on each side of the two central ones—were just making their appearance.

Another kind of small hardship was impending over Maggie's unconscious head. She was soon to be weaned—though not in the midst of the disturbance caused in her constitution by the advance of these teeth. But she was expected soon to arrive at the period of rest, which nature almost always allows a baby in between the onset of separate teeth. The teeth do not, as a rule, come with a rush—one up, the other begin. For a longer or shorter period after any two companion teeth have appeared, the system rests. This period of quiescence may be a week, or longer. It is marked by a cessation of the various little tokens of disturbance which accompany the growth of the teeth.

While the teeth are coming, some one or more definite signs are visible. At the best, the gums are tender and swollen, and the baby either dreads to have them touched, or bites hard upon anything it can get hold of, as though the pressure relieved the soreness for a moment. The cheeks are flushed, and the eyes heavy, or over-bright. The mildest babies grow somewhat short-tempered; and smiles and tears succeed each other rapidly. Such little symptoms of constitutional irritability are always present; but with healthy children, properly fed, they may be very slight. When the tooth has once got fairly through the gum, the symptoms depart for a while, and such a period is the time that should be chosen for the final withdrawal of the mother's milk.

Bertha was not, however, leaving the change in diet to be made all at once, but was pre-

paring her baby for it, by giving her, during this ninth month, two meals a day of spoon food. She had commenced to give one such meal daily, more than a month earlier, but had, by the doctor's orders, returned to the pure milk, while the baby's whooping cough was bad. Now, the morning and evening meals were being given from the spoon, in order to prepare for the complete change of diet, as soon after ten month old as the condition of the teething permitted.

The food given was not always the same. Sometimes it was thin arrowroot made with milk; sometimes corn-flour; and sometimes a kind of bread and milk prepared in a special manner as follows: Some of the soft part of the loaf must be taken, broken up, covered with boiling water, and left to soak for some hours as though for bread pudding. The products of fermentation, had for a baby, as well as alum and other noxious matters with which bread is frequently adulterated, pass out into the water when the bread is thus soaked. This first water must then be strained away, and some fresh poured on the bread, and the whole put over the fire to boil until the bread becomes quite smooth. The water is then to be pressed out as thoroughly as possible, and the bread made quite smooth by rubbing through a wire sieve; then it may be allowed to get cold. It will be found to form a thick jelly, which will keep good for two days, though, of course it is much better to make it fresh every day. When it is to be used, a portion of the bread jelly is beaten up with hot milk and a little sugar. This is one of the best kinds of food for infants at weaning. It is called Dr. Churchill's bread jelly.

Other variations occasionally given were gruel made of the finest meal, baby's biscuits soaked in milk, and so on.

Maggie was allowed a crust to bite at, too. She needed watching while she had it, lest she should get a big piece off, and undertake the enterprise of swallowing it like a pill; but there was no objection to her swallowing such crumbs as she might manage to secure after patient effort and much moistening.

The little one went on quietly and comfortably under this regimen. Sometimes, when her gums felt very sore, she could not help crying for a little while; but it was not for very long, for she was a good-tempered child, and did not shout, as some babies seem to do, for the mere pleasure of becoming a personage in the household.

Dr. Wynter gave his baby no medicine at all, except occasionally to regulate the bowels, when required.

"A baby does not want anything," he said, "unless it has something definite the matter with it. A little feverishness must be expected; and if she seems very hot and thirsty during the day, you can let her have an occasional sip of water. If it is very cold, just reduce the chill, but do not make it warm water. It is a mistake to let a child suffer greatly without seeing what medicine can do for it, but it is quite as bad to dose it perpetually."

The next teeth to appear after the front ones are generally the first back ones. There is thus a space left between two teeth which have appeared, into which the sharp-pointed eye teeth have to force themselves. The eye or canine teeth are, partly for this reason, usually the most difficult of all to cut, and children who have scarcely suffered with the other teeth will often do so with these.

As though in preparation for this most serious coming of the eye teeth, it frequently occurs that there is a longer pause than between any of the other teeth before these appear.

Mrs. Wynter's baby was between fourteen and fifteen months old when she began to get these teeth. So favourably had she gone on before, that her mamma had begun to hope that there would be no particular trouble about the whole process.

(To be concluded in our next.)

ECONOMICAL COOKERY

By Miss Lizzie Heritage.

(First Class Diplôme Cookery and Domestic Economy; Author of "Cassell's New Universal Cookery," &c., &c.)

FOR THE EASTER FESTIVITIES.

RICE flour or ground rice enters into so many of our Easter dainties, that some care is required in its selection. The "flour" is the same thing as the "ground," but a finer and purer production; it is generally sold in packets, which are to be preferred to the loose article, owing to the freedom from any foreign particles. If a good grocer be applied to, there should be no trouble in getting it, and its average cost is 3d. to 4d. per pound.

