# THE UNHAPPILY WEN

Community of Women Who Have Found Marriage a Failure.

Members Have Different Trades and Professions and Provide for Sach Others' Kreds Without Male Assistance.

Out in Mount Pleasant, one of the prettiest suburbs of Washington. there is a large brick house which shelters a unique community commisting of 135 women under the government of Mrs. Martha Mc Whirter. Most of them have found marriage a fallure and have left worthless or incompetent husbands to enjoy life in a sisterhead where each can do exactly as she pleases, provided she contributes her share to the general purse, and does nothing to disturb the harmony of the family. They do not live lives of idleness, but each performs a certain mount of labor under the direction of Mrs. McWhirter, who seems to be a woman of remarkable personality and executive ability, says the Chicago Becord-Herald.

Some years ago, in a letter from Texas, I told an interesting story of four women at Belton, a little Texas town, who, having been deserted by their husbands and thrown upon their own resources, established a boarding house which soon grew into a hotel and had the reputation of being the best in the state. Nobody but women were temployed, except one negre man, who did the heavy lifting and took care of the horses. This hotel became 10 popular that the proprietors started several others like it at Waco and in different parts of Texas, and they were all successful under the capable management of Martha McWhirter. They started laundries, also, and other enterprises which brought large profits, and within a few years enabled Mrs. McWhirter to retire from active labor with money enough laid by to support healelf and her companions in comfort during the rest of their lives. In looking about the country for a location which suited her health and taste, Mrs. McWhirter found the elimate and conditions at Washington agreeable. She bought two large houses in Mount Pleasant, remodeled them into a single mansion of 40 rooms and invited to this shelter a limited number of distressed sisters who had found the matrimonial yoke wearisome and sought peace.

The community has gradually grown and now consists of 25 women of 30 years old and upward, who are living what they consider an ideal life. Each one who enters the community surrenders to it all the property she possesses, and it goes into the common fund, which is quite e. The amount It is estimated all the way from \$100,-1000 to \$500,000. They agree also to obey the orders of their superior and submit to the rules of the organiza-"tion, which are few and simple, and mre chiefly for the regulation of labor. Mrs. McWhirter assigns the duities of her subordinates. There is only one man about the place, and he is...an aged negro, the same who was employed by them at their original wenture at Belton, Tex., 20 years ago. He does the heavy outdoor work, and the women are assigned to whatever -they can do best inside. One of them is a physician, who not only looks after the health of the community. but answers calls from the neighborhood. Another is a dentist, who has a chair and a case of instruments in the reception-room of the house, which makes upprotected male visitfors apprehensive. Others are seamstresses and milliners, although exstravagance in dress is prohibited, and one is a shoemaker, who not only mends, but makes the footwear of the household. Mrs. McWhirter seelects the cooks and the housemaids according to their dastes and qualifications, and thus far, she tells me, there have been no "kickers."

Every woman in the community has scheerfully accepted the situation and performed the duties to which she has been assigned. The labor is light, being distributed among so many, and as the underlying principle of the community is to promote the peace, comfort and happiness of its Inmates, the effort of living has been peduced to a minimum.

The women have no politics and do anot pretend to be reformers. Nor do they interfere in any manner with the outside world. They enter the .community to obtain relief from care and anxiety and to avoid all responsi-"bility and everything that will inter-Aftere with their tranquillity. If they become tired of their restful surwoundings and desire to return to scenes of activity, they are allowed to leave, but they forfeit whatever they have contributed to the common fund. Two or three nervous creatures who sought the shelter of the community found that they could not endure its peaceful atmosphere and returned to their husbands. One of them soon regretted her vacillation, but they would not allow her to come back again. Each woman is allowed her own religion. No attempt is made to influence the conscience. No religious or political discussions are permitted. Mrs. McWhirter believes in a strict interpretation of the Bible, and a literal obedience to the teachings of Christ. She declares that the theologisms are to blame for much of the evil and unhappiness from which people suffer in this world: that controversy is destructive of happiness, but the teachings of Christ bring peace.

Louis XI's favorite diversion was watching trained pigs, av. fantastically dressed, they danced to music.

