

Young Folks.

KEEP YOUR MOTHER YOUNG.

Girls, do you realize that the happiness, both present and future, of your mothers is largely in your keeping? Of course, you all acknowledge that no dearer relationship exists than that between a loving mother and daughter, but do all of you believe it?

A girl cannot afford to let this blessedness slip out of her life. And yet many do, and by hasty word, neglect, and even by continuous rudeness to their mothers, cast shadows where they could so easily bring sunshine.

Some mothers, wise mothers, assert themselves; but too often the wrinkled brow, the weary step, and the permanent look of sadness so noticeable in many mothers, comes from want of appreciation in their sons and daughters. So much of her earthly happiness is banked upon her children, for whom she would yield her life, that when this prop is knocked from under her, all seems to go with it. And the home without a competent head, and experienced hand to guide amidst the vicissitudes of joy and sorrow, is not the happy home that it could be and should be.

Much of the neglect of mothers by their daughters comes from want of thought, and many a girl would be appalled at her own portrait, could she see "herself as others see her," and would be the first to condemn such conduct in another girl. Yet day by day she goes on accepting and never returning, and ruthlessly trampling upon the heart of one whose every thought is centered upon her happiness and advancement, and that one her mother! Surely this is not the girl who deems herself noble-hearted, who weeps over the woes of mankind in general, and is attentive to outside friends, even to other girls' mothers.

How gladly we turn to the contrasting picture, where the daughter is a daughter, indeed. Dear girl, as you prize your own happiness and beauty of character, love, cherish, pet your mother, show deference to her opinion, consult with her, take her into your girl life; and she will grow strong and beautiful, and strong and beautiful for you. Make it your business to open the windows and let in the sunshine into her soul. Let her see that her daughter is thoughtful for her, and enjoys her companionship.

Urge her to go out with you; and if she is too preoccupied with household duties to pay much attention to the prettiness of dress, you look out for her; see that her veil is gracefully arranged; her gloves in order; her dress neat and attractive, not letting her give up everything "for the children." Make much of her at home and abroad, and you will have double reason to be proud of the mother whom you have helped to keep young, as in the sunshine of a daughter's love she blossoms with the beauty of the fall rose, and blooms and flourishes for you.

EVIL SPEAKING.

1. I will speak no unkind or harsh word of anyone.
2. I will repeat no unkind remarks I hear of anyone, and discourage others, as much as possible, from saying unkind things.
3. I will judge my neighbors leniently, remembering that my own faults are probably far greater.
4. I will never say one thing to others, and yet think quite differently; this is hypocrisy. "Deceive not with thy lips."
5. I will make no injurious remarks on the failings of others, remembering these words, "Consider thyself, lest thou also be tempted."
6. I will put the best construction on the motives and actions of all my neighbors.
7. I will act unselfishly, peaceably and forgivingly, obeying my master's command, "Love one another."

AIM TO EXCEL.

To learn a trade thoroughly requires not only practice but brains and study. The young man who is ambitious to succeed in his chosen calling should consider well the importance of breaking away from the associations which lead him to squander the money, in billiard halls and similar resorts, which should go toward the purchase of books and other aids to a higher education. A certain amount of recreation and pleasure is, of course, desirable, as well as the society of helpful friends, but the young man, who cannot enjoy his own companionship occasionally in a bad way. Take a few hours every week, if not every day, to devote to the study of your trade, visit the library and other places where you can find valuable information—perfect yourself in your calling, and make your services indispensable. Aim to be at the top and help others to climb.

AN INDEX TO CHARACTER.

If I could see into a girl's room I could always tell the character of the occupant, for the mind almost invariably reflects the manner, just as the manner reflects the mind, says a writer. Given a tidy, clean, neat, well-ordered room, I would argue a sweet, settled, well-balanced disposition, and in nine cases out of ten I would be right. There are, of course, exceptions, but it is with the vast body of women I am dealing. On the other hand, a dirty, disorderly, disagreeable room will usually find in it a tenant

like unto itself. True, a girl with an untidy room may appear fresh as a daisy on the street, but that is only her public character and aspect. In private life and in her heart she is exactly what her room tells you she is. I have seen a young man captivated by a young woman who appeared to be all that was nice and sweet and fresh and gracious, but when he became better acquainted with her, when he saw her in the home, he was compelled to change his mind, and his affections also soon underwent a change. Depend upon it, your real character will show itself some day. You will be found out, no matter how you may hide your faults behind the bed-room door. Therefore, I say to all young women—Keep your room tidy, and let it be a true index of your mind and character.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Bits of Information Which Will be Found Well Worth Reading.

