Having now made our ornaments, we may enjoy the pleasure of seeing how they look when filled. The larger kinds may be set with lycopodium drooping over the edges, and some tall feathery fern-leaves subduing a few blossoms of brilliant hues; the smaller ones can have a foundation of moss laid in, and shooting up from among the rich green some primroses and snowdrops. Flowers must never be overcrowded. Those who can arrange a few effectively with some delicate fronds of maiden-hair are more certain of a successful result, and deserve higher praise, than others who must needs have a large handful at least to fill a single vase. Colours, too, require to be contrasted well, the brilliantly-tinted flowers being modified in tone with ample greenery, the more delicately toned with light graceful foliage. If one colour is found to detract from, or "kill," another, they must not be placed in juxtaposition. When heavier and lighter kinds of flowers are combined, the latter must be cut with longer stems that they may rise above the rest and fall gracefully over them.

Much of interest might be written on the subject, but we must not linger further than to say that the best way to prove whether the arrangement is satisfactory or not is to finish it off, put it in position, and then to stand back some distance to look at it; the faults can then be noted, and the general effect judged of, as they never could be while the observer is bending over the vase, putting in the flowers. In the same way does the artist judge of his painting; he puts in some touches, then retires a few paces to criticise his work. And the arrangement of flowers is artistic work; to a few it comes as it were naturally, the eye decides at once on combinations of colour and form, and with a few skilful touches they rear a marvel of loveliness in maybe the commonest of vases. Above all, never let an artificial flower, made of muslin or paper, find room on the table, as if any one could be imposed upon by such paltry make-believes, or that such materials, forsooth, could even for an instant lead any one to suppose that they were looking at the delicate petals of a natural flower. If we cannot have cut flowers, and are not satisfied with growing foliage plants alone, thinking that colour is indispensable to dinner-table decorations, then by all means let us find it, but in some less objectionable way. Let us subdue our candle-light with soft pink shades, lay our table with ruby-tinted glass, let our water-jug and goblets be of topaz-hued glass set with amethyst handles, let us ornament our dishes with clear-cut jellies of varied tints; there are a hundred ways in which we may add colour without descending to the employment of shams.

And what of *menu* cards? Of the making of these it would seem there is no end. Well, we will give our idea of a pretty conceit; if they are not *chic* they are nothing. Have a miniature easel cut by a carpenter, and also a palette. Stain them both dark oak. Now paint a cluster of flowers on the left side of the palette, being sure to leave space enough clear for a card to be fixed on it; on the card the *menu* is to be written. Choose one of the right size, make four holes a little way in, one at each of the corners, lay it in position on the palette, and make four corresponding holes in the latter right through the wood. Now get some tiny gold-headed paper-fasteners, and with these fasten the card in place. Glue the palette on to the easel, and the *menu* stand is complete. When the card has to be changed, remove the fasteners and put on a fresh one. The palette may be tied on through the finger-hole, if preferred, with a fine silken cord and tassels; or it may rest loosely on the easel. Guest-cards can be made very prettily and easily by any one who can paint a design of flowers. Two cards about the size of a gentleman's visiting card, and four of the small fasteners mentioned before, are alone required. On one card paint a spray of blackberries, commencing on the left side, and let it spread climbing along the top. On the lower part of the right-hand side cut out an oblong piece sufficiently large to allow of a slip of paper, on which the name is written, being inserted underneath. Fix the cards together at the four corners with the gold-headed fasteners, and when required for use write the name on paper and run it between the two, so that it shows through the oblong opening. The advantage of this style of card is that it can be used over and over again. The flower designs should be varied as much as possible.

REMUNERATIVE EMPLOYMENTS FOR GENTLEMEN.

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

THE interest evinced by so many of our readers in the articles on "Remunerative Employments for Gentlewomen," and the attention the latter have constantly and increasingly received on all sides, prove that the subject is one not only of great importance, but one also that affects the well-being and comfort of a considerable number of the gentler sex. These are days in which "high prices" are largely prevalent; when the "march of intellect" has added considerably to our housekeeping expenses; and when the habits, the conveniences, the very civilisation of the age, in fact, render an outlay inevitable such as would have been held to be the very height of extravagance and folly in our grandfathers' days. To provide for this, and to enable us to perform somehow or other that very delicate operation of making ends meet, every nerve has to be strained, every power of mind and body has to be brought into requisition and utilised. If ladies feel, in so many instances, the pressure of

this necessity, how much greater must be the responsibility in the case of those of the sterner sex! The former are not always called upon to take up the task of winning gold, however necessary or convenient it may be under certain circumstances for them to do so. But in the case of men, "toil for gain" is the appointed lot. The exceptions are rare indeed where their wants have already been sufficiently provided for by an income derived from the previous success and the savings of others. The great difficulty is to find employment, either of such a nature as is suited to their particular tastes and qualifications, or which is sufficiently remunerative. The one quality is not always found co-existent with the other. In almost every case some previous preparation is absolutely essential to success; and this brings us to a matter to which it may not be out of place on this occasion to call particular attention.

Among the many difficult problems which, in some degree or other, exercise the minds of most parents, there are few of greater importance, or upon the happy solution of which more depends, than that relating to the choice of the profession, trade, or calling to be followed by their sons. It is impossible to say to how great an extent the future success or failure of the latter may be involved in this question, and yet it is one to which the answer is, in too many instances, deferred until long after the time at which it ought to have been definitely and decisively given. The error appears to lie in the belief that this matter can well stand over until the boy has received his education, whereas, in truth, it ought to have a very important influence on the latter. It is somewhat unfortunate that the decision as to what this career shall be has to be made, more frequently than not, at a time when the boy is utterly incapable of judging for himself as to what is most suitable for him, and the responsibility thus thrown upon the parents is considerably augmented thereby. Even when a lad shows a decided taste for work of a certain character, it is not always easy to find out what employments there are of the kind that are open to him. It is our desire in these papers to give what information we can on such points as these, and for the benefit, we trust, not only of parents desirous of finding a suitable opening for their sons, but also of others who may be seeking remunerative employment for themselves.

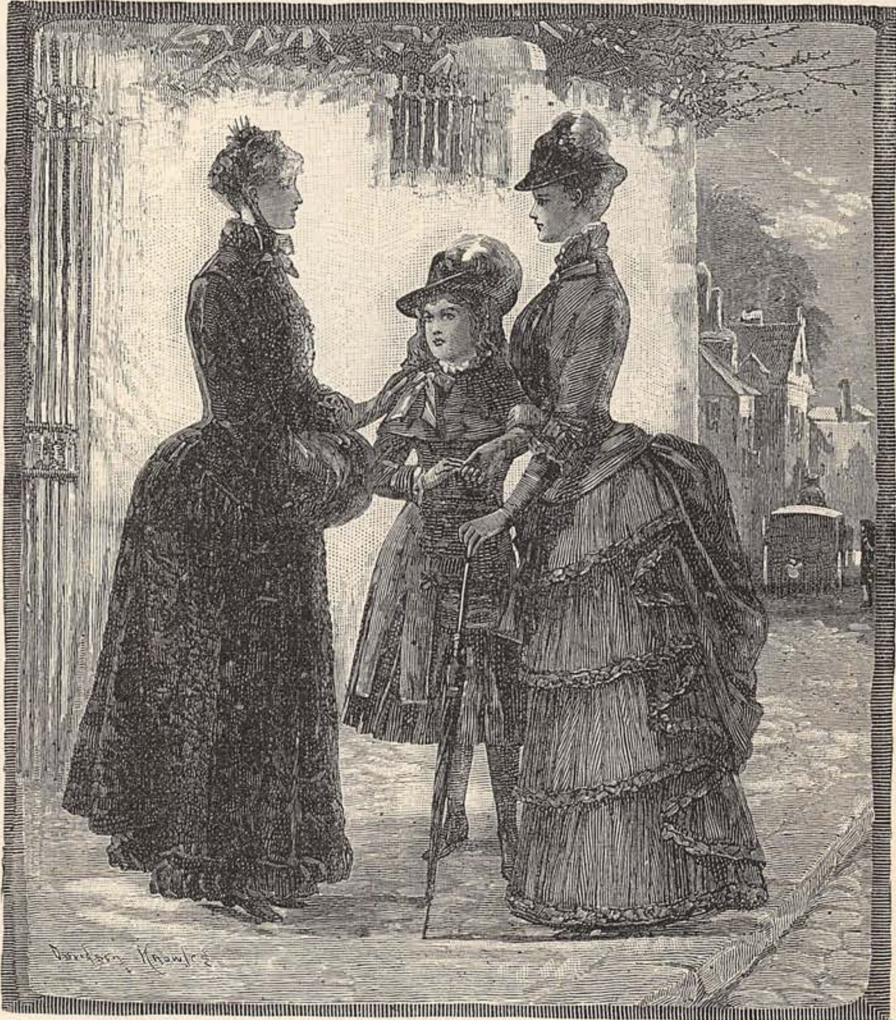
It is not our purpose to dwell upon those professions and occupations the nature and remuneration of which are pretty generally known to most of our readers. Neither will it be necessary to include in our list the various departments of the Civil Service. Full information as to the latter will be found in the excellent Guide published by Messrs. Cassell and Co., price 3s. 6d. Our object will be rather to direct attention chiefly to such employments as are at present but little known to the many, and which offer a fair field for the energies of those who may be willing to earn a competence by their means.

It is now generally admitted that the various applications of electricity would seem to offer in the immediate future the best opportunities for young men of education, and even for young lads, say, from fourteen years of age upwards. They are new fields, and such as are constantly and rapidly extending themselves; the expenditure of time and money in obtaining the necessary knowledge is comparatively small; the commencing salaries are high, and we are assured that with fairly diligent application and study a good position may undoubtedly be secured at an early age.

There is at 12, Princes Street, Hanover Square, W., a regular school of telegraphy and electrical engineering, where instruction is given in the theory and practice of the various systems of telegraphy generally employed, and especially in submarine telegraphy; in the construction, erection, and management of electric light apparatus; in the management of prime motors, arc and incandescent lamps, accumulators, &c.; and, lastly, in the various applications of telephony. No pains or expense have been spared to place at the disposal of the pupils such technical and scientific instruction as shall qualify them for the most important posts in connection with these new branches of electrical engineering. Pupils on entering may join either the elementary or the advanced class. If the latter, they will be required first to pass a preliminary examination. Formerly, the minimum period in which a pupil was expected to prepare himself at the school for the final examinations was six months. This was when telegraphy was practically the only application of electricity of any professional importance. Now, however, that the applications of electricity are so varied and extended, and the necessity of obtaining a general knowledge of them is so frequently exemplified in the experience of men who have found unexpected openings after leaving the school, the minimum period of training has been fixed at nine months. It is said that in this time "a candidate of ordinary intelligence and industry, and with a certain amount of previous educational training, may lay the foundations of a successful career as a telegraphist, an electrician, or an electrical engineer, and qualify himself for the various superior appointments which are frequently occurring through promotion, the extension of the present lines of telegraphs, the laying of new submarine cables, the establishment of telephone lines, telephone exchanges, and the adoption of the electric light."

