



## THE OUTING CLUB.

PERHAPS none of the papers read at the working girls' convention held in New York city a few weeks past excited such widespread interest as Miss Potter's admirable report and address on "Summer Vacations and Holiday House." In the summer of 1888 this energetic young woman devoted her whole time and attention to the careful building up and nurturing of a noble experiment. The project was furthered by the willing co-operation of the leaders and members of Miss Dodge's Club, and so Holiday House, a roomy old mansion at Miller's Place, L. I., was chosen as the home for this summer club. Here Miss Potter spends many weeks of each season, superintending and encouraging the directresses in the labor of receiving and providing for any number of tired girl boarders who wish to spend their Sundays by the seashore and among the green fields near Holiday House.

The successful establishment of this summer home is a cause for honest congratulation, for the very reason that it gives practical demonstration of what women of wealth and leisure are able to do for their helpless but hard working sisters. More than all is to be commended the thorough business principles on which the whole plan is based, for Holiday House is no more nor less than a delightful women's hotel, where the question of profit on output is not considered.

Therefore, hundreds who would otherwise be forced to spend their brief vacations in the city, or to mingle with the rough crowds at cheap resorts, are enabled to enjoy the hospitalities of "Holiday House." Yet there still remains many a woman to whom the very moderate charges at this house are prohibitive, and she is forced to give up her dreams of even a day's vacation in the country. To this class, therefore, should we turn our attention, and as far as lies within our power ameliorate the condition of the stay-at-homes. Why should not the shop girls be allowed a few high stools during at least two of the hot months when business is dull? Why cannot earlier hours of release from work be granted the factory girls? The *Ladies' Pictorial* advances an idea that, well worked up, should find instant favor among those too busy or too straitened in circumstances to indulge themselves in the luxury of a day out of town in a woman's boarding house. The plan is to form walking clubs among working women. Then when steam engines fail

and no vehicles are to be had the energetic woman can pack her knapsack and, stick in hand, trust to the strength of her nether limbs to carry her from the hot city to the sunny green fields and cool forest glades of the country at absolutely no expense.

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THE Amateur Athletic Union has decided upon a lacrosse championship for both the East and West. All teams must be composed of amateurs and actual members of some recognized athletic club.

Entries may be made with the understanding that a schedule of lacrosse games will be played on Wednesdays and Saturdays, following the initial game, which will be played on Saturday, August 2, during August, September and October, to be composed of teams in and about New York city, in and about Philadelphia, in and about Washington, in and about Boston, in and about Chicago, in and about St. Louis and in and about Detroit.

The winners of the scheduled series of games at New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Washington, or of such of them as may be played, will play a series of three or five games for the Eastern lacrosse championships, at such dates and places in September as may hereafter be determined. So, likewise, will the Western amateur lacrosse championships be decided by winners of the Detroit, Chicago and St. Louis series of games, or such of them as may be played.

Teams winning the Eastern and the Western amateur lacrosse championships will be called upon to compete for the amateur lacrosse championship of the United States, at such dates and places in October as may be hereafter determined.

Pennants will be awarded the Eastern and Western champion teams, and a silver trophy goes to the winners of the lacrosse championship of the United States. This, however, will not be held by the winning team, but will be transferred to the victors of each year.

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A NEW YORK syndicate to buy and set apart a game preserve of 100,000 acres in the Adirondacks has been formed. This scheme comprises the property of the Anton Blake estate in Hamilton and Herkimer counties. The new association is to be called the Adirondack Club. The

membership is limited to 500, and each share is placed at \$1,000. It has been decided that no member can hold more than ten shares, and each share is entitled to a 2-acre plot for a building site on the shores of Jock's Lake, so that a man with ten shares would be entitled to a 20-acre building plot. These plots will be deeded to the holders in fee simple. The rest of the tract will be held jointly, and hunting and fishing rights go with each share, subject to the rules of the club and the State laws. It is estimated that from the 100,000 acres 1000,000,000 feet of logs can be removed with advantage to the preserve every year for ten years. Handled as European forests are, the preserve would form a perpetual source of income, while always improving in value.