Parchment on the best banjos is made of wolf skin.

The most nutritious and strengthening food is beef. It can be eaten continuously longer than any other kind of meat.

It is said that the blood of dogs fatigued by long racing, if injected into the veins of other dogs, make them show all the signs of fatigue.

A trapper earned \$400 in three months by the capture of coyotes, wolves, and wildcats in the vicinity of Drew's Valley, Lake County, Oregon.

A prisoner charged with highway robbery died of typhoid fever in the jail at Wayne, W. Va. His heirs are about to sue the county for \$10,000 damages.

Landlords in Berlin keep a blacklist of tenants who do not pay their rent. Now the tenants are circulating a list containing the names of undesirable landlords.

In some parts of the world the eastern parts of cemeteries are considered the most desirable. The choice is based on the belief that the dead in the eastern sections will be first to arise.

In the English House of Parliament it is customary for the members to take off their hats when they walk to their seats, or when they rise to leave, but to wear them when they are seated.

Fire-proof paper bricks are coming into use for building purposes. They are made with a hollow centre, to insure uniformity in hardness, and the hollow is afterward filled with cement.

The towns of Ramona and Lost Springs, Kansas, have each a population of about 200. Neither town contains an idle man or boy, a tippler, a dog, an unoccupied house, or a place where liquor is sold.

In Munster, Westphalia, there is a public school, the St. Paul Gymnasium, which has just celebrated the eleven hundredth anniversary of its foundation. It was established in the year 798, as a convent school.

Five cars laden with California wine in cases and barrels, were lately wrecked near Del Rio, Texas, on the Southern Pacific Railroad. News of the disaster brought about 200 tramps to the scene, and for five days they had a prolonged spree.

An ingenious fisherman named Dore Ogden, of Columbus, Ind., captures his fish by means of electricity. His line is a wire and the moment a fish touches the hook it is electrified. He recently caught in this way over three hundred pounds of fish in three hours.

In tea there is an essential oil which is an active poison. So well known are its deleterious effects that the natives of China do not use tea until the leaves are a year old. The excessive use of tea causes stomach derangements, palpitation of the heart, nervousness, and irritability.

In one section of Queens County, N. Y., the Smith family have been landowners for a century. The assessor recently located a lot of property in this way: "John Smith, four acres, bounded on the north by farm of John T. Smith, on the east by lands of John Smith, on the west by a lane and a lot of John Smith, and on the south by farm of John G. Smith."

Charles H. Criss tendered a one-dollar bill to the landlord of Holy's Hotel in West Orange, N. J., in payment of a lesser amount. Just as he placed the bill on the counter, a pet monkey grabbed it, and tore off and ate half of it. An affidavit to this effect, with the preserved fragment of the bill was on its way to the Treasurer of the United States next day.

A New Yorker was arrested on a street-car, charged with picking a lady's pocket. At the station house he was searched, but as the lady's purse was not found upon him, he was discharged. The next morning the policeman who had arrested him discovered the purse in his own coat pocket, where the culprit had evidently placed it when on his way to the police station.

A large eagle swooped down upon a goose in Bedford, Pa., and was bearing it away, when Mrs. Wm. Robinson, the owner of the eagle's intended victim, rushed to the rescue, club in hand. For five minutes there was a fight between the eagle and Mrs. Robinson, whose face, hands, and dress were torn by the bird's talons. At last the eagle succumbed to a knock-out blow of the club.

TO RESTORE LACE.

To restore lace that has become quite yellow, and yet should not be as white as it must surely become through washing, make a suds in a glass jar, drop the lace in and stand the jar in the sun.

About the House.

NORTHWEST FLOWERS.

