About the ....House

THE FARM KITCHEN.

So much of the time of the farmer's wife and daughters is of necessity spent in the kitchen that it really ought to be the pleasantest room in the house. The outdoor life and work of the farmer and his hired men create appetites that require strenuous exertion on the part of the "wimmen folks" to satisfy, and all too often the work is made extra strenuous by lack of conveniences to work with, writes a correspondent.

A conveniently arranged kitchen, well stocked with modern utensils, is a source of pride and joy to every housewife so fortunate as to own one; and her sister who does not has always in her "mind's eye" a mental picture of the ideal kitchen she means to have some day when the mortgage is paid, or the new house built, or John has all the new fences and binders and corn harvesters he wants. It is with a desire to help make that mental picture a reality that this is written.

Personally, I've no use for a carpet on a kitchen floor. A grease spot on a carpet stares one out of countenance, and it's wonderful how fast they will appear. Oiled floors are nice, but it's no light task to keep them oiled. Painted floors are an abomination, for the paint soon wears off, making the floor unsightly. Even the beautiful white ash floors our grandmothers loved are not exactly a joy forever, for they require so much scrubbing and mopping. Of course, it's lovely to have a floor always beautifully white and clean enough to eat off from; but, after all,

WHAT'S THE USE?

You'll never want to eat off it, anyway! And surely there are higher ambitions in life than that of having the most beautiful kitchen floor in the neighborhood. Altogether, nothing I've ever used, or seen in use, has proven so satisfactory as linoleum. It can be put down over any old floor, and it comes in pretty patterns that are stamped all the way through, so it never wears off, but it looks well as long as it lasts. It wears well. We have some that has been in use for ten years and does not look at all worn. It should be laid by an experienced workman, for it must be very carefully matched and cut to fit into all the corners of the room and about all the curves of the door frames. When down it is down to stay till worn out, and the floor always looks clean.

The woodwork may be painted any preferred color, if one doesn't object to repeating the process every three or four years. If one wishes to do it but once "and be done with it," and wants something really nice, it is best to have it grained and given a hard oil finish. It will need revarnishing once in several years, but the thrifty housewife can do that herself, if so inclined, and will find it much easier than painting. Such woodwork cleans easily; finger marks do not show upon it, and dust and dirt slide off in the most delightful way.

A WALL PAPER

especially for kitchens is now made that can be cleaned by wiping with a damp cloth, and is said to be very satisfactory. Never having used any, I cannot vouch for it, but I can say a good word for the painted walls. They are pretty and pleasing and sanitary and with such walls, woodwork and floor a kitchen is very easily kept clean.

The young housewife, or one familiar only with a cook stove, hardly knows what to expect of her first range. Good ranges are never cheap and poor ones are dear at any price. All modern ones have asbestos linings, which insure a warm oven and a cool kitchen. The heat should be uniform in every part of the oven, and it should be unnecessary to turn anything around while it is baking. The warming oven permits the cook to easily serve "warm meals at all hours." Many ranges have no damper for the reservoir and the water is always warm with no concern save keeping the reservoir filled. The majority are fitted to burn both wood and coal, and with a system of dampers that, properly manipulated, will keep a fire all night. Sometimes, with a good chimney, the draft is so strong this cannot be done, yet is no fault of the range. A damper in the pipe is the remedy. When burning coal it is usually more satisfactory to use a little wood with it when baking. No wood range is really right that is not fitted with a drop door to the fireplace that permits no ashes to fall on the floor.

A GASOLINE STOVE

is now a necessity in every farm kitchen. In harvest and thrashing time, when the range is hardly equal to the demands upon it, the gasoline stove can join forces and make the hard work much lighter. And when the thermometer is up in the 90's it can boil a tea-kettle in less time than a fire can be built in the big range, and with far more comfort and economy.

The kitchen cabinet is a comparatively new thing, but a more convenient and useful article was never invented; it deserves all the popularity it is winning. Such cabinets are made in many styles and at prices to suit all purses. The larger ones are really pantry, storeroom and kitchen table, all in one. They have a place for everything needed when baking or preparing a meal, and they save many steps. The better ones are warranted dust and mouse proof.

