

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

EDUCATIONAL.

SNOWDROP.—We have given a long series of articles on Good Breeding (some suitable for all classes) as well as on Etiquette, but they have not appeared in separate form. See vols. ii., iii. and iv.

ANXIOUS MOTHER.—Yes, you had better address the Principal or Secretary of the College of Physical Education on the subject of your daughter's training. All necessary information, and a printed prospectus will doubtless be sent you.

O. I. A. W.—1. To acquire the art of shorthand-writing is often very valuable, and if you desire to do so, you might avail yourself of an amateur society and learn at a nominal expense. Write to Miss Patti Vincent, Sunplemarsh, Addlestone, Surrey. Of course we are unable to say whether this club be still carried on, but have had no notice to the contrary.—2. From what you say, we think you may be suffering from asthma; but as there are varieties of that complaint, each requiring a special mode of treatment, and different descriptions of climate, a doctor should see and prescribe.

MABEL.—You will find astronomical maps in a publication of ours entitled *The Midnight Sky*, and much most interesting information suitable for popular use. All large almanacs give the rise and setting of the planets of each month.

J. TUCKER.—Write to the Secretary of the Women's Department, Agricultural College, Swanley, Kent, for all requisite information.

MUSIC.

FRANCES.—There is a Harmony Correspondence Class under the management of Miss L. Feary, Cranbrooke House, Earith, near St. Ives, Huntingdonshire. Whether this be like those we recommend—amateur clubs—making a merely nominal charge for prizes, we are not quite prepared to say; but if you send a stamped envelope for the rules, you will be able to judge for yourself whether an amateur-effort to help those who cannot afford to pay a professional, or not.

B. A.—Certainly, a musical student who was "fairly advanced" could find some pieces of Mendelssohn which she could play. We are surprised that you are yet ignorant of the fact that women (do not say "females") are admitted to the degrees indicated by the initials "B.A." Have you not observed them after Miss Mary Petrie's name? (the organiser of the scheme of "College by Post"). Two or three of our universities grant it to those who have earned the distinction, of both sexes. You must make your other inquiries at a music-seller's.

ELSA.—The flute is not an instrument which presents any special difficulties to a learner. It is not often played by women, perhaps because it distorts the face of the player.

PENELOPE.—Yes, you may write the notice of your certificate at the London College of Music on any advertisement to obtain pupils, but not on a private card or letter.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LILY.—If you be "very anxious to come to the Lord Jesus," we may give you the comforting assurance that it is because the Divine Spirit of God is drawing you to Him, and constraining you to turn to God. "No man can come unto Me except the Father, which hath sent Me, draw him; and I will raise him up at the last day" (St. John vi. 44). Read that chapter carefully from verse 37 to verse 47, inclusive. How should you come to Christ? By confessing your sins of thought, word, or deed; your feeble faith, your lack of love; your lukewarm gratitude, and—as its fruits—your little zeal for His glory and the salvation of others. By daily earnest prayer for more grace in all these respects, and for the aid and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Ask your Divine Master to take you as you are; and to keep you ever more, for His own merits' sake, and for His promise sake, who hath said, "him that cometh unto Me, I will in nowise cast out." True repentance does not consist in crying and fretting, but in turning to God, and striving by the help of His grace to forsake the sins which we have confessed; and by endeavouring to please Him, and remember Him and His goodness, and His will, in all our ways.

REPENTANCE.—Dear young friend, those who show true repentance by confessing, and forsaking any sin or evil course of conduct, are forgiven by their Heavenly Father—not will be—and as nothing they can possibly do could atone for sin, the full free and perfect atonement was made for them by the God-Man, Christ Jesus. He bore the punishment due to sin; He paid our great debt; and "His righteousness is upon all them that believe." It is as it were made-over and reckoned to our account, while He took the guilt of our sins and its punishment, and so made our peace with God. But the more we feel He has done for us, the more earnestly we must strive to please Him in all our words and works. So therefore "go in peace."

M. R. W. (Hants).—A "groom-porter" was an officer in the household of the kings of England who succeeded the "Master of Revels," and gave directions as to sports. The word "groom" is of very ancient origin—Anglo-Saxon, Gothic, or Old Dutch.

DOG ROSE.—1. The best treatment for chilblains (when first the itching and heat commence) to rub the place lightly with dry mustard, not to make it sore, of course. This will put them back.—2. Say, "May I open (or read) my letter?" or, "You will permit me to open my letter?" Never do so without asking leave of your hostess.

PERPLEXED.—We much regret the delay in answering, but your letter was mis-sent. You should not call first, but return the call when made. Do not leave cards; but if the host and hostess be at home you should go in. If out leave cards, of course, for all.