The commencing salaries in the "service," for fully qualified men, range from about £100 to £200 per annum, and the increase to those of proved ability is often both rapid and considerable. It is obvious that men possessing a thorough knowledge of electrical science and telegraph engineering will have a far greater chance of advancement than those entering the service as mere manipulators, and therefore the "complete course" of instruction at the school has been arranged and adapted to meet the requirements of those desirous of qualifying themselves to fill any of the vacancies in the higher appointments, but who wish to avoid the cost both in time and money involved in becoming articled pupils to a telegraph engineer.

The chief aim kept in view is the preparation of the pupils for actual practical work. The cost of the complete course of instruction is seventy-five guineas, and when we remember how much is often paid for the preparation of lads for competitive examinations in which, after all, they are too frequently unsuccessful, we may consider the charge an exceedingly moderate one. It has been well said that "the advantages of the school are most exceptional, and the science taught is so interesting, that even gentlemen's sons for whom no necessity exists of joining the above-mentioned services, might do well to acquire the accomplishment by a nine months' training; whilst, as opening an honourable and promising career to those young men who are ambitious, intelligent, and painstaking enough to avail themselves of the teaching, the School of Electrical Engineering deserves the special consideration of parents deciding the future for their sons."



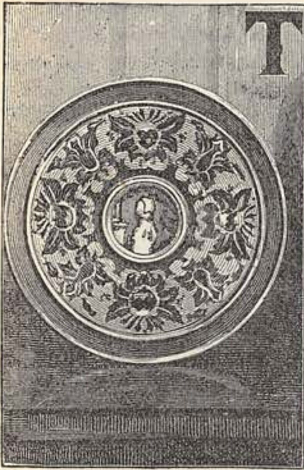
WHAT TO WEAR.

CHIT-CHAT ON DRESS. BY OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.

WHEN the New Year breaks, the family wardrobe, as a rule, wants renovating. I shall begin by dwelling on some new stuffs suitable for the season. First and foremost, heather mixtures in reversible cloths—brown and blues, red and browns, light blue and brown, yellow and black; be careful in selecting to choose what best suits your figure and complexion. These materials have large spots so interwoven that they show diverse colours on either side—brown on one side, blue the other;

REMUNERATIVE EMPLOYMENTS FOR GENTLEWOMEN.

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.



THE mania for collecting old china has greatly subsided, but the innumerable specimens of it which have been brought out during the last few years from hidden recesses in cupboard and closet, still adorn the walls, and occupy brackets, and fill the cabinet shelves, in many a room of many a house. As we all know to our sorrow, "accidents will happen even in the best-regulated households," and thus plates and dishes, cups and saucers, bowls and vases of valuable china are oftentimes broken.

The employment of mending china is one which I should like to bring before your notice; for I feel sure that it would prove a remunerative one.

The putting together and uniting of pieces sounds a simple occupation, and one within the compass of all intellects; these assertions are true, but it is the qualifications of hands and fingers which have to be considered more than quality of brain. Success in the operation attends those only who have steady hands and firm yet sensitive fingers. When china is properly mended, it is difficult for a keen eye to detect the line of breakage. I know a few people who are blessed with the capability to restore and to re-form in this way; but I know very many who signally fail after earnest endeavours, whose workmanship strikes the eye as clumsily and badly done.

When we send broken china to a shop to be mended, rivets are invariably used for the purpose. In the case of thin and delicate china, cement is quite strong enough to make the pieces adhere, and it is not so disfiguring as rivets; but when thicker pieces of porcelain have to be joined together, rivets are necessary for the purpose. Now it seems to my mind that the whole of this class of work might be undertaken by gentlewomen with great advantage to themselves. It can be done in their own homes: the outlay is a trifling one, for a sixpenny bottle of cement goes a long way, and rivets cost but a small sum. The charge made at shops for mending china is threepence per rivet: a plate or bowl will oftentimes have eight or ten rivets clasped to it; thus a skilful and neat-handed mender could without difficulty obtain good remuneration. A notice of the capability to do this work might be placed in a depôt, or a specimen of skill might be shown to the managers of china shops.

In a former paper I mentioned "lace cleaning" as a profitable employment. I have had my opinion, then expressed, strengthened, for I have lately been assured upon good authority that fair remuneration may be reckoned on by those who can restore beauty to lace.

The scheme which the Postmaster-General has in contemplation of a cheaper rate for telegrams, will in the future open the doors for the services of many more telegraph clerks of both sexes. Already an increased number of pupils have been admitted into the schools in Moorgate Street, where the rudiments of postal telegraphy are taught. Competitive examinations are held twice a year: the next is expected to take place in this month (February) or next. The limits of age for candidates are from fourteen to eighteen years. The subjects for examination are Writing from Dictation, Handwriting, and the first four rules of Arithmetic. A fee of one shilling is required. Successful candidates have to attend the Postal Telegraphy Schools. No charge is made for instruction, and no pay is given during that period, which occupies about three months. When a certificate is received from the school, payment is given of ten shillings per week; after a short probation, if capability is shown, an advance is made to twelve and fourteen shillings. The salary of telegraphists rises to twenty-seven shillings per week.

I have lately been told of a new plan for making socks and stockings; it is to use a crochet-hook instead of knitting-needles. These stockings are made lengthways. The inventor of the idea is Mrs. G. Jones, Wollaston, Wellingborough, who supplies a card of instructions for the sum of sevenpence. On inquiry I am assured that stockings made after this method wear equally as well as those that are knitted, also that they retain their elasticity and shape after being washed—warm rain-water should be used for this purpose. I should imagine that for bicycling use they would be particularly well fitted, because they are not so close in texture as knitted ones, and yet they are thick.

Amongst new suggestions for home workers, I may mention that ornamented bags of satin, closely drawn up with ribbon, containing scented wool, are made to hang by the side of the drawing-room fire-place. A useful idea generally attracts a purchaser. This remark does not apply to the last-mentioned idea, but to a little triviality which is of use on a dressing-table, and yet which one rarely sees provided. A small hair-pin cushion is as helpful as a pin-cushion; any aid in the way of saving time in these days of hurry is helpful. A small piece of ornamental cardboard, the depth of a long hair-pin, is fastened in a circle, and a second piece covers one end; the hollow space is lightly filled with wool; the cover for the top is crocheted openly with thick fleecy or Berlin wool. In and out of this cushion hair-pins can be pushed or snatched in a hasty and speedy manner.

There is an "Art College for Ladies" at Merton Road, South Wimbledon, S.W., of which I will give a few general details. This college was started with the desire to provide a comfortable home for students while studying, and to have them thoroughly trained; the system is that of the Royal Academy. Two members of the Royal Academy — Mr. Pickersgill, its Keeper, and Mr. Horsley — are Honorary Visitors, and from time to time closely inspect the work done by the students. Board and residence as well as art instruction can be obtained; for these three the expense is about £70 a year, or 35s. per week. Students are admitted between the ages of seventeen and twenty-five years; apartments may be taken in college by ladies above this age who desire to practise the arts taught in it. The fees for non-residents are from two to five guineas per term, according to the instruction desired. The class hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Students who are proficients are allowed to do remunerative work under supervision. Ten per cent. of the payments for this work is taken by the college.

Tapestry-painting is a form of art which is rapidly coming into use and fashion, and therefore I wish to tell you something about it. For purposes of decoration, for friezes, and for panellings, it is anticipated that there will be a great demand for this class of tapestry. A particular kind of cotton canvas and of woollen canvas is used for the purpose; the woollen is of course the most expensive, but it gives a much better effect, and the colours can be made fast upon it. Lessons in this art are given at the Studios of Mediæval and Industrial Art, 175, Bond Street, the terms for six lessons in class being two guineas. There will be an exhibition in this gallery during next season. Students have the opportunity of exhibiting and disposing of their work; a commission of 15 per cent. is charged.

Tapestry-painting is also taught at Wimbledon Art College, where three guineas per term is charged for instruction.

Messrs. Howell and James, of Regent Street, hold a class for ladies. For a course of ten lessons of two hours' duration a fee of £5 is charged; and for six lessons of the same duration three guineas is charged.

A. S. P.

UNA AND THE LION.

IN the season when yellow fogs prevail, London is a dreary abode for artists: so, at least, thought Cecil Anstruther as he looked at his unfinished pictures, and feared to touch them, lest his brush should carry into them somewhat of the surrounding gloom. He was feeling very dejected when there came a note from Lady Eleanor Carstairs, the wife of one of his kindest patrons, asking him to escort her to a concert in St. James's Hall. "I can't use my eyes to any advantage, so I will try to receive consolation through my ears," he said, and accordingly went to the concert.

For half an hour, carried away by the music, he forgot, not merely his pictures and his troubles, but everything around him too, and only knew that his ear was being satisfied with almost perfect harmony of sound. Suddenly something made him look up at the left-hand side of the third row in the orchestra, and instantly the artist's eye was attracted by two faces of singular beauty, absolutely alike in feature and expression, although one was that of a young man, the other that of a girl. Each had wavy light brown hair, a broad white forehead, dark eyes, a finely-moulded nose and chin, and a mouth that told of firmness and decision. Both were leaning slightly forward in the self-same attitude, and appeared to be entirely entranced by the music.

It ceased at length, and Cecil withdrew his eyes for a moment as he joined in the applause. When he looked back again he could scarcely believe that those were the same two faces he had been gazing upon before, so changed were they now, so utterly unlike each other in expression. The fixed look of rapt attention, which had made them almost seem as though carved in stone, had passed from both faces. Over the girl's countenance, as she turned to speak to her brother, played a bright and tender smile, softening and irradiating a beauty which before had seemed somewhat stern and cold. But the stern lines about the young man's mouth had deepened, and there were others now visible upon his brow that told of sorrow, suffering, and care. Evidently the habitual gloom of his expression had only been chased away for a few moments by the charm of the music.

One of Beethoven's symphonies again struck the same chord of feeling in the two souls, and the two faces grew strangely alike again; when it ceased they changed once more.

Who could they be? What was the life-story that had so marked the man's face? Cecil found himself wondering. Hitherto he had been too much self-centred; never had his interest been so deeply stirred before.

Lady Eleanor thought him rather absent as he took her to the carriage and drove back with her; she feared that her plan for distracting his mind from his work had not succeeded, little dreaming that by means of it had been granted to him an inspiration that was to raise and purify his whole future life.

He went home to make vain endeavours to put on canvas the two faces that had so much attracted him; and when Saturday came round he took his seat betimes in the orchestra of St. James's Hall, hoping to catch another glimpse of the lovely maiden and her melancholy brother. Nor was he disappointed; there they were below him, where he could gaze upon them comfortably without attracting their attention. It was

REMUNERATIVE EMPLOYMENTS FOR GENTLEMEN.