Many modern kitchens have a broad zinc-covered shelf in the place of a table, which is particularly handy if it can be built about a corner, and may be as broad and as long as the size of the kitchen and the taste of the housewife permits. A narrow strip of wood is placed about the edge of such a shelf, under the zinc, to raise it above a level and prevent any drip falling to the floor. Underneath it cupboards are arranged for the various articles that every housewife wants out of sight when not in use.

THE KITCHEN SINK

is often a troublesome piece of furniture. It's really the handiest thing in the room, if properly placed, drained and cared for, but on level ground the problem of drainage is a serious one. If any reader of this has satisfactorily solved the problem, I shall be very grateful if she'll tell me how it was done. Fortunate, indeed, is the housewife whose home, like the famous city, is set on a hill, for she can install any system of plumbing she likes and need have no fear of the dreaded typhoid fever germ.

As nearly all farms have now either a windmill or a gasoline engine for pumping water, it is a simple matter to have the water pumped into a tank in the kitchen—so simple one wonders why it is not more often done. Many a hard cold and attack of la grippe can be traced to the lack of this convenience.

Few new houses are built without a separate dining-room, but in many old ones the kitchen must do double duty. Some very pretty pen pictures have been drawn of the big, sunny, old-fashioned kitchen, with the kettle bubbling on the hearth, the cat basking before the fire, and the family gathered about the table loaded with viands "that mother used to cook," but the prosaic fact remains that such a kitchen is apt to be too redolent of the odors of

SALT FRIED PORK,

boiled cabbage and scorched pancakes to be really agreeable. Too much care cannot be taken with the ventilation of such a room. There should, if possible, be a ventilator in the ceiling above the range, and the windows should be so fitted that they may be lowered from the top as well as raised from the bottom. The collapsible screens, so handy in other parts of the house, have no place in a kitchen. The screens there should be large enough for the whole window. Mosquito netting tacked on the outside of the window frames answers the purpose very well.

The warm, moist air of a kitchen is usually very favorable to plant growth, and a few geraniums blooming in the windows add the artistic touch that all women love. Finally, let no young housekeeper grow discouraged because the conveniences she desires are long in coming. "Rome was not built in a day," and it is worth while to work and wait and plan for even so prosaic a thing as the furnishing of a kitchen.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

A correspondent of an exchange tells how to make a paste that will always be conveniently ready for use. Take a handful of flour, mix it smooth with cold water, and pour on boiling water sufficient to cook it. Add a teaspoonful of powdered alum, and a few drops of carbolic acid and oil of cloves. Strain through a thin cloth and put into a wide-mouthed bottle.

Did you ever try baking potatoes on the top of a stove? Turn an iron pan or basin over them and they will bake nicely. If the fire is very hot place them on an asbestos mat. They should be turned occasionally. It is convenient to know this, in case one wants baked potatoes, but does not wish to keep up the kitchen fire. Of course rather more time is required than when baked in the oven.

The "cellar smell" is extremely disagreeable. It is apt to permeate the whole house. Place a dish of unslaked lime in the vegetable cellar and it will absorb the moisture in the air and also the unpleasant odor.

If the brass fixtures of a hanging lamp have become tarnished past redemption paint them with white enamel. Then you can gild them.

Somebody has discovered that if boiling water is poured over potatoes and they are left in it fifteen minutes they will bake in about half the usual time. But wouldn't they cook as fast in the oven as in the hot water? What is gained?

BLIND FIND VOCATION.

Among the Japanese massage as a vocation is restricted almost entirely to persons afflicted with blindness. Sweden, Switzerland and Belgium are other countries in which this profession is gradually being confined to blind people. Massage is work for which the faculty of sight is not necessary. A writer in a French medical journal urges the adoption of this method of earning a livelihood for the blind, and no doubt the medical profession in this country will lend a willing hand to further the movement of this worthy cause to render assistance to a class of people to whom work involving physical exercise should come as a welcome avenue, opening a new and remunerative vocation.

