

THE HOME.

A Chronicle.

"It always seems to me that when a true woman issues from the repose and seclusion of 'the sabbath month' she brings back into the busy world with her an added womanliness, a purer, sweeter atmosphere shining in her face and softening her tones."

These lines from a recent writer recalled incidents in the lives of two women which illustrate the absolute necessity of rest during "the sabbath month," so beautifully referred to.

Two brothers lived on adjoining farms. The one married a practical and healthy Eastern girl who knew what hard work meant, but who also knew the value of rest. The other married a rugged Western girl who looked upon rest as a symptom of indolence. The first wife was too discreet to lift a weight beyond her strength. The second was proud to load a wagon with filled sacks of grain. The first would rest, when the need was urgent, even though it seemed difficult to find the time. The second even begrudged her husband his half-hour nap at noon. The first said, "I owe consideration to the family of healthy children which I hope to rear." The second considered such talk as theory. A daughter came to each to prove the truth or falsity of this theory. Both were fairland throughout childhood seemed to run an equal race with health. But in maturity the differences appeared. The one was fitted to endure, and many were the trials of her strength. The other was a fragile girl, unable to enjoy the wide advantages made possible by a wealthy father.

The first mother believed implicitly in the value of the "sabbath month," and when her child was born she would not sacrifice a tithe of that needed period of rest. "This month," she said, "is for myself, that I may have health to enjoy my children." The second mother again differed from the first, and disregarded such a thought. The first filled her home with rugged children, and she herself was hale and happy. The second relied upon the one to charm her years of life, but they were years of broken health and suffering.

Hints for the Toilet, etc.

If you wish to get rid of wrinkles, blackheads, and pimples, bathe the face in hot (not warm) water for five minutes every night before retiring. Any one troubled with pimples should avoid bathing in cold water. Take plenty of hot baths and give the eruptions a chance to come out on the body, if they must come at all. Wash the face in hot water, wiping it very gently.

For pimples on the face, bathe it occasionally in a soothing lotion composed of a weak solution of borax and warm water. At night use very warm water on the face; dry and rub into the pores an ointment made of flowers of sulphur and lard. To remove offending hairs, take equal parts of chloroform and aconite and moisten the spot; with a pair of tweezers the offending hairs can then be removed with little pain, and with no redness to speak of.

When the feet are sore, as from long walking, take a teaspoonful of Epsom salts, five or six drops of tincture of capsicum, and put in a shallow basin of water—just enough to cover the soles of the feet—and soak them twenty minutes. One will be surprised at the relief this will give. It will also cure burning of the feet, that so many are troubled with in the summer. Vaseline will increase the growth of the hair.

A cloth wet in cold tea and laid across the eyes will allay inflammation. To cure a felon, wrap the part affected in a cloth drenched in tincture of lobelia. Cold cream is said to make pimples, while vaseline used on the face will cause a disfiguring growth of hair. Equal parts of lemon juice, rose water, and glycerine will whiten and soften the hands.

Dandruff can be removed by shampooing the scalp with borax and water, using a piece of borax about as big as a marble to quart of water.

Tired Feet.

"No, I don't get very tired when I iron," said an experienced laundress to a lady who was expressing sympathy at her hard work. "At least it's only my arms and shoulders that get tired. I don't mind ironing if I can have things my own way. I always have a cushion for my feet when I sit at the ironing board. It is made of a dozen thicknesses of old carpet lining covered with druggist. The lining is cut in squares and very loosely tacked together with long stitches. The druggist is cut of the required size, the edges are turned in and overhanded, then strong stitches are sewed through about every two inches over the surface of the cover. I have a little loop on two corners of the rug and hang it up by both loops. In this way it does not curl up and get out of shape, as it would if it were hung by one corner."

Useful Recipes.

Shaker Indian Pudding.—Bring one quart of sweet milk to a boil; to one half pint of cornmeal add cold milk to mix smooth, turn into the hot milk and let it thicken a little. Let this cool, then add a little salt, molasses and ginger to suit the taste and turn into a two quart dish and fill up with cold milk; bake two hours.

Brown Bread.—One pint sour milk, two cups indian meal, two cups rye meal, two thirds cup molasses and one-third cup hot water. Add a teaspoonful each soda and salt and steam three hours, then bake one-half hour.

Squash Biscuit.—This recipe is sure to please the men. One pint of stewed squash, one pint of homemade yeast, one-half cup of sugar, one half cup of butter; mix with four like raised biscuit, adding a little soda.

Cream Cake.—Two eggs, one cup sugar, one cup sweet cream, two and a half cups of flour, two teaspoonfuls cream tartar, one teaspoonful soda and a pinch of salt. Flavor with lemon.

BEAUTIFUL BRIDES.

SOME ARE BESOTTEN AND OTHERS STOLEN.