WE propose in the present paper to glance briefly at one or two of the openings that suggest themselves in connection with the various departments of teaching. This is an occupation which has much increased in popularity of late years, and is no longer anywhere regarded with such general disfavour as it appears to have been a generation or two ago. The army, the navy, and the bar, were each considered to possess for men of spirit and intellect far greater attractions. The ministerial call of course had its adherents. Some of them were led to adopt this calling from natural inclination and choice, notwithstanding that it not unfrequently involved the giving up of every hope of worldly advancement. Sometimes we find that for various reasons teaching was adopted altogether in place of the more strictly clerical duties, but only in a few comparatively isolated instances. The advance of education has—not in our own country alone, but also in many that were considered to be in a state of semi-barbarism a decade or two ago—made vast and rapid strides, and the demand for educators has proportionately increased. In some departments, it is true, the supply would seem already to have exceeded the demand, but not in all. The educational circle is an ever-widening one, and new departures are being constantly made in its curriculum, opening out "fresh fields and pastures new" for those who are, according to the old adage, "prepared with a dish when it begins to rain porridge." We do not so much refer to the work of those institutions which are naturally regarded as set apart for the inculcation of the higher branches of learning, though even here the spirit of true liberalism—using the term in its higher sense—is gradually beginning to make itself felt, and teachers are required for subjects considered altogether superfluous and unnecessary, from an educational point of view, a few years ago. The old-fashioned grammar-school was usually considered, in nautical parlance, sufficiently manned if it possessed a staff of teachers who were adepts in the art of gerund-grinding, and in the concoction of Latin verse. Now, however, something more is required. Not only the exigences of impending examinations, but the ever-advancing culture of the age, and the necessities of a higher civilisation, render this imperative. What should we think of a pupil who in this intensely scientific age knew nothing of science? Or who, when, according to high authority, the taste of our very cottagers is becoming daily more elevated and refined, was unacquainted with art? "Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast," and as an instrument of education, in its higher aspects, we feel almost tempted to say that it is still unsurpassed even where civilisation prevails. It has, at least, a double claim upon the attention of the modern educationist. It is both a science and an art.

We have dwelt somewhat lengthily upon this part of the subject with a view of showing, what we ourselves believe, that the progress of education will continually develop new professional opportunities for those who care to avail themselves of them, and such as will afford not only the prospect of an agreeable and useful career, but also one which will command its due share of remuneration. Indeed, at the present time the truth of this view is already being realised. Teachers of music, of science, of art are in greater demand than they have ever been before. In many cases, too, the appointment offered is not what it formerly almost always was, merely that known as a "visiting" one, but one which provides employment as regular and continuous as that usually given to any other class of teachers. In such cases the emoluments range from, say £100 to £200 per annum and upwards, according to the rank of the school and the number of hours of duty required. The latter seldom amount to more than about five a day, at the furthest, and a considerable amount of leisure is left therefore to the teacher, some of which may not unfrequently be profitably employed, either in the tuition of private pupils or in the oftentimes more preferable instruction of evening classes. Some teachers more than double their ordinary salary by such means. But of course much always depends on the opportunities available and other circumstances.

Whichever of the three branches of education is taken up as a means of gaining a livelihood by imparting to others instruction therein, a thorough preparation is of course indispensable for the teacher. Some few remarks as to how the necessary qualifications may be acquired may not, therefore, be altogether out of place. There are many institutions now existing both in London and the provinces, where courses of instruction are given, and examinations are periodically held for testing results and granting certificates of proficiency. The opportunities afforded by these are in most cases amply sufficient and easily attainable. As a sample of the instruction to be obtained at such institutions, we will give a brief outline of the course generally pursued.

The instruction afforded at the National Art Training School, South Kensington, has for its object "the systematic training of teachers, both male and female, in the practice of Art, as well as in the knowledge of its scientific principles, with a view to qualifying them as teachers of Schools of Art, competent to develop the application of Art to the common uses of life, and to the requirements of trade and manufactures," and comprehends the following subjects:—"Freehand, Architectural, and Mechanical Drawing; Practical Geometry and Perspective; Painting in Oil, Tempera, and Water-colours; Modelling, Moulding, and Casting. The classes for Drawing, Painting, and Modelling include Architectural and other Ornament, Flowers, Objects of Still Life, &c., the Figure from the Antique

and the Life, and the Study of Anatomy as applicable to Art." The fee for attendance in the classes, which study five whole days, and which includes also the evening tuition, is at the rate of £5 for five months, in addition to an entrance fee of ten shillings. An evening class only may be attended by a payment of £2 per term. But no student is admitted until he has passed an examination in Freehand Drawing of the Second Grade. These admission examinations are held at frequent intervals throughout the year. Full particulars may be obtained on application to the Secretary, Science and Art Department, S.W.

Science is now often preferred as a subject of study in both elementary and higher grade schools to those formerly in vogue, and is growing in favour day by day.

The work of the Royal College of Science, South Kensington, and the Mason College, Birmingham, afford good examples of what is usually done in the way of giving scientific instruction at such institutions.

There are now several excellent Colleges existing, each having for its main object the musical training of its students, and chiefly with a view of their becoming, in due time, teachers of others. The Royal Academy of Music is already too well known to need detailed reference here. Trinity College, London, has not only its day curriculum, but is specially useful to those desirous of *evening* tuition. Its scheme of instruction "includes every subject connected with the Science and Art of Music, viz., Harmony, Counterpoint, Vocal Music, Organ, Pianoforte, Orchestral Instruments, &c." The College Diplomas of Associate in Music and Licentiate in Music are accessible to all candidates passing the necessary examinations, and are not only useful in themselves as bearing testimony to the holder's musical ability and knowledge, but their acquisition naturally leads on the aspiring student by an easy gradation to higher things. The last-named diploma is now in such high repute, that it is frequently sought for by University graduates in Music and Arts.

We have here spoken of the knowledge gained by the students in these various departments of learning, with a view to its being utilised thereafter for teaching purposes, but of course there are often ways of employing it, as far as remuneration is concerned, in a still more successful manner. Opportunities of this sort will differ in kind and degree under different circumstances. We would only repeat that the field for a profitable exercise of talent is continually widening, and must necessarily continue to extend with the present onward march of education.

WITNESS MY HAND.

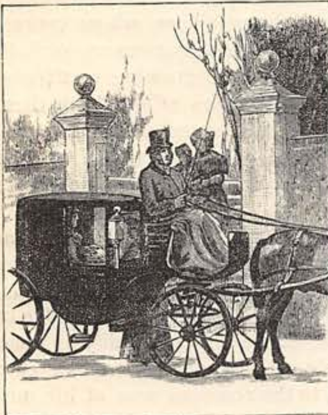
A FENSHIRE STORY.

By the Author of "Lady Gwendolen's Tryst."

CHAPTER THE SEVENTH.

THE ELECTION.

"A man he was to all the country dear."—GOLDSMITH.



LADY ERLSTON called for Helen and me early on Tuesday morning. My mother's neuralgia still kept her a prisoner; and though Helen talked dutifully of not leaving her, when Lady Erlston said, in her kind, peremptory way, "Of course you will go, my dear? It would never do to disappoint John to-day." Helen did not refuse. We had a pleasant drive. The snow had all disappeared a day or two ago, and though the dykes were full to overflowing, and the low-lying fen-lands were almost a bog, a driving wind had dried the roads and higher levels sufficiently to make them passable. It was one of those bright, pleasant days that in the Fens are called "weather-breeders"—days that seem to whisper of spring even in the heart of winter, but that are generally followed by weather of unusual severity.

We did not talk much. Lady Erlston's thoughts were, no doubt, with John, who had driven in with his father an hour before, and Helen and I did not disturb her. Helen herself looked pre-occupied and a little nervous, and as we drove into Fentonbury, she sat back in her corner of the carriage, and could not be induced to look up even when we passed the hustings, and Lady Erlston called out eagerly, "See, my dear, see! There is John!"

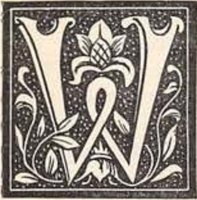
There were two parties on the hustings, distinguished by their blue and yellow favours, and I looked curiously amongst the Yellows to discover Mr. Lawley. Helen might sit with shy, downcast eyes as we rolled by, but I felt as if another pair would have been none too much to satisfy my curiosity.

"Which is Mr. Lawley?" I asked eagerly; and Lady Erlston pointed him out.

My first impression was a comical conviction that my aspirations after abnormal ocular power had been quite unnecessary. One pair of eyes was more than sufficient to take cognisance of anything on so small a scale as the Honourable Alan Lawley. He was one of

REMUNERATIVE EMPLOYMENTS FOR GENTLEWOMEN.

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.



E will now leave the narrow lines marked down in the last paper on this subject, and diverge from the well-trodden paths, to one in which but few women, comparatively, have ventured to betake their steps. To those readers who may have considered the employments latterly mentioned to be of a trivial and uninteresting character, and of a kind not calculated to satisfy an intelligent and intellectual mind, to those I now offer some information respecting the entrance of women into the medical profession.

It is needless, and it would be out of place, to discuss the question whether the practice of medicine is an employment which the capacities of women fit them to undertake and to follow. The question is one which has stirred up great contention, and much heat has been displayed in the arguments for and against the admission of women into this profession. Medical men have had a warfare amongst themselves; some are in favour of "women-doctors," and others frown on the movement. In like manner amongst women opinions are divided; some denounce the scheme, and others show their appreciation of it by offering scholarships and prizes for its furtherance. My duty is to give an impartial statement of facts, not to colour the subject with either black or rose-colour, but merely to write down details which may prove helpful. It is now seven years since an Act was passed which admitted women within the medical precincts. During these seven years thirty-four women have made themselves proficients, and have accordingly been enrolled as members of the medical profession, and their names duly placed on the Medical Register.

The London "School of Medicine for Women" is situated at 30, Henrietta Street, Brunswick Square, W.C. Lectures are given there to the students in all the varied branches of medicine. There are physiological and chemical laboratories, anatomical and pathological museums, a dissecting-room, and a library of standard medical books, to which the student has free access. For their practical instruction the students are admitted to the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn Road. Thus every provision is made for the thorough instruction of students who enter this school. The course of study covers a period of four years, but failure at an examination causes delay, and adds an extra year of study. The first professional examination is to be passed at the end of the second year's study, and the final examination at the close of the fourth year.

Three doors have been opened for the admission of women-students who desire to take a degree in medicine, and to acquire the right to practise. These three entrances are through the King's and Queen's College of Physicians, Ireland; the Royal University of Ireland; and the University of London, Burlington Gardens, W. The total cost of gaining a diploma is estimated as follows:—£172 for the first-named, £179 for the second, and £181 for a medical and surgical diploma at the third—*i.e.*, the London University. The sums above stated include the fees at the school and at the hospital, together with all examination fees—and these expenses are spread over the four years' period of study. The diploma of the College of Physicians is a less costly one, because a year's less study need be taken. The University degree gives a higher standing and also confers other advantages on the possessor. Students do not reside at the schools. They are permitted to live in lodgings, or to take advantage of halls which are open for their use. Two halls of residence have been arranged with a view to the comfort and convenience of students. Both are situated within a short distance of school, hospital, and University.