RICE CHEESECAKES

are favourites with most people, being less rich than some other kinds popular to the season. The following is a good recipe. The mixture wants stirring often, as it soon catches; a double saucan is the thing for the cooking, then less attention is required. The vessel should be rinsed out with cold water, or, what is better, rubbed over with a little butter before the mixture is put in. Allow two ounces of rice flour to each pint of milk, two ounces of butter, about the same of white sugar, or a trifle over, four eggs, and some flavouring, with currants. Now for the method. Mix the rice with some of the milk while cold to a perfectly smooth paste; boil the rest of the milk and add by degrees, then put the whole on to cook for about a quarter of an hour; should ground rice be used, an extra five minutes will better it. Beat in the butter and sugar off the fire, and when the mixture has lost its first heat add the eggs, one at a time, beating each in well. Grated lemon or orange rind is a favourite flavouring, though many like ground mace or nutmeg; the first does not spoil the colour, but very little is needed. Again, a few drops of almond essence, with a pinch of mace may be noted as a very agreeable combination. Saucer-shaped patty pans are commonly used, or even shallow pie dishes, for the baking; they are to be lined with thin pastry, good short for choice, and three parts filled; the top should then be dredged with currants, though these are omitted by some. Small patty pans can be used, so long as they are rather deep, as the filling must be in generous quantity. So far so good, but there are those who must shun pastry in its various attractive forms: for such, bake a little pudding of the rice mixture alone; it will be found excellent. Those who find the above too costly must increase the rice flour to three ounces to the pint of milk, and reduce the butter a little, then two large eggs will suffice.

EASTER GINGER NUTS

are delicious and wholesome. Sift together half a pound each of rice flour and ordinary flour of good quality, mix in the grated rind of a lemon, six ounces of caster sugar and a pinch of salt, but first rub in six ounces of butter until quite fine. Then heat a quarter of a pint of milk, just to take the chill off, into it put half a teaspoonful of carbonate of soda, sifting it first; see that it is dissolved, and make all into a paste; finally roll out and cut with a round cutter, then bake in a very moderate oven, as these are intended to be pale. The amount of ginger must be left to taste; as a rule, half an ounce will be right, it should be sifted with the flour. Some chopped candied peel (an ounce or two) is thought an improvement to gingerbread of this class by many, then a little good essence of lemon can replace the fresh rind.

A REAL TREAT FOR THE TEA TABLE

may be made by introducing a "flat simnel," of which there are many varieties, of varying degrees of richness. This has been much liked in the past. Take five ounces each of flour and rice flour, the same, i.e., five ounces each of sugar and butter, a quarter of a pound each of currants and sultanas, an ounce or two of chopped, candied peel, half a teaspoonful of baking-powder and one egg. And the spice? For these are, in Lancashire, made quite spicy in some parts; a slight flavour is, however, more generally appreciated in other counties. Mace and ginger, or either alone, or ground allspice, a very small saltspoonful, may be advised; or minus spice, it is an excellent cake. The butter is to be rubbed well in, all the other dry materials added, and the whole worked to a paste with the beaten egg; knead it smoothly, but no more than necessary, then flatten it out the size of a cheese plate or a trifle larger; crimp the edges with the thumb and finger, and bake in a very moderate oven on a floured tin to a pale brown; if hurried its character is completely altered. For a more elaborate affair candied peel, shredded almonds, caraway comfits, and the like can be used for the outer decoration. A mixture of flour and Oswego corn flour, two-thirds of the former to one-third of the latter, has been tried with success for the same cakes. For afternoon tea the mass can be rolled out thinly and cut into little biscuits now and then for a change, but they must be watched for fear of the edges scorching. Dust with sugar when done.

RICE LAYER CAKES.

Here is a little dainty for the children for which nice dripping answers famously. Take a couple of eggs, the same weight in the shells of flour, the same of rice flour, also of sugar and dripping; or half butter or lard for the better cake; rub the fat in the flour thoroughly, add the sugar, a pinch of salt, a teaspoonful of baking powder and the same of freshly grated lemon or orange rind; then beat the eggs with four tablespoonful of milk; add to the rest quickly, mix only, do not beat. Now for the baking. Four greased tin plates, pudding size, are required, greased lightly; a sharp oven is essential; when firm and a pale brown, turn out on to a sugared paper, spread with warm orange marmalade, put two and two together again, cut in triangles and dust with sugar. Any stoneless jam may replace the marmalade. Though strictly a cake mixture, by baking it in a sandwich tin, and spreading the top with marmalade, a very nice impromptu pudding is obtained by serving it hot with a little plain custard made from powder. Dishes of this kind are generally acceptable, because quickly made and baked and small trouble and cost.

TEACHER: "Tommy Figg, you may parse the sentence, 'He stood six feet two in his stockings.'" Tommy: "But it ain't finished. Shouldn't 'two in his stockings' be in parentheses?"

"I wish you would tell me," said the agent who had long been on Mr. Snagg's trail, "what is your insuperable objection to insuring your life?" "I don't mind telling you," replied Snagg. "The idea of being more valuable after I am dead than while I am alive is distasteful to me."

A FOUR-YEAR-OLD girl in California is said to be able to repeat from memory anything she has ever heard. She will improve in time. When she is old enough to join a church sewing circle she will doubtless be able to repeat things she has never heard.

WHEN women are too severely criticised for not being sensible, after ages of training in the art of being attractively silly, let them appeal to Mrs. Poyser; "I'm not denyin' the women are foolish; God Almighty made them to match the men."

