"But I was wanting you to come as a wife, Mrs. Mitchell." "What could never be; Ritchie! I am proud to do my best for you, but the Lord's time comes I'll meet him. I know you need a wife, and I hope, both for your own sake and the children, you'll get a good one. You have been the best of fathers, and I'll do what I can to guide you in the right path, Ritchie."

Half-an-hour after, when Gourlay had left, Girzie descended to the kitchen. Katie Macab, the pretty parlour-maid, was busy polishing her trays; May Macle, the cook, was arranging her pans; and the broken white linen was being mended. They evidently knew what was coming, as Girzie said, "How could you lasses so far forget yourselves as to stuff any man's head with such fancies? It's barely decent in me to hear such a question from any man, and me promised twenty years ago."

And Girzie walked off, her cap almost brushing the top of the door frame, she held her head so loftily.

Gourlay married the pretty parlour-maid. I went to the wedding, and was held in Gourlay's great hands to kiss the bride. Katie made a kind mother to the little ones and a true helpmeet to Gourlay.

Girzie was sixty when she fairly settled down in her little cottage. She ostensibly went back to the occupations of her girlhood, and spun wool for blankets; but wherever there was a sick person to be nursed or motherless laddies to be comforted Girzie was always ready. Wherever she was, busy or not, it was her custom to return to her home at seven o'clock every evening for one special purpose, and, whether she was alone or had guests, as the hour of seven struck she took down the great Bible, and said, "Now we'll take the Book," and read, always aloud, in a grave, impressive tone, the words of Holy Writ.

She used to say, "Miss Isbey, you need never fear a lonely life if you have your Bible and your Father in Heaven," and always she would continue, "At one time we thought your mother and I would be left alone, but now a portion of old age. You will wonder how much more instructive it is if you hear it read, even by your own voice."

In after years I often visited Girzie, yet never left without some talk of Willie and looking over her treasures—Willie's Bible and "Pilgrim's Progress," two gigantic pink-lined shells that Willie had bought for her at one of the Islands, the old seat, and JohnHouston's wedding ring, in the little foreign box.

Many a time of weeping I had over these sacred relics, Girzie sitting dry-eyed, saying, "Eh! lassie, but it does my auld heart good to see Willie's things in your bonny fingers." Girzie never reproved. "It was the Lord's way," she said, and "He has a right to do according to His own will."

Then I saw her sat propped up in a great easy chair. Pale she was and wrinkled, but in her old age was perfectly beautiful.

I was going to a foreign land, and had come to any farewell. She said, "If ever you are in that part of the world, you'll look for Willie's grave, lassie. John Haxton had a wide, white grave, I've often sat by it. But I'll meet him in heaven, and I'll meet John. I've never lost that of his ban."

When you hear that I am gone you will know that I am with the blood-redeemed throng. The Lord will not enter into judgment with His servant, for the Saviour has thrown around me the robe of His righteousness. It's all of grace! all of grace!"

The love of seventeen had not died out at seventy. Often she said, "I'll meet John again. I've had that hope all my days."

Surely, when she neared the shining portals there would be accorded to her Christian's and all the bells of the city again."

As she lay in her last sleep the old seal with its clasping hands rested on her heart.

Isabelle Williamson.

HOME TRADES II.

BOOKBINDING.

I do not propose to supply directions for the pursuit of the art of bookbinding in its more costly and beautiful forms; for comparatively few amongst my readers would feel disposed to make the outlay demanded to carry out the work to the highest point of excellence of which it is capable. Besides, this article is not designed for persons desiring to an engagement in the great firms of large cities, the competition of which is so great, for no less than 5,727 women are employed in the craft in London alone. I address myself to two classes only, to the amateur, who seeks an agreeable occupation, or who has little to bestow on the preservation of her books, save the "cunning" of her own right hand, and to the professional who might earn a modest independence in some small country town, where likely to enjoy the monopoly of a business which could be prosecuted without leaving the threshold of home.

The first matter for consideration regards the appliances, and the unavoidable outlay to be made upon them. They consist of the following articles:

A handi- or wheel-sawing press at 8s. 9d., including three brass sewing-press keys (at 3d. each, the full five are required). A folder, or kind of paper-knife, 4d., and a folding-stick.