At 1, Byng Place, Gordon Square, the expense of board and residence during the session (which covers a period of thirty-seven weeks) is from £58 upwards, the sum varying according to the room chosen by the student for her occupation. The only extra expenses are the items for laundress and wine or beer. At Russell House, Tavistock Square, students are received, and from £18 to £25 is the expense for a term of thirteen weeks. As the course of study in which medical students are engaged is particularly arduous, it would seem their wisest plan to avail themselves of these halls of residence, for then all daily details and small cares are taken off their minds, and this escape from extra cares has no doubt a beneficial effect on their health.

I will now record the help that is given in other ways:—

An entrance scholarship of £30 is offered for competition each year in the month of September.

A scholarship of £50 for five years is offered to any student who is willing to prepare for the practice of medicine amongst the women of India.

A scholarship, value £30, for three years, will be offered in June by the association formed to promote the medical education of women.

A scholarship is offered by the Birmingham Ladies' Association.

Prizes and certificates of honour are awarded to students of the school at the end of each session.

A prize of the value of £100 is about to be offered for competition to registered medical women.

The Zenana Medical Mission Society, 2, Adelphi Terrace, W.C., assists ladies who wish to go to India as medical missionaries.

Finally, I will bring forward the prospects which seem to be opening to women-doctors.

We are told on good authority that the demand in

this country for the services of those already registered is steadily growing, and that it is in equal proportion to the increased supply. It is confidently expected that the demand in India for women so qualified will soon outstrip the supply. A few months ago a number of native merchants in Bombay determined to try and secure the services of women for the benefit of their own families. A large amount of money was soon subscribed for the necessary expenses. One gentleman has given £10,000 for the foundation of a hospital and dispensary, in which medical women are to hold all appointments. One lady has left England to superintend the preliminary arrangements of this hospital. The University of Madras has for some time past given facilities for medical study by women, and the Medical College at Calcutta has recently opened its doors to women. All these movements, together with the fact that the natives themselves take part in and advocate the scheme, give promise of an extensive prospect. I am told that the London Missionary Society is seeking to obtain the services of two ladies possessing medical qualifications for work among the women of China. When we think of the immense extent and population of India and of China, in both of which countries the services of medical women are now beginning to be required, there would seem to be no fear of women not finding employment, if they possess these capabilities and the resolution to go forth into a strange land.

There are two or three styles of work now in fashion which shall be mentioned as a guide to those who have artistic tastes and want to travel along a new road.

Painted mirrors are now used as an adornment, and frequently decorate rooms in various ways. Single and folding screens, panels of doors and cabinets, brackets, over-mantels, and mirrors proper, are made lovely and uncommon by this form of decoration. The idea has only lately been introduced into England, although for two centuries specimens of it have been common in Italy, the home of its birth. The origin of the idea is said to be this :—The glass in those far-off days was not very strong, and its manufacture was expensive. For these two reasons, the disfigurement of cracks was hidden by a design executed by an artist-hand.

The effect of this embellishment is particularly charming. Flowers, grasses, butterflies, and such-like are the usual designs.

A trail of passion-flowers, a spray of apple-blossom, a branch of yellow broom is, as it were, thrown on the mirror in a light and careless manner. No laboured design, no multiplicity of variety, no attempt to compete with pictorial art, should tempt the artist to display his talents in those respects.

At the Decorative Art Gallery, 103, New Bond Street, there is a special class for teaching mirror-painting, directed by Mr. Gullick, who is the introducer of this style of decoration into this country. These classes are held daily, and are of two hours' duration. The fee for a course of ten lessons is three guineas.

Lustroleum painting, by which flowers, birds, insects, and the like are painted in colours upon velvet and satin, is also in fashion. Portières, cushions, handkerchief cases, and dresses can thus be decorated effectively. Instructions are given at 500, Oxford Street, W. A fee of two guineas is charged for lessons given until the pupil has learnt the art.

The third employment is the ornamentation of brass. This metal is now employed for nearly every article that is made of metal. Its bright and cheery surface shines on us wherever we turn. Patterns and designs can be traced, engraved, and beaten on its surface by women's hands. The tools for this purpose can be bought at the shop of Messrs. Barkentin and Krall, 289, Regent Street. The case of tools costs about seven shillings, the hammer about four shillings. A roll of sheet-brass can be bought there for a couple of shillings. Covers for blotting-books, plates for doors, trays for ink-bottle, for pins, and many other things, small and great, can be manufactured by women's fingers and these tools. Salvers can also be bought in a plain state, for five shillings and upwards, and can be made to look ornamental and of foreign appearance by the aid of these simple tools. The ornamental papers from crackers will often supply designs. We hope to give a paper on this work—which is known as Repoussé work—in an early number of this Magazine. The brass-worker should have a block of beech-wood to work upon, eighteen inches square and about a couple of inches thick. Lead and deal are too impressionable for the purpose. Their surface soon becomes scarred with the taps and pressure given by the tools on the brass.

I would advise knitters and crocheters who live near sea-side resorts to make Glengarry caps and Tam o' Shanter caps for children, for they are at present worn largely by both boys and girls, and the comfort they afford will probably give them a long reign over straw and felt hats.

Lamp and candle shades are still in great request. The material now in fashion for sofa blankets, mantel borders, &c., is white scouring-flannel. On it bold flowers on a large scale are worked in crewels. The Japanese chrysanthemum is a favourite just now.

The Women's Trade Association has opened a depôt at Tunbridge Wells. Ladies wishing to send work must apply to the Secretary, 20, Frant Road, Tunbridge Wells. References (one from a clergyman) are required. I am told by the manager of this department that she has at present a difficulty in executing the orders received for plain needlework, because so few of the applicants for employment are proficients in that branch. Nearly every one on the list wishes for fancy work of some description, and but very few will undertake plain needlework. Twopence in each shilling is charged as commission for necessary expenses.

This association is started on business principles, and I sincerely hope it will be enabled to establish its admirable scheme on a firm and lasting basis.

A. S. P.

more than one-eighth the distance round the world; its basin exceeds a million square miles." Nevertheless no idea of beauty can be attached to the lower part of this Father of Waters, with its low-lying banks; even the majesty of its breadth is lost sight of as one glides through it, brown and turbid, and watches waves of liquid mud roll from the bow of the boat.

I am sorry to say a great deal of drinking, smoking, and card-playing goes on, on board these steamers; and notices are conspicuously posted about, "Beware of gamblers," reminding one of the stories we have read of gamblers fleecing innocent travellers on these journeys; and the result is that every traveller looks somewhat askant at his neighbour for the first few hours of the trip.

The water was very high when we left New Orleans, and every hour got higher, until when we reached Memphis we found the "levées" had broken, and vast tracts of land were under water, and as we proceeded the devastation became terrible. So complete was the inundation that I failed at times to recognise it as such; the river seemed to have become a vast lake, and then I was told that beneath it were hundreds of acres of cultivated fields, that what I took for small bushes growing in the water were full-grown trees of which only the very tops were visible. The water was sixty feet above the average level, and soon we found a frame-house floating, and many poor wretches in boats, who had lost everything in the floods. Population is happily very scant in these districts, so that the loss of life is small during the frequent rising of the terrible river; but who can measure the suffering?

The steamer would go for many hours and we would see no habitation, only evidence by the tops of the trees that the banks were wooded; then perhaps a solitary man in a boat would come towards us—he wanted a newspaper, or to inquire news from below.

One boat we met which contained a man and a pig! It was hours since we had seen a house, and this solitary boatman on the dreary waste of waters brought home to one strangely the solitude of life in these wilds. He had saved his pig! was it possible he had lived so utterly alone that he had no human being to save—no wife, child, or friend?

And thus we came to Cairo, where the Ohio river joins the Mississippi. Cairo, a large prosperous city now, is said to have been the Eden of Dickens; in his time it was but an unhealthy settlement, now it is a city with, of course, all the "modern improvements" for which America is so celebrated.

At Cairo, as we are bound for Cincinnati, we leave the Mississippi, and enter the Ohio, which is also flooding; and now we change submerged cotton lands for miles and miles of tobacco fields under water, and can only think of the unfortunate men who see thus their year's harvest destroyed and can do nothing to save it.

Every effort has been made to devise some plan by which to prevent the periodical destruction of the miles of "levées," which carries ruin and death to the cities, towns, and villages in its course, but as yet in vain. It is the great problem science has yet to solve.

No attempt has been made in this short paper to specify all the large cities between New Orleans and Louisville, nor have I attempted statistics; my aim in these papers is rather to give pen-pictures of what most strikes the eye and senses, than to present facts which have been frequently given by travellers, and can be found in any encyclopædia.

REMUNERATIVE EMPLOYMENTS FOR GENTLEMEN.

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

"I AM nearly twenty-eight years of age," writes a gentleman, in describing his own personal experience with regard to this subject—"I am nearly twenty-eight years of age, and was educated at a Public School and Cambridge University, but with no view to following any profession or trade. I now find myself totally unable to obtain suitable and at the same time remunerative employment. My age is perhaps to some extent against me, and my somewhat rusty 'book-learning' would not enable me to succeed in the competitive examinations for which the preparation is now usually so careful, systematic, and prolonged. I am, of course, in a general sense, fairly well educated, my habits are steady and business-like, and I have acquired some knowledge of office routine. I shall be very glad of, and very grateful for, any advice, assistance, and information you may be able to give."

Such instances might easily be multiplied to an almost indefinite extent. Hundreds of young men, even among those who, unlike our correspondent, *have* been educated with a view to following some particular profession or trade, find themselves obliged unwillingly to waste the youthful energies which they would so gladly apply in some useful occupation did circumstances permit. They find themselves continually placed in a dilemma. Their education and business training have fitted them for a particular kind of work, for which the supply of workers is greater by far than the demand. They seek to obtain employment in another sphere, and are met with the not unreasonable objection that they are lacking in the necessary experience and skill. Their overtures in both cases, therefore, meet with neither encouragement nor success. Meanwhile time goes on, and the outlook for these young men becomes every day less promising.

It is exceedingly difficult to point out any means by which they may be enabled to enter upon a new and more satisfactory career. Even if able to make a start, it would be very unlikely that a sufficient salary

would be obtained at first to make the new calling in any sense a strictly "remunerative" one for some time to come. Still something has been gained when the youthful aspirant for independence and a competence feels himself safe upon even the first rung of the ladder. It is at all events an easier matter, with the experience and technical knowledge obtained by such means, to make a further advance upwards later on. He need no longer ask his employers to trust to his *promises*, and to his conscientious fulfilment of them. He can point to work already *done*, and to the reputation which he has already acquired. His hopes and future prospects rest altogether upon a more satisfactory basis, and a continuance of manly effort in the discharge of the duties which he has undertaken must result in a still further improvement in his position, both financially and otherwise.

