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THAT BROTHER OF MINE.

Who is it comes to life a whirlwind
And closes the story with a clash,
And, before he has talked his hat off,
Calls out for "some bread and some hash"?
Who is it that whistles as merrily
As he works at some tangled twine
That will end his life up into cordwood
Wig, of course it's that brother of mine.

Who is it that, when I am weary,
Has always a hole in his coat,
A button to sew on in a hurry,
I will be made for a boat?
Who is it that keeps his set bracket
The morning and long fishing line,
And reports, undismayed, there to find them?
No one else but that brother of mine.

Who is it that follows most softly,
Whenever I'm sick or in pain,
And is every minute inquiring
And whistling some loud quieting strain?
Who is it that when he is trying
To be just as still as he can,
Is always most terribly noisy?
My brother, of course—he's the man.

Who is it I'd rather have by me
When in need of a true, honest friend?
Who is it that I shall miss most
When his boyhood has come to an end?
And when he is far from the old home,
And I long for a glimpse of resemblance,
Whom then do you think I shall most for?
Why, of course, for that bother of mine.
—Agnes L. Pratt in Good Housekeeping.

GIRLS CAN KEEP SECRETS.

Guilbound Greek Letter Societies That Exist in Colleges for Women.

In the coeducational colleges the girls are not dependent upon the coming of the young men for entertainment by any means. They have quite as good times in their petticoat clubs and secret societies as in any gathering in which the young men participate. The invitations of the Greek letter fraternities are strange and mysterious to the last degree, and are all that ancient mystery and originality can devise. One of the chief charms to the uninitiated is the spell of mystery that environs all the ceremonies. Every chapter has its room or hall, where are kept the sacred emblems, the white goat upon which all initiates must ride into full membership and the precious documents that are never touched by strange hands.

In this room only are told the significance of the badge, the motto and the real name of the fraternity, and all the secrets that never penetrate those silent walls. Of course the initiations are duly imposing, and all sorts of tricks are played to test the nerves of the candidate. One chapter conducts the bewildered initiate through all the mazes and labyrinths of the infernal as expounded by Dante with due impressiveness. Generally the w'ole proceedings wind up with a feast. The girls' initiation do not partake of that roughness or brutality which often characterize such ceremonies in the men's fraternities, such as stripping the delighted victim to a derrick and raising him twenty or thirty feet to dangle in midair while he reflects upon the novelty of the situation and makes mental note of his impressions, or lowering him in a coffin that he may contemplate the dismal mysteries of the grave underneath. Sometimes even the location of the chapter hall is not known outside the fraternity.

In one of the western colleges where considerable antagonism sprung up against fraternities the authorities determined to abolish the chapters already in existence and took every means to discourage their growth. A rule was made forbidding the establishment of women's chapters. Now if there is anything in the world that a coed wishes to do, it is just what she is forbidden to do, and it takes no more than generally entirely to do it too. After a while the faculty began to suspect that their prohibition had not had just the effect it was intended to have. A committee of several coeds among the model students was appointed by the authorities to act as detectives and report the result of their investigations.

The girls reported that they had found no clue whatever to follow out and that having made a careful investigation had found no evidences of infringement of the rule. Of course murder will out, and it was subsequently learned that three of the five on the committee belonged to a fraternity which had an elegant finishing establishment for a long time. The young women met in a storeroom in the upper part of a business block in the town. The only means of access was through a dark room, several dim passages and up a ladder like a flight of stairs. The chamber not here over a week for over a year and enjoyed the most delightful seclusion imaginable.

It was in this same college that several of the girls played a prank upon one of the professors, and afterward slid down a rope from the third story window to avoid detection in the halls. The more dangerous the proceeding and the more serious the consequences if the offender is found out the more the western college girl enjoys the risk. She wears nothing wild, and if she is in for a prank goes into it with all her might.—Chicago Herald.

A Plea for Co-education.

Education is for the purpose of developing and cultivating the thinking power. It is to the end of making a knowing, thinking mind. The higher education is for the realization of broad knowledge and wide thinking. When we know this we know that the sister in a household should be educated as her brother is educated; that the mother should have the power by reason of her own service through art, literature, history, art, the varied good things of life, to guide and train the thought power of her children; that the wife should be in intellectual companionship her husband, ever stimulating and inspiring him by her thinking, and never giving him opportunity to depreciate, or seem to depreciate, her mental capacity in comparison with his own.

It is too late in the world's history to think that a woman's mind is not of as much consequence as a man's mind, or that, whatever may be her peculiar sphere, she is not to be richly, broadly and, if we may use the word, thoroughly educated as well as he.—Dorothy Dwight in Forum.

Babies.