#### VATURE OF THE

Quarters.

and childhood later mine develops very manages, as will be presrandom, the causes are very slight; so that, to use the words of one of our most eminent medical authors: "It is really wenderful that most of us are telerably straight."

A slight saymetry of any one of the vertebrae of which the backbone is built up, or an abnormal development er lack of development of one of the muscles which hold it upright, is suf-Scient to produce a deviation from its proper position, says Youth's Compan-

This of itself would be of comparatively small moment if the organscontained within the trunk were not affeeted by any considerable change from its proper upright position. A interal curvature cannot exist without a shortening of the trunk, just as a bow when bent measures less from tip to tip than when it is unstrugg. This shortening in turn necessarily implies a crowding together of the organs contained within the trunk.

Constitutional weakness naturally tends to make lateral curvature of the spine more readily acquired. Of specine disorders which produce the same effect rickets is perhaps the chief.

With the knowledge that lateral deviation is thus easily caused, it is not to be wondered at that causes apparently very slight are frequently the only ones discoverable to account for certain of the many cases coming under the physicians' notice. A baby can scarcely support its back before it is three or four months old. Yet the proud nurse or mother not infrequently sets it erect, or carries it on her arm without a proper support, at a much earlier age.

Children who go to school at six or seven years of age are often compelled to sit on a badly shaped bench, sometimes with no support for the back, during school hours. The muscles become tired, and the child leans to one side, usually to the right.

A narrow space between the seat and the desk obliges the child to push between them, so that, in girls, particutarly, a drag is exerted on one shoulder; or the skirts form an uneven cushion, tilting the spinal column out of the perpendicular. Even in grown men and women occupations requiring a one-sided muscular action affect the vertebrae, and therefore the shape of the spine. In children the much softer bones are still more readily affected.

Parents may therefore be pardoned if they insist on abundance of room and considerable lack of restraint for young children in the schoolroom. Teachers have frequently to take the initiative in matters of school hygiene,

especially when their papils are from homes in crowded, unsanitary city tenements. Lateral cuswiture is rarely congenital. It is in most cases preventable,

#### hygienic measures. SLATE WRITING IS AN ART.

and cases taken in hand early are usu-

ally checked by strict observance of

May Be Acquired by Anyone Without Spirit Aid, Says This. detherity.

Spiritualistic slate-writing, if cleverly done, always makes a marked impression on a magician's audience, because it uterly baffles their efforts to detect the trick. They see a small cabinet suspended above the stage by means of cords or ribbons. It has an open frontand is empty. The magician turns it around so that every part of it may be seen and taps it inside and out with his wand, to show that it is hollow, says the New York Herald.

On a stand near by he has a small easel, a common school slate, a bottle of India ink with a quill pen in it and a few sheets of ordinary white writing paper. All these he passes around among the audience for examination. Then he fixes a sheet of the paper to the slate by means of wafers, places the slate on the easel in the cabinet, together with the bottle of ink, the latter having the pen still in it.

Having allowed the audience to see the articles thus arranged in the cabinet he throws a large silk handkerchief over it. Mysterious sounds are immediately heard, and the cabinet shakes as if some living thing had entered it. When the sounds and the shaking cease he removes the handkerchief, showing an inscription writen in bold black letters on the paper and the pen, not in the ink bottle, but lying on the bottom of the cabinet. He then removes the paper from the slate and passes it around for examination, when the writeing is immediately recognized as hav-

ing been done with India ink. The explanation of the trick is simple. The writing is done in advance by the performer, the fluid used being a solution of sulphuricacid of the purest quality. To make the solution 50 drops of the concentrated acids are added to one ounce of filtered water. Writing done with this solution is invisible until exposed to heat. When so exposed it comes out perfectly black, looking exactly like dried India ink.

The heat is applied by means of an electric current tunning over wire with which the slate is wound. The cords by which the cabinet is suspended conceal copper wires which conduct the current to the slate. Black silk threads auitably attached enable the performer to make the sounds in the cabinet, to cause the cabinet to shake and to jerk the pen out of the ink bot-

Several sheets of paper are prepared in advance, each with a different inscription, the performer telling one inscription from another by accretly marked pin pricks.

#### INSECTS IN WINTER.

Briven to Birange Hiding Piscos to Escape the loy Fingers of Jack Freet.