The difficulty is, however, to know where and how even such a start as this can be made. Many would be ready enough, no doubt, to sacrifice a little in the immediate present, if thereby they insured to themselves a chance of making their way and securing a competent income in the future.

During the past ten or twelve years very much has been done, as is well known, to increase the value and efficiency of the public elementary schools throughout the country. The School Board system has conduced largely to a considerable increase not only in the number of pupils, but also in the number of schools provided for their accommodation. A greater demand for eligible teachers was one of the earliest results of this new state of things, and of the practice which in due time prevailed of augmenting the teaching staff of the various schools. As one means of meeting this demand, a clause was inserted in the regulations issued from the Education Department, which is still in force, but which may not be generally known outside the profession, to the effect that "My Lords" would thenceforward recognise as "duly qualified assistant teachers in public elementary schools," those who were graduates of any University in the United Kingdom.

So far as we are aware, very few graduates have availed themselves of the privilege. But we see no reason why they should not do so. The position, it is true, may not offer immediately all that could be desired, but in these hard times half a loaf is certainly better than no bread, and there are certain very desirable advantages to be gained. In most cases, these schools are exceedingly well managed; the organisation is perfect, the discipline excellent, the methods of teaching are such as experience and a thorough knowledge of the circumstances suggest. The hours are not long, and the work is at once interesting and honourable. If the emoluments be small, the skill and experience to be gained in the art of teaching by any who are determined to make the most of their opportunities are very considerable. With these once acquired, a University man would undoubtedly hold in his hand a key that would open out to him many an avenue to success altogether closed to the ordinary teacher. His social position, his more liberal education, his early training, would all stand him in good stead, and help him to secure one of the many educational appointments which, without such previous experience and training, would have remained inevitably altogether beyond his reach. As an assistant teacher in a public elementary school his salary would not, as a rule, be probably more than from £100 or £120 per annum. Even in higher-grade schools, the payment is often not much better. There are, however, numerous better-paid appointments occasionally to be had, varying in value from £150 to £500 per annum. In exceptional cases the emoluments are even still higher.

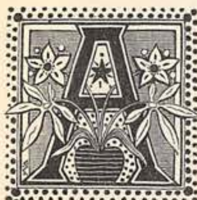
Many who would not care for the ordinary routine of school work, but who have special ability in some one department of learning—in science, for example—may often have opportunities for arranging to teach their favourite subject only at different schools by a series of "visiting" lessons. Depend upon it that, in these days of universal education, there is no need for a man of ability and intelligence to stand in the educational market-place "all the day idle," simply because "no man hath hired him." But he must be willing, however, to accept "what is right"—in other words, what his skill and experience are worth to his employers—even though it be at first only the nominal "penny a day."

In connection with this matter we may, perhaps, usefully mention that the teaching of shorthand is being gradually introduced into schools, as a part of the ordinary curriculum. This has long been a well-known and recognised feature in some of the best "commercial" schools; but it is only lately that the practice has extended to schools of a higher grade. The importance of such a step cannot be over-estimated, so far as the scholars themselves are concerned. But, what is more to our present purpose, it also opens a wide field for those who are thoroughly conversant with the shorthand system, and are prepared to teach it. The subject is one which is already receiving a large and increasing share of attention from managers and others, and is destined to become at no very distant period an exceedingly popular subject of study, and that for more reasons than one.

Apart from this, good shorthand writers are even now in considerable demand for journalistic and other purposes; and many who have regular daily employment, but wish to add to their income by evening work, may find opportunities of doing so by this means. A good and accurate writer may often earn from one to three guineas of an evening in this way, according to the importance of the meeting for which he is engaged, and the number of hours he is expected to attend. Of course, even under the most favourable circumstances, a man who had other employment during the day could not engage himself in this way for more than two or three evenings a week at the most. The other evenings would be required for writing out his notes in the ordinary way, and in doing this he would often be called upon to exercise in a practical manner a considerable amount of literary skill.

REMUNERATIVE EMPLOYMENTS FOR GENTLEWOMEN.

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.



A STORY has lately been written and published, which relates how three sisters, who had seen better days, honestly feeling that they were perfectly incompetent to be governesses and quite competent to be dressmakers, chose the latter function, and established themselves as such; and the story goes on to depict how these ladies showed a serene and equal indifference to the criticisms made by neighbours and acquaintances on their choice of employment. Their sole aim was to be noted for good and satisfactory workmanship.

Whether this particular tale is founded on fact, whether these sisters three are real or fictitious personages, I know not; but a track is marked out in the pages of this book which might well be followed by others in like circumstances, and I make mention of the story to draw attention again to a line of employment which I have once or twice advocated in former papers as having a pecuniary value. I will now speak of several means of assistance available to those who wish to follow this line.

Last year an establishment was opened for this very purpose of giving gentlewomen the opportunity of acquiring skill in the art of dressmaking. A lady who was anxious to help gentlewomen to help themselves, organised and set on foot an establishment for this purpose. Albany House, 259, Vauxhall Bridge Road (within a few minutes' walk of Victoria Station), was taken, and its doors were thrown open to those gentlewomen who desire instruction of this kind. A gentlewoman, who had previously acquired a thorough knowledge of the business, was found to superintend the undertaking; and a Parisian, skilled as cutter and fitter, was engaged, at a high salary, to teach that department. High premiums are usually asked for instruction of this kind, but at Albany House philanthropy has stepped forward, and generously gives to ladies this valuable help free of charge. When a fair knowledge has been attained, a salary is given. As a matter of course, this is small at the outset: its increase depends upon the ability shown and the progress made by the recipient.

Albany House is not to be considered in the light of a charitable institution. It is not to be regarded as an establishment where gentlewomen are employed purely from motives of pity or compassion, and where others in better plight are requested to order dresses from these same motives of pity and compassion. Far from this are the views of the originator and the superintender. Philanthropy set it on foot, certainly, but with the aim that business principles, strict and sound, should govern the undertaking. Ladies are asked to give it their custom, in the same way that they might be invited by any ordinary dressmaking firm, and they need have no fear, for competent heads and hands are in charge of the enterprise, and here, as in any other business house, learners advance by stages, and have to master the simpler forms before they are entrusted with the more difficult.

I desire to be very clear on this point, because an idea has been promulgated which would deter many would-be customers; this mistaken idea has most likely originated by the use of the word "institution"—a term applied, not by the promoters of the scheme, but by those imperfectly acquainted with its object. Briefly, the real aim of Albany House is to train and to employ gentlewomen so that they may become qualified to conduct work of this kind in their own homes, to superintend branch establishments, or to undertake Colonial engagements. I was asked lately if I knew of any lady who was competent to form and to superintend a workroom of this description in connection with a country depôt, and I passed on the request to Albany House, but the reply was that at present no lady had the requisite proficiency for such a post. I must add that the head of the house told me that she is constantly daunted and disappointed with the faint-heartedness, and the easily discouraged, easily dissatisfied spirits and minds of many of those who have asked for these privileges. Small difficulties and trifling inconveniences are very often sufficient to make them relinquish their pursuit, though frequently they have none other to which to turn.

But I have not yet finished what I have to say on the subject of dressmaking. I wish to tell of what, it seems to me, must be a great help to those who are anxious to learn and to earn, and who have not the means within reach.

A method of taking a reliable pattern and of cutting it out, both processes executed in a marvellously short space of time, has beēn invented and patented—a method which I consider deserves mention for its cleverness combined with its simplicity. It is called the "Eureka dress-cutting system," and as possibly it is still unknown to some of my readers, and as I think I shall confer a benefit on them if I do so, I will give a few particulars. The "Eureka" consists of one piece of millboard, which is by no means large or cumbersome, its length being nineteen inches, and its widest part but five inches. So cleverly is this scale shaped and marked out, that every measurement, each line and curve of each and every human figure, can be drawn by its guidance. Moreover, patterns which will fit the figure can be cut from measurements, and thus the tiresome part of trying on, and of pinning and unpinning, cutting and snipping, is done away with. I will relate my experiences.

Measurements only of my figure were taken (a figure which, although it has not any deformity, yet is not an easy one to fit, judging from the many misfits made by town and country dressmakers); from these measurements, a pattern was drawn on paper by the help of the Eureka scale, and then traced by a wheel on calico.

I took it away and tacked the pieces together, and the verdict passed by a dressmaker on the result was highly favourable. There were no wrinkles, no superfluity of material to be pinned up here or there, no tacking-threads strained apart. The curves and the lines, the form and the style, were graceful and correct. So far, the result was satisfactory. There remained another test as to the efficiency of the patent.

Be it known that I am especially awkward at pattern-drawing of any description. My fingers will never guide aright pencil or brush, be the design ever so simple. I am, too, a dullard and a dunce in all dressmaking matters, never having been initiated into the mysteries of that art; therefore, when it was proposed that I myself should learn to cut out bodices of different sizes by the help of the Eureka system, I felt alarmed, and afraid of showing my extreme awkwardness, but my first attempt showed me that I could overcome the difficulty with ease. By the help of the scale, a few hours' practice at home, with the instruction-book before me, sufficed, together with a couple of visits to the patentee, to make me fully acquainted with my undertaking. To those who had previous knowledge of the construction of a bodice, the acquirement of this system would be still more rapid than for one ignorant like myself.

If success is not attained, the fault will not lie with the Eureka scale, but with the measurements taken; and practice in taking these properly and correctly is certainly needful. I must not omit to mention where the Eureka scale is to be obtained. The school is to be found at 225, Regent Street, W., where lessons can be taken of the patentee, Mrs. Tait. The charge made for the Eureka scale, together with a book of instructions, is a guinea; if lessons are desired, an extra guinea is charged.

I have mentioned this because I believe a remunerative employment can be gained by those who have no wish to make dresses, by imparting instruction to others, and also by taking patterns from measurements for ladies who have their sewing done at home.

To turn from the needle to another subject: for very many years it seemed as if there was but one resort for all gentlewomen who had to depend upon their own exertions, and that resort was to become a governess either in a school or a private family. Comparatively few, out of the vast number who entered the lists, had any special training for posts of this kind; in many instances it was not demanded. During the past ten years, matters in this respect have greatly changed, and now examinations have to be passed, and certificates to be gained, and a thorough knowledge of the theory and practice of teaching has to be shown before public appointments or first-class private engagements can be secured. Gentlewomen who heretofore could easily find employment of this kind can find it no longer, unless armed with certificates.

Appointments at elementary schools, at middle-class, and at high-grade schools and colleges, of which there are now so many scattered over the country, and also established in other European countries, are, I should imagine from all I hear, very remunerative—I think I may use the term very lucrative, as contrasted with the remuneration gained by gentlewomen in other branches of work. I will mention where training and instruction for such appointments can be obtained.