Current Delus

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

Mrs. Randall Davidson, wife of the Bishop of Winchester, has been initiated a member of the Loyal Lady Mary Lodge of Oddfellows at Farnham. Lady Mary Arkwright, president of the lodge, conducted the ceremony.

Miss Frances H. Simson, M.A., one of the first women graduates of the University of Edinburgh, has been appointed Warden of the Masson Hall, Edinburgh. The hall is the gift of friends and former students of Emeritus Professor Masson, and is to be opened next session as a residence and a central meeting-place for women students attending the University of Edinburgh.

Miss Sinclair, a fully qualified surgeon, has been appointed by the Asylums Committee of the County Council as doctor at Claybury Asylum. This lady has had much experience, and was recently attached to the staff of a fever hospital. Dr. Benson, the lady who last held the post at Claybury, has been appointed to a Government hospital in Madras, at a salary of £800 per annum, and she will also have opportunities for private practice.

Lady Dufferin has received 400 skirts, 220 veils, and £246 odd in money for the Indian Famine Fund. She has sent £100 to the Mansion House Fund, and £15 to Pundita Ramabai's Home for Infant Widows, where a large number of orphans are being received.

Miss Margaret Irwin was elected at the recent Trades' Union Congress at Glasgow, by the highest number of votes, as a member of the Parliamentary Committee. This was a well-merited compliment to her success as secretary, and it was also a triumph for the women of the Labour party, which, of course, prides itself upon extending to women the hand of equality and comradeship.

In Idaho, the latest accession to the States of the American Union that give women the Suffrage, a lady minister, Mrs. Mitchell, has just been appointed as Chaplain of the State Legislature.

LOST AND STARVING DOGS.—The 36th annual meeting of the members and friends of the Temporary Home for Lost and Starving Dogs, Battersea-park-road, was held at the offices of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 105, Jermyn-street, recently, Sir George S. Measom, chairman and treasurer, presiding. The committee stated in their report that during the year the Metropolitan Police brought to the home 39,427 dogs, of which number 30,117 were found to be unmuzzled, contrary to the order of the London County Council; the remaining 9,310, being lost, were seized by the police whilst wearing a muzzle. The chairman read a letter from Sir Fleetwood Edwards announcing the intention of the Queen to increase her subscription from £10 to £15 per annum. He moved the adoption of the report. The motion was seconded by Mr. J. Colam (secretary of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals), who mentioned that the committee had received an offer of £1,000 from a lady as a nucleus of a fund for extending the usefulness of the home by establishing premises a short distance in the country, whither the better class of dogs might be deported after their five days' confinement so as to improve their condition, secure higher money value, and yield satisfactory guarantees of health to purchasers. It was not true, he added, that dogs taken to the home were sent to vivisection. Mrs. Phillips seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

FOR POOR GENTLEFOLKS' CONVALESCENT CHILDREN.—The trustees of the Yarrow Home for Convalescent Children, Broadstairs, have issued their first report and balance-sheet, embracing 17 months ending December 31st, 1896. The institution was founded to benefit members of that class of people, often of gentle birth and

education, with some little position to maintain upon an income frequently less than that of an artisan, to whom in abnormal circumstances, such as the sickness of a child with its attendant expenses, life is a bitter struggle. For other classes various forms of relief, it was thought, were available, but for this class it was felt that too little had been done. The parents of children admitted must be respectable and poor, and the home, while open to children irrespective of nationality or creed, is not to be used as a holiday resort, or for the reception of the very poorest class. The clergyman of limited means, the widow who has seen better days, the unsuccessful professional man, the struggling artist, the clerk with a small income, and the skilled foreman are mentioned in the report as being among those whom it is intended to benefit. Each child pays 5s. a week during its stay. No subscriptions are required or will be accepted for the institution, it having been endowed generously by Mr. Yarrow. The building accommodates 100 children, and the total number admitted between August 20th, 1895, when the first party of children entered the home, and December 31st, 1896, was 661, the annual average number of children in the home at one time being 46.

PUNCTUALITY.—Rare qualities in the house-mistress are implied in the record made by the children of Samuel Ashton, an engineer of Stoke Newington, who have just received medals for regular attendance at school, which makes their totals of such awards twenty, as follows:—Rose Ashton, aged thirteen years, eight medals—three white, two bronze, and three gilt; Charles Ashton, aged ten years, seven medals—three white, two bronze, and two gilt; Maria Ashton, aged nine years, three medals; and May Ashton, aged seven years, two medals. This is unique in one family, as no child receives a medal who has been absent from any cause for a single half-day during the year, and it moreover proves that the children were punctual to time.

According to the *African Critic*, the most urgent need of South Africa is a cargo of hard-working laundry women. It states that "The Song of the shirt" is being sung at Bloemfontein in various keys, the major one predominating. There is a great scarcity of washerwomen in the capital of the Orange Free State, and one gentleman has written to the Press complaining that, despite the fact that he has offered a shilling per shirt, he is unable to get one washed at the price. Hard-worked and ill-paid London *blanchisseuses* might, with advantage, make a note of the fact. Bloemfontein should prove a veritable El Dorado to these slaves of the tub."