🐎 Often on a warm, sunny day in didwinter in England, where the oli-Ate is so much milder than it is in der northern latitude, one walking in halds will startle a swarm of oppers that will leap before kim. their hard bodies striking the dond leaves with a sound like hall. They are called "grouss grasshoppers." And during cold weather in this country the grasshoppers bids beneath the loose bark of logs or under the bottom rails of fences. The common field cricket often bids deflance to Jack Frost from within a little burrow or pit. This burrow shows as a pile of sand at the surface. but beneath is a small tunnel leading to an oblong chamber, and at its further end another tunnel running from three to six inches down into the ground, at the bottom of which the eggs are laid. The nest of the tree cricket is very interesting; the eggs are laid in the pith of raspberry stalks and grape shoots, and as the mother must hore through the tough stem, lay the egg and then close the opening with fluids from her month, the amount of work performed by her is incredible. She is a frail looking insect of a pale green color, with glassy wings, but she sometimes bores 40 or 50 holes, and lays as many eggs in a day. If you will examine the raspberry stalks during the winter you may often find long scars, showing where the holes have been bored. These eggs of the tree oricket remain all winter and hatch in the early summer.

But crickets have as many different methods of nest making as birds have, and while a few of the adults survive the winter, most of next summer's "shrillers" must hatch from the eggs in the various nests. The eggs are laid in autumn and hatch the following spring into little crickets that look like the grown ones, but have no wings until later on. Walking sticks lay their eggs loosely upon the ground, where they are more or less protected by the fallen leaves. Each egg has at the upper end a lid-like cover, and the tiny walking sticks, giways green at first, push open this lid in the spring and crawl out. Myriads of the eggs of grasshoppers lie in the ground, in compact masses of 40 to 60 each. They begin to hatch about mid-April, and are lively little insects without wings, but otherwise like their parents.

## MISSION INDIANS HOMELESS.

Have No Legal Right to the Lands Occupied by Thom in Southern California.

In carrying out the provisions of the mandate lately issued by order of the United States supreme court in the case of the Warner ranch against the Mission Indians of South Caroline, the sheriff of that section has not only a disagreeable duty to perform, but one that is felt by the residents of the section to be most unfortunate, says the St. Louis Repub-

Letters to this effect have been received at the interior department from the Indian agent, from the sheriff and from officials of the department of justice. While none of these criticises the supreme court in its action in the case, they will decry the necessity for dispossessing these Indians of their lands and homes which they have occupied for generation, and turning them out into the world without the means of sup-

The case in question reached the supreme court on error from the supreme court of the state of California, the action being brought to eject the Indians from lands claimed by what is known as the Warner ranch proprietors. The highest tribunal held that the Indians had no legal right to the land they had occupied, and that the mission of San Diego having admitted that the lands were not necessary to its support the occupants must remove. The question now before the Indian bureau is where to remove them and when. The people number about 200.

In the meantime the Warners have been requested to permit the Indians to remain upon their property until their present crops are harvested. This will be about the middle of

July. The Indian bureau has no funds with which to provide them homes, but they will not be permitted to suffer for the necessities of life, even if the regulations governing the distribution of funds have to be stretched a bit to fit the case.

A prominent official of the Indian bureau said the other day that this case would be the means of getting congress to make provision for the Mission Indians, for whom no funds has ever been set aside.

Spontaneous Combustion of Paper. Most of the paper now used is made from wood and other vegetable fibers. which are chemically not very different from the materials of which a hayrick is composed. Consequently if paper is stacked damp heating is likely to take place, just as it does with prematurely stacked hay, and at any time flames may burst out as the result of epontaneous combustion. -- Sci-

English Words Under Letter "A." In 50 years the words and phrases of the English language lexiconized under the letter "A" have increased from 7,000 in number to nearly 60,-800. Science and invention requiring new terms are largely responsible.

#### FOR PEMININE WEARERS.

Tailor Costumes for the Coming Beasensitevine for Afternoons and Receptions.

The fabrics composing some of the smartest tailor costumes for next season are made of a fine, light quality of French camel's-hair serge. They are silk-lined, but the shapely skirts are merely finished with rows of silk stitching. The little jacketfronts turn back from a vest of cream satin, showing a simple trimming of gold braid and buttons, tucking, briar stitching, or a dainty arrangement on each side of the front of silk appliques of very delicate coloring, says the New York Post.

