Women's Page

SWIFT, STELLA AND VANESSA

It would be hard to write of Jonathan Swift, the most brilliant of the writers of the Augustine age without bringing in the names of these two women who loved him with a deathless love. With his keen wit and sparkling conversation he was always surrounded by the fair sex although as a rule he did nothing to attract them.

Of the originality and power of Jonathan's Swift's writings there can be but one opinion. His genius expressed itself in many ways. Though much of his writings are unworthy of him yet his 'Tale of the Tub,' 'Gulliver's Travels and 'Journal to Stella' will endure as long as the English language shall endure.

But it is hard to form an estimate of Swift as a man. His many biographers have searched but his character has so many different qualities that it is hard to judge.

Left at an early age without a father, his uncle had to educate him. This was galling to his pride, and in spite of his great intellect he was only graduated by special favor.

Although he was born in Dublin Ireland, his parents were both English. After leaving the University in 1688 he became secretary to Sir William Temple, a distinguished statesman and continued there except for brief intervals the next ten years of his life At that time he began to improve his time by study, reading often eight hours a day. It was there that he met Esther Johnson a lovely pure girl, whom he helped with her studies and whom he always called Stella.

His feeling for her was one of sincere esteem and friendship while hers for him was intense love. When he was sent to Ireland to take charge of a church there, he suggested that she also would remove there to be near him. He became Dean of Patrick Cathedral, a position he held during the rest of his life. In 1710 he was sent to London on business connected with the Irish Church. These were the happiest years of his life. It was during this time that he wrote his famous 'Journal to Stella.' He writes: 'Hence forth I will write something every day to M. D. and make it a sort of Journal and when it is finished I will send it to M. D., whether she writes or not,' M. D. as intended for my dear, and he wrote every day of the persons he met, where he dined.

His hopes and fears and all the political and literary gossip; a record almost without parallel in literature. It was while in London that he met another beautiful girl, Esther Vanhomright to whom he gave the poetic name of Vanessa. He spent much time at her home and she, too, learned to love him. Vanessa possessed ample means, and he for a time was unable to decide which he cared for more.

But Vanessa, wearying of his very long delay finally wrote to Stella asking of her relations with Swift. This infuriated him, and he burst into Vanessa's presence in a fury and threw the letter down, and rushed out of the house. It was her death blow and in a few weeks she died of a broken heart.

In 1716 Swift consented to a secret marriage with Stella, but he never saw her alone afterwards.

For twelve years she lived with all the joy of life gone. On her dying bed Swift said, 'Well, my dear, if you wish it, it shall be owned,' but she answered, 'It is too late.'

His closing years were pitiful. Walking with some friends one day, he pointed to a tree blasted at the top 'I will be like that tree and die first at the top,' he said.

He reckoned right for he began to lose his memory and afterwards it was necessary to appoint guardians for his person and estate until he was buried in the Cathedral of St. Patrick.

Swift's life is the most tragic in English literature. His dominant passion was an imperious pride that sought to bend everything to his will.

His frequent disappointments filled his heart with bitterness yet he had many kind generous impulses, and while he waged a relentless war on hypocrisy, he was deeply religious in heart, and in his great need, he lifted his soul in agonized prayer to God.

ADDICT

While neighbors in Richmond, England, shook their heads, lonely little old Ada Littlejohn packed her small trunk last August and sailed for Manhattan. Her husband had died. So had her terrier Jumbo and her canary Nanki-Poo. For Mrs. Ada Littlejohn it seemed at first like just one more tragedy in herlife when the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company announced it would give Gilbert & Sullivan in the U. S. this season ,TIME, Sept. 17). But then she reckoned her slender income and decided to go along.

For 40 years Mrs. Ada Littlejohn has been a Gilbert & Sullivan addict. She has heard nearly every London performance, thought little of traveling to Liverpool, Manchester, Edinburgh, Glasgow to hear others. This week the D'Oyly Carte players gave their 100th Manhattan performance. For Mrs. Littlejohn, who goes five times a week, it was the 62nd.

Singers in the company have come to regard the small white—haired lady as their mascot. She knows each time they make a mistake, lives with them in the Hotel Lincoln across from the sists on buying her own $1.65 balcony theatre. For the performances she inney accent: 'I can't imagine 'eaven without Gilbert & Sullivan I do hope those two men will be busy at it when I get up there.'

FASHIONS

Skirts for morning wear are short and tight, with hidden pleats or a slit at the hem. The hidden fullness is repeated in the afternoon skirt, but this is longer and always has a slim backline.

For afternoon frocks the ornamental bib front is made in different shapes and materials, some in sort white lingerie, some stiff and starched.

Ermine 'curls,' worn beneath a black tricorne, and 'curls' in sable hanging down the wearer's back from a brown fur fez, are new notes in millinery. The fireman's helmet (favored by Princess Mdivani) is often seen.

Boots to the knees, with velvet suits and Cossack caps, have been worn at the races a good deal lately. Some of these boots are beautifully painted beige kid and are worn with 'postmen's hats' of kid in the same shade.

COAT OF MAIL EFFECT

The coats of mail worn by warriors 'when knighthood was in flower' seem to have influenced a few afternoon frocks which are designed on simple lines of black crepe and topped by sleeveless tunics of dull silver sequins giving the coat of mail effect.

Men's fashions worn during the reigns of French kings from the fifteenth to the seventeenth centuries color other daytime styles. Slim frocks are topped by wool or velvet packets reminiscent of the big sleeved belted doublets worn by spearmen and shield-bearers from the time of Charles VIII to Henry IV.