Boresome (hot on inventions): "An 'I see the agent has sold yez a carpet-sweeper, Mrs. Maginnis. Is it as good as the ould-fashioned broom?' 'It is, an' better, Mrs. Mulduckie. I can knock Maginnis twice as far wid it.'"

Hardup: "I'm very sorry, but I can't pay you to-day. You see, the grocer has just been here, and—" Butcher (interrupting): "Yes, I just met him, and he said you put him off because you had to pay me. So here's the bill."

Angry Wife:—"It seems to me we've been married a century. I can't even remember when or where we first met." Husband (emphatically): "I can. It was at a dinner-party where there were thirteen at table."

TIGER HUNTS IN INDIA

WILD ANIMALS GET LOOSE IN THAT COUNTRY.

Escaped Puma Scared a Village—Elephant Loose in London.

Some little time back the village of West Horsley, in Surrey, was thrown into a violent state of agitation by the news that a "lion" had escaped from the grounds of a gentleman's house near by, and was roaming about seeking whom it might devour. No one could be got to say that he personally had actually seen the animal, but everybody knew lots of other people who had. The damage it was alleged to have occasioned, too, was simply incalculable.

As a matter of fact, it was not a lion that had got loose at all, but a puma, a much less dangerous animal; and even he only remained at large during a portion of one night. Then he was recaptured by his owner, a gentleman named Orde, and hauled back to captivity and a breakfast of dead roosters. Not all home-made wild animal hunts, however, end in this tame fashion.

So long ago as the beginning of the last century a tiger escaped from a caravan into the New Forest, killed a child, dangerously wounded its mother, and slaughtered, apparently out of pure wantonness, more than twenty deer. It was eventually shot dead by a lad of nineteen, who bravely tracked it to its lair, armed only with an

OLD FLINT-LOCK MUSKET.

In the year 1816, again, on a Sunday evening, an escaped lioness attacked the Exeter Royal Mail coach, killing one of the horses. It was dusk at the time, and the coach had just pulled up at a place called Winterslow Hut, seven miles on the London side of Salisbury. The lioness sprang straight at the throat of the off-leader, fastened the talons of her fore feet on each side of his neck close to the head, while the talons of her hind feet were forced into his chest. In this situation the ferocious brute hung, growling horribly, while the unfortunate horse, hampered by the harness, could do nothing to defend itself. There were only two passengers in the mail at the time, and these quickly jumped out, ran into the house, and locked themselves in an upstairs room. The coachman, however, was made of sterner stuff, for he wanted to alight and attack her with his knife. But just as he was getting down from his seat on the box, a huge mastiff bounded up, and seized the lioness by the throat. She thereupon released her hold of the by this time moribund horse, and engaged in battle with her new adversary, whom she promptly killed.

At this moment the guard came up with a loaded blunderbuss, and was about to shoot her, when the owner and some keepers appeared on the scene, the former crying out in alarm: "For Heaven's sake don't kill her; she cost me $2,500."

This appeal stayed the guard's hand, and meanwhile the brute had been enticed into an outhouse and secured. The affair was

THE TALK OF ENGLAND

at the time, creating an amount of excitement which, to put it mildly, seems out of all proportion to the importance of the event.

Elephants that escape are apt to do a terrible lot of damage, because of their immense weight and strength. One that went on the rampage in the North of London, some few years back, broke down walls, smashed gates and doors by the dozen, and wound up by charging a shop and falling through into the cellar, whence it had to be hauled up ignominiously by a steam crane. It cost the owner $10,000 to make good the havoc.

Another big "tusker" got loose at Accrington on October 14th, 1889, and "burgled" a big co-operative warehouse, gorging itself with several hundredweights of biscuits and jam.

Visitors at the "Zoo" will notice that the top of the Polar bear cage is well barred. This precaution was shown to be necessary by an animal escaping some years ago over a high, spiked, and inward-curved fence, over which it was considered an impossibility for any beast to climb. This incident led to an exciting bear hunt in Regent's Park. But the truant was luckily secured before he had a chance of doing harm.