En suite with skirt of satin-finished black peau de sole is a new bolero lacket of black valvet, finished around the lower part with scroll-like edges. White satin, covered with gulpurethe designs picked out with tiny jet and gold beads-forms the wide collar, revers, and small turn-back cuffs. The vest, with its high stock and full undersleeves gathered into a narrow band of the jet and gold, are of finely-tucked white satin.

One of the pretty tellet accessories (and a most becoming toilet accessory it is) is the ruff of silk, edged with fur, or a narrow line of plain or fancy chemille, round or flat. You purchase about four yards of silk; although of good quality, it need not be expensive. The silk is then cut into whatever width you wish the ruff, and accordion plaited. This done, add to the hem the narrow band of chenille and box-plait the silk through the center of the strip. Deep fringes of chenille may be fastened to the front for stole ends, if desired. Many women wear ruffs of this kind to concerts and at the theaters, instead of a collarette of fur. They are very becoming, to say nothing of the protection they afford, and very often the charitable service they mutely perform for undraped shoulders.

Black-and-white effects will be quite as prominent as ever during the coming season; for youthful wearers, who do not care for this combination, are blue, chestnutbrown, opal-gray, tan and Russiangreen covert suitings, with often two vents accompanying the tailor suit selected; one of deep red vesting, with hair-lines of gold or brown, the other of cream-color decorated with scroll and palm patterns in black and gold. When the darker colors are found more becoming, friar's or Oxford gray or deep sable-brown shades of silky English serge or cheviot, are worn with a vest of braided red cloth. Handsome black costumes are being prepared for the coming Lenten season in faced cloth, drap royal, camel's hair, Eolienne, costume satin, and mohair. For general spring wear, all the delicate neutral tones in cloth and soft, light wool take a prominent place among the season's favored materials.

Children's Friendships. From about the fifth or sixth year children are apt to make firm friendships with their small contemporaries. This should be a watchful period for mothers, for these early friendships have a marked influence on the mind, morals and manners of a child. Nearly every character is molded very largely by early companionship and surroundings. Every mother should take care to be her children's companion as far as possible, for she may be quite sure that if they are left to the care of servants they will at the best only attain the ideal manmers and customs of the mursery or servants' hall, which are not quite those of the cultured classes. Children require the companionship of little folks of their own age, and a mother should be so much her children's friend that she knows all their associates and is able to nip in the bud any acquaintance which she thinks undesirable. The mother who, to save herself fatigue, lets her children seek companions among their schoolmates and neighbors without troubling herself to find out whether their influence is likely to be good has only herself to blame if the manners and morals of her offspring are corrupted.-Washington Star.

# · A Humorist Perhaps.

African Explorer (an Englishman) -You can't imagine the dense ignorance of many tribes I met in the heart of Africa. Friend-I suppose they had no idea

what a missionary was? "Not the slightest! Why, I questioned one chief, and he said he had an idea a missionary was something good to eat!"-Brooklyn Life.

Bevarian Salad. Shred very fine two heads of lettuce, chop two onlons fine and cut one cold beet into cubes. Make a layer of the lettuce, toss together the beets and onion and pile on the lettuce. Marinate with a French dressing, pour over the top an oil mayonnaise and garnish with sliced olives .- Good

# French Tonet.

Housekeeping.

Best one egg in a shallow dish, add a teaspoonful of sugar, a pinch of salt and one cupful of milk; soak six slices of stale bread in the cuatard, drain and brown them on each side on a well-buttered griddle; spread them with jelly or marmalade and pile them lightly on a dish. Serve at once. -Good Literature.

To Clean Alabaster. Pound pumice stone to a fine powder

and mix it with verjuice. Let it remain several hours, then dip in a perfeetly clean sponge and rub the marble with it till clean. Rinse it off with clear, fresh water, and rub it dry with a clean linen cloth.-Gincinneti En-

#### I A MEAN REVENCE.

Tired Young Man Gives Breyfue Admirer a Widespread Paraxyam of Pala.