Queer Customs and Costumes—The Fanciest Wedding is a Costermonger's—A Canoeing Atalanta—How the Jap Bride Weds.

A sight which comparatively few people even in London have witnessed is a costermonger's wedding. As with their social betters, the worthy folk make the day one of festivity and rejoicing. In this respect the affair differs little from an ordinary holiday, on which they bedeck themselves in all their best, and eat, drink and generally make merry.

The novelty of the thing is the conduct of affairs at the altar. Bridegroom and bride have spared no resource of alleys to insure the most presentable appearance possible. His billycock hat is turned well down at the ends of the brim and well up at the sides; he wears a velvet coat with



'ARRY AND 'ARRIET.

numerous pearl buttons, flannel shirt and gorgeous necktie, and trousers which fit closely about the thighs, and from the knee downward are suggestive of a giant candle-extinguisher. She wears a large hat with



CATCHING A SINGAPORE BRIDE.

a feather or combination of feathers which for size a Duchess of Gainsborough might envy, a long black jacket, a bright, red dress and a white kerchief round her neck. With the swinging gait characteristic of costermongers, the pair make their way up the church, followed by their friends,



A BEAUTY OF TUNIS.

most of whom take their places in the pews.

The one feature then wanting in a usually solemn ceremony is solemnity. The bride especially seems to regard the affair as a grand joke, and in the middle of it all thinks nothing of turning round and giving her friends behind the most knowing of winks. They in their turn do not wait for the conclusion of the ceremony to commemo-



A JAPANESE BRIDE'S LAST LOOK AT HERSELF.

rating the bridal pair with rice. Dismissed by the clergyman after a while, the bridegroom marches off, leaving his bride to follow. They both give and receive coarse but good-natured chaff, though the bridegroom seems for the moment somewhat

over-absorbed in a consciousness of his own importance.

In barbarous or semi-barbarous lands capture is seen in more or less serious form,



A NONWEGIAN DAUGHTER OF HYMEN.

and where the bridegroom does not actually use brute force, the bride is yet afforded an opportunity of escaping a hated union by outdistancing him in a race, in which she is given a start that insures her winning if she cares to.

An amusing variant on the story of Hippomenes and Atalanta is to be found in the neighborhood of Singapore. Marriage there is a very easy affair, depending almost entirely on the arrangement made with the parents of the girl. If the tribe lives on the bank of a lake or stream, she is placed in a canoe and started off some time before the would-be husband is allowed to enter another. These contests must often be very exciting. If the girl is anxious not to be caught she need not be. If, on the other hand, she wishes to be married, she may yet give her lover a smart run, and only slow down sufficiently to let him overtake her in the end. When no stream is near, Mr. J. Cameron, in his account of Malayan India, says that the race is run on land, under the same conditions, but in this there is nothing exceptional.

We have seen how, in some cases, brides have to be captured by simulated assault, and in others by racing. In the Malay Archipelago there is another very curious custom. In Sumatra, the large island which lies to the northwest of Java and the southwest of Singapore, the bride-

groom is expected to give evidence of his intention to be generous to his wife. This is supplied by means of a giant balance placed in front of the bride's house. One scale belongs to the bridegroom and the other to the bride's parents. On the wedding day the latter put their presents into their scale. The bridegroom brings his later. His fiancée is said to watch the scales from a place of concealment, and only goes to him when his gifts outweigh her parents'. His good nature is universally applauded, and the union of the happy pair is celebrated with feasting and dancing.

In Java the marriage ceremony is short, but the feasting long. The explanation of this is that the marriage with the Javanese is only the equivalent of an engagement with us. After the ceremony bride and bridegroom do not live together for three months, during which they have the amplest opportunities of learning whether



A JAVANESE BRIDE.

they care for each other. If either side can advance any good reason why they should not continue their union, a divorce is granted, the bride returning all the presents she has received from the bridegroom.

In Tunis no woman who is not fat is considered good-looking, and it is recorded that a lady who weighed twenty-five stone was regarded as having attained perfection. In order to reach the necessary standard of adiposity the maid will put bangles round her arm and feed herself up until they are tight to the flesh. Her husband does not see her till after the marriage ceremony, which is purely official; and if the go-between were desirous of giving the poor young man a great shock, or sending him into a serious rage, she could probably not take a better course than to arrange that the face he should look upon when his bride uncovers contains only the amount of flesh seen on that of a European girl. The Tunisian maiden, in a word, fattens herself up for the matrimonial market precisely in the same way as a

farmer fattens his pigs and his poultry with a view to fair day.

The preliminaries observed in Japan resemble those which obtain in France. A go-between selects, in a general way, the bride or bridegroom, as the case may be, and arranges for an interview at his own house, or some friend's, or at a picnic or a theatre. This mutual inspection, as it is called, is the only opportunity the two have of knowing whether there is any chance of their liking each other. If either does not approve of the other's bearing or appearance, the negotiations are supposed to cease forthwith.