The Road To Better Health

COLD WEATHER WARNINGS

By DR. WILLIAM J. SCHOLES

During cold weather, diseases affecting prinicpally the respiratory tract are more prevalent than in the summertime. Not because it is cold but because we are housed in and do not get as much fresh air and sunshine. The beneficent ultraviolet rays of sunlight cannot get through ordinary window glass, so we don't get them. As a result the germs which are destroyed by these rays thrive vigorously and increase in virulence. The combination—lowered resistance plus bacterial invasion—brings on disease.

Moral: No matter how cold it is get outdoors every day—harden the skin by bathing just as regularly as in hot weather. Don't shut the windows at night; use more covers and get fresh air.

Importance of Humidity

One prolific source of 'colds' in cold weather is the dryness of the air in homes. I can tell the minute I step into a house where no thought is given relative humidity. The hot, dry air in such a place irritates the lining of the bronchial tubes and makes it susceptible to the action of bacteria. It is always in such homes that the members of the family suffer from 'colds.' A point of interest in this connection is that it actually takes less fuel to heat a house if the air is kept moist. One will be more comfortable in a room where the air is moist at a temperature 5 degrees lower than where the air is dry.

Remedy: Steam, vapor or hot water radiators can now be equipped with humidifiers from the most simple to the most elaborate. If you have a hot air heating system see that the air is passing over water to be properly moistened. Those who get their heat from stoves should keep a pan of water where it will exaporate.

How To Dress In Winter

The present mode among the 'gentle' sex of wearing chiffon stockings and short skirts is to be unqualifiedly commended from a health standpoint. The same with letting youngsters go with their knees bare. Such exposure lets the ultra-violet rays get to the skin and build up the defensive powers of the blood. So, do not put on everything but the wall-paper every time you go outdoors. It is always the child who is loaded down with clothes till he can hardly navigate that has the 'sniffles' most of the winter.

Hints for the Household

FOR DECEMBER

By BETTY WEBSTER

Selecting the Christmas tree—putting it up —decorating it—and so on are things every Mother and Dad ought to be thinking about just now. So, I wonder—Do My Readers Know That:

1. A Christmas tree can be decorated more easily if the electric lights are put on first?
2. A heavy bow with a hole in the bottom and boards nailed across the top to hold the trunk makes a splendid tree stand?
3. You will have no needles to clean up if you will use a balsam fir tree?
4. A balsam tree has not so many needles as a spruce but will look better for a greater length of time?
5. Silver 'snow' sprinkled on a Christmas tree and silver icicles hung on the branches make an effective background for the ornaments?

RECIPES

Checkerboard Cake

3–4 cup of butter
1 1-2 cups of sugar
3 cups of flour
4 1-2 teaspoons of baking powder
1–2 teaspoon of salt
1 cup of milk
1 teaspoon of vanilla
2 squares of chocolate, melted
4 egg whites, beaten stiff

Cream butter and sugar; sift flour once, measure, add baking powder and salt and sift three times. Then add to creamed mixture part at a time, alternately, with the milk beating after each addition until smooth; add vanilla.

Divide into two equal parts. To one part add the chocolate. To each part fold in the whites of two eggs.

Grease and flour two eight inch square pans. Into one, put a strip about an inch wide of white batter, then a strip of chocolate, then white, and so on until the pan is filled. Start the rows in the other pan with the chocolate batter and alternate with the white until filled.

Bake in a slow oven (325 degrees) about forty minutes. Put together with a white icing and make a checkerboard effect on the top and sides by brushing melted chocolate squares over the white frosting. Cut the cake across the strips to give the checked effect in the cake as well.

Griddle Cakes

1 pint of milk
2 eggs, beaten
Flour (about 1 pint)
2 teaspoons of baking powder
1-2 teaspoon of salt
1 teaspoon of melted butter

Stir eggs into milk; add salt; add baking powder and enough flour to make a thin batter; add butter. Bake on hot griddle.

Pumpkin Pie Filling

1 can of pumpkin
1 cup of milk
1 egg
1–2 cup of sugar
1-2 teaspoonful of ginger
1-2 teaspoonful of cinnamon
12 teaspoonful of salt

Mix and fill unbaked crust; bake in moderate oven for about three-quarters of an hour.

Ild Lady—'Here's a penny, my poor man. How did you become so destitute?'

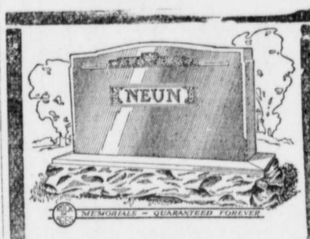
Beggar—'I was like you, mom—a giving away vast sums to the poor and needy.'—Pearson's (London).

Smilin' Charlie Says—



Remember there will be some folks t'whom Christmas will mean only want and unhappiness if we don't help them—BE th' good fellow y're supposed t'be 'n' give them a big hunk o' your Christmas appropriations———

He that will not apply new remedies must expect new evils.—Robert Bacon.



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When we eat too much, our food decays in our bowels. Our friends smell this decay coming out of our mouth and call it bad breath. We feel the poison of this decay all over our body. It makes us gloomy, grouchy and no good for anything.

What makes the food decay in the bowels? Well, when we eat too much, our bile juice can't digest it. What is the bile juice? It is the most vital digestive juice in our body. Unless 2 pints of it are flowing from our liver into our bowels every day, our movements get hard and constipated and ¾ of our food decays in our 28 feet of bowels. This decay sends poison all over our body every six minutes.

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