A discovery said to have been made by a scientist, who, I believe, hails from across the Atlantic, and who has made the "new woman" his study. This gentleman affirms that being a phrenologist he has detected that the modern woman is developing a new type of nose. This he goes on to describe as the "business" nose,

a new feature in the new woman whose lines lie in professional places, and who competes with men in branches of science or industry that heretofore were closed to her. That "rounding fullness" which, he writes, makes the feature one of beauty in a woman who is womanly and nothing more, gets, he has noticed, marred; sharp outlines are observable, and the nose becomes a "strong one," just as the lines about the female mouth get hardened and, so to say, masculinised in the case of women who adopt callings and professions that have hitherto been considered unfitted for their sex. Led on by his subject to treat of the cycling mania to which so many ladies are devoted, he remarks that the exercise gives a "nasty bicycle mouth," that it causes ugly bicycle wrinkles, that it must inevitably develop the bicycle hump, that it makes the hands large, the feet pigeon-toed; that the rider cannot avoid being knock-kneed, and that in many cases the teeth tumble out. Evidently this phrenologist is no partisan of cycling.

A Dalziel's telegram dated Kansas City, March 20th, says:—"A man named Benjamin Short was a candidate for the office of Mayor of this city, and after the counting of the votes last night it was found he had been defeated. The circumstances under which he was rejected are unusual. For twelve years Short had been engaged to be married to Miss Sakie Parsons, a school teacher. Last November, without giving any warning whatever to Miss Parsons that his affections towards her were changing, he suddenly dropped her entirely and married a rich widow. When he 'ran' for Mayor, Miss Parsons saw her opportunity for revenge, and became his most bitter and active opponent. Women are permitted to vote in municipal elections here, so she appealed to the women of the city to avenge the slight that had been cast upon her by voting against Short. She made known the circumstances, and almost every female voter in the place rallied to her cause, and many used all their influence on her behalf. Not a woman voter stayed away who could get to the poll. Some who were ill were brought in carriages. The result was that Miss Parsons had the satisfaction of seeing Short defeated by a tremendous majority."

The following brisk and forcible little letter appeared in the *Western Morning News*:—"The Franchise for Women; Sir,—I am one of the so-called 'superior sex,' and thus cannot be accused of being an 'interested party.' Your leader in to-day's paper on the enfranchisement of women has struck me as being most unfair and prejudiced against the sex which has existed under a disqualification imposed upon them by their opposite sex; and your attempt to undervalue the victory gained by the advocates of qualified women's enfranchisement in the House of Commons last night is, in my opinion, unworthy of your paper. Ridicule is not argument; but it is often used where reasons will not hold water. Your argument that if one female has a vote every female shall have one, is ridiculous in face of the fact that every man

has not yet got one; and a logical conclusion of your argument would be that no man should have a vote. That woman is a political factor none can deny, and the old prejudice of a natural incapacity in woman is exploded. The Queen has vindicated the capacity of the sex to perform political and social duties, and the greatest commemoration of the record reign and compliment to her would be the abolition of sex disability. The law should be as blind to sex as it is to sect.—H.G.P."

WHAT IS WOMEN'S WORK IN POLITICS?—At a meeting of the Guildford Women's Liberal Association, held in the Ward-street School recently, a suggestive paper was read by Mr. James Guyatt, the Liberal agent for the Guildford Division, entitled "Parliamentary Elections: What a woman can do." In connection with political elections, Mr. Guyatt enumerated many ways in which women could help during the period intervening between elections. Among these were the looking up of the doubtful voters; the preparations of lists of names of persons who would be willing to show a Liberal bill at election times, or preside or speak at meetings, or canvass, or who would subscribe their names to a nomination paper, or lend horses and conveyances. Again, they might compile a list in readiness for an election of women who would be willing to prepare canvass books, and street registers, to fill envelopes, affix stamps, and carry out any of the other multitudinous services during the rush of a contested election. After this catalogue of the labours of the "hewer of wood and drawer of water" kind, Mr. Guyatt had no suggestion to offer that women should either speak or vote.

The employes of the Scottish Manufacturing Company, Limited, Bridgeton, have struck work on the ground that women are being given sections of cycles to do up which hitherto have been done by men. About 200 hands are out. A number of the engineers employed by the firm have also been thrown idle through the dispute.

A NEW opening for women is announced. In America, we hear that Miss Wenlock, queen of whist players, holds classes for instruction in the game in many cities of the United States. Her example has, of course, been followed by many other ladies, who are at this moment earning the wherewithal to pay for their autumn holidays, by teaching whist and other games of skill at large hotels at some of the most fashionable late resorts, where *enrui* is apt to claim many victims, especially during a wet season.

AN examination paper from the cooking class tells us that French women, in cooking, use "their own clarified fat," that a school kitchen should have "space enough to allow six or eight girls to cook at once," and that a certain dish may be "eaten cold twice."

For INFANTS

and INVALIDS.

MELLIN'S FOOD

When Prepared is similar to Breast Milk.

Samples post free from Mellin's Food Works, Peckham, S.E.

WHAT TO WEAR.