As a matter of fact, the girl has little or no voice in the affair. She has to take whoever may be found for her. The marriage ceremony is simplicity itself. There are no bridesmaids, the only persons present being the go-betweens and a young girl. The latter hands the bride and bridegroom a two-spouted cup containing native wine. One drinks from this and hands it to the other, the sharing of the wine out of the same vessel being held to symbolize the readiness of the couple to share life's joys and sorrows.

THE WORLD'S CARRYING TRADE.

The British Merchant Marine is Double That of All Other Countries Combined.

Mr. M. G. Mulhall, a well-known statistician, has compiled for the December number of the Contemporary Review some instructive data about the world's carrying trade, confining himself to seagoing, and excluding coasting vessels. The principal conclusions to which the facts brought out by Mr. Mulhall's point are these: That Great Britain possesses 56 per cent. of the carrying power of the world; that the trade between Great Britain and her colonies is growing much more rapidly than the general seagoing trade of the world; that the seamen of Great Britain carry more merchandise per man than those of other nations, and four times as much as British seamen carried in 1860; and, lastly, that Great Britain's annual loss of tonnage by shipwreck, as compared with tonnage afloat, is only half the annual loss of other nations.

Not only does the British flag now hold the same preponderance at sea which the Phoenicians enjoyed in early times, and the Italians in the middle ages, but the preponderance is increasing. Since 1840 the oceangoing tonnage under the British ensign has trebled, while the aggregate tonnage of all other nations has only doubled. To give the exact figures, the nominal tonnage of Great Britain rose between 1840 and 1892 from 3,310,000 to 10,230,000 tons, while the total nominal tonnage under all other flags increased only from 6,070,000 to 12,670,000. But even this exhibit gives an inadequate idea of the growth of British shipping, owing to the larger proportion of steam vessels in Great Britain's merchant navy. Allowing for the fact that a steamer, being able to make so many more trips a year, is held to possess four times the carrying power of a sailing vessel of equal tonnage, Mr. Mulhall computes that the carrying power of the British merchant fleet in 1892 was 27,720,000 tons, as against a total carrying power under other flags of 21,120,000 tons. That is to say, it amounted to 56 per cent. of the whole. Next to Great Britain, but at a vast interval, came Scandinavia with a carrying power of 4,240,000 tons; next Germany, with 3,870,000 tons; then France with 2,410,000 tons; then Spain, with 2,020,000 tons; then the United States, with 1,680,000; and, finally, Italy, with 1,410,000 tons. In the case of the United States it should be noted that the figures show a shrinkage in the carrying power at sea of 80,000 tons during the decade preceding 1892. We should also remark that the increase of French carrying power during the same decade was very slight, notwithstanding the fact that France pays about \$2,000,000 annually in bounties on her seagoing shipping.

Inspecting Mr. Mulhall's table of port entries, we find that those of the United States increased between 1882 and 1892 from 14,660,000 tons to 18,180,000, or 24.2 per cent.; those of Continental Europe in the same decade from 67,710,000 tons to 90,450,000, or 33.6 per cent.; those of South America from 9,120,000 tons to 15,530,000, or 70.4 per cent., and those of the colonies, that term comprehending all the transmarine possessions of the European powers, from 34,390,000 tons to 51,230,000. The port entries of the British colonies alone expanded within the same period from 25,710,000 to 39,620,000 tons, or by 54.1 per cent. Another table of the entries of vessels bearing the British ensign into ports of the world verifies the saying that trade follows the flag, by showing that the commercial relations between Great Britain and her colonies grow much faster than either the trade of the ports of the United Kingdom or the commerce between Great Britain and other countries.

As regards the comparative efficiency of British seamen, a carefully compiled table of all the seagoing vessels of the world, including all steamers over 100 tons and all sailing vessels over 50 tons, brings out the fact that in all maritime countries taken together, there is an average of 23 tons register to each seaman, whereas in the case of Great Britain the average is 33 tons per man, or 40 per cent. more than the usual proportion. Evidence of superior efficiency is also afforded by a table of wrecks collected from the reports of the four countries which furnish distinct returns upon the subject. It appears that in the years 1888-89-90 the ratio of the tonnage lost by wreck to tonnage afloat was for Great Britain 2.4 per cent.; for Germany 3.2 per cent.; for France, 4.5 per cent.; and for the United States 6.8 per cent. Mr. Mulhall admits, however, that the whole of this startling difference cannot be ascribed to the superiority of British seamen, for the reason that the British merchant navy has a larger proportion of ships propelled by steam, and it has been well established that sailing vessels are more liable to loss than steamers, the difference being as four to three.