Moira O'Neill, writing of life on a ranch in the great Northwest, says: "One of the great charms of the prairie is that the flowers grow in such masses and myriads over it. Until I came here I never knew what it was to see as many flowers as I could wish all at once. . . . May is the time when the violets bloom; blue, and gray and golden, they come up by thousands in the short grass, and at the same time the 'shooting stars' make long flushes of crimson where they stand in their regiments, nodding side by side. Sometimes a pure white one bends like a bride among the rest. They are little winged flowers, reminding one of cyclamens, but 'American cowslip' is their misleading name. About the first of June it is worth taking a long ride to find the forget-me-nots that grow in certain high spots. One calls forget-me-nots blue at home, but the bluest would look as pale as skim-milk beside these. Enamel or the deepest turquoise would be dulled by them. They shine from the ground like gems, and you may see them quite a long way off, though they have none of the transparency of red and white flowers; they shine only from their pure, opaque intensity of blue. . . . So many other lovely flowers follow the forget-me-nots that the chief difficulty is to name them, and that is no trifling task, when you are without botanical knowledge of your own and without books of reference. I think the flowers are especially puzzling here, because many of them are so very like some we know in the old country and yet not exactly the same. There is one like a white violet, but it grows half a foot high; and one with the smell of a bean-flower, but it seems to be a yellow lupin; and one that behaves like the little pimpernel, but it is as large as a buttercup, and pure coral color. We call it the 'coral-flower' for want of better knowledge. The 'soldier-lily' was also christened at home—an upright lily of a splendid scarlet that flames through the long grass in June.

"Here, as everywhere, June is the rose month. Then, while prairie larks are piping their short, sweet tunes, the prairie roses blow in their myriads, white and pink, shell pink, blush rose, and deep carmine. The bushes are low and thick—they have no long sprays like the hedge-roses at home, but these low rose thickets spread and run wild over the prairie and along the edge of the trail you may be driving on, till the horses' feet scatter scented rose-leaves as they pass. The scent is the most perfect thing in the world, very buoyant, very sweet, and just perceptibly aromatic. One little bowl of prairie roses will scent a whole room and remain sweet after, every leaf is withered.

"With July there arrives a flood of blue and gold. Lupins of every shade of blue stand thick up the sides of the coulees. Blue asters, short and daisy-like, cover the bare and half-grassed places. Golden galliards, dark-centered, with brilliant fringes, shine like miniature suns 'right and left, high and low, everywhere. Then come the 'harebells dim.' Instead of being shy and solitary, as they are at home, they come in thousands—in millions rather; acres of harebells and the delicate blue flowers wave together in the faintest breeze, and when the low sun strikes over them, if you happen to be riding with your face to the west you see them like countless of light transparently twinkling in the long grass. August withers the faint blue flowers, but brings instead the fire-weed glowing on every hill and hollow, and slender sunflowers clustering in the loops of the creek. These dark-eyed single sunflowers are the most uncertain of autumn's daughters. One year they are everywhere, the next year hardly to be seen. Then sooner or later comes the inevitable September snow-storm, and after that you may say good-bye to the wild flowers and turn your attention to shooting prairie chickens."

SOME GOOD RECIPES.

Croquettes of Veal.—One pound roast veal, two ounces ham, two ounces of tongue, salt, pepper, nutmeg, one ounce butter, one tablespoonful of cream, one tablespoonful stock. Mince the veal, ham and tongue finely, season it and put it in a saucpan with the cream, stock, butter and a little flour; simmer for one fourth hour, turn it on to a dish and make into croquettes; egg and breadcrumb them; let stand for one half hour; egg and breadcrumb them again, and fry in boiling fat till a bright golden brown.

Strawberry Sherbet.—Strawberry sherbet is very palatable these spring days. Remove the stems from several boxes of strawberries, equal in weight to one pound or more, mash them, mix with them the juice of a lemon, one tablespoonful of orange flower water and three pints of water. In the course of four hours' time strain the juice off the strawberries into another basin, pressing them to extract as much of the juice as possible. Add to the juice one pound of double refined sugar and stir it until the sugar has dissolved. Then strain and pack in ice for an hour.

Orange Souffle.—Four eggs, four tablespoonfuls of sugar, four tablespoonfuls of orange juice, two of water, the grated rind of one orange, a pinch of salt. Beat the eggs separately; add

to the yolks the salt, grated rind, sugar and beat to a cream. Next stir in the orange juice and water, both slightly heated; mix well, and, lastly, fold into the same the stiffly beaten whites. Turn at once into a buttered pudding dish and bake just 12 minutes in a hot oven. Serve at once.

Asparagus and Eggs.—To each egg allow a large tablespoonful of rich milk or cream and a little salt. Beat eggs until light, add the cream, heat a tablespoonful of butter in a spider until hot, pour in the mixture and cook until thickened. Have ready, boiled, the heads of a bunch of asparagus and stir in with eggs just before removing from the fire. Serve on moistened toast.

Rose Leaf Cake.—Take any plain cake batter, bake in small patty pans; make a thick frosting, adding a few drops of fruit color or cochineal to make a rich pink. Ice the cakes, except one, which should be iced with the yellow of an egg beaten stiff with sugar. Arrange them on the cake dish, the yellow one in the center and the pink ones around it like a rose.

Ginger Crackers.—One pint of molasses, half pound sugar, quarter pound butter, one tablespoonful ginger; mix butter and sugar to a cream, then add molasses and ginger. Lastly, flour enough to make a stiff dough, about one quart. Some brands of flour take a little more and some less.

Sandwiches.—Most of us have partaken of these dainty trifles consisting of a lettuce leaf or water cross between the bread. But do most of us know the latest name for them? They are Nebuchadnezzar sandwiches.

Jumbles.—Half pound flour, half pound sugar, half pound butter, two eggs; flavor according to taste.

TWO LITTLE HINTS.

Two small hints on the word of a cooking authority are that a few grains of salt sprinkled on coffee before adding the water bring out and improve the flavor, and that apples are not so apt to break when the attempt to core them is made if that is done before they are peeled.

AS TO NATIONAL DEBTS.

Spain's Financial Condition Compared with That of Other Nations.

A table has been published which shows that Spain owes about one-third as much as England, about one-half as much as Italy and about one-quarter as much as France in the way of national debt, and while the debt per capita of Spain is \$78, that of Great Britain is \$87, of Italy \$76 and of France \$116. These figures are misleading, for they do not take into account two important elements—first, the wealth of the country, and second, its credit.

For instance the debt per capita of Holland is \$95.56. That of Italy is \$76.06. Ostensibly the burden of debt is heavier in Holland than in Italy, but the facts are otherwise. Holland is a wealthy country; the people are thrifty; the internal taxes are light; the commerce is large and the profits of its colonial possessions are enormous. Italy is a poor country; it has few manufactures and it has practically no money invested abroad. The aggregate wealth of Italy, including land, live stock, merchandise, ships, gold and silver, railways, buildings and personal effects, averages about \$500 for each inhabitant. In Holland the average wealth is \$1,500 for each inhabitant, and the Dutch can therefore much better sustain the national debt of \$95 each on the average than can the Italians the debt of \$76.

In the matter of interest on debt obligations, England's position has long been an enviable one among European nations. English consols paying 2-3-4 per cent. sell at about 112, and it may be said roughly that the English Government can borrow all the money it needs and a good deal more, no doubt, at an average rate of 2-1-2 per cent. The Spanish Government loans pay ostensibly 4 per cent., but Spanish bonds are selling at less than one-third their face value. Actually, therefore, the Spanish Government is paying 12 per cent. on the money borrowed—a ruinous rate when compared with England's 2-1-2. Spain's total debt is equivalent to about \$1,250,000,000 and England's to \$3,300,000,000, but the wealth of Great Britain is four times greater and its credit is five times as good.

In all computations of national debt still another error has come to be general. France's debt per inhabitant is now \$116, while that of Germany is only \$137. This disparity would be very difficult to explain, were it not known that each of the countries or political divisions making up the German Empire has a separate debt of its own. For instance, Bavaria has a debt of \$400,000,000, 1,730,000,000 marks, and Wurtemberg has a debt of \$90,000,000 both larger than the debt of the empire, which is only \$77,000,000.

JOHN BULL'S PRESENT CONDITION.

At the present moment the British Empire is fifty-three times the size of France, fifty-two times that of Germany, three and a half times that of the United States of America, thrice the size of Europe, with treble the population of all the Russias. It extends over 11,000,000 square miles, occupies one-fifth of the globe containing one-eighth of the human race, or 350,000,000 people, embraces four continents, 10,000 islands, 500 promontories, and 2,000 rivers.—New York Tribune.

FROM THE LAND O' CAKES.

INTERESTING NOTES FROM BONNIE SCOTTISH BRAES.

Stray Scraps of News Perfumed by the Heather.—Happenings of a Week Told in a Few Words.

Peter Gullane, North Berwick, committed suicide by hanging. He was found hanging from the branch of a tree.

Station Sergeant Colin Cruickshank, of the Edinburgh city police, has been appointed superintendent of police in Orkney.

Henry Anderson, son of the Rev. Mr. Anderson, Edinkillie, occupies the first place in logic and metaphysics at Aberdeen University.

A fire occurred in the Dundee Royal Infirmary. The nurses got all the patients removed to a safe part of the buildings.

The body of James K. McEwan, South Uist, and clerk in the Commercial Bank Dundee, was found on the railway near Monifieth.

By an explosion of fire damp in a coal pit at Bolness, Linlithgow, Chas. Sneddon was instantly killed and three other men injured.

Mr. Hughes, collector of customs, Wick, has been promoted to the South Wales district, of which the town of Llanelly is the headquarters.

George Burns, a groom, employed by Mr. Johnson, draper, High street, Ayr, committed suicide by drinking the contents of a small vial of prussic acid.

The fountain stone of the new public hall for Craigie was laid with Masonic honours by Lieut.-Col. Campbell, governor of her Majesty's general prison.

In St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow, the congregation of the Barony parish church celebrated the semi-jubilee of the Rev. Dr. J. Marshall Lang as their pastor.

John Hyndman, 3 years of age, 18 King street, Paisley, was accidentally burned in the house there recently and received such injuries that he died soon after.

The farm steading of Balmahard, Finzean, was burned to the ground and thirteen cattle perished. Mr. Harper, whose loss is considerable, had his effects insured.

Patrick McEuan, aged 11 months, son of Joseph McEuan, of Dalrymple street, Greenock, fell into a tub containing about an inch of water, and died from suffocation.

John Prentice, station master at Steeles Road, died in the Royal Infirmary in consequence of injuries he received. He was run over by a shunting engine near Glasgow.

At Govan, a chimney sweep named Dochery was convicted of having permitted the dead body of his mother to be "waked" previous to burial. A penalty of £1 is, or fourteen days was imposed.

The memorial stone of a new Masonic temple in connection with the Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 169, Stevenston, was laid by Bro. Hugh R. Wallace, of Busbie, R.W. Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire.

The grave closed the other day over the remains of a worthy follower of Caxton's art. James Simpson, elder brother of Alexander Simpson, Scottish Employers' Liability Company, died at Elgin.

John Fox, furnace filler, Eglinton Iron Works, Kilwinning, died in the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, from burning. He was on the top of one of the furnaces when a great volume of flame burst out.

The body of a man in an advanced stage of decomposition was found in the river Cart, near Barnsford Bridge, Greenock road, Paisley. It was identified as that of William Robin, sculptor, George street.

After two years' deliberation, 23 Presbyteries and 111 sessions of the U. P. church of Scotland, against only 6 Presbyteries and 29 sessions, have voted in favour of marriage with a deceased wife's sister.

The Lord Provost's Committee of Edinburgh Town Council has agreed to recommend that the freedom of the city should be conferred on Lord Wolseley, the commander-in-chief, and Lord Lister, the eminent surgeon.

The body of Thomas Barrie, a carrier, East Burnside street, Kilsyth, was found dead in the Garrell Burn within a few yards of his own house by his wife and daughter. It is believed his death was entirely accidental.

In Dowell's Rooms, Edinburgh, on the estate of Allathan, in the parish of New Deer, containing 1,086 acres, of which 1,033 are arable, about fifteen acres planting, and the remainder pasture, roads, etc., upset £15,500, was sold for £ 6 12 0.

The report of Lieut.-Col. Yorke, of the collision that occurred at Border Union Junction on the Caledonian Railway, finds that the collision was quite accidental, and that no blame whatever attaches to anyone in connection with it.

The water supply scheme of Stromness has advanced so far that the land for the reservoir has been acquired. The land was acquired from three different proprietors, and the value which was fixed by valuation amounts to close upon £800.