The great French dressmakers have come to a decision to make plain skirts for day wear, whilst flounces and furbelows are to be reserved for evening wear. The day-dresses may, perhaps, not be entirely untrimmed, but the trimmings will be flat, as a general rule, while even for ball-dresses elaborate embroideries will be much preferred to flounces. A good deal of red is observable in the dresses prepared for Spring. Red and white shepherd's check is a perfect furore with the Parisiennes, and this pattern is decidedly pretty when it is carried out in alpaca. I saw a charming costume in this material at the house of a noted Paris firm, which has recently started a branch establishment in London. The shirt was plain, fitting tightly at the hips, but flowing out well towards the hem, and a smart little apology for a jacket revealed a scarlet Surah blouse, the front of which was veiled beneath pleatings of red chiffon. Another pretty dress was in face-cloth, and another in red and white foulard.

A charming dress for a young girl was made in dull green foulard, figured with a pattern of foliage, the skirt made perfectly plain, the bodice almost covered by a white muslin fichu, after the fashion of Marie Antoinette. A delightful walking dress was in blue cloth, with a pelerine bodice, fastened from left to right, with a row of little tabs, with a gold button at each side. I scarcely know how to describe this pelerine, except as a tight-fitting jacket, reaching barely below the waist, and finished off with a very important collar—the lower part like a pointed cape, the upper part high and encircling the throat. A charming walking-dress seen recently at an English milliner's was also embellished with a pelerine collar. This dress was in leaf green face-cloth with a smart tight-fitting jacket slashed up at the basque and edged with gold braid, the cape-like collar was in velvet of the same shade trimmed with three lines of gold braid to resemble a coachman's cape, the high part of the collar was also cut out in slashes and edged with gold. Another pretty dress was made in watered grenadine in a lovely shade of green, and lined throughout with pale blue silk. The green bolero was edged with embroidered lisse, and arranged over an under bodice of pale blue accordion-pleated chiffon, the Medici collar being one of the velvet. Blue and green form also of the most popular mixtures of the day, one of the prettiest blouses I have seen of late being formed of green and blue shepherd's check gauze, with transparent sleeves of black Spanish lace.

The edible asparagus can indeed be grown from seed, and gardeners hold a better permanent bed is produced by sowing than by planting roots, but then the first plan takes time. April is the month for sowing, but if you sowed now it would be the spring of 1900 before you could cut from your young plants. A bed intended for long and profitable use needs months of preparation; but in an ordinary case a thorough good digging in winter will do, after which a thick coat of good stable manure should be spread over the ground, and when this is worn down by action of weather, it may be forked in before sowing time. If the ground is well drained there is no need to raise the beds for the seeds; but in heavy, wet, or ill-drained soils, raised beds are absolutely necessary. The bed or beds must not be more than 3 feet wide, make 2 rows, 9 inches from each edge of the bed, the rows having groups of 3 holes, at distances of 15 inches. Drop two or three seeds in each hole. When the seedlings are 6 inches high, thin them quite relentlessly, till one plant is left at each point where you had 3 holes. The beds must be kept free from weeds, and yet must not be trodden on; this is the reason for making them so narrow. When the tops grow tall put strong sticks here and there each side of the rows, and a *cordon* of tarred string carried along the whole length; this is to prevent the tops being caught and shaken by wind, which would loosen the whole of the root in the soil, and check their proper growth. When the top turns yellow in Autumn they may be cut down, the bed cleared and raked, and a top dressing of manure added.

Most people decide that all this work is too much when you can't cut asparagus-heads for table under three years. So the commoner plan is to procure roots and prepare a bed for them. In this case, it should be remembered that the roots don't like being transplanted, and that being exposed to the air and becoming dried is injurious to them. When taken up, they should be immediately and carefully packed, so as to exclude air, and the beds for their reception ought to be quite ready in advance, so that they can be put in directly the package is opened. April is soon enough for this process, because if very cold or wet weather follows removal, many of the transplanted roots will die.

Bed for this purpose should be raised, long and narrow, with alleys or channels between, where the gardener can stand to weed or manure the bed, and to cut the heads when ready. Spring dressings of salt are good for established beds, asparagus is a native plant, and in its natural state grows on the seashore. The heads must always be cut down in autumn, but never before they begin to turn colour. The young buds from which next year's heads will come from in the late summer, are at the *sides* of the old growths, so if the one is cut down too soon it destroys the other. After cutting down the tops the bed must be weeded, raked, and top-dressed with manure for the winter.

Ladies like to cut some of the tall, feathery tops for mixing with flowers or other foliage in long vases. There is no harm in their taking a few for this purpose, but they must only cut one here and there, not many from one root. In towns you see enormously long asparagus put up into bundles for sale, possibly the buyers imagine that they are getting more for their money, and so purchase these long sticks more willingly. But really it is not so. Why be at the trouble of cooking five or six inches of inedible stuff that can only be left on the dinner plates after all?

Gardeners know well enough that it is not only absurd, but harmful to cut the heads with such long tails; it damages the root, and I wonder they do it, only that the greengrocer, for some reason, demands it. Asparagus from a private garden is generally cut only two or three inches below the green and edible portion. A narrow-bladed, sharp knife is necessary. This is thrust down alongside a suitable head, a quick, clean, slanting cut made, and the blade lifts the head to the surface.