To prevent lamp chimneys from cracking put them into a kettle of cold water, gradually heat it till it boils, and then let it gradually cool.

ROUND THE WHOLE WORLD

WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE GLOBE.

Old and New World Events of Interest Chronicled Briefly—Interesting Happenings of Recent Date.

The Duke of Norfolk has an income of £369,000 a year.

English pennies are coined yearly to the extent of \$50,000.

Every animal kept by man, except the cat, is taxed in Austria.

England has 9,000 mounted yeomanry, costing \$450,000 per year.

Live fish have been lately transmitted by post from India to London.

It is estimated that England has 1,237,36 union men in good standing.

The sum of \$350,000 is now what the Prince of Wales is insured for.

Sir Arthur Sullivan writes most of his music between midnight and 4 a. m.

The average weekly loss of vessels on the seas throughout the world is twelve.

The gross value of British maritime interests amounts to slightly over \$10,000,000, 000.

In Russia you may marry before eighty or not at all, and you may marry only five times.

Cripples are seldom seen in China. When a deformed child is born it is at once put to death.

Miss Helen Gladstone has been made one of the governors of the Fifeshire county schools.

The Hebrew emigration from Russia this year will amount to about a quarter of a million.

Nearly 13,000 agricultural laborers went from Ireland last year to assist in the English harvest.

On an average there are ten thousand advertisements a day in the eight London morning papers.

The "fly-eater" of Cuba is one-third the size of the humming bird, and is the smallest bird in the world.

Mr. Gladstone, despite his supposed vast wealth, wears his clothes until they are threadbare, shiny and shabby.

A French officer in Buisson has invented a hippodrome which will register the paces and ground covered by a horse.

Field flasks of aluminum, instead of the ordinary glass flasks, are being introduced experimentally into the German army.

A firm in Palestine is engaged in supplying water from the River Jordan to churches. It is put up in sealed bottles and sold by the case.

Alma Tadema gave as a wedding present to the Duke and Duchess of York a painting by himself called "Godspeed." It is being etched.

Robert Louis Stevenson's estate in Samoa includes 400 acres of forest land, and is situated at an elevation ranging from 600 to 1,500 feet.

It is said that there are 2,000 magazines published in Great Britain. The religious publications comprise about one-fourth of this number.

Many of the people of New Zealand are seriously meditating the pensioning of all the residents after they have attained their seventieth year.

A London, England, despatch says the Queen's rheumatism is chronic and that it is believed she will never be able to walk more than a few steps.

A Chinese paper says that Mariano Santa Ana, a native of Albany, who is 117 years of age, has just completed the long term of 53 years' imprisonment.

An inquiry instituted among the London free libraries shows that Mrs. Henry Wood, Edna Lyall and R. der Haggard are the most popular writers.

The Russian Government intends to construct a harbor solely for commerce at Poti, leaving Batoum as a strongly fortified point for military purposes only.

The charge for a special train is 7s. per mile run, and each passenger has to take an ordinary ticket. No special train is run under a minimum charge of £5.

A tree that smokes has been discovered in the Japanese village of Ona. It is 60 feet high, and after sunset every evening smoke issues from the top of the trunk.

It is estimated that if the Chancellor of the Exchequer were to impose a tax of 5s. each on bicycles it would bring in a revenue of something like £200,000 a year.

Prof. Weinek, of the Imperial Observatory at Prague, devoted 225 hours to his drawing of the lunar crater Copernicus. It is from a negative made at the Lick Observatory.

The most curious paper-weight in the world is said to belong to the Prince of Wales. It is, so report goes, the mummified hand of one of the daughters of Pharaoh.

A "sleeping beauty" is in the person of Marguerite Bouyenoal, of St. Quentin, who has slept for 12 years. The sleep was brought on by fright. Life is sustained by artificial means.

In the shop window of a Birmingham barber recently was the following notice to customers:—"Municipal election—All Unionists shaved free, Gladstonians 2s each, owing to the length of their faces."

In the convict prison at Copenhagen mothers are allowed to have their babies with them till they are one year old; then they are taken to the workhouse until the mother's term of sentence has expired.

A French Government official lately sent in a bill of 14,000 francs for cab fares in a single year. The bill was disallowed and the official dismissed from the service at once, and will be prosecuted in the courts.

Nettles, long used in France for edible purposes, are now being put to yet another use. In Dresden, a firm is manufacturing the fibre, which is both delicate and strong, into a variety of textile fabrics. So fine is the thread produced that a length of sixty miles weighs but two and a half pounds.

A bread and butter tree from the French settlement on the Gaboon was recently sent to a professor at Nancy to analyse. The tree yields a fatty substance called cayo-cayo, resembling butter, and a grain containing 80 per cent. of fatty matter, from which very nourishing bread is made. The tree is at Irvingia.