There is a training college under Government at Chichester, where ladies are trained as elementary school-mistresses; it is known as the Bishop Otter Memorial College. Here great advantages are offered to those gentlewomen whose means preclude great expenditure. An examination, known as the Queen's Scholarship Examination, is held annually in July, and those who pass this have the privilege of residing two years in the college for instruction for the small payment of £20 per annum. The charge made to those who wish to reside previously, to prepare for this examination, is £3 a month. Pupils who wish to obtain certificates after two years' residence pay £40 per annum. Exhibitions of the value of £10 are offered by the committee of this college to students who gain a first-class in the above examination; there are also other exhibitions given through private liberality to orphans. The vacations occupy ten to twelve weeks in the year. Ladies are eligible for admission at any age over eighteen; those in authority do not advise any one to take up the work who is more than twenty-six or twenty-eight; but ladies over thirty have entered and have taken high places, but these, be it noted, have been *exceptions*.

There is a training college in Skinner Street, Bishopsgate Street, London, where those anxious to gain posts in high and middle-class schools have a good opportunity of gaining the requisite knowledge. During the five years this college has been opened, more than sixty of the students have obtained good posts in schools, colleges, and private families, in England and abroad. The cost of this professional training is £24 yearly; and a charge of five shillings per term is made for stationery. The fees for examinations amount to about £5. About ten scholarships have been annually awarded, in value from £10 to £24. Students do not reside in the college. The hours of attendance are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The average length of the college year is thirty-eight weeks. One entrance examination is held each year in the month of September. Applicants for admission must be above eighteen years of age. This college is under University inspection, and the students have a full course of instruction in the theory and practice of teaching without engaging in elementary school work. They spend some hours weekly in teaching and observing lessons given in the practising school; for this purpose they have the privilege of making use of the Bishopsgate Middle-class Girls' School, the Maria Grey School in Fitzroy Square, and also the advantage of learning the Kindergarten system of instruction, as well as that of imparting the knowledge. I must add that those students who finished their course at the close of the last college year readily found appointments; and further, that the demand for trained teachers is still in excess of the supply.

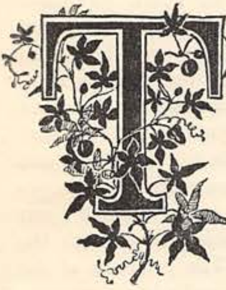
A. S. P.

nected with the old classic factory are still alive to supply a living link between the Derby porcelain of the past and the present. One of these is Mr. James Rouse, the octogenarian flower-painter before alluded to; another is the retired artist, Mr. James Haslem, a royal miniature-painter; Mr. Sampson Hancock supplies a third; while a famous potter, apprenticed at the old works, Mr. John Mountford, who introduced to the trade the composition known as "parian," or imitation of marble, "which has done more to increase that branch of the potter's art than anything invented in the present century," is still on the staff at Mr. Hancock's works; and while Mr. James Rouse is the oldest painter, Mr. Mountford is the oldest potter from the original works.

From men to marks. Collectors of old and new "Derby" can readily distinguish the foregoing periods by their representative marks. The following list is perhaps, though not exhaustive, and therefore imperfect, reliable in a general way. The sole mark of new "Crown" Derby is a monogram consisting of two "D's" intersected, surmounted by a crown. The old Derby marks vary according to the periods of production. The elder Duesbury's device was simply a crown, surmounted by the words "Duesbury, Derby." The Derby-Chelsea marks are various, the letter "D," crown and anchor, and "D" and anchor, being introduced. The ware produced during the Duesbury and Kean partnership was marked "D.K." surmounted by crossed swords and a crown; that of W. Duesbury the younger, crossed swords and a crown. The Bloor period is marked by Bloor's name and the word "Derby" circling a crown; "Locker and Co., late Bloor," surrounding the word "Derby" followed. Mr. Sampson Hancock's mark comprises crossed swords, a crown, the letter "D," and his initials, "S.H." But the subject of marks and monograms is an intricate one, and would require a special chapter. The trademark of modern "Crown" Derby forms the initial to this paper.

EDWARD BRADBURY.

REMUNERATIVE EMPLOYMENTS FOR GENTLEMEN.



THERE is nothing, perhaps, that so much enhances the pleasure we naturally experience in visiting new and unfamiliar scenes as the power of bringing away with us pictorial presentments, more or less accurate, of their most striking features. For thereby the delight which they first imparted to our gratified senses can be renewed at will and, to a certain extent, even shared by our friends. A verbal description of the places we have visited may be very well in its way, and in some cases be extremely vivid and intelligible, but who does not know how greatly the production of a sketch-book adds to the interest of such a description, however crude and imperfect the drawings may be? When the views presented for examination, however, possess the truthfulness and exactness of photography, the interest is oftentimes still greater, and our friends' ideas of the scenes represented will be rendered almost as accurate as though they had been with us in person and seen the various objects for themselves with their own eyes.

If, however, we are dependent on the local tradesman for our supply of photographic views, we shall in all probability have little to aid our recollection in the case of much that was beautiful in our travels. The only remedy for this defect is to become our own photographer, and thus to bring it within our power to carry away with us whatever views we most desire, and, if necessary, to multiply copies at a future time to any desired extent.

Many gentlemen have recently acquired a knowledge of photography simply for this purpose, and to any one possessing a fair amount of artistic taste we can scarcely imagine a more interesting and delightful amusement. But there is no reason whatever why it should not be rendered something more than this—why, in fact, it should not be brought, in the case of those who find it necessary to add to their limited incomes, under the category of Remunerative Employments. To those who have a fair knowledge of the art and a tolerable amount of skill, there are ample opportunities of turning their talents in this direction to practical account. Photography is becoming more and more utilised, as time goes on, for purposes of pictorial illustration, not only in connection with literature, but also in many departments of trade; and no doubt, as improvements are made in the processes employed, and the advantages of its use become more apparent, it will become even far more general than at present.

Just now, however, we are thinking of the more popular uses to which it has already long been put, and which are capable even yet of considerable extension, such as the taking of portraits of persons and animals, views of buildings, landscapes, &c.

There will always be a greater or less demand for these things, but dependent, as usual, on the facility with which the articles can be obtained. In town districts, photography in all its branches is, of course, very largely and very generally patronised; but in the more remote villages and hamlets it has yet, as a rule, made comparatively but little way. And it is just in such districts as these that one finds in greater abundance than almost anywhere else subjects worthy of photographic reproduction. Should an itinerant

artist by any chance be led to visit these out-of-the-way neighbourhoods, the excitement and interest displayed in his art are simply wonderful, and he has not unfrequently more subjects exhibiting a laudable anxiety to "have their picture took" than he can—on that occasion, at all events—conveniently accommodate. The people at the "big house," moreover, often monopolise a large portion of his time, and he is kept busily employed in taking groups of "the family" in every available position, as well as portraits of their equine, feline, and canine friends, and other special pets and household favourites.

From this we may readily infer that even in such a matter as this the supply would, to a great extent, regulate the demand. An enterprising photographer might indeed, we think, in these days of tricycles and other ready means of locomotion, do a large business in this way were he to set about it in a thoroughly energetic and business-like manner. It might for the most part, too, be carried on under circumstances largely conducive to health and enjoyment.

No doubt in many minds photography is associated with much that is disagreeable and repellant. But this is rather due to the recollection of the art as practised in the earlier stages of its history than to anything else. The slightest investigation into the more modern methods will serve to set the inquirer's mind at rest on this point. Formerly, it is true, the apparatus required was inconvenient and cumbersome, and the process then in vogue, now generally characterised as the "wet" method, involved the use of so many chemicals that it not only proved a source of considerable inconvenience and annoyance to the amateur who occasionally loved to dabble in the art, but also of much that was disagreeable and repugnant to his more accomplished *confrère*. Indeed, the whole system was marked by much of toil to its professors and little of pleasure.

During the last few years, however, the various operations have been greatly simplified. With the introduction of the use of "dry" plates, ready prepared, the chief difficulties of the amateur have vanished, and the amount of necessary gear has been, so far as we are able to judge, already reduced to a minimum. Perhaps not the least of the many advantages accruing from the use of the "dry" plates are the following :—In the first place, there is no longer any need for the unsightly stains which formerly, by the use of the "wet" plates, caused such disfigurement to the hands and clothes of the operator. Secondly, the "dry" plates need not, like the others, be at once developed after exposure, but can easily be kept, for months if required, before this operation is performed. Lastly, there is very much less uncertainty about obtaining a good photograph, especially in the case of portraits, the time of exposure required being under favourable circumstances only the fraction of a second.

The advantage of the last point will be readily recognised, as even moving objects can be accurately photographed with the utmost clearness of outline, and with perfect freedom from that "mistiness" which too frequently marred even the slow products of the older process. Some beautiful instances of what may be done in this way were shown in the article we recently gave on "Instantaneous Photography."

The question now naturally arising in the mind of any reader who may wish to adopt photography, either as a profession or as a means of occasionally adding to his income, is this :—"Granted that your representations are correct, and that such an employment might be found in some degree remunerative, how am I to obtain such a knowledge of the art as will enable me to put it to a practical use? and will not its acquirement occupy a considerable period of time?" In reply to the first part of this question we may say we have just heard that the London Stereoscopic Company have recently made arrangements at their establishment in Regent Street for the special instruction of amateurs. We mention this school merely for the information of our readers, as it appears to meet the ordinary requirements of the amateur, and the expense incurred is inconsiderable. Doubtless, however, there are schools of a similar kind and of equal utility in other places. And we advise intending students to make full inquiry before deciding.

The plan adopted at the Stereoscopic Company's School is to give individual instruction to the pupils, except in cases where two or more friends are learning together, and the charge is at the rate of two guineas for a course of four lessons. Such a course is in ordinary cases deemed amply sufficient; all that the student needs to understand at first being how to obtain the proper focus, and how to judge the amount of exposure that will be required under various circumstances. A knowledge of these points, with a few minor details, is in most cases readily acquired. Indeed we are given to understand that any gentleman can, as a general rule, take pictures very successfully after one or two lessons.

Of course, a longer time is necessary if the student wishes at once to learn how to develop his negatives and do his own printing. But even these latter points have now been rendered extremely simple, and a competent knowledge of them may easily be acquired. Should, however, the amateur find it more convenient at first to have his plates developed for him by a professional artist, the company undertake to do this for him on reasonable terms, as well as the printing of the copies from the negative if required. There seems to be little reason, therefore, why he should not be able to make the calling a profitable one within a very short time of his adopting it. It would become more remunerative in proportion to the skill and aptitude which he displayed in following it. There is, of course, the question of a little necessary outlay at starting to be considered; and here we would warn the reader against the idea of any successful work being capable of accomplishment with very cheap sets of apparatus. He can do but little with any photographic equipment that costs less than from about ten to fifteen pounds.

foam—it was a breezy day—and far away on the horizon the blue outline of the Harris hills.

"No," he said, in answer to a question of mine, "we will not hamper each other with a promise to correspond. This world is full of sad partings. We must bend to the inevitable. I'll think of you though, sometimes, and Skye, and this lovely dog."

"I have one of his puppies," I said, "he shall be yours."

The Franco-German War was over; even the demon of civilised warfare had been exorcised at last by blood and tears, and peace smiled sadly on the soil of France once more.

I had been for a short time attached to a corps of German dragoons, in the capacity of correspondent. But there was little more for me to do now, only I think the officers, with whom I had got very friendly, wished me to see their reception at home, and I could not resist the temptation to march along with them. I have often been "homeward bound," but never saw before such genuine happiness as I now did. How they talked of the mothers, wives, sweethearts, and little ones they were soon again to see, and often too with a sigh and a manly tear or two about the comrades they left behind them under the green sod!

Our mess was a very jolly one. Sometimes at night the wind rose and roared, causing our tent—we *had* a tent then—to flap like sails in a storm at sea. Or the rain would beat against it, until the canvas first sweated inside, then dropped water, then ran water, till we were drenched. But whether drenched or dry, we always sang, oh! such rattling choruses. The villages we passed through had all we wanted to buy. The villagers often scowled, and I think they were usually glad to see our backs. But some fawned on us like whipped hounds for the sake of the money we spent. Yet I must say in justice that the Germans took no unfair advantage, and if any allusion was made to them as conquerors, they but laughed carelessly, muttered something about the fortunes of war, and changed the subject.

I was riding along one morning early, when I saw several of our fellows on the brow of a hill looking back with some degree of interest, but trotting on all the same.

I should have followed their example, but the mournful howling of a dog attracted my attention, and went straight to my very heart. So I rode up and over the hill.

I was hardly prepared for what I saw—a beautiful black Newfoundland, whining pitifully beside what appeared to be the dead body of a man.

I dismounted, and the dog came to meet me. He jumped and fawned on me, then rushed wildly back to the side of that prostrate form. But I stood as one transfixed. I could not mistake those eyes. It was Neptune, that I had given—a seven-months-old puppy—to Hans Hegel three years before.

And the poor fellow who lay before me with sadly gashed face, upturned to the morning sun, was Hegel himself.

He lay on his sword, lay as he had fallen, and the absence of the coat, the sash-bound waist, and sleeve up-rolled, told to me the history of his trouble in a way there was no mistaking. He had fallen in a duel.

But was he dead? No; for, soon after I had raised him in my arms and poured a little cordial down his throat, he opened his eyes, gazed bewilderedly at me for a moment, then his hand tightened on mine and he smiled. He knew me.

I should have liked some of those strange people who do not love dogs to have been present just then, to witness the looks of gratitude in poor Neptune's eyes as he tenderly licked my hand with his soft tongue.

My regiment went on: I stayed at the nearest village hostelry with Hans Hegel.

When he was well enough he told me the story of the duel. So far the affair was unromantic enough, for there was not a lady in it. The quarrel had been forced upon him by a fire-eating Frenchman, and swords were drawn on a point of national honour.

"I owe my life to you," Hegel said.

"You owe your life," I replied, "to Heaven and that faithful dog."

REMUNERATIVE EMPLOYMENTS FOR GENTLEWOMEN.

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

IN my last paper I spoke of colleges where gentlewomen desirous to pass examinations and gain certificates could be trained for these ordeals—a training which is necessary to, and is required of, all who seek appointments in public schools and the higher branches of private instruction.

There are, however, many young children, both boys and girls, in different classes of life, who are not sent to public daily schools, but who are taught in smaller private schools, or are educated at home.

Many parents are of opinion—and I am on their side—that young children make faster and more satisfactory progress when they can have individual attention and ampler explanations than is possible when they are put in a large class, however competent the teacher of it may be.

As teachers for young children, whether boys or girls, women will always be chosen in preference to men. In this lower branch there will be no keen rivalry or competition between the sexes. Men find the work irksome, and one for which they are un-

fitted, and themselves acknowledge that this task of grounding and laying the first foundation is much better done by women than by members of their own sex. I have heard it affirmed by more than one head master of large boys' schools, that they invariably found those boys got on the best who had been taught the rudiments by women.

Now, there are numbers of gentlewomen whose circumstances do not permit them to make use of the opportunities afforded by training colleges. Some have not the means required, even if the expense is not great. Some cannot afford to give up the year or two required. The first youth of some is passed before the need of earning their livelihood has arisen. Without certificates or testamurs, no important appointments will be obtained, and no high salaries will be gained: this is true; but there are very many minor positions of this kind in private life, here, there, and everywhere, for which gentlewomen may fit themselves, and in which they may succeed thoroughly well if they possess ordinary capabilities and the lawful ambition to achieve success.

I should like my words to reach parents as well as governesses, for there is rather a craze about certificates just now, and an undue stress is laid upon the possession and the non-possession of them. No amount of certificates will prove that the possessor can teach well: they prove that she has given up years of her life, and has worked hard enough to acquire a good deal of knowledge; and this proof is necessary and requisite for teachers of older children, but for the little ones I venture to say it is not necessary; and from the close observation of years I am of opinion that men and women of high attainments generally fail to understand the difficulties which so many young children experience in grappling with knowledge at the outset. A clever scholar finds it irksome, and is apt to think it an unnecessary trouble to explain, it may be a dozen times, the why and the wherefore of some simple lesson. Women, not of lesser intelligence, but possessing less acquaintance with the higher branches of knowledge, are more fitted to cope with the difficulties felt by young minds while groping their way from darkness into light.

The actual groundwork is very simple, and one which a woman of ordinary capacity could lay down satisfactorily. Perfect reading, correct spelling, clear handwriting; the multiplication table, Latin declensions, and terminations of the French verbs at the finger-ends, the first four rules of arithmetic *thoroughly* understood, a broad and general knowledge of geography and of the history of their own country—these simple stores of knowledge, taught with extreme exactness in all details, with perfect accuracy and clearness, if placed firmly and intelligently in a child's mind, will prove of life-long value—will prove a steady, useful foundation on which the superstructure of future and higher learning can be reared safely and with certainty.

Refinement of mind, clearness of language, sympathy with her child-pupils, patience, thoroughness, and the desire to make the lessons interesting and to stimulate progress—all these qualities, so necessary in a teacher, are not conferred by degree or certificate: they are within the reach and the grasp of every governess; and each one who can show perfect work, although the ground-plan is small, has as much reason for satisfaction and congratulation as those whose business it is to erect the higher storeys or put on the coping-stones.

Briefly I would say to parents, it lies within your power to test the efficiency of the teacher; be satisfied if the rudiments are thoroughly taught, and do not desire to have the young, and it may be slowly-awakening, minds of your children burthened and over-taxed by a great variety and weight of knowledge.

I will now give a few hints to painters.

The demand for painted plaques and pin-cushions has greatly subsided, and therefore these articles when sent to depôts are very likely to remain unsold.

Doyleys, made of white silk and edged with plaited lace, with a different picture painted upon the silken surface of each one, are now in fashion; they furnish subjects for conversation and comments amongst the guests at table, and thus are considered useful as well as ornamental.

The demand for hand-painted menu and guest cards is not quite so great, although such cards are still in use; the reason for this decline must be whispered low: it is because many hostesses find, to their chagrin and their cost, that guests ofttimes take away from the dinner-table cards which are nicely painted.

"Out" and "at home" cards have been brought into use in town houses. A card of this description hangs in the hall, and the mistress of the house reverses the card as she enters or leaves her house, and by this means the servant knows what answer to give to callers, who are not kept waiting, as is often the case while the servant ascertains whether her mistress is "out" or "at home." Painting on leather is more durable than on cardboard.

Painted tiles and designs for tiles still find a market, as they are largely used for the sides of fire-places, in lieu of iron and steel facings. Also painted mirrors, of which I have before spoken, are used for the same purpose of a framework round the fire-grate.

Another occupation for those who can guide a paint-brush with skill and delicacy is that of painting slides for magic-lanterns. These entertaining spectacles have come again before the public, after a lapse of some years. The old oil-lamp, with its dull and feeble light, remains in dusty obscurity; it has been superseded by a lantern of much larger size—the fresh impetus in this direction is owing to the lately-found means of producing a more intense and brilliant light. Slides are therefore in demand. The painting is not attended with any great difficulties: common glass, water-colours, mastic varnish, a camel-hair brush, and etching-needle are the simple requisites; observance in the use of them has to be studied, but the lessons are simple.

Children are always pleased to see old friends, by which I mean that illustrations of well-known stories will interest and amuse them, therefore the artist need not necessarily possess the talent for original ideas.

To embroiderers I would suggest carriage-rugs, and

covers for billiard-tables. The former are of plain dark cloth, and have coats-of-arms or monograms on a large scale in the centre of the rug, or have a continuous pattern round the edge—gold of some shade is the most effective colour for the silk, and the embroidery is thick and close in style. The cuffs, collars, and facings of smoking-coats often exhibit embroidery.

Workers who manipulate mesh and netting-needle can make tennis-nets and netted bags for tennis-balls; also garden hammocks; these latter look especially pretty if made in the French style of different-coloured twines, with border of netted fringe. The sum charged for these hammocks is a guinea each.

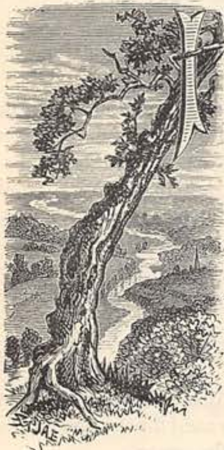
I know of, and I hear of, ladies who find situations for servants, and servants for vacant situations, who are actuated to do this work by the mere wish to help others, for they derive no pecuniary benefit therefrom. I think there must be many gentlewomen who might undertake this work and make it remunerative. A certain set of qualities are needful—discernment, the aptitude for fitting people into suitable niches, for recommending round people to round holes and square people to the square holes, the determination to be honest as to the real characters of applicants, and to ascertain from reliable sources what those characters are; to be prompt and business-like; under these conditions I think that the enterprise would be sure to succeed.

In my last paper (June) I made mention of an establishment for dress-making at Albany House, Vauxhall Bridge Road. Since the Magazine was printed, that establishment has been removed from that address. Any one wishing for further particulars as to the present arrangements, which I am told will be on the same plan, will receive information by writing to Mrs. John Fitzgerald, Old Charlton, Kent.

A. S. P.

A TIMELY RESCUE.

BY CATHARINE CHILDAR, AUTHOR OF "A MAID CALLED BARBARA," ETC.



IT was a beautiful day in July, and M. Pontoise, préfet of the little Norman town of Virentan, lounged back in his arbour, the very picture of full-blown content. A cup of black coffee was on the table before him, and he had just lighted an unimpeachable cigar.

But mere bodily comforts had not rendered the worthy préfet so radiant; he had received very agreeable news that morning. M. le Comte de la Croiserie, one of the most distinguished residents in the neighbourhood, had asked the hand of Mademoiselle Mélanie Pontoise in marriage. The event was so flattering, so unexpected, that the happy parents could scarcely contain themselves for joy, and were eager to tell their daughter the honour that awaited her.

Madame Pontoise soon appeared, followed by a pretty fair-haired girl, who put her hand caressingly on her father's arm.

"Now then, petit père, what is it you have to tell me? I see it is something nice. Another invitation to England, perhaps?"

A slight shade passed over the beaming countenance of Madame Pontoise, as she answered for her husband, "No; you have been too much in England already. Your last visit filled your foolish little head with all sorts of ideas."

"Well, never mind," said the good-tempered préfet, flicking some cigar-ashes off the spherical surface of his white waistcoat; "this has nothing to do with England. On the contrary, it is something to keep you here. How should you like to be a countess?"

"Not at all, papa. I would rather stay with you, plain Mademoiselle Pontoise."

"You've been that long enough," put in her mother; "it is high time to change. M. le Comte de la Croiserie has written to ask for your hand in marriage, and your father is deeply sensible of the honour."

Mélanie opened her eyes. "Why, papa is a Republican! He laughs at titles!"

"Nonsense, child!" said M. Pontoise; "what do you know about politics?"

But it was true, nevertheless, and M. Pontoise could not deny it. Still, it was all very well to laugh at titles when you hadn't any yourself, but M. Pontoise very naturally felt it would be quite a different matter if he had a count for a son-in-law. So he answered his only child rather testily, telling her that she knew nothing about politics, and had much better turn her attention to her toilette for the evening.

Madame Pontoise took the hint at once, and led the way back to the house, Mélanie following slowly and silently. When they were safe in the seclusion of the girl's bed-room, Madame Pontoise began to reason with her daughter.

"What is the matter, ma fille? What objection have you to M. de la Croiserie? That he is a widower? Bah! that is nothing. That he is older than you? Ah! my child, you will know some day how well it is to have a husband of that age, possessed of the most admirable qualities. Why, he is everywhere sought after: you will be the envy of the neighbourhood."

That was undoubtedly true; still, Mélanie did not look convinced.

"But I don't know him, mamma. I have only seen him twice."

and heaven because there is nothing in them that you value. That is not chivalry. Is it for my sake or your own that you would make the sacrifice you think so great?"

I could not reply.

"If marriage is to be degraded to a mere bargain, then we have a right to make our own terms. Granting that I am better than all the world, since you would give all the world for me, I should be foolish indeed to take a husband that is not—not, at least, equal to my ideal of manly worth. You yourself justify me in demanding a husband generous and chivalrous. You have shown yourself wanting in these qualities. Is it for my sake you have striven to raise yourself above the level of other men—that you might make my life happier than any other man could? or is it for your own—that you might obtain possession of me? Have you ever considered that I have a soul requiring more than temporal endowments? Admit that you thought I was to be bought by the highest bidder, like a slave, and that you have only sought to outbid others. Have you questioned your right to this estate? Have you justified your claim to be considered as Sir Andrew's eldest son? or have you blindly jumped at a conclusion that favoured your object, and assumed a position which you considered would give me into your hands? Tell me these things are not so—show me that my harsh suspicions are cruel and unjust, and you will make me happy."

I dropped my head, and stood silent and abashed before this just and clear-sighted girl.

"Oh! Heaven forbid that I should think you devoid of generosity, or believe you incapable of true chivalry in thought and deed!" she cried earnestly. "The noblest feelings may lie dormant until a heavenly touch awakens them. It is my fault, perhaps, that they have slept so long. Some word or act of mine may have misled you. Clearly, you have mistaken my character. Now that you are undeceived, a nobler object may awaken nobler sentiments."

"God grant it may," I said humbly.

"For the present we will talk no more of marriage. It is what I wished to avoid." And then, in a lighter strain, after a little fluttering sigh, she said, "It seems as if we were fated always to meet in a combative spirit."

"You have never met me in that spirit," I said, interrupting her. "Always you have approached me in gentleness and mercy, only abandoning that attitude when I forced you to defend yourself."

"Oh! that is kindly said," she cried; "and this meeting shall be at least happier than those that have gone before, for we will part good friends."

She held out her hand. I caught it in mine, and lifted my eyes to hers, that seemed filled with a divine radiance. Then I bent down and touched the back of her delicate white hand with my lips and set it free.

END OF CHAPTER THE FIFTEENTH.

REMUNERATIVE EMPLOYMENTS FOR GENTLEWOMEN.

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

SOME months ago I spoke of the medical profession as one into which gentlewomen were entering, and I then made a passing allusion to the branch connected with zenana work—*i.e.*, work amongst the women and children of the East: of this I will now speak more fully.

It is probably known to all my readers that in Oriental countries the higher class of women maintain the strictest seclusion, and are not allowed by custom to have any freedom of action. Thus, however urgent the need for medical aid, it is very seldom that a doctor is permitted to enter a zenana; and even in those rare cases in which he is admitted, he is generally not allowed to examine his patient with sufficient care to insure a correct diagnosis.

Many women and children are thus compelled to lead suffering lives in consequence of being shut out from medical aid; but when this help can be tendered to them by those of their own sex, the barrier is removed: this long-existing difficulty of access to zenanas has now been thoroughly conquered by medical women.

When one thinks of the immense extent of India and its enormous population, there can be no doubt in our minds that the demand for our country-women skilled in the art of healing will be great and continuous. And not in India alone are services such as these appreciated and valued, for in China also, and in Syria, the woman medical missionary meets with a welcome. Hence the trained medical women who will go out to the East have an extensive field open before them, one in which they will find plenty of room and an ample store of useful work.

The course of instruction necessary to gain a medical degree is somewhat long and expensive, as may be gathered from the details given in my paper on the subject; it is too long and too expensive to be within the reach and grasp of more than a few of those who wish to become missionaries; the demand for medical workers is urgent, and in consequence of these pressing demands there was set on foot, a year or two ago, a Medical Mission School and Home for the express purpose of training for a short period gentlewomen who wish to devote themselves to zenana and medical mission work in Oriental countries. It is the opinion of Sir Richard Temple, whose words may reasonably be taken as of great weight, that there is need, both physical and moral, for an agency such as a school of this description provides. It has now been established

for three years, and during this period its operations have more than justified its existence, and have thus given good reason to predict its extended success. More than forty pupils have availed themselves of this training-school, which I must not forget to mention is to be found at 58, St. George's Road, S.W. Here opportunities are afforded which embrace a practical and thorough education for future needs of service, one which includes the particular needs felt in Eastern lands, as well as general knowledge always of use in all places and at all times.

Hospital instruction is given at the Hospital for Throat and Chest Complaints, at two Ophthalmic hospitals, and at the Hospital for Sick Women and Children, where also practical dispensing is taught; there is a maternity department, and students have to attend cases in the neighbourhood, under the supervision of a medical man. Lectures are given on practical anatomy, on practical cooking, on diseases of foreign climates, on home nursing, and other subjects. A room is set apart in the Home where patients are seen, and the services of the students are constantly and eagerly sought for by the people in the surrounding densely-populated parishes. Thus full and sound instruction is given during the two years which the student is required to devote to this study, at the end of which time a certificate of proficiency has to be gained at examinations which are presided over by physicians and surgeons connected with London hospitals.

Students may be resident or partial boarders. Residents pay one guinea per week for board and residence; those living in their own homes pay half a guinea per week if they have dinner and tea at the Home. All students pay five guineas per term (of which there are three in a year) for instruction fees. A special fund has been established to contribute towards the expenses of students whose means are limited.

Students are obliged to enter as probationers for one month; a decision is then made as to their fitness for missionary work.

I must draw attention to the fact that this school has a twofold object in view, and that those who govern it keep steadily to their original intention of combination. Students are not admitted who wish to attain medical proficiency merely; the privileges here obtainable are only accorded to those gentlewomen who feel actuated by a missionary spirit: who desire to let in the light of Christianity into the zenanas: who desire to carry the good news of the Gospel of Christ to the women and children of the East; it is for these only that this school opens its doors. All Protestant Christians who wish to be medical missionaries are admissible as students.

The advantages of a Christian home, and also of missionary preparation, are added to those of the medical education. Students have the opportunity of visiting the poor, of teaching in Sunday schools, of holding and attending Bible classes. I can bear personal testimony to the general air of brightness, cleanliness, cheerfulness, and homelikeness which pervades this School and Home.

I have been for some time reluctant to mention any depôts for the sale of work of which I may hear from time to time, because it has happened on several occasions that societies such as these have closed their doors immediately after any notice of them has come into print, and my readers have felt themselves aggrieved. I was, however, told of one the other day which has been in existence for the last eight years; the fact of this long life, together with the fact that there are always more applicants than can be placed on a list restricted to fifty, shows that its efforts are fully appreciated, and may perhaps lead others to combine their energies to start another elsewhere. The depôt is at 19, West Street, Weston-super-Mare, and its motto is—"Help those who strive to help themselves."

Perchance those who have read these papers may have wondered why I have not spoken of literature and authorship as an employment suitable for gentlewomen. It is suitable, there can be no doubt; but about its being remunerative there is certainly a doubt. When circumstances oblige this class of our community to gain their livelihood, there are two means to which the majority turn—to teaching and to writing. Of the former method of earning I have lately spoken; of this latter subject I should like to say a few words.

The supposition that any one who has anything to say has only to take up a pen and write down her thoughts, or describe facts, or invent fiction, and send the MS. to a publisher, and she will shortly have the gratification of seeing it in print—this notion must be widespread, for floods of MSS. surge into editorial offices, and oftentimes the packet is accompanied by a pathetic letter, telling of the writer's great need of money, and begging the editor to take this product of the brain and to send a speedy remittance.

As a matter of fact, those who would gain a living, or add to their incomes, by the help of pen, ink, and paper, must in this, as in all other arts, be content to serve an apprenticeship, and to practise and to study, and to strive to acquire the necessary qualifications. I wonder whether I exaggerate when I say that not one person in five hundred could sit down and write, without previous trial, a piece of prose which would read well in print, either in magazine or book.

Have any of my readers tried the employment of pianoforte-tuning? The requisites for this are few and inexpensive, and the work is not arduous. Perhaps it may be said to be a precarious method of making money, but it would be combined with some other method until a certainty of constant employment was secured. Correctness of musical ear must be possessed, of course, in the first instance; with that in possession, the other acquirements are not difficult to attain. The best plan to pursue is to take a few lessons on the construction of the pianoforte, and also to get permission to practise rough tuning in a pianoforte manufactory, where half-finished instruments are put in tune. The payment received for tuning pianos by experienced tuners is from three-and-sixpence to five shillings.

A. S. P.