It is not quite easy work at first, and I remember my own chagrin when I broke a head, instead of getting it clean away, or, worse still, beheaded, all unknown, a younger shoot growing beside the other, but not yet visible above ground.

ONE great trouble with the country is that too many men are eating without sweating, and too many are sweating without eating.

HOME GARDENING FOR LADIES.

By Mrs. E. L. Chamberlain, F.R.H.S. ASPARAGUS.

SOMETIMES one feels as if it were folly to be always going over and over elementary advice on gardening. Yet day by day one has proof that it is not so; the garden resembles the schoolroom in that there are always fresh comers arriving to practise scales, and stumble over irregular verbs, so to speak. Only the other day a lady inquired if she could not grow azaleas and other plants for the decoration of her drawing-room, in a wee little London garden. And but yesterday I was in a florist's shop when a child came in and asked for a penny packet of asparagus seed, as her mother had been told it would be a nice thing to grow. Asked if it were the edible asparagus, the child said "Yes"; but afterwards (I heard) she returned to say it was only for ornament, and so, I suppose, she wanted asparagus ferns. Neither of these is sold in penny packets, and either would be equally unsuitable for window gardening.

It is not quite easy work at first, and I remember my own chagrin when I broke a head, instead of getting it clean away, or, worse still, beheaded, all unknown, a younger shoot growing beside the other, but not yet visible above ground.

MISS SADLER,
High-Class Corsetière,
SPECIALITY: ABDOMINAL CORSET

"One of the most popular Corsetières of the present day is Miss SADLER, of 211, Oxford Street. She thoroughly studies the peculiarities of each individual figure, but is especially successful with ladies who are inclined to be stout."—*Sunday Times*, May 3rd, 1896.

211, OXFORD STREET.

HUGON'S REFINED BEEF SUET FOR COOKING, PUDDINGS, FRYING, PASTRY &c. ONE LB EQUALS 2 LBS. RAW SUET. 8^d PER POUND.

ATORA BRAND

Good! it's Mason's MASON'S EXTRACT OF HERBS FOR MAKING NON-INTOXICATING BEER. The most palatable, thirst-quenching, refreshing, animating tonic drink procurable. For every OPEN-AIR WORKER and all employed in shops, Mills, Manufactories, and Mines. IMITATED BUT NOT EQUALLED. Agents Wanted. One 6d. bottle makes 8 gallons. Of all Chemists & Stores. Sample Bottle Free 9 Stamps. 2 for 15 Stamps. NEWBALL & MASON, NOTTINGHAM.

MASON'S (NOTTINGHAM) COFFEE ESSENCE (THE BEST MADE)

THE WRITER OF THIS LETTER

is Mr. L. Casleton, 15, King George Street, Greenwich, London, S.E. He says:

"I have been for years a martyr to a very bad form of headache, which attacked me nearly every day, sometimes quite prostrating me. I was advised to give up drinking tea entirely, and take Cocoa as a beverage. I decided to try Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, which I commenced taking some two months ago, and I am glad to say that since then I have been quite free from my dread enemy, headache. I feel confident that this relief was brought by Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, for I had tried numerous remedies without any success. I find nothing picks me up so quickly as a cup of Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa after I have had a stiff day's work in school. I shall be glad to testify personally to anyone what a real boon your excellent food beverage has proved to me."



is made up in 6d. packets, and 9d. and 1s. 6d. tins. It can be obtained from all chemists, grocers, and stores, or from Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, Limited, Suffolk House, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

The unique vitalising and restorative powers of Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa are being recognised to an extent hitherto unknown in the history of any preparation. Merit, and merit alone, is what is claimed for Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, and the proprietors are prepared to send to any reader who names this paper (a postcard will do) a dainty sample tin of Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa free and post paid.

Our Open Columns.

[The Editor does not hold herself responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents. Discussion is invited on the subjects here written upon.]

WOMEN GUARDIANS IN HANTS.

To the Editor of the WOMAN'S SIGNAL.

MADAM,—In a copy of the WOMAN'S SIGNAL sent me as a specimen I see the following statement on page 201, column 1. "Four Counties—Cambridge, Rutland, Hants, and Radnor were still without women guardians. With regard to the county of Hants, I and a friend have been on the Board of the New Winchester Union since 1891; in 1893 another lady was elected on that Board, and since then two

more have joined us. I am also under the impression that there are women guardians at Portsmouth and other places in the county.

Yours faithfully,
EMILY W. BROMFIELD, P.L.G.,
St. Faith Within,
Winchester.

Friary Cottage, Winchester.
April 8th, 1897.

[The statement was made in the Report of the Society for the Return of Women as Poor Law Guardians. The Editor is very glad to hear that it is a mistake.]

THE BISHOP WHO SAID WOMEN ARE LESS WORTHY THAN MEN TO WORSHIP GOD.

To the Editor of the WOMAN'S SIGNAL.