A jaguar, however, that got away after a similar fashion from his den in a travelling menagerie in Yorkshire, managed to retain its liberty for an entire week. During that period it attacked and badly mauled a little girl, slaughtered about twenty sheep, and so frightened an old lady that she dropped dead. In the end it was killed by a laborer, armed with nothing more formidable than

A PITCHFORK.

One of the most exciting of British wild-animal hunts took place, however, not in the country, but in London. A full-grown and exceedingly savage tigress, belonging to Mr. Jamrach, the well-known East-end dealer, got loose, and escaped into Ratcliffe Highway. It was broad daylight, and the street was crowded with people, amongst whom a terrible panic at once prevailed. One little boy, about nine years old, was playing in the road, and was snapped up by the brute.

At that moment Mr. Jamrach rushed up and caught the tigress by the loose skin of the neck, but was unable to hold the powerful beast, which ran down the street at a gallop, carrying the boy in her mouth, as a cat would a mouse, Jamrach holding on tight all the time to the tigress' neck, and keeping up with long strides by her side, like a groom by the side of a runaway horse.

Eventually Mr. Jamrach managed to throw the tigress down, and a man ran up with a crowbar and struck her several blows on the nose. This made her drop the child from her mouth. But, being then unimpeded, she wrenched herself free, and, doubling on her tracks, ran quickly up the street, swearing, and spitting spitefully.

Eventually she was driven back into the cage whence she had originally escaped. The boy, although, as may well be supposed, terribly frightened, was not much hurt. Nevertheless, the lawsuit that followed cost Mr. Jamrach $1,500. So that tiger-hunting in London proved for him a somewhat expensive form of "sport."—Pearson's Weekly.

The Widower

A Study in Natural History.

The Widower.—This interesting bird, concerning whose habits little that is authoritative has been written, is believed by ornithologists to belong to the Phœnix family (manibus easy consolibus) because it has the power to rise from its ashes in resplendent plumage and renewed youth.

The Widower is a migratory bird, and at intervals makes its appearance in every community, but so greatly is it esteemed as a household pet, and so keen is the pursuit after it, that it rarely escapes the net of the fowler for long, and few of the species are to be seen at large.

In appearance the Widower is what may be called interesting rather than beautiful, though it varies greatly at different ages. When it is young it has a sad and melancholy air, and utters plaintive notes that make every female who hears it long to console it. But this sorrowful swan song lasts only during the first few months. After that it grows chirpy and chipper, and blithely carols a merry roundelay that greatly resembles "A Hot Time in the Old Town To-night."

The plumage of the Widower is also worthy of note, for it has the peculiar, chameleon-like quality of changing under different conditions. During captivity it almost invariably wears a garb of sombre hue unfashionable in cut, and frequently conspicuously unpreened and unkempt.

The moment, however, it becomes free this strange bird blossoms forth in a beautiful gorgeous coat of lively hues that is calculated to catch the eye from a distance; but as soon as it is again caught and caged it molts its fine feathers and resumes its unattractive appearance.

No one has ever been able to account for this idiosyncrasy, but the phenomenon of the Widower doing his lightning change act into a butterfly, or back into a grub, may be witnessed daily. This peculiarity, unfortunately, often causes great disappointment to the owners, as not infrequently a female goes to great trouble to capture a Widower, thinking it a Bird of Paradise, only to discover when she has got it home that it is nothing but a scarecrow. Thus, from this simple circumstance, does nature teach us not to buy a bird by its looks.

Concerning the anatomy of the Widower ornithologists differ greatly, though all agree that it is All Heart. Some authorities contend, however, that this organ, in size and shape, is like an omnibus, while others hold that it is of the elasticity and durability of a football. It is interesting to observe that some of the most earnest and painstaking investigators along this line of scientific research are women, and we may confidently look for valuable light to be thrown on the subject in the near future.

The chief characteristic of the Widower is, as has been stated, its ability to arise from the ashes of the funeral pyre—as long as it is its wife's funeral—with renewed youth. Reputable eye-witnesses declare that they have seen one of these birds, droopy, with draggled tail feathers, and one leg swathed in red flannel bandages for rheumatism, suddenly metamorphosed into a giddy young thing that could dance the two-step and stay up all night, and that looked like a two-year-old. It has also been observed that the oftener the Widower arises from the ashes the younger it becomes, until after about the third rejuvenation nothing but a debutante is young enough to attract its attention.

