

WOMAN and HER WORK.

I want to say a few words this week to those anxious souls of my own sex who are like Martha of old, "cumbered about much serving." There are so many of them, poor things; women whose lives are one long slavery to their house, and their household matters; whose days are spent in working and worrying about the juggernaut which is crushing the beauty, the youth, almost the life itself out of their bodies, and all the freshness and sweetness out of their souls! I do not refer to the women who must work or starve, and who have no choice but to strain every nerve in order to keep themselves or those dear to them from want, I mean the "notable" housewives, who would be shocked if you told them they placed their house before their religion, but yet who do something so very like it, that the difference is not material. Who has not known women whose time seemed to be only divided into washing day, ironing day, baking, silver cleaning, sweeping and scrubbing day? I have known several, so I suppose others have too, and these good souls are so full of thought for the things of the body, that if the sermon should happen to be five minutes longer than usual on a Sunday morning, they begin to suffer misery of business, and you can see "dinner" written all over their faces just as plainly as if they had used a typewriter to inscribe it there; to them the affairs of the household are of paramount importance and not to clean the silver once a week is a much more deadly sin of omission than the forgetting of his sunset prayers would be to the Turk. They spend their lives in such a continual effort to maintain order and suppress chaos, that the only wonder is how they retain their senses. Nervous prostration and general debility claim them as helpless victims, they become fretful, discontented, irritable and then wonder why they are always getting "run down" and what can be the matter with their health, just as if one could deliberately light a candle, burn it at both ends, and then make it last as long as one which was only doing the ordinary amount of work.

I have always felt the deepest sympathy for the Martha of scripture; it seems to me that Mary did much less than her fair share of the house work and got credit for all the religion, while poor Martha, who may have been just as good, had no opportunity of giving expression to any of her piety, because she had to look after the house and do all the work, while Mary was surrounded by a sort of halo of glory. I suppose it must have been right since the great Master himself commended Mary and reproved Martha, but evidently the one who "served alone" felt herself badly used, since she spoke of her sister's disinclination to assist in the house work and the multiplicity of cares which were thrown on her shoulders in consequence. But poor Martha does not seem to have sacrificed herself to household cares of her own free will, and therefore she differs materially from her sisters of today who are willing to sacrifice not only their own lives but the real happiness of their families to the one domestic god of good housekeeping. The woman who wears herself out with the cares of the house is rarely a pleasant companion, she is too tired to be agreeable for one thing and too wrapped up in domestic concerns to be interesting. She never has time to keep herself informed of what is going on around her and now she has lost her grasp of things so completely that she has ceased to take much interest in anything but the affairs of her own home circle and just a very few people outside of it. She is too tired in the evening to care to go out much and as for reading—well, there are always so many other things to do, mending and making, and she is so tired she would prefer going to bed early and getting rested.

Now I well know that there is nothing more absurd than telling the mother of a family, to "let things go, and not bother" as I have heard so many husbands do. Every wife and mother has her hands sufficiently full to keep her very busy, and letting things go, would scarcely make her work any easier, but there are many ways in which she might save herself work, if she only would; there are so many things that can be left undone in a house, and none of the inmates be one whit the worse off. Once I thought the silver must be cleaned once a week, no matter how pressed I was for time: I thought all the paints in the parlor, the hall and dining room must be washed every Friday, and the rest of the work done with a corresponding precision, and care; but I don't think so now, I have learned better. I know that I can do many things in the time it would take to clean the silver, and that if I keep it covered with chamois leather I need clean it only once a month or so; while no one but myself would ever be the wiser whether the paint was washed once a week or only well dusted; so I make a good deal more time than I used to, without being half so tired. I don't believe home comfort depends entirely on the state of the silver or the paint, so long as both are reasonably clean; and I know it does depend largely on the health and good temper of the wife and mother. No one can look fresh and young if she works too hard, and

keeps herself in a state of perpetual anxiety lest everything is not just as it should be, and no matter how hard we work, you know we can never do everything. Longfellow knew that well, when he said—

"Labor with what zeal we will,
Something yet remains undone,
Something unremembered still,
Waits the rising of the sun."

A short time ago a dear friend of mine, who lay dying, after a well spent life, said to me: "How I wish I could have the strength given to me to tell every woman in the world my experience, to warn them so they might avoid the mistakes I have made. I would tell them how unprofitable it is in the end, to wear oneself out uselessly. I see now just how I have shortened my life by working and worrying needlessly, when I might have taken things so much easier and been so much happier by doing so. No woman does herself or her family justice when she works herself into her grave for nothing."

And so I thought I would carry out her wish in a small way and tell some other women not to be cumbered about much serving and worn down by the burdens of life any more than they could help, but to stop by the wayside when it is possible and pluck the flowers, remembering that He who sent brightness and beauty into the world, meant His creatures to enjoy them to the full.

The path of the fashion writer almost rivals that of the transgressor for hardness in these days, since there is so little change in the modes that there seems nothing to talk about. The prevailing fashion could almost be summed up in one word—ripples because it thought, mind, heat and cold, move in waves certainly fashion has progressed in ripples to a given point, and there stopped to take breath, because the word ripple occurs so often in the fashion journals that one grows tired of it. There are ripple collars, ripple shirts, ripple capes, ripple basque skirts, and I am certain that if the brims of some of the hats are not called ripple brims they should be. Whether the name originated with Miss Loie Fuller, as did the materials which bear her name, and the term ripple is meant to suggest the wonderful serpentine dances which have made that young lady famous, I know not, but she seems to have imparted her name to so many things in fashions realm that we may be justified in holding her responsible for anything which even remotely suggests waves.

In materials the Loie Fuller effects are seen everywhere from the lovely taffeta glace silks which come in shot effects of two tones either gold and pink heliotrope and scarlet or violet and pale maize, with wonderful dots and circles of deeper color appearing and disappearing as the light falls upon them, to the heavy boucle cloths which show a wonderful variety of two toned effects, and the handsome dragonman cloths which seem to be woven of pure silk with a slight superstructure of wool thrown upon the surface. Of course these goods require a long purse, but the same tints are to be found in substantial double width goods at very reasonable prices; these come in leather serges, Scotch and English serges, and are very handsome and serviceable. Bordered goods have once more made their appearance in some of the most enterprising shops, and while they are still almost new in Canada, to be at all generally adopted, they are very pretty and striking, and may have more favor for themselves by the time their position is more firmly established. Just now they seem to be a sort of advance guard of a coming fashion, and like all pioneers, have difficulties to encounter.

The polonaise is once more an established fact, and I regret to say that the overskirt is too. I suppose we shall grow used to it in time, and even think it graceful and beautiful but after the trim close fitting skirts we have been accustomed to for so long, it is impossible now to regard an overskirt as a sort of work of supererogation, since the tailor-made skirt could scarcely be improved upon. In the wake of the overskirt, paniers are approaching and very pretty they are too, serving the double purpose of concealing angularity of figure, and disguising a superabundance of flesh. Skirts seem to remain stationary, so far as the width goes, four yards being the outside limit, while three and a half is the usual width for a skirt.

The new accordion pleated crepons for evening wear are very pretty, and come in all the daintiest colors, maize, pale pink and blue, heliotrope, cream and black; they are in costumes, of one dress length each, with enough of the plain crepon for the bodice and sleeves. The pleats in the skirt are about half an inch in width. The materials for evening dresses are lovely, this winter, embossed chiffons, softest crepes and delicate French gauzes in all imaginable tints, white, cream, Nile green, ecru in lace effects and combined with blue, pink, heliotrope, canary and black; and bengalines are shown in a bewildering variety of color, all the palest shades of heliotrope, amber, pink and blue.

Dainty tea jackets are worn at five

o'clock teas, made of white crepon, and trimmed with tulle, black or white lace. Marie Antoinette fichus are also much worn; made of white or tinted gauze they brighten up an ordinary dress wonderfully, and transform it into a dinner or theatre costume with very little trouble.

In millinery, the head-dresses range from hats the exact size and shape of the top of a barrel, except for the crown, trimmed with gigantic standing loops of ribbon, some of which wobble about in the most undecided and ungraceful manner, to the tiny butterfly bonnets which show not the least suspicion of a crown, and are more like tiny saucers slightly curved or pointed in front and decorated on each side with "butterfly wings" in the shape of bows of jet; which are becoming to only a few and trying to the great majority.

Chenille spotted veils are again the height of fashion and white black net spotted and bordered with white, is the newest, blue and brown, as well as black, spotted with the same shade in close small spots, is also much worn.

For little girls are shown pretty Empire bonnets made of longline and trimmed with fur and ruchings of lace.

Brocades are very fashionable again, and are especially popular in neckties, both in light and dark colors.

I wonder when someone will invent a glove lace which will not wear out long before the glove itself is half worn, or when some enterprising merchant will think of ordering a supply of laces from the manufacturers, at the same time he orders the gloves, so we can at least buy new ones and not be compelled either to look untidy, or throw aside a good pair of gloves? I also wonder when some genius will invent a dress facing to take the place of canvas, which will not shrink at the very first exposure to moisture and leave the bottom of the dress in a series of unsightly puckers, and two inches shorter than it should be! I believe there is a small fortune awaiting the person who "brings out" an unshrinkable dress lining. ASTRA.

How Women Increase Care.

O, Woman, if you will have carpets, somebody must propel the sweeper if you must have stately curtains and hangings some one must fight the invading moth if you will make your house an art gallery, a museum of modern curios, furniture warehouse, a china emporium, a toy shop and a World's fair in miniature—why, you do make it a dilemma of loveliness, but know this, my daughter, and hear it for thy good she that increases bric-a-brac increases care, and much bioterie is a weariness of the flesh, writes Robert J. Barrette in his own inimitable way on "The Taskmistress of woman" in the November Ladies Home Journal. But all this is your own doing. Wherefore, do not come around the den of the man, waiting that woman's work is never done; that you are tired to death, and that you have no time to read or improve yourself. Go to your mirror and make faces at the responsible party. Of course, the monster enjoys all these things—the exquisite taste and the art and the loveliness in his house. He enjoys the toothsome breakfast and the dainty china, the elaborate luncheon and the great dinner. But he doesn't really need so much, and I doubt very much if it is good for him; he is always apt to get more than is good for him.

An elderly parlor maid, moving deftly and silently as a reincarnated cat, was disturbed by the well intentioned but blundering manner of the new, young serving man. "Oh, Dennis! I wish you were not so green!" With a significant look he replied: "Tis better to be green than withered."



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THERE WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION at Chubb's Corer (so called), in the City of Saint John, in the Province of New Brunswick, ON SATURDAY, THE TWENTY-THIRD DAY OF DECEMBER NEXT, at the hour of 12 o'clock, noon, pursuant to the directions of a Decreeal Order of the Supreme Court in Equity, made on Tuesday, the 29th day of September, A. D. 1893, in a cause therein pending wherein Anna M. Jordan, Administratrix of all and singular the goods, chattels and credits which were of Thomas Jordan deceased, at the time of his death and Anna M. Jordan, are Plaintiffs, and Elizabeth Sharp and Thomas M. Sharp, Arthur Sharp, Annie T. Sharp, Alonzo J. Sharp, Minnie H. Bejaya, William Sharp and Grace P. Sharp are Defendants, with the approbation of the undersigned Referee in Equity, duly appointed in and for the said City and County of Saint John, the mortgaged certain piece or parcel of land, situate and being in the City of Saint John, in the Province of New Brunswick, said street and extending back one hundred feet from the map or plan of the said City as distinguished on the Corner of Queen and Wentworth Streets and having been conveyed by Timothy Daniels and his wife to Gilbert Jordan by deed dated the Twenty-fourth day of December, A. D. 1823.

For terms of sale and other particulars apply to Plaintiff's Solicitor,
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Steamer "City of St. John" will leave Yarmouth, every Friday at 7 a. m., for Halifax, calling at Barrington, Shelburne, Lockport, Lunenburg. Returning will leave Halifax every Monday at 6 p. m., for Yarmouth and intermediate ports, connecting with S. S. Boston for Boston on Wednesday.
Steamer Alpha leaves St. John every Tuesday and Friday at 7 p. m. for Yarmouth.

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Nov. 1, 1893.

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Intercolonial Railway.

On and after MONDAY, the 11th SEPT. 1893, the trains of this Railway will run daily (Sunday excepted) as follows:

WILL LEAVE ST. JOHN:
Express for Campbellton, Pugwash, Pictou and Halifax..... 7.00
Express from Moncton (daily)..... 13.50
Express for Halifax, Pictou and Campbellton..... 16.50
Express for Pictou and Sydney..... 16.50

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A Parlor Car runs each way on Express trains leaving St. John at 7.00 o'clock and Halifax at 7.00 o'clock.
Passengers from St. John for Quebec and Montreal take through Sleeping Cars at Montreal, at 10.40 o'clock.
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Express from Sussex..... 8.25
Express from Montreal and Quebec, (Monday excepted)..... 10.20
Express from Moncton (daily)..... 10.20
Express from Halifax, Pictou and Campbellton..... 18.40
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All trains are run by Eastern Standard Time.

D. FOTTINGER, General Manager.

Railway Office, Moncton N. B., 8th Sept., 1893.

YARMOUTH & ANNAPOLIS R'Y.

FALL ARRANGEMENT.

On and after Monday, 2nd Oct., 1893, trains will run daily (Sunday excepted) as follows:

LEAVE YARMOUTH—Express daily at 8.10 a. m.; Passengers and Freight Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1.45 p. m.; arrive at Annapolis at 7.00 p. m. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 1.45 p. m. Arrive at Weymouth at 4.32 p. m.

LEAVE ANNAPOLIS—Express daily at 12.55 p. m.; Passengers and Freight Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 5.50 a. m.; arrive at Yarmouth 11.15 a. m.

LEAVE WEYMOUTH—Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8.16 a. m. Arrive at Yarmouth at 11.15 a. m.

CONNECTIONS—At Annapolis with trains of way. At Digby with City of Monticello for St. John every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. At Yarmouth with steamers of Yarmouth Steamship Co. for Boston every Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday evenings; and from Boston every Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday mornings. With Stage daily (Sunday excepted) to and from Barrington, Shelburne and Liverpool. Through tickets may be obtained at 126 Hollis St., Halifax, and the principal Stations on the Windsor and Annapolis Railway. J. BRIDWELL, General Superintendent.

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