EXCELSIOR.—"It is never too late to mend," or rather to begin a new course in life if you have strength and courage, and seek Divine aid.

HYPATIA.—"Eunice" is pronounced "U-ni-ccc." "Chriemhild" is pronounced "Chrim-hild."

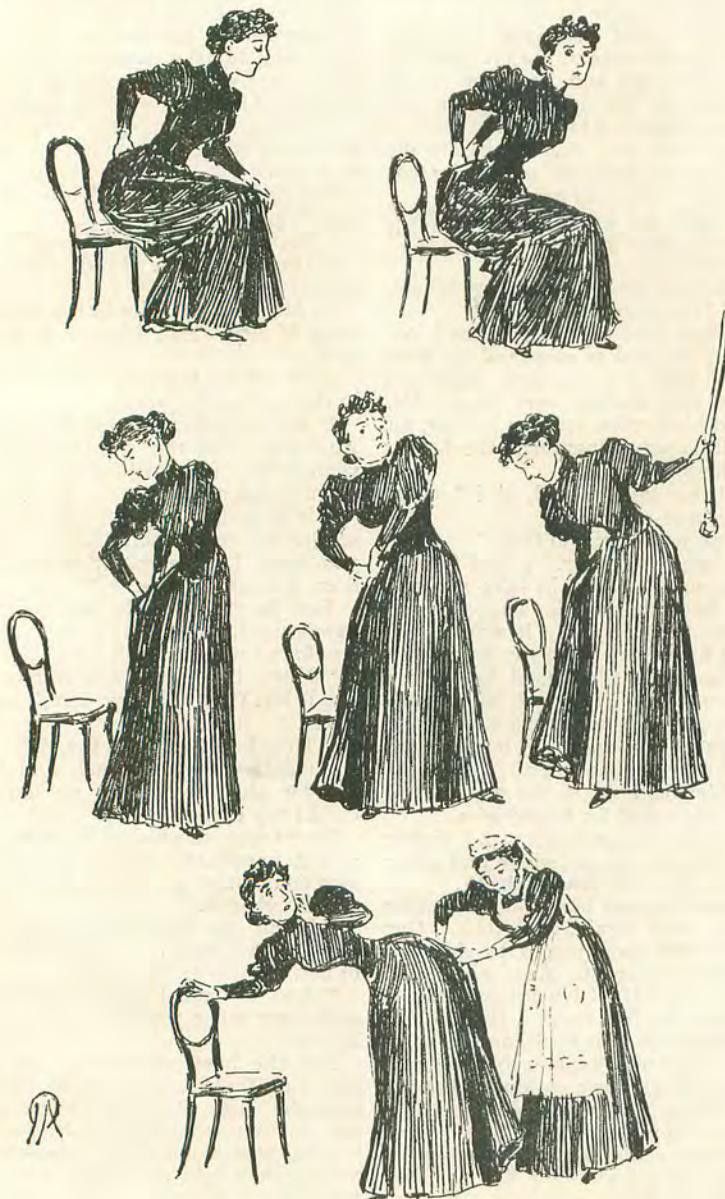
MISERABLE.—No legal marriage can be performed by a woman, especially without a licence, or any legal office. What a goose you are, poor miserable one. The young man is teasing you. Inform him, through some friend (man or middle-aged woman) that "you will place the matter in the hands of your clergyman, if he does not desist from annoying you; and if that be not sufficient, into the hands of your lawyer." Your father would be the right person, but we are supposing that you are an orphan, and fear to tell your guardian. Otherwise, the latter should deal with him and protect you in place of your father.

"WOULD-BE AUTHOR."—It is usual to send the entire story to the Editor, that it may be judged of by the reader as a whole. Well-known authors might send a few chapters at a time, with the consent of the Editor. We wish our boy-friend all success.

"GIVE ME YOUR ANSWER."—It is sad to hear of a young girl just out of school filling her little head, and adding what brains she may have, with infidel and unorthodox literature—"Atheism, Positivism, Protestantism, Catholicism," etc., also with "novels good and bad, so long as well written." What a little creditable confession! If you call yourself a "Christian," what does your Bible say on the subject of heterodox teaching? "Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge"; see also Isaiah viii. 20. Besides, at your early age—only a minor in her teens—your judgment is far from being matured. "You cannot touch pitch without being defiled," therefore, why do you pollute your mind by reading "bad novels" because they may be "well written"? You ought to be ashamed of yourself. Your mother should superintend and direct your studies, more especially as you have shown so much indiscretion.

A READER OF "G.O.P." (New South Wales). Your first question has been answered in an article by "Medicus" since you wrote. Why not wear a gauze or lace round your neck?

COUNTRY MAID should take off the right-hand glove only for afternoon tea.



A VICTIM TO FASHION.