A cutting out knife, 8d., about the size of a small table-knife, which latter might serve sufficiently.

A beating hammer, from 4s. to 6s.

A Lancashire wing compass, at 3s. to 5s.

A backing hammer at 2s. 6d.

A pair of royal octavo cutting boards, at 5d., ten inches in length.

A pair of 56 backing boards at 7d.

A pair of 60 backing boards at 8d.

A French knife for paring leather.

A pair of shears (scissors) at from 15s. to 20s.

A bookbinder's finishing tool.

A knocking-down iron, 4s. 6d.

A bookbinder's rule, 4s.

A bodkin for making buttons.

A packet of sewing needles.

A line tenon saw.

Marshall's sewing thread.

 Hempen cord for "hands."

Straw-board, for common work, or black-board, which is the better of the two, one of which will suffice to make the covers for about four royal octavo volumes, leaving enough for an extra cover.

The turning of the front cover of the plough.

Glue and paste brushes, paste, glue, and glue-pot.

Stout brown paper for making speaking-backs.

End paper, coloured, the "marbled," to be had at from 2s. 9d. per quire and upwards, for making the end papers of the book.

Bookbinder's cloth, at about 1s. a yard, to be had in pieces. Or raw leather, sold by the skin for 6s., which will cover about twelve royal octavo volumes. I name these two the necessary materials only, as calf, Russia leather, Morocco, velvet, silk, and velvet would scarcely be selected by a novice in the art of binding.

Of course, for purposes of decoration, many more articles would be required than are here enumerated, such as morocco materials and colors, gold and silver leaf, burnishers, pawing-plates, brushes, 8c., but the present article is designed to teach the process of simple binding, apart from the art of decoration, which latter could be treated out at a considerable extra expenditure. Machinery, tools, and all materials employed in the trade, may be procured at one and the same manufacturer.

We should now make a little further acquaintance with our tools. The backing and cutting boards appear similar at first sight, but the difference is this: the former is flat, while both are thicker at one side than at the other, the backing boards are cut flat at the thick edge, while the cutting boards are chamfered off. The backing boards are of one uniform thinness, and are designed to cover the entire sides of a volume, excepting the raised edge above the groove on either side, formed by the beating of the back over the thick portion of the backing-boards—of which hereafter.

The plough-shear, or cutter, has a rather rounded, vandyke-shaped point, and when sharpened should be kept in the same form. The knocking-down iron is of an oblong shape, flat at each side, and having a handle on the end of them, by which they are held down, laid on one edge, the sewn but unbound volume is hammered against it. A common flat iron might be employed as a substitute by an experienced binder, if so disposed. The sewing-press consists of the stand, or "bed," the two vertical screws, the cross-bar, on which there are five or more movable rings called "lay cords," to which the hempen cords, or "hands," which fasten the covers of a book to the leaves, are secured. Directly under the cross-bar, and in the "bed" or foot of the sewing-press, there is a long opening running the whole length of the cross-bar, which is called the "slot." The brazen legs resemble tuning-forks, having two prongs at one end, and opening out to the other, with a round hole through it. Enough now respecting our implements.

The processes of binding, and the order to be observed in the execution of its different departments is as follows:

1. Fold sheets, if a new book, or sew the covers to the boards.

2. Collate.

3. Roll or bent with a beating-hammer.

4. Toothing the edges.

5. Prepare end-papers, and paste them in.

6. Plough the fore edges.

7. Glue the back.

8. Round the back.


10. Fan out, and colour edges if desired.
having the right hand next the cords, and press the compartment against them, fitting the saw-cutstings to them, so each shall receive its cord in every leaf of the series. Hold the book with the proper sewing thread through the whole compartment (passing it inwards, from the outer edge of the fold) to make the first saw-cut, cutting the cord, then hold the first saw-cutting, at the nearest side of the cord; and passing it inwards, round the cord (on the other side of it) carefully avoiding to make any new hole. Complete the process through the back, making a complete circle round each cord successively, and out at the catch-stitch at the other end, and then repeat the process once more, and take up the process again; and tie the end of the thread at the spot where you began. When the third is laid on, raise the corner of the preceding compartment with your left hand, pass the needle under it, and bring it out from underneath inwards, passing it round the thread already sewn at the end, so as to secure all the catch-stitches together, successively. When all the series of compartments have been sewn together, fasten-off the thread at the catch-stitch by passing it round through itself.

This done, you may proceed to slacken the screws on either side, and remove the book from the sewing-press and keys. Cut the leaf into a straight line, so that the edge ends a couple of inches in length. Then take the book by the fore edge with your left hand very firmly to keep the whole in perfect position, lay it on the table, the thumb upwards, and the ends of the fingers underneath, that the back may rest flat, and hammer the back to make it less thick and bulky after the saw-cut is made. The fence of the press as tightly as possible, and placing the face of the "knocking-down iron" against each side successively, hammer the back again, while holding it flat, and prevent the accident of their being drawn through. The first and last sections or sheets must now be pasted to those next them.

If, however, the book to be bound is an old one, you are saved the trouble of folding, but you will have delicate work to do in separating the several compartments, sew and glued together. Lay the book successively back on the table, flatly, pressing the first compartment down well at its junction with the rest, and sever the threads before you draw them, one by one from the spread. As each is removed, clear off all the old glue from the folded edge, holding the knife as flat with the outer sides of the compartment as possible, so as to make no damage to the pages thereafter.

When all the sections are folded, or divided, and cleaned, they should be rolled, the "dog's ears" having been previously opened out. But if a roller is not to be had, it would be well beaten with a broad towel. weight "beating-hammer" upon a hard stone or iron, the volume divided into small parts of not more than an inch or two. Should you have no "beating-hammer," nor iron slab or stone, you might place between pressing-boards under a heavy press. Let all the backs be even with each other, knocking the series with the backing-hammer at the "head," or top of the leaves, but not at the "tail," or under part of the leaf, or on the folded edges. A roller-press would be desirable; but this, as well as a binder's press, is expensive; the former is a little dangerous to the fingers; and the latter is apt to look under the roller, and a common table-linen press would serve as a substitute.

The next part of the process is to place the book, still held firmly in the press, on top of the back-boarding, the latter placed about the eighth of an inch below the corners of the book; and then all must be secured firmly in the lying-down press, so as to hold the book during the sawing across it. If the book be an old one you must avoid the old saw indentations, and make new ones; if one that has never been bound, saw five times (more or less) across the back at equal distant places. Large folios should be sawn in six or seven places, an octavo volume in five, smaller and thinner ones in three, the saw selected having teeth both close and fine. Having taken the volume, carefully adjusted between the back-boarding, and tightly held in the left hand, slip it down between the edges of the press, leaving the back about an inch above them. This is an operation that demands much care, for there must be no slipping of the compartments, and the least slackness of either the latter askew between those of the press. Then turn the screw with your right hand, and remove the volume to readjust it should it fall out of position in so doing. If it is liable to do so, the incisions made by the saw should be only deep enough to receive the "bands," or hempen cords, and the compass of the latter depend on the size and weight of the book to be bound.

You will observe that in good binding a rather longer space is left between the last space and the "head," and between the first "band" and the "head"; your incisions with the saw should therefore be regulated accordingly. Another point to be remembered, before using the saw, is the fact that a space at head and tail must be left beyond the first and last "bands," respectively, for what is called the "catch stitch" (or by order of the paper maker is made with a band toward the middle of the volume, at half an inch from each end. Within these the incisions are now to be made.

The sewing-press must next be prepared. Take the hempen cord to form the bands, and cut from the ball as many lengths as you have made incisions. They should be about half-a-dozen times the thickness of the book in their respective lengths. Tie them with a slipknot to the rings on the cross-bar, and pass each cord into the fork of a brass key, then twisting it several times, raise the key, and pull the first, first so adjusting the length of the cord from the cross-bar as that it shall reach the "head," or foot-board of the press. Then turn the key round to the left, and again to the right, and back again into the fork of the key, and fix the latter under the front part of the stand, and the loose end of the cord through the hole at the other end of the key. Having thus measured and regulated the length of each band so that they shall be precisely similar one to another, or to the usual size of the book, wind them from the key, and paste them all down through the "slot," fixing them securely by the two ends of each key.

You must now turn the screws by the nuts on either side until the bands are as tight as harp-strings, and proceed to fit them into the saw-cutstings. Take the first compartment in the left hand, and hold the book, turning it so by the introduction of the forefinger, each leaf fitting tightly into its fellow. Stand at the end of the sewing press, on the left side,
thing. In other words they encourage us to work, to correct our errors in writing, and help us to become realistic and not "shams."

2. As encouragement their value is scarcely of any consequence to us, and to those who are brave enough to work for love of the game itself the satisfaction which comes from having done well in an examination is beyond description.

3. As guides, especially to private students, who have few opportunities of judging from any other standpoint than their own, they often shape the position they take in the world at large when measured by a general standard of opinion.

Many points might be given here, but we will reserve for another view of the case, what has been called the wrong uses of examinations:

1. The narrowing of the depth and breadth of intelligent culture and the degeneracy into a system of cram and superficial knowledge in order to secure a "pass" must always be looked upon by true educators as a wrong use of examinations, and yet how often are we ourselves guilty of the same? The question is not one of the matters. Where does the fault lie? Is it in the pupil? In the teacher? In the examination system itself?

2. The pushing of on quick pupils to obtain distinctions, to the disadvantage of the moderate and slow workers in a class, is another wrong use to which some persons put examinations.

3. The undue pressure put upon some to secure success, whether self-inflicted or otherwise, which cannot be a good or right use of examinations, and yet how often are we ourselves guilty of this pressure. Injudicious parents in some cases urging their children forward; enthusiastic Pharisees and zealous young brains; or ambitious and over-taught students pursuing a reckless and ill-regulated course of study to pass an examination, in which its very preparation has eaten out the life and health.

The inquiry into this phase of the subject might be pursued much further, but we will proceed. For the object of the examination is to test students in examinations, both good and bad, and leave our readers to decide what they consider to be advantages or disadvantages. In their reflections they can ask us to consider whether the system of examinations is always at fault, or whether the evils which arise may not spring in many cases rather from its evil use.

1. Examinations help us to establish an approximate standard of the requirements and culture of people in the mass. This enables us to classify and arrange persons and things. It helps us to put the "right person in the right place."

2. Examinations often require great detail and exhaustiveness of work, hence they encourage patient research and steady perseverance.

In many cases they create a desire for the best, for excellence in everything one undertakes, for reaching up much more than is required to "pass" the special subjects of study, for wider and better reading than one has been accustomed to indulge in, for real thought and serious inquiry for legitimate grounds upon which to form a judgment on a given subject; in fact, they tend to produce the most admirable order of mind.

3. But examinations are often productive of undue emulation, jealousy, and prejudice. They sometimes, especially when success (as often happens) for "cramming," produce a contagious ill-regulated and unorderly order of mind: we know these people tolerably well, and give them a class to themselves in the world. We call them "prigs."

4. Some examinations have such definitely marked features that, after a little careful analysis of previously given questions, their requirements may be reduced to the state of a series of "adventures" both among teachers and pupils, to "cram" up to the particular points and produce an artificial and much-to-be-deplored "preparation" of the subject. One might compare this to a veneered furniture, plated metal, &c., which are often well got up, expensive, showy, but valueless.

5. Examinations are accused of producing nervous diseases and mental disorders. We cannot deny that they sometimes do this. But why? Are there no circumstances to blame outside of the examination?

What little child is there who is incapable of answering a question? Who is thrown into a state of nervous excitement because a question is put to us. There may be some children of this kind, but are they healthy? What boys or girls are there who will not have to answer many questions during life; accept many positions not always quite in keeping with their wishes; fulfill many duties which are not real pleasures? What man or woman there will not be called upon to pass in many judgments and responsible steps in many duties of life; to undertake many duties which will not be perfectly agreeable.

My reader who has so far followed will agree with me that some sort of preparation should be given to the little one for the duties of youth, and to the youth for the duties of manhood. The preparation could be given in many cases than by a systematic examination. One point only I insist on, the examination shall be suited to the age, requirements, and condition of the examined. By degrees the nervousness, indecision, hesitation, fear, &c., will all disappear, and a clear, cool, decided, well-regulated mind will come out of such a course of training. When people plunge headlong into impossible studies and work at impossible speed to make up for defective training or idleness, or to satisfy an unworthy ambition, or from some other cause, then these evils will result; but I deny that the examination itself is the sole cause of the evil.

6. One evil I should like to point out specially to the readers of THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER. It is the increased production of unsatisfactory books, known as "memo" books, or "processed," which, as a rule, replete with errors, but they are cheap and have a wide circulation. They should be avoided. They are deceptive, and those who build up their minds on such a foundation will be shallow, frivolous, and conceited.

Let us now for a short time turn our attention to the best methods of preparing for an examination.

All who have read carefully up to this point will realise that the writer assumes that no one would attempt to pass a public examination without having a good foundation of general knowledge. Now we may fairly launch out into the question of particulars.

1. First of all the subject of the syllabus of which you will be expected to answer questions upon.

2. Obtain the necessary books required.

3. Fix the certain amount of time to be devoted to the subject and keep to it.

4. Concentrate your whole thoughts and attention on the subject in hand. Do not for one moment suppose that you can comfortably carry on a conversation with your friends while you are "getting up" the prescribed pages.

5. Make from memory notes of the portions you feel you have mastered, and compare these with those of your friends.

6. Clear up every difficulty as you go, either by reference to other books or to persons to whom you can apply.

7. Never be satisfied with "that which will do" unless you have done your best.

8. Provide yourself with copies of questions, which have already been given in previous examinations, and test yourself by them.

A good preparation for examination cannot surely fail to produce a good pass, and to secure this let us sum up a few points to be remembered:

1. Carry out fully all the printed rules provided for you.

2. Write clearly and distinctly, and spell well.

3. Write your answers (for the most part) at once on the examination paper. Do not make rough copies. There is not time to copy, for one thing: and in copying mistakes often occur.

4. Do not write something that you happen to know in the place of something that you happen not to know. Answer the question more fully as to its use, and that the point. The question, the whole question, and nothing but the question, will be a good motto for examinaries.

5. Do not spend too much time over the first few questions. Find out how many questions are expected of you and arrange the time given to the best possible advantage.

Read your question twice before writing your answer, and be sure that you see exactly what is required of you.

This inquiry, though far from complete, will perhaps open up a new view of the subject to some who are interested in examinations.

It will be clear that there are several ways of viewing an examination before we give a judgment as to its use, and that the answers to certain natural defects in examination systems as in most other things in this life. We do not put them forward as being perfect, but we do wish to view those who have tried to do good and in some modus most are probably the people who have never thought of them in the true light, and who include among them some persons who regard them in the light of inventions, and as instruments of torture.

J. P. M.

BOOKBINDING.—III.

PREPARATION.—To prepare the plough, including the cutter, or shears, with the screw, and wadding the frame of the plough with a scrap of paper, if unsatisfactory.
time, and probably tear, or rub them out of place, and fail to give a clean and polished surface. As the process of scoring is going on remove any loose shreds of the paper which may be in the way. Having scored both the front and back of the boards, and of the leaves uncut for the present.

The next business is to glue the back to hold all the sewn compartments the better together, and to take them off the frame and retain it, produced by the process called "rounding." Take the back-hammer and beat the book at the back and head, and when Queen Anne's book is laid on the table, ready to be laid on the table, ready to show the face of the hammer to flatten it on the latter, and, after several blows, stop and try the book, then turn the book and the cover, and beat them in the same way. On closing the book after the repetition of this process it will have assumed the form desired.

The form has now come for plunging the head and tail, and the cutting-boards are to be placed again in position, first for the head and then for the tail, always keeping the back of the book and then the edges will be ready for colouring, if desired.

In case you should wish, for example, to give your book red edges, procure some powder for that purpose, mix it with paste and lay down all the leaves on the table, or "fanning" them, i.e., opening them all out, so as to show each other's edges successively, one beneath another. First hold one end of the book, and when the other end is "fanned" pass a brush dipped in the vermilion paste over the edges, then hold it at the other end as before, and continue colouring and painting it also. Afterwards turn the book on the other side, and repeat the double operation as before described.

When the slips are out of the way, replace the backboards, the thick edge of the boards towards the back of the book, at about the sixteenth of an inch from it on either side. Tighten the vice of the laying-press on the boards and book, the back upwards. Then (the glue being tacky, and nearly dry) the grooves on either side of the back have to be formed. To accomplish this take the hammer and beat the back with the sharp, adze-shaped end, crosswise (or slanting), not on the rounded centre of the back, but only on the side to the regular cutting lines, and then down on the other side, always taking the same forward direction. This will press the angles of the back over the backboards, forming a groove on either side near them.

It is time now that the millboard covers be prepared. The "flying-hams," of Maldenhead, is one of the best described. All kinds are sold by weight, and the heaviest are superior in quality, the black being made of pure gum, and the darkening the harder the better. A new sort of board has lately been manufactured, which is composed of wood-pulp, and intended to supersede the common millboard. Whichever may suit your purpose, lay a sheet on the table and the book upon it, and measure accurately with the wingcompass, obtaining the width by extending it from the back of the book to the edge of the smaller bolt, or fold in the foredge. Then mark the length and width on the millboard with the bodkin. After scoring them up, knock them square, they can be cut by hand, and the plough laid up against the machines, or, held steadily by hand in a cutting-press, under the sort of lever-guillotine knife; or else by means of fixing one handle of the machine to a firm support, and the other pair of holes are to be pierced, those nearest to the back being opposite the hemp cords belonging to them; open out the strands of the slips, scrape the points, and taking a little paste between your thumb and forefinger, twist them into points so as to pass them easily through the holes to be made in the covers. Take the bodkin, or awl, and pierce the first hole slantwise through the cover, first on the outside, about half-an-inch from the edge which is to lie in the grove of the back, and then turn the cover over, and make a fellow-hole cut through the cover again in a sloping direction from the first, and about half-an-inch from it. Pass a thread through this "draw in" firmly, tapping them gently so as to close the frayed pieces of the holes closely upon each other, and then cut them off flush with the covers, and space them alternately on the knocking-down iron, and, holding the hammer very square, beat them gently, till quite flat with the boards.

The pasting of end-papers should now be finished; two leaves on each side will be loose, the third or coloured leaf is to be pasted down inside each millboard cover. The millboard may be left to dry, this should be done when the boards are made.

This accomplished, fix the book into the laying-press, and cut out the thick brown-paper dress for making a spring back. It should be made double the width of the back, and an inch longer at each end, and then folded double. Glue the back of the book, and lay one-half of the brown paper along it, taking care that it be laid on the outer side of one of the folds. Rub it down well with the folder; lay back over it the loose half of the brown paper, and make the remaining half of the fold, dividing the loose portion at each end, head and tail of the book, making the cutting in the crease of the fold nearly as far up as possible. Then cut off the ends of the glued half of the brown paper quite flush with the head and tail of the book.

The binder's cloth should next be prepared. Cut out a piece a good inch wider than the covers of the book every way. Lay it on the table upon a clean sheet of paper, the inside upward, and have another thin glue quickly all over it with a large firm brush, and not very thickly laid on. Remove any scraps that the brush may leave, and fix the book in the laying-press, cover both first one side, and then turning it over on the back to lay it on the other side. Take the folder then and rub the cloth very carefully and rapidly over, making it adhere to the covers in every part, and fit well into the grooves. Next, hold up all the leaves with the left hand, resting the back of the book on the table, and the cloth, under the back of the book at head and tail with the folder, there being an opening in the spring-board for its insertion. After this, take the shem, roll it so as to fit the four corners of the cloth, but not quite flush with those of the millboard. Indent the back of the cloth, and with the shem, so as to make a sharp fold closely to the millboard when turning in the cloth. Draw the margin evenly over at the side, and then each end successively, repeating the operation on the other side. Shut the book speedily when the work is done; lay the pressing-boards on either side, within the grooves, and place all exactly in the centre of the press, or under a heavy weight.

(To be continued.)

THAT AGGRAVATING SCHOOL GIRL.

By the Author of "Wild Kathleen."

CHAPTER XXIX.

"WISH AS SERPENTS, HAMILKS AS DOVES."

ELLEN! Oh, Ellen, I want to dance up to the moon, exclaimed Rosie Bell, by way of morning greeting, one day as she danced into her schoolfellows' room.

Helen Edison's converse was sufficiently not to be very greatly endangered by any ordinary shock, but nevertheless the colour that rushed into her cheeks was somewhat too brilliant as she looked at the child's beamingly happy face and started forward to ask what caused her excitement.

"Come here, little one," called Mrs. Edison: "come here and sit down, and tell Ellen you are to give her no explanation until she comes back to her breakfast. To-morrow morning," added the mother, smiling, and addressing her daughter, "you shall have it in bed again by way of punishment for getting up from the table in this fashion."

"Suppose I sit on the bed to eat my dinner to-day instead, please ma'am?" was asked demurely and with folded hands, and then an eager return to the little schoolfellows.

"But now, Rosie, out with that news of yours. It will burn a hole in your mouth as money does in my pocket."

"I think it's much more likely to serve me as that sugar-plum did yesterday, and choke me," laughed the child. "But you know, Helen, I ought not to have made you think so much about it, for it is nothing much to concern you, after all; excepting as you care about me and Josephine. For they are not your papa and mamma, you see, and you don't even know them a weeny bit."

As Rose finished this long and somewhat incoherent speech she wound up breathlessly with a "Don't Helen! how can you? What an ugly face!"

"Mrs. Edison also laughingly ejaculated, "Don't Helen; you look a perfect little fright."

"Little, mamma?" was the slow, grave inquiry; "rather a lanky little, isn't it? But I am sorry I look a fright."

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Prepared glair (a pint can), 1s. 6d.

Also book-binders' varnish, to be used
when glair has been applied, and then
polished.

A small sponge, &c.

Leaving the subject of lettering, let us con-
sider that of employing leather for
binding, instead of the more common use of
some variety in their several modes of treat-
ment. Into all these we have no space to
enter, but shall give a sketch that may serve
for all so far as to lay the skin on the table,
and be careful that you do not cut it cross-wise or
diagonally; select a part where it is of
uniform thickness throughout, lay the book
cover flat, and make a parallel line
all round it, to show the exact size. Then,
with the knife well sharpened, cut out the
cover, leaving a space between the knife and
the pencilled line of about three-quarters of
an inch every way. This margin will be re-
quired for turning in. As Russian and Mo-
rocco leather is thicker than cloth, a "French
knife" will be requisite for the purpose of
paring or thinning the edges, more especially
just at the head and tail of the back. Hold
the knife in a very sloping direction, laying
two fingers on the blade, and, as the cover lies
on a sheet of thick glass, or on a marble slab,
cut away the thick, rough, inside part of the leather, after the manner of a paper cutter, to make it flat
forward, with the back towards you. The
leather will require to be held firmly, and an
examination of the thinning process should be
frequently made to ascertain the progress, and
that no holes are produced by over-shaving.
Russians and Moroccos, and calf need to be
damped with a sponge, before being glued all over
on the inside; but, to save a costly shaving process,
calf needs only to be pared at the head
and tail of the back; and the damping of it
with a sponge, accomplished when the cover is
on the book, before it is closed, lay the entire open book flatly down upon it;
then take all up, stand the book on the fore-edge,
and draw the cover well down with both
hands, across the back and over the sides,
and cover the head-bands with a scrap of paper
each, to preserve them from the glue. It is
very usual to turn in the edges of the leather
by means of a tool to prevent the extrusion of
the glue. The rest of the covering process is as
for calico.

In covering with wool—as with callic—only
the back itself should be turned, the sides being
backed on. In using velvet, the back only should be glued at first; and, then,
when set, the sides. In case the pressure of
the fingers should have marked it, raise the
pile by holding it over steam, and, perhaps,
giving a gentle brushing the right way of
the velvet. Should silk or satin be employed,
you must line it first, by affixing thin paper
with a slight cost of thin glue to it; and
when pressed, and quite dry, then proceed to
cover the book—first, the back only, and
when set, the sides.

There is no description of binding-material
so indispensable as vellum; of these there are
three kinds—the Roman, Oxford, and Artisans'.
The latter has a very white, and artificial surface;
the Oxford is, on the contrary, left in its
natural state; and the Roman, which is darker
in color. There is also an artificially-made
kind of vellum, much in vogue in France, but is composed of unsize
d paper which has been dipped in a bath of
glittered oil of ointment. The genuine article is
unique, and its value made of vellum will need careful yet rapid spounding
before use. That called artists' vellum will
scarcely bear the name. All parts de-
signated for gliding will receive a coat of
vellum, then work in "blind," preserving
a uniform and common outline for the glair
painting and "cooling." Much pleather
handling is to be adopted in reference
to vellum than leather; and the mussel must be
only warm, not hot, otherwise it will cut the
string. The blades of the binding-press, with a
sharp knife, is placed upon a covered plate of
pressed wax, in order to ensure the adherence
of the pasted label.

I give a talk on the proper order to be
observed in the processes of binding in the first
part of this series; but did not include the
insertion of "head-bands," because they are
not required in all bindings. By these I
mean the small strap of colored silk or cotton,
either worked or cut from a piece and pasted on, at the head and tail of more bound-by-the-volume volumes. It is reserved
decoration for some unusual case when dealing
with those materials with which they are
associated. They may be purchased readymade,
and worked in silk or cotton, at from
2s. 3d. to 4s. 6d. for two pieces. But they
may be cheaply manufactured at home by using coloured calico of some bright and
tightly-woven cloths. Get a piece with a very
fine stripe—for example, a white and red—
and with a small cord make what workwomen
call a "piping" of it, with glue; and using
the "piping," roll, and calico in closely
round the cord. Cut the calico to fit the
proper width to fit round the back of
the book, about an inch wide or more; then
glue the cord and roll to the back, and place
the head-bands in position upon them, smoothing
the ends of the calico inwards and up the
back. After this, the spring-back is put
in, the book is lined, and the covering with
leather to follow. The requirements of
superior head-bands I need not here
describe. Like the decorative work of the
cover, it can be learnt when the novice
has thoroughly acquired the art of binding in
its cheaper and simpler forms.

Should you wish to bind music, an atlas,
or any wide volume which should lie flat on
the table when opened, a "flexible" or elastic
back should be made, instead of a "spring" or
open one. In this case a few other appara-
tions will be needed, such as a "binder's
raps," some line unbleached calico, a sheet of
brown paper, and a solution of mullerbus
instead of glue. This solution is sold in tins,
having an inspiring power for a dozen 8vo.

Three parts of it should be used in the
back of the music book, and two to a strip of
the calico, which latter should lap over half
an inch on each side. In preparing the back
for the solution you must rub and indent the
folded edges composing the back with the
bakers' raps, so as to leave crevices for the
reception of as much of the solution as pos-
sible. The head-band is secured by gluing
a piece of fine calico all down the back cover-
ing the ends of the head-bands.

Leather binding, whether flexible or
otherwise, is an invention to keep hands
free, or at least to save the book from
risograms, and to make it more suitable for
handling. For "blind-cooling" lines across, above,
and below such rib or band, on the back, you
will need an extra tool, called a "pallet."
LADIES' WORK AMONG NAVAL AND MILITARY OFFICERS.

First, however, we must let our heads spin in the air, and as we do so, we must always remember that we are not alone; that we have a great many friends who are with us in the same struggle, and that we can count upon their support and assistance. The first step is to form a society, and to choose a worthy leader who will be able to guide us in our efforts. In this way, we can make progress, and our work will be rewarded with success.

As we walk through the streets, we must always keep our eyes open for opportunities to minister to the needs of those around us. We must be kind and helpful, and we must always be ready to give a hand in any way that we can. It is not enough to sit idle and do nothing; we must always be on the lookout for ways to do good.

In conclusion, I would like to say that this is a noble work, and that it is one that we can all do. With God's help, we can make a real contribution to the world, and we can be proud of the work that we do. Let us all work together, and let us be united in our efforts to bring about a better world.