A well-dressed young man was sitting in a carette trying to win a glance of approval from a patrician maidea who sat opposite, relates the Chloago Tribune. In climbed an elderly Frenchman bearing a "jag" - not enough to bother him, but just enough to bother others. He carried in his hand a copy of a magazine containing an installment of Capt. Dreyfus' heartrending story, "Five Years of My Life," and he was just bursting to talk about it. He had hardly settled in his seat when he leaned forward impressively and, placing a hand upon the knee of the young man, exclaimed;

"Ah, sat Devil's island! Terrible, was it not?" The patrician maiden, observing the familiar action, thought the men must be acquainted, and, with tip-tilted nose, looked scornfully at the young man and his boosy friend. This made the young man angry. He was weary of the whole Dreyfus episode, anyway,

ing stolidly into the eyes of the Frenchman, he replied: "What's the matter with the place? 'Cold climate?"

and he determined on revenge. Gaz-

"No! No!" exclaimed the Frenchman in surprise. "It has the heat-the awful heat all the year! It almost burst his brain!"

"Why didn't he come away, then?" "How could he come away?" "Doing time, was he? How many

years did he get?" "How many years?" almost shricked the Frenchman, now thoroughly ex-

eited. "It was for all his life!" "So bad as that, ch? What did he "What did he do?" and the French-

man's eyes rolled in his head. "Have you not learn that he did nothingnothing-nothing at all? He iss martyr of France!" and his voice rose even. above the clatter of the pavement. "Who is this you are talking about?"

asked the young man, coldly. "Dreyfus! Dreyfus, of course!"

yelled the Frenchman. "Who is Drevius?" "What! You know not Dreyfus?"

"Never heard of him in all my life. Tell me about him," said the young man, without the quiver of an eyelid.

But this was too much for the Frenchman. "Mon Dieu!" he muttered. "It iss incredible. This man is sacre nincompone. He know nothings at all, and I have passed my corner talking to a zero. Let me out, driver, let me out!

## ELECTRIFIED EGGS.

Charged by Lightning the Hen Fruit Play Havee with a Man's

System.

Eggs a la electricity are not fikely to become popular on restaurant bills of fare. Frank Horton, of Marlborough, a hamlet near Fishkill landing, according to doctors, ate electrically charged provender and immediately ev.need a disposition to simulate lightning and strike everything in sight, says the New York World. Four men, three physicians and two weeks were required to cure him of his attack of indigestion.

He was in his kitchen getting ready to fry eggs. A bolt of lightning struck the house and tore a hole in the ceiling directly above Horton's head. His house has been struck twice before, so he didn't get excited, but went on cooking eggs.

He ate a hearty meal and walked down to the village. After standing around the corner grocery for a time he announced that lightning had struck his house a few minutes be-

"Yes, and I don't feel very well," he added.

The neighbors say that he had hardly spoken the words when crackling green flames sprang from his hair, and then he started to break

Friends restrained him and called in the doctors.

"Only the electricity working out of his system," announced the physicians.

"Look out he don't short-circuit himself," cried a bystander who had been an oiler in an electric light works. "He might give somebody a shock."

For two weeks Horton struggled to eradicate the electricity from himself. His watch would not go, and, although he feels better now, old nails, tacks and needles fly to him the same as to a magnet and with uncomfortable force, he says.

Physicians say that while Horton was unharmed by the stroke of lightning the eggs he ate were impregnated with electricity, which had to work out some way.

"Hitch Your Wagon to a Star. No other discipline is so good for any mind as the constant measuring of one's self against a high standard. The mother's part is to place before her child's eyes beautiful ideals; then leave him to nature. If she has succeeded in teaching him to admire truly worthy things she has educated him as well as she can. "Tell me whom you admire," said Sainte-Beuve, "and I will tell you what you are, as least as regards your talents, tastes and character."-Florence Hull Winterburn, in Woman's Home Compan-

Rough on Scribbel. Minnick-I thought you said Scribpel was a good-hearted fellow.

Sinnick-Well? "Well, I hinted pretty strongly that I'd like to have a copy of his latest book, but he studiously ignored the

request." "That's where he proved his kindly sature."-Philadelphia Press.

## POR THE HOME DRESSMAKER.

Directions for Renovating and Renewing Laces, Silks and Weeless.

