

NONE AGAIN.

Did you ever know where I've been—
Look here, when I was at the skin
—Mona's half way up my arm!
I could had a tummy pig
To bring home, and I said no.
It would get too awful big
When it once began to grow.
An' I saw 'em make' hay
With a cutter ten feet wide—
When I wanted, all the day
I could sit on top an' ride!
An' I said, 'sir, the ender stick
—Cut a rabbit right in two—
He went 'squeak, squeak!' like that,
An' you ought to see him—where!
Farmers have no groovy stove,
But they get their egg in morn,
An' they don't need millmen, for
They squeeze milk straight out of cows!
An' my uncle—Uncle Joe—
Oat when I was staidin' by—
'Open up your mouth!' he said—
But he squinted in my eye!
I went round in overall,
An' had 'em make'—gee!
An' I rang the bell that calls
In for dinner an' for tea.
An' the hired girl, she ate
At the table long with—
Country girls aren't 'posed to wait,
So ma didn't raise a fuss.
I washed near the back-stoop pump
In a basin with the rest.
An' nobody tried to jump
On us when we splashed or mess.
At the table, I'm a sight
'Cause I got so black—
I'm afraid I'll get all white
Fore I go again next year.
—Edwin L. Sabin, in Lippincott's.

JOE HARPER'S WILL

JOE HARPER was an old bachelor. He owned and worked a little farm and kept house for himself, and he had little desire for the company of others. It was said of him that he was never known to laugh and anything in the way of a joke, flung at him as he plodded his way to town or back home again, was utterly thrown away. Of course everybody held him up to contempt or ridicule.

He had been living thus for ten years when one day in a hollow tree on his own farm he found a great heap of money. There was such weight that he had to borrow a neighbor's horse and wagon to convey it to the bank in the town. He tried to keep very secret about it, but the matter became the gossip of the county. Neither Joe nor the banker could tell what the sum was, but the people who took a look at the hollow tree estimated it at \$30,000. Those who didn't take a look placed the figures at \$75,000, and also added a lot of jewelry to the find.

It was passing strange what a change took place in public opinion. The old bachelor had callers by the score, and each caller warmly congratulated him. Instead of being gazed by the passers-by as he worked in his fields, men climbed the fences to shake hands with him and invite him to make investments.

In the years past even the homeliest old maids had declared that they would drown themselves sooner than marry such a "poke" of a man. Things were different now. At least half a dozen old maids and three or four widows began sending in custard pies and jellies and currant wine and giving their opinion that Mr. Joseph Harper would show off with the best of them if he only had a wife to give him hints and suggestions. Joe did not come out of his shell very far, but it was afterward remembered by a good many that he had something like a twinkle in his eye as he shook hands with his numerous well-wishers.

Unknown to anyone but his doctor, Joseph Harper had a weak heart, and one day he overtaxed himself and died at his own door. So far as was known he had not spent a dollar of his find, and as he had no relatives, there was much curiosity as to whether he had made a will or not, and who would come in for his money. A village lawyer soon gratified curiosity as to a will. One had been made only six months before the old bachelor's death. More than that, it concerned a score of people each one of whom was notified to appear on the day of the funeral and hear the document read.

The excitement was intense and more people turned out to pay a last tribute of respect to Joseph Harper than had ever followed another citizen of the county. While the house was crowded full after the burial, at least 200 people who could not get in stood about the yard to learn the contents of the will. The first person mentioned in the document was an old maid. Before the find of the treasure she had been in the habit of mimicking the walk of the old bachelor and had made a great hit. "Miss Lucy Arnold," read the document, "is to walk twice across the floor and imitate my gait as closely as possible. She is then to be allowed to take a double handful of coins out of the box as a token of my esteem."

It took Lucy five minutes to work up her nerve for the performance, but she figured that a double handful of coins would be at least \$500, and she went ahead.

left hand when spoken to. Miss Davis was in the habit of imitating this movement. The will read that she was to stand up and then go through the motion twenty times, and she was to be rewarded with all the coins she could grab with both hands. But for her mother being present to tell her that two big handfuls of money would doubtless bring a suitor for her hand, Miss Hattie might not have reaped under the will.

A few months before discovering the treasure Joseph Harper had suffered for several weeks with rheumatism in the hip and had been compelled to drag his right leg as he walked. Young Aaron Greenwood, the smart Aleck of the neighborhood, had given imitations of the limp for the delectation of the neighbors. The will read that he was to limp ten rods and back after "the Harper style," and would then be allowed to fill one trouser's pocket with coins from the box. The young man went through the performance, but none of the spectators was convulsed with laughter.

There were twenty-two legatees under the will and twenty-one of them had to go through performances in order to inherit. In each and every case the bachelor got even and a little more, though lying in his grave. The twenty-second and last person to be mentioned was the wife of a farmer living five miles away. It appeared that she had once called Joseph in as he was plodding by in a storm and had fed and warmed him. To her was left all his real and personal property, amounting to a matter of \$9000, and she was charged to congratulate all the others on what they had received.

This charge was never fulfilled. She had not yet risen to carry it out when the row began. Joseph Harper had found a box of coins in a hollow tree, but they were bogus quarters and halves and dollars and hidden away by some gang of counterfeiters years before. He had made use of the find to square up old scores. Of course the "legatees" were boiling over with indignation, and of course the "outsiders" were tickled to death and the row did not cease until the doors were unlined, windows smashed and fences leveled. There are some still living who speak of the dead man with a show of respect, but there are others who never hear his name mentioned without exclaiming: "What Joe Harper! Why, he was the meanest man who ever died in this whole State!"—Florida Agriculturist.

That Old "Herald" Pressroom Story.
The Times had a version of it last Sunday—again. Rewards might be given for the best, second best, and so on, presentations of it.

"Periodically James Gordon Bennett comes from Europe to inspect his newspaper plant in detail, and careful preparations in all departments usually precede his coming, but recently one unhappy printer scandalized his fellows by appearing in a semi-tipsy condition on the momentous day. The man was barely able to keep awake, but was still sufficiently alert to evade the foreman until Mr. Bennett discovered him in person. During an unguarded moment the tipsy printer had accidentally encountered an ink roller, and his face was covered with a thick black smudge of ink. He did not move during inspection, but leaned sadly against the wall and returned Mr. Bennett's gaze pathetically. Mr. Bennett said nothing until the moment of leaving, and then called the foreman after him. The shop waited anxiously for the result. Presently the foreman returned furious. Shaking his fist in the ink-smudged countenance of his subordinate, he ejaculated: "Say, you wash up an' go home, and come back to-morrow when you are sober."

"To get my wages?" stammered the offender. "Am I bounced?"
"Naw!" snorted the foreman in disgust. "The boss saw all the ink smeared on you and called me out to say that you look like the only man in the shop that works, and he raised your wages \$3 a week, blast you!"

Why the Left Shoe Wears First.
"Did you ever notice that people are right-footed?" asked the proprietor of a shoe store. "Watch my clerks, and you will see that invariably customers will put out their right foot when going to be fitted. Now, watch that corpulent woman going to sit down over there." The woman with great weight of body took a seat, lifted her curtain of black veiling, and as the clerk approached her, she poked her right foot from beneath an expanse of skirt.

"It's always the case, and I don't believe I ever knew it to fall. The shoe manufacturers evidently are wise to this fact, as in the cartons the right shoe is always packed on top. Once had a lot of shoes come to me with the left shoe on top, and it caused me so much annoyance that I wrote to the manufacturer, calling his attention to the matter so that it wouldn't happen again. The majority of people are right-handed, yet a left-handed person has the right-foot habit. The right hand is larger than the left, as it is used more, and consequently develops the muscles to a greater extent. On the other hand, the left foot is larger than the right in most persons. The difference is so slight that we seldom have trouble in fitting shoes, however. It is the left shoe that wears out before the right, and probably for the reason."—Shoe Retailer.

Near Side and Off Side.
When horses were first hitched to vehicles the driver never thought of riding himself, but walked by the side of the road as he held the lines. So as to walk his right hand always ready to be hauled on the left side, and consequently the horse on the left side came to be known as the "near" horse and the one on the right side was called the "off" horse. In that manner the terms "near horse" and "off horse" became general and still pertain to horses hitched as a team.

Thinks Nansen Correct.
The French savant, M. Benard, is convinced that Nansen took the only route by which the North Pole can possibly be reached. He favors an expedition with two ships connected by wireless telegraphy. The time is estimated at three years, and it is hoped that the Prince of Monaco, who is greatly interested, will contribute the necessary \$300,000.



New York City.—Waists made with fancy yokes of various sorts are among the favorites of the season and are exceedingly attractive, both in the



FANCY BLOUSE WAIST.

fashionable thin silks and the many lovely muslins that are so well liked. This one is peculiarly charming and is made of mercerized batiste with a yoke made of bandings of the material held by fagoting and is trimmed with Tenerife wheels. The material being washable, the lining is omitted, but when silk or wool fabrics are used, the fitted foundation is in every way to be desired. When liked the yoke can be of all-over material, or it can be made from either lace or other ornamental banding held together by stitchings or by banding of a contrasting sort.

The waist consists of the fitted lining, front, back and yoke. Both the waist and sleeves are laid in the tucks.

are pistache green, pale ochre, ecru mauve and some charming shades of China and Wedgwood blue.

A Slender Coat.
Rather more for its graceful effectiveness than for any warmth or protection afforded, the coat of real Cluny will be worn. Fashioned from the all-over lace, the pattern is deftly joined together to shape the coat, and is worn unlined. The design is sacque shape, the sleeves full and loose, and the little coat is shorter in the back, sloping down markedly to the front. The hat, in dark brown chip, is simply trimmed with a scarf of Indian gauze, a choux of brown velvet ribbon in front and a "shower" plume poised at the left side.

Lines Frocks.
Linen frocks are a very important item in the wardrobe, and they range all the way from the simplest sailor costume to the most elaborately decorated afternoon robes. Coats and little wraps are also made of linen, stitched and tailored, or heavily trimmed with white or twine-colored lace. Soft, cool shades of green and blue are perhaps the most attractive, as is a genuine piece of buff linen which has just made its appearance.

Constant Demand For Checks.
There is still a constant demand for checks of all sorts. Voiles, in a pale blue and white check, are, perhaps, the most popular, and a novelty consists of a black and white check with a large spot in a contrasting color, such as green, pale blue or cherry color, while it is a point to be observed that the check forms the background of many of the new dress materials.

Pleated Bolero.
Jaunty little jackets of all sorts are to be noted among the smartest and

A LATE DESIGN BY MAY MANTON.



which are stitched for a portion of their length only and which provide soft fullness below. The yoke is separate and arranged over the waist, the closing being made at the centre back. The quantity of material required for the medium size is four and one-quarter yards twenty-one inches wide, three and three-quarter yards twenty-seven inches wide, or two and one-half yards forty-four inches wide, with fifteen yards of banding, or one yard of all-over material eighteen inches wide for yoke and cuffs and one-half yard of silk for belt.

Color in Waists.
Color, if employed at all in the design, should go with the dark and medium toned waists, and of these, both as to shade and texture, there are samples galore from which to make a selection. Possibly the pale tans and biscuit colors are most enticing, and with these you may consistently work in monochrome effects. There are some very fetching lavender tints and blues that will stand color; in fact, the more pronounced the color of the waist, the more bold your design may be. Coarse linens are exceedingly stunning when embroidered in heavy thread, and will not look amiss with a bold dash of color here and there.

For Auto Wear.
For automobile wear—and at this season the fair chauffeuse has an entire regeneration of her morning wardrobe—mohairs and shantungs are pre-eminent; indeed, these materials seem made for the motor, so admirably are they adapted for dusty roads and hard wear. The motoring shantungs are heavier and rougher than last season, the shades most in vogue being ash gray, damson, blue and willow green, while the long coat of a natural colored silk trimmed with black, gold and cream braid has a decided cachet of its own.

More and More the Mode.
The lace blouse is becoming more and more a la mode. The daintiest examples are to be had in tambour and Alencon lace, trimmed with elaborate inlaid medallions of Cluny lace, fine guipure, and embroidered lawn. Blouses in pale shades of batiste are likewise to be seen, having wide, deep yokes, cuffs and collars of broderie Anglaise. The colors which are the most in evidence

latest models, but no one of them all is more attractive than the pleated bolero with wide sleeves of elbow length. This very excellent example is made of taffeta and trimmed with silk braid, but is adapted to all reasonable materials, while the trimming can be varied again and again, and, when liked, the entire stole and collar can be of lace or applique, or various other devices can be employed for further elaborating the design.

The bolero consists of fronts, back and sleeves. The back is laid in a broad box pleat at the centre with outward turning pleats at each side and the fronts in outward turning pleats for their entire width. These pleats are stitched to yoke depth only, then fall free and the outermost ones extend over the arms-eye seams, so giving the broad shoulder line. The sleeves are in bell shape and box pleated, falling loosely over the full ones of the fashionable waist. At the neck is a collar with stole ends which is applied over the jacket on indicated lines. The quantity of material required for the medium size is four and one-eighth yards twenty-one inches wide.

The Future of Dress.
As women advance in the scale of progress, will they leave the love of dress behind? Fifty-odd years ago, when the first women's rights conventions met in New England, this did not seem a debatable question. Short hair and bloomers characterized the feminine champions of the cause. Dress was proclaimed as one of the vanities from which the sex was to be emancipated. But fifty years have passed, and now Miss Susan B. Anthony, in her graceful and serene old age, wears plain lace, like any other woman fortunate enough to possess it. The leaders of a suffrage convention and those of a waist club could be shaken up together nowadays, and no one would know which was which, as far as their clothes were concerned. The advanced woman no longer cuts her hair short, and the speaker at a woman's club is often the most daintily gowned woman in the room.

The dress of the future will follow the conditions of the future woman. It is prettier and daintier to-day than it ever was, and as long as women continue pretty and dainty there is little fear that the graces of costume will vanish. It would be a gay world if it did. Dress reform always has a field. But when it is a reform it should succeed. Dress is safe in the hands of the women of to-day, and ought to be safer still in the hands of the women of to-morrow. The alarmist has small cause for fear on that score.—Harper's Bazar.

Win a Good Husband.
It is quite possible that there are some girls who possess none of the faults mentioned below. A little thought is all that is needed to guard against developing habits which are as unbecoming to them as they are distasteful to friend or admirer or bridegroom, says Woman's Life.



HOUSEHOLD MATTERS

Keeps Off Flies.
Flies will not settle on windows that have been washed in water mixed with a little kerosene.

Orchid For the Table.
"The orchid," says the House Beautiful, "supposed to be suitable only for the table of the millionaire, is really an economical decoration for the household of more moderate purse, since, with care, it keeps its beauty and freshness for weeks at a time." Three of them make an effective centerpiece for a table.

Broom Holder.
A broom and dustpan holder is a handy contrivance which the housewife simply screws to the wall about five feet from the floor and then has it ready for service. The broom handle is inserted in a U-shaped hook and is held there by its own weight, which creates a pressure against the thin edge of the hook. It can be removed instantly. The dustpan is hung on a spur projecting from the lower end of the hook.

To Remove Stains.
To remove fruit stains pour boiling water over the stained surface. Arrange the cloth in such a manner that the water passes through a single thickness and from a height stains use three ounces oxalic acid to one pint water. Wet the stain with the solution, place over a kettle of hot water in the steam or in the sunshine. Rinse well the instant the stain disappears with ammonia to counteract the acid remaining. Then rinse it thoroughly again.

Refrigerator Hints.
Keep the ice compartment full of ice. The more ice the greater the economy. Ice saving schemes are absurd, defeating the purpose of the refrigerator.

It is the food that is to be kept in the sick room or at a picnic is another matter. Overripe fruits and vegetables are a menace to the health if left in the refrigerator.

A cellar or other damp spot is re-placed for the refrigerator. On the other hand, it should not be put out of doors unprotected.

If much ice be used on the table and for other purposes, an authority advises a storage box for extra ice.

It should be sponged out often with warm water in which a little soda has been dissolved, and the drain should not be neglected.

Should ants get into a refrigerator a saucer of tartar emetic mixed with sugar and water should be placed there. It will drive them away.

Do not think of covering the shelves with cloth or paper any more than you do the ice. There must be good circulation, with consequent melting of ice, to preserve the food therein.

That From Yard.
Country people have the opportunity of making their surroundings beautiful, but how seldom do we see an attractive dooryard in the so-called country towns? In many places even the grass is not allowed to grow up and beautify the yard. The chickens are turned out and become the scavengers—they roam about at will, doing more harm than good. Most farmers leave the cultivation of the front yard to the women of the household; this is not right, for although they can plant the seeds and bulbs and do the weeding necessary, they are not able to do the rough work that generally is required to bring about an attractive yard. Unless the soil is excellent and will produce a good crop of grass the yard should be plowed, enriched with dressing, then seeded down with grass seed and clover. Care should be taken that the young grass is not trampled upon and has a good, vigorous start. Such a lawn will last for years and give the owner much satisfaction.

But a poor lawn may be enriched with dressing of hard wood ashes, need may be sown in bare spots, and while this may not give such a beautiful lawn, it is often done, as one dislikes to plow up the yard—it is so unsightly—and it must be done early in the season to give best results.—Agricultural Epitomist.

Batter Bread—One-half cupful of boiled hominy, half a cupful of white Indian meal, two eggs, one cupful of milk, one teaspoonful of salt, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder and one-fourth cupful of melted butter; beat well; make in a buttered earthen dish half an hour.

Gooseberry Jam—Top and stem the gooseberries; to every pound of fruit allow one pound of sugar; put the gooseberries into the preserving kettle and barely cover them with cold water; after they are well boiled to pieces add the sugar and cook half an hour; put into jars and tumblers, and when cold cover with paper.

Celery Root Salad—Parse the celery roots; then put them into cold water for twenty minutes, then put them in a stewpan, pour cold water over them, add a little salt and cook until tender, pour off the water; cut the roots in slices and when cold pour over a French dressing made of one teaspoonful of salad oil and three teaspoonfuls of vinegar, a little salt and pepper to season.

Okra and Rice—Wash and slice sufficient okra pods to measure one quart; cut half a pound of rather lean ham into dice; scald, skin and cut in pieces four tomatoes; put with the okra in a stewpan; add one medium sized onion (sliced), and one and one-half cupfuls of water or stock and one sweet pepper chopped fine; simmer half an hour; add salt to season; pile hot boiled rice in the centre of the platter, and pour okra around it.

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