In its habits the Widower is a curious combination of the fly bird and the barn-yard fowl, for while its giddy flights are interesting it is admirable because it knows how to scratch for a living. It has, too, generally a well-lined nest, instead of having to build one.

In a way the Widower has something of the predatory characteristics of the hawk, and knows that the only way to get a thing is to take it, and this causes it to often pounce upon the most charming young pullet in the bunch and bear her away, under the very eyes of her chaperon. On the whole, though, it conducts its love-making after the manner of the nightingale, and sings a song of such surpassing sweetness that no heart can resist it.

There are many reasons why women should have a great fondness for Widowers, and a desire to possess one. It is always much more comfortable to have a thoroughly trained pet about the house than one that one has to domesticate themselves.

A Widower's first owner has always taken the edge off of it and taught it little tricks, and it knows when to pipe up, and when to sit on his perch and keep mum, all of which render it a most desirable ornament for the parlor or boudoir.

Inasmuch as the Widower has once been caught in the matrimonial trap, it has been argued that it showed lack of intelligence in allowing itself to be snared a second time. The truth seems to be, however, that after having once had its wings clipped, it does not know what to do with freedom, and so returns to the edge through force of habit.

The Dominion Bank

PROCEEDINGS OF

The Thirty-Third Annual General Meeting

OF THE STOCKHOLDERS.

The Thirty-third Annual General Meeting of the Dominion Bank was held at the Banking House of the Institution, Toronto, Wednesday, January 27th, 1904.

Among those present were noticed: Messrs. William Ince, B. Osler, M.P., W. D. Matthews, Thos. Walmsley, W. G. Smith, G. W. Lewis, A. R. Boswell, P. Leadley, G. N. Foulds, J. J. Foy, K.C., John T. Small, Anson Jones, H. Kenzie, J. Gordon Jones, W. Crocker, J. F. Kavanagh, Jno. W. Langley, Lieut.-Col. Pellatt, Wm. Hendrie, J. G. Ramsay, W. C. Crowther, F. J. Phillips, Richard Brown, G. B. Swan, Proctor, H. B. Hodgins, H. Johnson, T. G. Brough, Miss H. M. Robinson and others.

It was moved by Mr. Wm. Ince, seconded by Mr. Anson Jones, that Mr. E. B. Osler do take the chair, and that Mr. T. G. Brough act as Secretary.

Messrs. A. R. Boswell and W. G. Cassels were appointed scrutineers.

The Secretary read the report of the Directors to the shareholders, and submitted the Annual Statement of the affairs of the Bank for the year ending 31st December, 1903, as follows:

To the Shareholders:

The Directors beg to present the following Statement of the business of the Bank for the EIGHT MONTHS ending 31st December, 1903:

Balance of Profit and Loss Account, 30th April, 1903	$ 353,455 48
Premium received on new Capital Stock	16,135 00
Profit for the EIGHT MONTHS ending 31st December, 1903, after deducting charges of management, etc., and making provision for bad and doubtful debts	322,973 86
	$692,564 34
Dividend 2½ per cent., paid 1st August 1903	$74,710 50
Dividend 2½ per cent., paid 2nd November, 1903	74,853 05
Dividend 1 2-3 per cent., payable 2nd January, 1904 (2 months)	49,963 16
	$199,526 71
Transferred to Reserve Fund	16,135 00
Balance of Profit and Loss carried forward	$476,902 63

RESERVE FUND.

Balance at credit of account 30th April, 1903	$ 3,000,000 00
Transferred from Profit and Loss Account	16,135 00
	$3,016,135 00

Branches of the Bank have been opened during the past year in Fort William and St. Thomas, Ont.

All Branches of the Bank have been inspected during the year.

Toronto, 27th January, 1904. E. B. OSLER, President.

The Report was adopted and the thanks of the Shareholders tendered to the President, Vice-President and Directors for their services to the General Manager and other officers of the Bank for the performance of their respective duties.