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THE new rules of the concourse races of the Federation of American Homing Pigeon Fanciers will do away with a great deal of the dissatisfaction that has existed under the old methods employed by many designing fanciers, when a man who flew his birds, taking his chances as they came, was left far behind, while the fancier who picked out fine weather and favorable winds was able to record his birds for diplomas or prizes with hardly any competition to speak of. The new methods proposed under concourse rules are, briefly: First, that all birds belonging to Federation members residing in districts embracing about 100 miles shall be flown on the same day. Philadelphia and vicinity will form one district; New York, Newark and vicinity another, the two districts liberating their birds on the same day. Another section would have Boston as its centre, another Washington, D. C., and another Pittsburgh, Pa.

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THOMAS G. STACY, writing from Rome, says: "I witnessed two teams composed of monks, and, what was more surprising, they played the game well and according to the rules of 1889, using the league ball and the best of bats, masks and breast protectors. The monks were attired in their official robe, long flowing black gown, a broad red ribbon tied around the waist and hanging down on one side, and black, broad-rimmed felt hats. Such an outfit is not very well adapted for a baseball uniform, still the monks played a fairly good game. The catching was especially good. Long flies were almost sure to be gathered in by the outfielders, but grounders invariably went through the infielders, who would then gather up their long robes and scamper after the ball."

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THE Virginia Sporting and Athletic Club has been incorporated and purposes to have the largest and grandest sporting resort in the United States. The option on 5,000 acres of land located between Norfolk and Virginia Beach has been secured on which to construct club houses, stables, kennels, pens, race tracks and gymnasiums. It is estimated that over \$100,000 will be spent on the grounds and plant alone.

THERE is now building at Bath, Me., a schooner from the designs of Mr. Edward Burgess which promises to be one of the most comfortable cruising boats ever designed. The owner is Mr. George Trotter, of New York, and his desire has been to secure a cruising schooner fit for anything. To this end Mr. Burgess has designed a boat 108 feet over all, 86 feet water line, 21 feet 9 inches beam and 13 feet draught, and has given her a powerful body and easy lines forward and aft, which promise no little speed as well as the best weatherly qualities. In her interior arrangements the boat is to be unusually complete, so that long voyages may be made with little sacrifice of comfort,

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MR. J. C. WILLIAMSON, president of the Victoria league of baseball clubs in Australia, says that baseball in the Antipodes will be a go, "but it will take time to popularize it. At present a league of nine clubs, composed mostly of the cricket players of the country, have taken to the game. The contests are exciting and the scores are kept pretty well down for beginners. In catchers we are well fixed, as we have some excellent wicket keepers, and they possess all the qualifications for good backstops. Our pitchers have the delivery all right, but have not mastered the curve ball yet. I hardly think professional baseball would pay, but among the amateurs it promises to be popular."

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ON the Fishkill Mountains, opposite Newburgh, is a freak of nature that rivals the "Mount of the Holy Cross" in the Rocky Mountains, and, strange to say, this effect has not been noticed until recently. From one particularly favorable position in Newburgh, whenever there is a light fall of snow, one can see in the valley between the North and South Beacons, made famous in the Revolutionary war, a most perfect and symmetrical cross, formed by the snow settling in a cross-shaped depression.

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SUPERINTENDENT FRED. MATHER, of the New York State Fishery Commission, at Cold Spring Harbor, has had the good fortune to have returned to him the sword he was compelled to surrender at Petersburg, Va., in 1864, while in command of Company L, Seventh Regiment, New York Heavy Artillery. The sword was surrendered to Captain Brewster, Tenth Alabama, in whose possession it remained until his death, when it was returned to its original owner.

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A NEW YORKER has invented and is selling novel suits for duck hunters. The suits are made of dried grass in the form of a hood and long cape. They completely envelop the form and make a man look like a haystack, but his arms are free to handle his gun, and it is said the most wary duck will approach within a few yards of the wearer.