DEAR MADAM,—With reference to the quotation in the WOMAN'S SIGNAL, where one of our bishops is reported to have said "women were scarcely fit to worship God," I have just come across the following in the "Church Worker" for February, and presume this is to what it refers:—

"The Bishop of Truro, in a New Year's address to men in St. Mary's aisle of the Cathedral, referred to the preponderance of women in the Sunday School, at Holy Communion, and the ordinary services of the Church, and to the fact that the great majority of persons in gaol are men. As a worshipper man was meant to be supreme. His supremacy consisted in bowing before God, growing like God, and adoring God with an intensity and a practical reality that even women were incapable of. He wanted them to make 1897 a new year in the sense of rising to a clearer view of God, worshipping Him in spirit and in truth."

This ideas of man's supremacy is certainly original, but I do not think Scriptural. "For there can be no male and female, for ye are all one man in Christ Jesus.—Gal. iii., 28. R.V."

Thanking you for your valued paper, I am, Madam, faithfully yours,

CATHERINE MURRAY.

Fairfax-road, Hampstead.

LADY GARDENERS.

To the Editor of the WOMAN'S SIGNAL.

MADAM,—Allow me, as a member of the Committee of the Women's Branch of the Horticultural College at Swanley, to say that though only a small proportion of the women students have so far remained for the two years' course, this does not prove that the career is generally unsuitable to women. The fact is that in this (as in other lines of practical work) most women of good education imagine that they can fit themselves, by a few months of study, for positions which no man would expect to hold, unless he had years of training and experience. And parents of the upper-middle class, who will cheerfully spend hundreds on business-training for their sons, grudge payment for the technical education of their daughters in a way that is inexplicable, when contrasted with the sacrifices made by parents of the lower middle class.

Many ladies have been able to serve their own ends by spending a few months at Swanley, but those seeking to fill salaried posts must, of course, stay the full time necessary to obtain the diploma.—Yours faithfully,
April 2nd. E. L. CHAMBERLAIN.

A VILLAGE INDUSTRY.

ABOUT three miles from Cambridge is a valuable object lesson to the nation as to how the people may be kept on the land, and be thereby prevented from crowding into already over-populated cities. Twenty-four or twenty-five years ago, a farmer turned his attention earnestly to fruit farming, and made it pay from the outset. A few acres sufficed at first; to-day some thousand of acres are under fruit culture in the little old-world village of Histon and adjacent district. What was the secret of his great success? It lay mainly in the foresight, skill, energy, and hard work in adapting means to an end.

A market was found for the fruit by the erection of a model factory, remarkable for its equipment, daintiness, and up-to-date methods. The fresh fruit is boiled in silver-lined pans the same day as it is picked, with all the luscious taste of the fruit preserved intact by the addition of sugar. Ripe fruit juices are also employed to impart a delicious and delicate flavour to Chivers' Gold Medal Table Jellies, which is one reason for their great superiority. We have said that the success of this village industry is owing in great measure to the cleanliness and purity of the methods employed in the manufactory. Such, most assuredly, is the case.

The boilers, the lades, the cooling-pans are all silver-plated to prevent contamination of any kind, and the materials employed are all of the best. Chivers' Jellies set firmly, easily, and quickly, are brilliantly transparent, dainty, and appetising. There are various flavours: orange, lemon, raspberry, strawberry.

Gold Medals and first-class diplomas warrant the truth of all that we have stated in respect of Chivers' Jellies.

Sold by Grocers and Stores, in packets. Half-pints, 2^d.; pints, 4^d.; quarts, 8d. A free sample will be sent on receipt of a postcard, mentioning this paper. Address S. Chivers & Sons, Histon, Cambridge.

If we were to choose the most appropriate symbol of the fleeting, the evanescent, the perishable, the decaying, the here-to-day and gone-to-morrow, perhaps it would be a pair of boy's boots.

YOUNG women have grown very satirical in these days, if newspaper wits are to be trusted. "There is one thing I have made up my mind to," said Willy Wishington. "Really?" answered Miss Cayenne. "Yes; I shall never be a man of one idea." "Oh, don't say that. You are still too young to be discouraged."

SUCCESS. ANOTHER COCKBURN TEMPERANCE HOTEL

Telegrams: "PROMISING," LONDON. 13, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, Bedford Street, Strand, LONDON.

Mrs. A. D. PHILP, appreciating the very liberal patronage hitherto accorded to her at Cockburn House, 9 and 10, Endsleigh Gardens, and regretting her inability to accommodate many intending patrons for lack of room during the past two seasons, is pleased to announce to the public that she has secured the above Hotel premises, containing large and numerous public rooms, and accommodation for 150 guests, by which she hopes to cope with the expected large influx of visitors to London during the coming season, due to Diamond Celebrations. Bedrooms very quiet.

It will be newly and comfortably furnished throughout, and open for reception of guests early in March. Owing to its excellent position, in close proximity to the Strand, Trafalgar Square, Westminster, New Law Courts, Lincoln's Inn Fields, and all Places of Amusement and Railway Stations, Mrs. Philp hopes by her close personal attention to the comfort of guests, combined with Moderate Tariff, that she will continue to receive the very liberal patronage hitherto accorded to her. Large Halls for Public Dinners, Meetings, Concerts, &c.

It will be the finest, largest, and only well appointed HOTEL in LONDON built from the foundation for the purpose, conducted on strictly Temperance principles. New Passenger Elevator, Electric Light, Telephone, and latest improved Sanitation. Telegraphic Address: "Promising," London.

Mrs. Philp will give her general superintendence to all three of her Hotels, and will spare no effort to make all her patrons comfortable and at home.

NOTE.—In connection with, and under same management— COCKBURN HOUSE, 9 & 10, ENDSLEIGH GARDENS, opposite EUSTON (Telegrams—"Luncheon," London), and COCKBURN HOTEL, 141, BATH STREET, GLASGOW, and COCKBURN TURKISH BATHS.

Cadbury's cocoa

"Represents the standard of highest purity at present attainable in regard to Cocoa."—*Lancet*.

Far superior to tea or coffee for nourishing and strength-imparting properties, and for Breakfast, Luncheon, Tea, or Supper—whenever wholesome refreshment is necessary—may be safely and beneficially resorted to.

Everyone interested in Nursing Matters should read

The NURSING RECORD.

Edited by Mrs. BEDFORD FENWICK.

Published every Saturday.

Price One Penny.

Contains all the Nursing News of the week; Articles by well-known Medical Men and Nurses;



Notes on Science, Art, Literature, and the Drama; Hospital News; Discussions by Matrons in Council, etc., etc., etc.

11, ADAM STREET, STRAND, W.C.

REMEMBER THE BLACK BEETLES

TELL YOUR COOK

To well sprinkle the floor near the fireplace and kitchen cupboard last thing at night with "KEATING'S POWDER," unrivalled killer of Fleas, Beetles, Moths (harmless to animals). Sold everywhere, only in tins, 3d., 6d., and 1/- each.

THE MOST NUTRITIOUS COCOA
EPPS'S
GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.
COCOA
WITH FULL NATURAL FLAVOUR.

CENTRAL NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society will be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL, on the Afternoon of Tuesday, 27th of April, at 4 p.m.

Chair to be taken by

Mrs. RUSSELL COOKE.

The Meeting will be addressed by Lady GROVE, Mrs. AMIE HICKS, Mr. FAITHFULL BEGG, M.P., Mr. ATHERLEY JONES, M.P., and Mr. WOODSELL, M.P. All friends of Women's Suffrage are cordially invited.

The Council Meeting of the Society for Members only will be held the same afternoon, at 3 o'clock.



NEW HARRISON SWIFT GOLD MEDAL
KNITTER
KNITS Stockings ribbed or plain, GLOVES and CLOTHING in WOOL, SILK, or COTTON. INSTRUCTIONS FREE. Lists free per post. 25 TRUMPANT AWARDS, including 8 GOLD MEDALS, for the "HARRISON" and "SWIFT" MACHINES. HARRISON KNITTING MACHINE CO. LTD. Works: 48, Upper Brook St., Manchester.

EDUCATIONAL

BOARDING SCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN COLLEGE, THE FOSSE, LEICESTER.

Principal ... Miss MORGAN.

Preparation for usual examinations, Froebel Union Certificates, &c. Inclusive Terms, 30 Guineas per annum. Comfortable Home for Children whose parents reside abroad. Reference permitted to the Mayor of Leicester, J. HERBERT MARSHALL, Esq., J.P. Next Term May 4th.

EDUCATION ON SOUTH COAST.

THORNELOE HIGH SCHOOL, BRIDPORT, DORSET.

Principal, Miss BUSSELL (Cambridge Woman's Examination, Cambridge Teacher's Certificate). Successful preparation for Oxford and Cambridge Locals, Examinations of Royal Academy and Royal College, etc.

SPECIAL PROVISION FOR DELICATE GIRLS,

Who while able to continue some lessons need treatment and watching. Resident Health Mistress from Hampstead Physical Training College. Swedish Gymnastics, Medical Movements, &c. Sea-bathing, Tennis, Hockey, Cricket. The climate of Bridport is very suitable for delicate girls, while Thorneloe House is particularly well situated. References to Educational Authorities, Medical Men, &c., also to Miss R. ANSTREY, South Petherton, Somerset. The Spring Term will commence on Wednesday, May 5th.

Dr. Mary J. Hall-Williams (M.D., Boston)

Will Lecture to Ladies at the WOMEN'S EDUCATIONAL UNION, 405, Oxford Street, W. (entrance in Thomas Street), on the first Wednesday of each month, at 4 p.m. Silver Collection taken. Lectures, February 3rd, March 3rd, April 7th May 5th and June 2nd.

"THE WOMAN'S SIGNAL"

A Weekly Record and Review of Woman's Work and Interests in the Home and in The Wider World. Price One Penny, every Thursday, from all Newsagents and Bookstalls (to order).

The "WOMAN'S SIGNAL" is sent direct from the office, 30, Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, London, W.C., post paid, for three months, from any date, to any address at home or abroad, for 1s. 8d., for six months for 3s. 3d., or for one Year for 6s. 6d.

SUBSCRIPTION NOTICE.

Subscribers who desire "THE WOMAN'S SIGNAL" by post from the Office should forward name and address with Postal Note for the amount as stated above, addressed:—

To the Manager, "WOMAN'S SIGNAL,"

30, Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, London W.C