HOUSEHOLD.

Little Pink Sunbonnet Goes to School.

Every morning, just about eight,
Little Pink Sunbonnet opens the gate,
And, a tin bucket upon her arm,
Trudges away from grandpapa's farm.
There are cookies, and apples, and butter and bread,
Tucked away beneath that shining lid;
And a dear little, childish, curly head
Under the sunbonnet's crown is hid.

Oh, it is lonesome at home all day;
The saucy kitten refuses to play;
Nobody singing about the place;
Nobody coaxing the dog to race;
No little feet on the fresh-scrubbed floor,
Breaking to pieces grandma's rule.
Oh, it is sad when summer is o'er;
Little Pink Sunbonnet starts to school.

Little girls grow, of course they should,
Soon to a beautiful womanhood.
Then from the door, some happy day,
Dear little maiden will go away.
It is not strange we should think of this,
When in the morning, bright and cool,
Not forgetting a good-bye kiss,
Little Pink Sunbonnet goes to school.

—[Good Housekeeping.

Stay Where You Are.

I received a letter the other day, in which the writer said, "Amber, I want to come to the city and earn my living, what chance have I?" And I felt like posting back an immediate answer and saying: "Stay where you are." I didn't do it, though, for I knew it would be useless. The child is bound to come, and come she will. And she will drift into a third rate boarding-house, than which if there is anything meaner—let us pray! And if she is pretty she will have to carry herself like snow on high hills to avoid contamination. If she is confiding and innocent the fate of that highly persecuted heroine of old-fashioned romance, Clarissa Harlowe, is before her. If she is homely the doors of opportunity are firmly closed against her. If she is smart she will perhaps succeed in earning enough money to pay her board bill and have sufficient left over to indulge in the maddening extravagance of an occasional paper of pins or a ball of tape.

What if, after hard labor and repeated failure, she does secure something like success? No sooner will she do so than up will step some dapper youth who will beckon her over the border into the land where troubles just begin. She won't know how to sew or bake, or make good coffee, for such arts are liable to be overlooked when a girl makes a career for herself, and so love will gallop away over the hills like a rideless steed, and happiness will flare like a light in a windy night. Oh, no, my little country maid, stay where you are if you have a home and friends. Be content with fishing for trout in the brook rather than cruising a stormy sea for whales. A great city is a cruel place for young lives. It takes them as the cider press takes juicy apples, sunkissed and flavored with the breath of the hills, and crushes them into pulp. There is a spoonful of juice in each apple, but cider is cheap.

A Day at Home.

It would save a great deal of annoyance if women in villages and small towns followed the example of their city sisters and had a day to be "at home" to their friends. By this is not meant that refreshments, even to the extent of a cup of tea, necessarily should be provided. But, if all one's acquaintances understood that one could always be found on a certain day of the week, one would not be likely to miss seeing those people whose society was a treat not to be lightly lost. As the case stands, a very fine day calls out everybody at once to make up a number of visits The consequence is that everybody runs away from all the rest, and nobody is at home anywhere.

Mind Stagnation.

Wherever the mind fails to have work sufficient to occupy its powers, a certain stagnation must result. Whether the individual is an ennuied woman of fashion or a hard working woman, cumbered with so much worldly drudgery that she has no thought for anything beyond, the result is almost the same—a certain stagnation of the mental powers, a weakening of the mental forces, though the individual may fail to understand it and would resent the imputation.

Table Linen.

In the matter of economy in purchasing table linen, there are two factors to be borne in mind. Where a pattern proves unpopular, the goods are soon to be had at a considerable discount from the prices of popular patterns of the same quality. This is generally the "inside reason" for the great "bargains" which are sometimes advertised in these goods. The purchaser must decide for herself whether this reason makes the bargain an undesirable one, in her particular case. In any case, it may be set down as poor policy and poor economy to buy thin, light goods, no matter how fine they may be, for ordinary table use. A much coarser article, with strength and firmness of fibre, will look vastly better after a little time, owing to its power of resisting wear.

Neatness, convenience and good taste will determine what shall adorn the family board, as its members gathe around it at each mealtime. On more elaborate occasions, and in the homes where wealth and social position bring constant responsibility, fashions have their rise and fall in table linen as elsewhere. For these, the formal dinner, the less formal luncheon, the cozy tea, have each their requirements as to table napery and service. Just at present, the "right thing" for the several occasions, as laid down by a recognized authority, may be thus briefly summarized: "For dinners and for luncheons, cloths are woven with borders complete and with napkins to match each set. For the afternoon tea, small fringed napkins will be used, and they may or may not match the pattern of the cloth as, taste and circumstances determine. The dinner cloths are all required to show a finish of narrow hand-sewed hem, as on the napkins that accompany each. The lunch cloths are hemstitched. The 5 o'clock tea cloths are to have cut-work centres, cut-work edges, drawn-work borders, and as much elaboration as individual taste may suggest."

An Economical Dinner.

MENU—1.

Beef Stew,
Pickled Cabbage, Oatmeal Wafers,
Cocoa-Rice Balls,
Tea, Hot Milk.

MENU—2.

Celery Soup,
Meat Pie, Boiled Onions,
White Bread,
Grape Pudding, Tea.

MENU—3.

Bean Soup,
Beef Loaf, Mashed Potatoes,
Graham Bread, Stewed Tomatoes,
Cranberry Pie, Coffee.

These menus are not intended as exac models but as suggestions to those who desire to combine palatableness with econ omy. Often a low-priced, inferior piece of meat may be converted into as nourishing and savory a dish as a high-priced roast. When eggs are high it is well to have a knowledge of delicate deserts which do not require them. There is nothing, to my taste, equal to the desserts in which apples form an important ingredient, but when they are scarce and high, and grapes and cranberries are plentiful, I have concocted various desserts from the latter which have proved very good. Among my cans of fruit are some labeled "puddings," in which the fruit, after boiling, has been put through a colander, sweetened, and is ready to be combined with cornstarch for pudding, or with eggs for meringue pies.

Beef Stew.—Procure a five or ten-cent soup-bone, which is usually half meat. Cover with boiling water and place where it will simmer for several hours until the bone can be removed, leaving the meat. Cut this in small pieces, add salt, pepper, a few raw potatoes sliced, sliced onions if one likes, if not a small pinch of celery seed, thyme or other flavoring. Boil for half an hour or longer, then add dumplings made as for biscuit, only stirred stiff instead of rolled. Cover closely and boil for fifteen minutes, when it is ready to serve.

Pickled Cabbage.—This is usually prepared early in the fall and can be kept until late in the spring. Have a granite kettle partially filled with spiced and sweetened vinegar. When boiling, pour in some finely-chopped cabbage. Let it just scald; remove the cabbage to a jar, using a colander dipper so as to leave the vinegar in the kettle. Add more cabbage, repeating the operation until allis scalded, cover with hot vinegar, press a plate down over it and set in a cool place.

Cocoa-Rice Balls.—Cook the rice in plenty of water until partially done, add a pinch of salt, sugar to sweeten well, one heaping teaspoonful of cocoa, although grated chocolate may be used, to each cup of rice. Pour into cups, place in the steamer over a kettle of boiling water until nearly like jelly. When cold turn into side dishes. It may be eaten without cream, but is improved by it. If cream is scarce, it may be made to go farther by whipping with an egg-beater.

Meat pie.—Place a layer of cold beef or other bits of meat, chopped fine, in the bottom of an earthen baking dish, season with pepper, salt, a layer of powdered crackers with bits of butter and a little milk; thus place alternate layers until the dish is full; wet well with gravy or broth, or a little warm water; spread over all a thick layer of crackers which have been seasoned with salt and mixed with milk and a beaten egg. Stick bits of butter over it, cover and bake half the three-quarters of an hour; remove to cover ten minutes before serving and brown.

Celery Soup.—Boil a head of celery (some of the stalks not suitable for the table may be used) in a pint, or more, of water for forty-five minutes. Boil a few slices of onion in a pint and a half of milk; mix one table spoonful of flour with a little cold milk and add to the boiling milk. Cook ten minutes. Mash celery in the water in which it was boiled and stir into the milk. Add butter, salt, and pepper to taste. Strain and serve at once.

Bean Soup.—Soak one quart of dried white beans over night. In the morning drain and add two quarts of water; when it boils pour the water off and add two quarts of fresh boiling water and also a quarter of a teaspoonful of soda. Boil until the beans are very soft, press them through a sieve and return to the kettle; add salt, pepper and butter to taste, and a cupful of cream, or milk, or more if the soup is too thick. Serve with squares of stale bread fried brown in butter.

Beef Loaf.—Chop one and one-half pounds of raw steak and one thin slice of fat salt pork, together with two slices of stale white bread; add ten medium-sized crackers, rolled fine, melted butter, the size of a hen's egg, and two beaten eggs. Season with salt, pepper and sage. Mix and make into a loaf, like bread. Place in a baking-pan with a little water, cover with bits of butter, dredge with flour and bake two hours, basting often. Cut in slices to serve.

Grape Pudding.—If canned grapes are used run through a colander to remove skin and seeds, sweeten, let come to the boiling point and thicken with cornstarch which has been stirred smooth in a little of the grape juice. Boil five minutes and turn into mold or side dishes. This makes a pretty-looking dessert and may be served with or without cream. Cranberries, or other fruits, may be used in the same way.

Cranberry Pie.—One and one-half cupfuls of chopped cranberries, one cupful of sugar; wet a tablespoonful of cornstarch in a little water, and turn one-half cupful of boiling water over it. Mix all together and bake with two crusts.—[Mary Stetson In Housekeeper.

London's Club of Tall Women.

There is a rumor of a smart club in London called "The Five-foot-nine." It owes its name to the fact that every member must be exactly 5 feet 9 inches in height. Two other requisites are that the members shall "belong to the aristocracy, and be altogether lovely." By a judicious treatment of the heels of one's shoes and by a preternatural erectness of posture a fair number of applicants have satisfied the requirements, but five feet nine is a pretty effectual bar to a crowded roster.

AMONG THE COD FISHERS,

Hardy and Daring Men Who Draw Nets Off Labrador's Coast.

Picking the Ground When It is Still Locked in the Arms of the King of the North.

Since the days when the Cabots first sighted the snow-covered peaks and ice-bound coast of Labrador, its forbidden shores have been rarely visited except by fishermen, enthusiastic explorers and scientists. Its few settlements are all upon the coast, generally in some sheltered ford, presenting in the summer a sight that is indeed picturesque, but in the winter a forbidden spectacle of despair and desolation.

With the exception of a few permanent villagers in the extreme southern part, the population of the peninsula is composed of Esquimaux, missionaries, agents of the Hudson Bay Company, with a small number of hardy settlers, who are left to care for the deserted homes of the absent fishermen. Here these people spend the dreary months of Winter in their peat houses covered with many feet of snow, cut off from all communication with friends in distant lands, waiting patiently for the cheery whistle of the mail boat, which is the harbinger of spring and the return from mere existence to a few weeks of true life.

The great product of Labrador is its fisheries. Strip it of its marine products and you have left nothing but mosquitoes and a barren waste. In its fisheries, which amount annually to many hundreds of thousands of dollars, it is easy to see what has been the bone of contention in past years between England, France and the United States.

SCOTCH CAPITAL AT WORK.

The business of catching fish is carried on for the most part by the large and enterprising houses of Scotland, with their branch offices in Newfoundland. Each house has its dependents whom it furnishes in Spring with food, apparatus and boats necessary to obtain a catch. In the fall the accounts are settled. If the season has been a remunerative one the house obtains an ample return for its investment; but if, as often happens, the season has been for some reason an unprofitable one, the house stands its loss, patiently looking to another year to reimburse it for its previous unprofitable outlay. Very little money ever passes into the hands of the catchers of the fish. It is a matter of barter wholly, and the balance of credit is always on the side of the house. Yet with its manifest disadvantages the system is a great practical help to the fisherman himself, since it frees him from direct competition in the large markets, and guarantees him a home and means of support, which if left to himself he might often lack.

SCANDINAVIAN METHODS.

The method of catching fish differs from that employed by any other people except the Scandinavians. It was introduced from the Norwegian coast over twenty years ago, and first put into operation off the shores of Newfoundland near St. John's. There it was so successful that trap-fishing is now employed along the whole Labrador coast. The trap consists of an immense well built in the form of a square, measuring eight fathoms on a side. These sides, which are made of strong netting, are connected at the bottom by a flooring of netting, the whole extending from the buoys at the surface to very near the bottom. From the square enclosure thus made a net is strung to the shore, where it is fastened, generally at the foot of some perpendicular cliff, to serve the purpose of a leader. The fish in their passage to and from the harbor encounter this leader, and in trying to pass around it, enter the trap, which they try in vain to leave. The average number of fish captured at one haul of the trap is fifty quintals in a good season, and as two hauls are made in a day the profits are large, especially when the fish sell, as during the past season, at from three dollars and fifty cents to four dollars per quintal.

The method of pulling the trap is very interesting. A large boat, capable of carrying forty quintals of fish, manned by six hands, is moored to one corner of the trap and the work of undermining begun, the object being to force the fish into one corner that they may the more easily be transferred to the boat by the dip-net.

Beginning at this corner, the bottom and sides of the net are pulled gradually to the sides of the boat, as each new hold reaches the gunwale the preceding one being let go. In this way the fish are gradually forced into the corner, from which they are transferred to the boat. Oftentimes the sag of the net becomes caught on the bottom of the boat, which is then literally aground on a shoal of cod-fish. When the catch of fish is too large for the boat to carry to the cleaning-house a bag is fastened to the top line of the net and the fish forced into it, where they remain until the next day, when they are taken at a special trip.

A well-equipped trap costs $400, and when badly torn or, as is sometimes the case in a storm, lost altogether, necessitates an additional hardship on the unfortunate owner. At each heavy blow or storm the traps are taken up to guard against possible disaster, but oftentimes the storm comes up too suddenly to admit of this precaution, and total destruction of the trap ensues. The fishermen, however, are adepts at mending the net, and a needle and twine are indispensable to a well-equipped boat.

The advantages in this means of fishing, as regards the safety of persons and property engaged, over the American method of banking can be easily seen. The vessels remain securely anchored in a safe harbor, while the men live either on board or in comfortable huts on shore, making trips twice each day to their traps. No danger here from storms, fogs, or the ocean greyhounds, the swift messengers of death to so many of our hardy Cape Ann fishermen. Comfortably housed on shore the fisherman laughs at the howling gale outside, and contentedly waits for the coming of a calmer and a brighter day.

AN EAGER RUSH FOR THE GROUNDS.

In the pursuit of this industry the law of the survival of the fittest is followed to the letter, and priority of possession is the only right held sacred. Each Spring, long before the ice has released its grip on the shore, the fishermen are speeding northward to the rocky coast of Labrador, each captain with his eye grimly fastened on a favorite piece of territory which he knows from past experience will be very liberal to him who first plants his trap within its limits. The race is one for the very existence of the competitors, and is attended with the greatest hazard. Time and again do the hardy mariners butt the ice-flow with their slender prows, until at the end of a week the ice parts slightly, letting in a favored one, only to close the same night, shutting out countless others who may be even in sight of their more fortunate rival

The rights of position do not hold over from year to year, and the fortunate man is he whose vessel is swiftest, and whose complete knowledge of the treacherous coast enables him to hazard risks which his less-skilled neighbours dare not undertake.

The Labrador cod are much smaller in size than those obtained by our fishermen on the Grand Banks and in addition to the rock species a variety of the Greenland cod is caught, much the same in size but with a mottled skin.

Three grades are recognized by the dealer at Battle Harbor, Newfoundland cod holding the first place, Straits of Belle Isle cod the second, and Labrador cod the third; but in the European markets, where for the most part these fish go, it is needless to say that all are sold under the head of first quality.

WOULD HARNESS THE OCEAN.

Proposal to Build a Dam Between Irelan and Scotland and Utilize Tides.

A bold scheme for obtaining mechanical power for industrial purposes has lately attracted attention in England. It contemplates the construction of a dam fifteen miles long from the northeastern coast of Ireland across "North Channel" to the extremity of Cantire, Scotland, and putting in several gates and water-wheels, to be worked by the tide. Owing to the greater depth of the Irish Sea and to the freer course

afforded west and north of Ireland, the tide comes up from the South Atlantic by that route, and flows southward through the passage just mentioned long before it can get up there on the east side of the green isle. Moreover, the gulf stream, or rather the drift from it, bathes the northern part of Great Britain more freely than the southern, and a portion thereof is diverted southward by the Scottish coast, so as to make a continuous current, it is said, flowing down the North Channel. Here is a great deal of power going to waste, and the New York Tribune thinks it is not a senseless proceeding to consider the practicability of utilizing it somehow. American enterprise at Niagara has set the whole world thinkng of such matters.

The depth of water is 474 feet in mid-channel; but most of the way it is much less than this. The proposed "isthmus"—for that is what the engineers call it—would be about three hundred feet wide and the material for it, it is thought, might be obtained from the high bluffs at the Irish end. The estimated cost is $10,000,000, and the time named as necessary for construction is three years. The current flows at six miles an hour most of the way across, and at some places even faster. It is taken for granted that the power developed by this means would be converted into the form of electricity for transmission; but there is some question as to the localities in which it would be used. On the Irish side of the channel there are no large towns near at hand. Dublin is 126 miles away and London 365; Glasgow, in a bee line is seventy-five miles distant, and Edinburgh about fifty more.

More people have died from colds than were ever killed in battle, declares an investigator.

Electrical headlights for locomotives will likely come into general use within a few years. The Southern Pacific railroad has already equipped many of its engines with this new headlight.

A millionaire of Vienna has left provision in his will for the constant illumination of the vault wherein he now lies. An electric light is to be kept burning for a year, and even the coffin is to be lighted in the interior by electricity.

A bolt of lightning, near Luling, Tex., struck the corner of a house, passed through a shelf, hit a snuff bottle and leaped to the floor, where it seemed to exhaust itself on a little 2 year-old child. The child was only slightly stunned, but in a short time its back turned perfectly black.

Until the discovery of the gold mines in California Russia was the greatest gold-producing country, mining about $13,000,000 a year.

In the northwestern part of Colorad there is a region several hundred square miles in extent which is a vast deposit of petrified fish.

The tongue of the toad is attached to the front of his jaw and hangs backward instead of forward.

A Spanish musician has devised a system of musical notation by which the sharp-and-flat system is done away with.

Workmen boring an artesian well in Louisiana struck a maple log in a sound state of preservation 540 feet below the surface.

The Electrical Review estimates that there is about $100,000,000 invested in the telephone exchange business of the United States.

George Babbitt, of Waveland, Ind., was deaf and dumb for five years. A fall lately caused a serious accident to his arm and leg. Since then he can talk and hear as well as he ever could.

Scarcely a stream issues from the lower slopes of the Andes, either to the Amazon on the east or the Pacific on the west, the sands of which are not auriferous. The amount of gold in the country must be fabulous.

PROJECTED OCEAN CABLES.

Improvements in Making and Laying—Many Miles to be Laid This Year.

Some thousands of miles were added last year to the world's submarine cables, and this year may be one of the most noteworthy in the history of submarine telegraphing. The Anglo-American Cable Company will lay a new Atlantic cable this spring. The cable is now making in England, and it is to differ in at least one striking peculiarity from all other submarine cables. Its copper conducting wire will weigh 650 pounds per knot. Hitherto no cable has had a conductor weighing so much as 500 pounds per knot, and most of the Atlantic cables have conductors weighing 400 pounds or less per knot. Many short cables, and even some long ones in tropical waters, have cores weighing as little as 109 pounds. Cables 1,900 miles long on the east coast of Africa have cores weighing 250 pounds to the knot. The heaviest core is that of the French cable from St. Pierre Miquelon to Brest. It is 2,242 miles long and weighs 485 lbs. per knot.

The estimated cost for making and laying long cables is about $1,200 per knot. It is supposed that the cost of the proposed Pacific cable will be somewhat greater, because it must be laid at

SO GREAT A DISTANCE

from anywhere the cable itself is likely to be manufactured. The total length of that cable, exclusive of 740 knots already laid in Australasian waters, will be about 5,900 knots, if San Francisco shall be the terminus in the U. S., and some hundreds of miles longer should Vancouver be the terminus. The cost at $1,200 per knot would be about $6,200,000 for cable and laying alone.

The estimated price of $1,200 per knot for making and laying cables includes everything that the contractor is usually required to do. The specifications included in the contract for the making and laying of a great cable enter into elaborate minutiæ touching what is required on both sides. There are stipulations as to the weight and quality of everything that enters into the cable. Then the number of tons strain that the cable must be capable of enduring, the method of making joints and of testing them, and the method of indicating the length of the cable at given points are all set down in the specifications. The engineers of the company are to have the right while the cable is laying to

COMMUNICATE WITH THE SHORE

end from time to time. Cables are usually paid for in installments as so much of the cable is manufactured. The contractor is commonly required to insure the cable in transit from loss and damage by fire or sea.

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In the case of one important cable it was stipulated that the contractors might ship at their own risk such lengths of cable as they thought fit beyond the specified lengths, and that should any such extra cable be laid with the consent of the company's engineers, it should be paid for at the rate of £220 per knot up to £20,000. The contractor's ship usually lies at hand for some weeks after the cable is laid in order to make needed repairs while the tests are in progress. The contractor must land the cable and carry it under ground to a point at a safe distance beyond high tide.

When cables were first laid it was a difficult matter to find a manufacturer to make them. The field was a new one, and all the conditions were strange. In less than forty years, however, the making of submarine cables has been brought to a wonderful degree of perfection, though that dream of the electrician, a cable that shall carry the human voice from America to Europe, has not yet been attained. There are now, however, more than forty manufacturers of cables and about two score vessels specially constructed for cable laying. Most of the factories are in Great Britain, but the cable ships are scattered over the globe. Three are regularly stationed at Halifax, seven at London, four at Silvertown, two at Singapore, two in the West Indies, two at Callao, three in the Mediterranean, one at Gibraltar, one at Aden, one at Shanghai, one at Copenhagen, one at Brest, one at Pernambuco, and one at Montevideo, with others at points in China, India, and Australia. They are held in readiness to go to any point within their jurisdiction for repairs upon telegraphic notice.

The world is now so netted with cables, great and small, and new ones are laid so frequently, that there is much demand for the services of the cable-laying ships. A list of the world's cables, long and short, set down in tabulated form occupies twenty arge and closely printed pages. The cable map of the world prepared by the United States Navy Department shows that the Mediterranean is thickly netted with cables west of Malta. So is the North Atlantic between the thirty-eighth and fifty-fifth parallels. The North Sea, the Red Sea, and the Arabian Sea have many cables. The only

GREAT UNBRIDGED SPACES

now are the Pacific, the South Atlantic, and the great stretch of the Indian Ocean between Madagascar and Australia. There is no considerable cable north of Stockholm or south of Nelson, New Zealand. The Black Sea is completely girdled by land lines and crossed by one cable. The Gulf of Mexico is crossed, though not at its widest, by several cables, and the waters of the West Indies are becoming thickly netted with short cables. Coast communications in the United States and Europe are maintained mainly by land lines, but in Africa, South America, and much of Asia the same thing is attained by means of long or short cable loops. It thus happens that America although more thoroughly equipped with telegraphic lines than any other in the world, has a comparatively small amount of cable within her own waters. This may perhaps account in part for the fact that cable making is only just beginning to be an important industry in the United States.

The navy of the United States, however, has done a vast deal for the art of cable laying. Commander Sigsbee has invented a highly effective sounding machine for ascertaining the depth of the ocean, an absolutely necessary preliminary to cable laying. Lieutenant-Commander Z. L. Tanner, of the U. S. navy, has devised an ingenious case for deep-sea thermometers and also improved a thermometer frame invented by an Italian naval officer. The Navy Department has also issued an elaborate treatise on cable laying, and made soundings for the proposed Pacific cable route