The following gentlemen were elected Directors for the ensuing year: Messrs. A. W. Austin, W. R. Brock, M.P., T. Eaton, J. J. Foy, K.C., Wm. Ince, Wilmot D. Matthews and E. B. Osler, M.P.

At a subsequent meeting of the Directors, Mr. E. B. Osler was elected President and Mr. W. D. Matthews, Vice-President, for the ensuing term.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

Liabilities.

Notes in Circulation		$ 2,821,870 00
Deposits not bearing interest	$ 3,083,422 68	
Deposits bearing interest (including interest accrued to date)	23,293,718 57	26,377,141 25
Total Liabilities to the Public		$29,198,011 25
Capital Stock Paid up		3,000,000 00
Reserve Fund	$ 3,000,000 00	
Balance of Profits carried forward	476,902 63	
Dividend No. 85, payable 2nd Jan. (2 mths)	49,963 16	
Former Dividends unclaimed	28 75	
Reserved for Exchange, etc.	21,664 61	
Rebate on Bills Discounted	99,623 95	3,648,283 50
		$35,846,294 75

Assets.

Specie	$ 1,059,463 14	
Dominion Government Demand Notes	1,806,213 00	
Deposit with Dominion Government for Security of Note Circulation	140,000 00	
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks	1,209,662 80	
Balances due from other Banks in Canada	518,570 29	
Balance due by London Agents	182,337 54	
Balances due from other Banks elsewhere than in Can. and the United Kingdom	678,909 02	
Provincial Government Securities	94,296 37	
Canadian Municipal Securities and British or Foreign or Colonial Public Securities other than Canadian	671,028 79	
Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and Stocks	3,332,217 51	
Loans on Call secured by Stocks and Debentures	4,121,069 18	$13,996,767 63
Bills Discounted and Advances Current	$21,409,271 20	
Overdue Debts (estimated loss provided for)	9,995 26	
Real Estate, other than Bank Premises	43,106 55	
Mortgages on Real Estate sold by Bank	6,000 00	
Bank Premises	425,000 00	
Other Assets not included under foregoing heads	8,028 70	21,894,401 71
		$35,891,169 34

Toronto, 31st December, 1903. T. G. BROUGH, General Manager.

TYPOGRAPHICAL TRAGEDY.

"We are thorry to thay," explained the editor of a weekly paper in Texas, "that our compothing-room wath entered latht night by thome unknown theoundrel, who thtole every eth in the ethtablithment and thucceeded in making hith ethcape undetected.

"It hath been impothible, of courth, to procure a new thupply in time for thith ithue, and we are thuth compelled to go to preth in a thituation motht emarrathing and dithtrething; but we thee no other courthe to purthue than to make the bethe ththagger we can to get along without the mithing letter, and we, therefore, print the 'Newth' on time regardleth of the loth thuthtained.

"The motive of the mitherable mithreant ith unknown to uth, but doubtleth, wath revenge for thome thuppoth inthult.

"It thall never be thaid that the petty thpite of the thmall-thouled villian hath dithabled the 'Newth.' If thith meet the eye of the detethtable rathcal, we beg to athure him that he underethtimateth the rethourceth of a firtht-clath newthpaper when he thinkth he can cripple it hopeletaly by breaking into the alphabet.

"We take occathion to thay to him, furthermore, that before next Thurthday we will have three timeth ath many etheth ath he thtole."

"Do you think then that men descended from chimpanzees?" asked Willie Washington. "Some did," answered Miss Cayenne, "and some merely remained stationary."

Sympathetic Old Lady (to tramp)—"Ah, my poor fellow, life is full of trials." Tramp—"It are mum. Wot was you tried for?"

MESSAGE FROM THE

Six years ago the British Ethel mysteriously disappeared route from Bombay to Her owners, Barkfoot & latter port, gave her up for since that time until last fate remained a mystery to It was an empty and tightly wine bottle that brought the her fate and that of Capt and his crew to land. The was discovered by Captain on the beach of the Island kave, situated in the South the note it contained read lows: "Will the finder of form Messrs Barkfoot & C Said that their schooner E dered about 1,000 miles fro bay? This note is written sole survivors, Captain Lee man Thomas, who are in t hopes. Signed, J. T. Lee or 27, 1897."

A gentleman once bought by-looking horse and asked to try it. After the animal trotted round the yard once the master asked Pat thought about it. "It wo a fine war-horse your worsh said. "Why, how's that?" master. "Because," said P ing off, "it would sooner run!"

"Is every hair in your h bered, grandpa?" "Yes, m "Well, grandpa," said the l low, as he contemplated th bald spot, "you haven't go of a head for figures, have y

Wise is the man who stumbling blocks as stepping

AFTER SHORT TRAINING

YOUTHFUL BRITISH CABINET MINISTERS.

Britain Has Some Very Young Men Round Her Cabinet Board.

Two things strike [illegible] forcible [illegible] looking into the [illegible] present British [illegible] fulness of the [illegible] members and the [illegible] fire in which a [illegible] som from the [illegible] and unknown [illegible] into full Cabinet [illegible] Parliament.

In the present [illegible] Cabinet just half its members [illegible] in or under the forties, [illegible] have [illegible] to see their forties [illegible] heavy. There are seven Ministers [illegible] fifties and only two who [illegible] more than sixty years; while [illegible] average age of its eighteen members [illegible] a few months over fifty [illegible] youth is any guarantee of [illegible] ought to then the Cabinet [illegible] cabinet, establish a record [illegible] to [illegible]

Some of its [illegible] have had careers as remarkable [illegible] their youthfulness. In past [illegible] a few who reached Cabinet [illegible] any time with a quarter of [illegible] was considered fortunate [illegible] It is true that William [illegible] that phenomenal political prodigy, was [illegible] for of the Exchequer at the [illegible] after two years' [illegible] deep in the House; but his [illegible] Lord Fortescue of Chatham had [illegible] twenty years before he [illegible] Secretary of State. Mr. Gladstone [illegible] Secretary eleven [illegible] entered the House [illegible] it took Canning [illegible] fourteen, Sir Robert Peel [illegible] Lord Beaconsfield [illegible] Randolph Churchill [illegible] qualify for Cabinet [illegible]

ONLY EIGHT

It is only eight [illegible] Lyttelton entered [illegible] Mr. ber for Leamington [illegible] fills the exalted [illegible] Mr. Chamberlain [illegible] topping as if a [illegible] were with one leap [illegible] on the woolsack [illegible] the law lords. [illegible] the veteran Lord H[illegible] in the Cabinet was [illegible] finding a seat in [illegible] Launceston. In [illegible] honors came to [illegible] longer quite young [illegible] became a member [illegible] 47 and Lord Balfour [illegible]

To some of these [illegible] been much kinder [illegible] berlain had only [illegible] the House when [illegible] the Admiralty [illegible] er he found his way [illegible] while still in [illegible] full record of advancement [illegible] inferior to that [illegible] Churchill, who [illegible] India at the early a[illegible]

LESS THAN

Lord Stanley, too, [illegible] Mr. Austin Chamberlain [illegible] ment, for after three [illegible] House he was made [illegible] Treasury, and [illegible] with a seat in the Cabinet [illegible] years, and while [illegible] on the sunny side of [illegible] hold-Foster [illegible] Lord Stanley [illegible] years since he [illegible] the Commons, and [illegible] high position of Secretary for War.

The Prime Minister [illegible] gratifying record [illegible] he was only a [illegible] ing the Cabinet [illegible] note that, although [illegible] in the nursery [illegible] was a fully-fledged [illegible] Father of his Cabinet [illegible] of 29 years' service [illegible] Mr. A. G. Murray [illegible] with his chief by [illegible] prize within 12 [illegible]

MAKE A B[illegible]

Thus we see how [illegible] the present British [illegible] won their positions [illegible] ticeship of a dozen [illegible] time that it takes [illegible] to graduate into the [illegible] vicar, or a very [illegible] become a junior K.C. [illegible]

Although Mr. W[illegible] self a Cabinet Minister [illegible] age of 40, he has [illegible] ful than some of his [illegible] having to wait [illegible] ward; but he is [illegible] Akers-Douglas, Mr. [illegible] and Mr. Long.

Lords Onslow, Selborne [illegible] bourne were legislators [illegible] before reaching [illegible] nence; and Mr. Balfour [illegible] commonly considered [illegible] man, actually wins [illegible] spoon" of the Cabinet [illegible] separated the day on which [illegible] sat as M. P., for West [illegible] the day, in 1900, was [illegible] Secretary for War.

In an Irish court an old [illegible] called into the witness [illegible] ing near-sighted, instead [illegible] the stairs that led [illegible] mounted those that led [illegible] The judge took the [illegible] humorously. "Is it a jail [illegible] to be, my good man?" [illegible] "Ah, sure, yer honor," [illegible] ply, "I'm an ould man [illegible] mebbe it's all I'm fit for."

"A drop of ink may [illegible] ion think," quoted Mr. [illegible] "So I have heard," added [illegible] "It may provoke laughter [illegible] few drops of ink that I [illegible] dropped on my wife's [illegible] brought forth about a mile [illegible] and all energetic words, too."

"That large man thinks [illegible] pretty important personage [illegible] place, doesn't he?" asked [illegible] cer. "Important?" exclaimed [illegible] native. "Why, if you tell [illegible] having fine weather here, [illegible] up as if he thought he made [illegible]

MANY MINIATURE TR[illegible]

GREAT MEN WHO OWN L[illegible] RAILWAYS.

Duke of Westminster Owns Finest Miniature Railway in England.

There are about one hundred miniature railways in Great [illegible] the finest and best equipped [illegible] them all being that owned by the Duke of Westminster, at Eaton. The track is four and a half [illegible] long, is splendidly ballasted [illegible] attended to constantly by an expert platelayer. The [illegible] fifteen inches, and the [illegible] construction, exclusive of [illegible] was exactly $6,565 per [illegible] one engine built by Messrs. [illegible] Duffield, who also own the [illegible] railway) cost $4,650. [illegible] speed as about fifteen [illegible] though it has done twenty [illegible] occasion. There is one [illegible] coach, thirty-four goods [illegible] sides brake van, tool van, [illegible] cels van, all of which are [illegible] built to scale, and elaborately [illegible] ished.

Next in order to the [illegible] point of costliness [illegible] comes the Pitmuir's [illegible] Model Railway, owned by [illegible] Holder. Its length is [illegible] magnificent, but its equipment [illegible] rolling-stock probably [illegible] of any miniature railway [illegible] world. For in the [illegible] three locomotives [illegible] the [illegible] 7 [illegible] all and with [illegible] 9 [illegible] ing between 9 [illegible]

WITHOUT A S[illegible]

Very remarkable [illegible] railway at Cromer [illegible] owned by Dr. Gordon [illegible] known specimen [illegible] the Mr. Arthur [illegible] carry it convincingly [illegible] correct point to the [illegible] South-Coast [illegible] the seen between [illegible] of London Bridge [illegible] and Croydon. [illegible] only two [illegible] with the [illegible] priority [illegible] has a [illegible] the [illegible] and South-Coast [illegible] gine "Como," on a [illegible] to one foot, and it [illegible] years in the building [illegible] down to the last nut [illegible] made by Dr. Winter [illegible] wherever possible, [illegible] the solid metal instead [illegible] For example, the wheels [illegible] cut as discs from a [illegible] steel. Then the spokes [illegible] out, holes were drilled [illegible] and the spaces were chased [illegible] and finished with the file [illegible] thod necessitated the drilling [illegible] than seven hundred [illegible] wheel, and the time occupied [illegible] pleting the six wheels [illegible] year. Even the steel [illegible] the fire-box was cut out [illegible] block of metal, although [illegible] 1-90 of an inch in [illegible] Pearson's Weekly.

WAITERS' RECORD.

In Frankfort there is a [illegible] the waiters of which have [illegible] ceived what was then [illegible] be the largest "tip" [illegible] Among their customers [illegible] years was a gentleman of [illegible] means, who died last year [illegible] and left by will 15,000 [illegible] 750) to the fortunate [illegible] question.