A baby is born at every beat of the human heart. That is more than one for every tick of the clock. These "little strangers" on the peaks call babies "Stepping-stones from heaven." Take wings and fly back whence they came one for every minute of the day. From Jan. 1 to December 31, 50,000 and more, on their peaks are dropped into this cold world.

There are more baby girls than boy babies. The proportion of female births to male births is as 105 to 100. So that between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 more girls are born in the world each year than boys. There is always a surplus of women, and the excess number of girl babies keeps up the supply.

The rate of infant mortality is enormous. In rural districts, 5,000,000 babies never live long enough to talk. 2,000,000 never never have a chance to walk or run and 3,000,000 never never get old enough to go to school.—Ibid.

A GOOD FRAME HOUSE.

It Has Modern Improvements and Was Built for Three Thousand Dollars.

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This is a design for a really well built frame residence with all the modern improvements. The first floor is two feet above grade line and is reached by broad steps leading up to front veranda, whence a door opens into a vestibule of suitable

PERSPECTIVE VIEW.

size which opens into the sitting hall. This room is of goodly size and contains a fine ornamental staircase. The parlor on the left is quite large and is connected with the sitting hall by a wide sliding door. The dining room is large and is connected with sitting hall and parlor by wide sliding doors, so that on occasion these rooms can easily be thrown together. In the sitting hall is a very arched mantel containing an open fireplace. There is also an open fireplace in the dining room. Both closets are furnished with mantels of neat design.

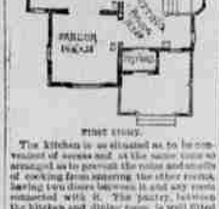
FIRST STORY.

The kitchen is so situated as to be convenient of access and at the same time so arranged as to prevent the odor and smoke of cooking from entering the other rooms, having two doors between it and any room connected with it. The pantry, between the kitchen and dining room, is well fitted with shelves, bins and cupboards. A slide panel connects the drain table in the pantry with the sink in kitchen. A stairway leads to the cellar from a small room opening off the kitchen.

SECOND STORY.

The back stairs to the second story is inclosed, having doors at bottom and top to prevent smells from reaching that floor. The bay window in the dining room is roofed square, with a projection above containing three windows from the chamber on second floor. The front window in the parlor has a polished plate glass 60 by 72, with a 10-inch stained glass transom over.

On the second floor are four good rooms, besides a bathroom and dressing room. The hall chamber is furnished with open fireplace. A stairway leads from the hall to the attic overhead. The house is finished



FOUNDATION AND CELLAR.

with white pine throughout, except kitchen, which is finished in yellow pine. The entire first floor is finished natural. The frame is of the usual construction, containing first class materials throughout. The first story is clapboarded, while the second story and gables are shingled. The house is well plastered and heated by a furnace placed below hall and connected with all principal rooms. The dwelling was constructed and fully finished at Carthage, Ills., at a total cost of $3,000.

Height of ceilings: Cellar, 7 feet; first story, 10 feet; second story, 8 ft. 6 in. to the crest. GEO. W. PAYNE.

Fruit Chips.

If you have good china which is not in daily use, by all means brighten up your dining room by keeping it in the room. Black and yellow oilcloth are very effective, with glass dishes, and are very easily made. White and yellow would be also, if the coloring of the room is delicate, as it probably will be in these days of Colonial revival. In many instances pretty china is more pleasing to the eye than polished, unless the latter are very good and carefully chosen.—Decorator and Furnisher.

Use a small composition paper basin for the water for baby's tub, as these basins are very light and can be easily handled.

When onions are being cooked, the strong, disagreeable odor may be lessened by placing vinegar on the stove.

MARKET GARDENING.

American Agriculturist Tells How Competition Affects It.

Since the establishment of extensive truck farms in the south, and the great celery fields in Michigan and Ohio, the market gardens of the north have in some respects been materially affected by the competition. However, the greater supply of fresh vegetables, though a greater period of the year, has materially increased consumption, especially in the smaller towns and cities. The occasional oversupply and consequent low price gives even the very poorest people an opportunity to purchase vegetables other than potatoes and cabbage, and so in the end the local market gardener's trade is increased, although he must always lower prices than he has received in former years.

His profits must come through a better knowledge of his business that will enable him to produce larger and better crops at less cost, yet, as the greater yield can only come from land heavily enriched and thoroughly prepared, there must be a considerable investment at the outset. Gardeners within access of a city water supply avail themselves of this means for irrigation as occasion may require, while others are wholesale and tackle, but are seldom able to irrigate as fully as required in a hot, dry time when water is most needed. In some of the larger gardens, where extreme drought for two or three weeks might mean the loss of thousands of dollars, steam pumps and full irrigation plants have been constructed at great expense. Thus the most complete crops are secured and these gardens are turning out produce far beyond anything ever thought of by our gardeners of former generations.

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