## TALKS WITH THE TYRO.



HERE are only two kinds of matches fit for outing purposes—the fusee wind match, which, however, strikes only on its box and is rather expensive for general use, and the common, old-fashioned cheap sulphur match of any color. These do not blow out as easily as the parlor brands, are very safe compared with other sorts and less likely to spoil from wear or dampness.

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A HALF dozen rubber bands are handy things to have with you when you start out to whip a stream and leave your rod case behind. The bands are easily carried and serve nicely to hold your rod joints together when your day's sport is over and the rod is taken apart. String does not answer the purpose as well and a case is in the way. You certainly need something to hold the joints together if you have any walking to do, unless you wish to have them spreading out and calling, for your constant attention.

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ALWAYS remove your boots or shoes from our feet when you are about to go to sleep. Your feet will be warmer without the leather when not exercising. My spaniel dog is trained to sleep close to my feet when spending a night in the duck boat, and I find him an excellent warming pan.

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A WELL-MADE fly book is of great service. To those who have carried flies in a box or anything but a well-made book this is well known. A few favorite flies may be stuck in your hat, but when one is obliged to constantly handle his entire supply the fly book is the only proper thing to keep them in.

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WHEN angling in a boat on fresh water keep quiet: avoid throwing things heavily on the boat bottom or stepping heavily about and talking loudly. When fishing in a boat on the sea make as much noise as you like.

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WEAR old clothing when boat fishing, for the work is sure to soil everything in the boat. Have a cushion to sit on by all means, and take good care you have two towels with you, one to wipe your hands on while fishing, and the other to dry your hands and face with after the wash you give yourself when the day is over.

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To clean brass shells, immerse them in vinegar. There are many other liquids—a weak

solution of oxalic acid, for instance—that are used, but vinegar is a simple one and always handy. Never clean the inside of the shells, or at least do not polish the inside, for it will interfere with the firm holding of the wads.

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WHEN two persons are out hunting it happens most of the time—especially in the woods on the way to and from the hunting ground—that they walk Indian file; that is, one after the other. If you happen to be in the lead, my young friend, make it a practice to carry your gun with its muzzle down and its butt piece under your arm; and should you be the follower, have it over your shoulder. Then you are both safe. At all times and in all places keep the gun muzzle away from humanity in general, whether the gun be loaded or unloaded. There is no excuse in the plea that persons will get in front of your gun or that you didn't know the gun was oaded. It is your duty as a sportsman and as a man to keep the muzzle away, no matter what other persons do and no matter what condition your gun is in. The law does not read that a loaded gun shall not be pointed at a person; it simply says a gun shall not be pointed. You can always easily distinguish the tyro gun handler from the practical sportsman by observing the way the gun is handled. A genuine sportsman never kills anybody or anything by accident, and he looks upon the careless handler of firearms with the same contempt shown to the professional market-supplying pot hunter.

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WHEN purchasing a gun, a rod or any shooting and angling material, buy the best, for it is the cheapest in the end. Obtain only that which is useful, and purchase nothing because it is cheap or pretty. A good gun or rod is hard to break, compared with cheap goods, and when they do get out of order they are easily repaired. A cheap thing never is. Instead of constantly buying cheap articles and breaking them, buy one good thing at first. Besides being less expensive they are more remunerative—because you become used to the handling of the same article—more safe, easier taken care of, and always look better and make you appear more substantial and sportsman-like. To say buy the best is not grand advice for the tyro; every dealer will claim his goods the best, of course. However, a beginner can get a pretty good idea of the gun or rod he wants by a careful examination of the immense catalogues now issued by the leading dealers; and, better still, by applying to someone he can trust and who is known to be a practical handler of these things—not behind a counter, but in the field.

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If you should get our feet wet never fear any bad result beyond the uncomfortable feeling. There is no danger beyond that, unless you sit quite still or fall asleep. You can never take cold from wet feet if you walk and keep up an exercise until you obtain dry material. If the water is salt water there can be no danger, even if you should keep the wet shoes on and not exercise. Never put on wet shoes, socks or any damp garment. There danger lurks.

CHARLES BARKER BRADFORD.