Black lace is freshened by brushing

to remove the dust, then dipping in black coffee or strong vinegar, says a household exchange. Black silk should first be brushed

with soft flannel, then sponged with hot, strong coffee. While still wet iron on the wrong side, after covering with a piece of soft muslin.

If silk is "slimpsy" its body may be restored in a measure by sponging . it with water in which an old kid glove has been boiled.

Cottons that have much green, metive or brown in the pattern should be wet in alum water before putting it in the bran.

Woolen goods after cleansing should be hung for the shade and froned on the side that is to be innermost while still damp.

The best elderdown will not fade and will bear hard and frequent cleanings if washed carefully. Mak. a spds of lukewarm water and the best laundry soap. Put in the good and "souse" up and down, being ca \*ful not to rub soap on it. That cames ift to shrink and harden in spots.

An English wrinkle for lase deaming at home when one desires that delightful dingy yet clean color see in the shope is this: Mix some ver weak tea; add a few drops of th best India ink and dip in the la-Squeeze from the fluid, put out edges, spread smoothly on a bod covered with a clean cloth. Lay ce the lace another clean cloth, then "other board, and weight the wile with several flatirone until quitery. Silk ribbons of any color car be

safely washed in cold suds made ith the best soap. After the sell removed, rines in clear, cold wate but never wring. The best way dry them is to lay them while wempon a marble mantel or table, con a pane of glass, and with a stiffagernail brush rub them sidewa until every crease and wrinkle at every sir bubble is removed. The leave until dry.

Crepe de chine, chiffon anchousseline de soie are usually thr/n away when soiled—as most pece think they cannot be washed, his is a needless waste, however, a little extra trouble suffices to ske them quite presentable. Mak a strong lather of good white son and lukewarm water and soak # material in it for a few moment Pass it gently back and forth rough the fingers until thoroughtsclean, then rinse in cold water untiquite clear. Dissolve a quarter of teaspoonful of gum arabic in a halfup of water, add a few drops of whi vinegar and immerse the muslin. ake out into a clean, soft towel angst it to press the water out. Ironwith a rather cool iron on the wron side, with two or three thicknesses f tissue paper laid over the goods.

# FUN ON WAL STREET.

Boylsh Frank Playedy Young Open. atore Out Ups a Hunt for Mischel.

A group of young caps, looking and acting like college sphomores, took a stroll through Walstreet the other afternoon satisfied wh the world and looking for fun, say the New York Times. Of a sudde one of them shouted:

"There one goes! satch it!" Instantly three of he youths made a dive for the gutterand taking their straw hats off tried o clap them over something on the sphait.

"Have you got w?" "No. There bogres." Another hat would flap down on the walk as its owner shouted: "I've got

him." "Now, look at. Get him under my felt hat and we can hold him."

Hurrying lusiness men stopped and. watched. Said brokers hesitated and were lost. Crowds blocked the sidewalk about the hunters. Curiosity routed business. Everyone wanted to know whit it was all about. Finally the curicity of a sweetly innocent youth oprcame his reticence.

"What have you caught?" he asked. "Rubber! Rubber!" answered the hunters, and the crowd either laughed or looked sheepish; about helf and half.

for an hour on different blocks on different streets the funmakers kept up their joke. And on each block financiers and merchants, messengers and mere sightseers stopped and wondered, discovered the "seli," and looked more than they said.

# To Have a Pretty Neck.

The reason why pretty necks and throats are much rarer possessions. nowadays than they were 50 or 60years ago, is that for many years past is has been the fashion to wear high, stiff collars, fastened tightly round the throat. Tight collars cause the neck to become yellow and the skin tobecome prematurely wrinkled and baggy. A graceful carriage of the neck is also impossible when a high, close collar is worn. We are at last beginning to recognize these truths. and this season stiffened collars will no longer be the mode. Often the first signs of age show themselves in the throat. Daily massage, using a good emollient, is the best method of keeping throat wrinkles at bay; this, if persevered with, will also prevent yellowness and scragginess of the neck. -Good Literature.

# AA MARKETONIO Reminder.

Borem (consulting his watch) - len's your clock a little slow, Miss Cutting? Miss Cutting (suppressing a yawn)-No. 1 think not; but there are times; when it does seem as -- Chicago Daily!

# L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS