

well shod in stout shoes. They are encumbered by no 'furbelows.' Each girl wears a loose bodice, confined at the waist by a stout belt. Over their heads they wear bright red kerchiefs and broad-brimmed straw hats. The forewoman, whose daughter is among the group, has laughingly informed me, 'Yon kerchiefs are a new fashion; they maun look bonny o' the Sabbath, when they gang to the kirk, so they keep theirs fra the sun.' Neat and clean, fresh-faced, and rosy they look, their cheeks as pink as their nice, tidily-patched cotton aprons. Each girl carries a little woollen shawl dangling behind from her belt, which, when a shower comes on, she pops over her shoulders. These 'lassies' can earn eight shillings a week in winter, nine shillings in summer, with a pound extra and their food during harvest-time. They work now from six in the morning till six at night, with an interval of two hours from eleven to one. Low though their wages may seem, when we remember that these Scotch lassies live chiefly on 'them parritch and broth' (both these items are always plural), and that their mothers cook, wash, and mend for them, they are high in comparison with the wages of our city girls. Our restaurant and shop 'young ladies,' with lodging to find, and omnibus fares daily, might well envy these farm lassies. If by rare chance one of the lassies is a homeless girl, and has to 'meat' herself, she can do so for a few shillings weekly with some labourer's wife. The condition of labourers, whether men or women, has wonderfully improved within the last few years. Thirty years ago each hind had to keep a 'bondijer,' who was really a kind of female slave. This might be either his wife or a hired woman; but at harvest-time he was obliged to find some woman who should reap with the hook for at least thirty days, and then carry the corn upon her back up to the threshing-floor. This was part of the bond; hence she was called a 'bondijer,' for no extra wages were paid either to the hind or the 'bondijer' for this work. It was, in fact, a relic of old feudal service. These lassies have a better time of it. To-morrow they will ride in a cart across the border, to where 'Norham's battled towers' look down upon Flodden Field, and there picnic together with five hundred other members of the Girls' Friendly Society. In winter-time doubtless they sometimes labour knee-deep in snow, amidst wind and cold. Nevertheless, for health and happiness, give me the lives of these farm lassies rather than those spent by our city girls in shops, factories, or work-rooms."

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MISS E. L. BARNETT is about to bring out, in book form, the lectures on Nursing, which she delivered last spring, under the title of "Our Nurses, and the work they have to do."

SEVERAL papers of the greatest interest to women were read at the recent meeting of the British Association. We noticed one of these in our twenty-fourth number. The following are others, well worthy of notice:—Mr. P. J. Watherston read an interesting and suggestive paper on "The Industrial Education of Women Abroad and at Home." The time, he said, was approaching when every young woman would have to be trained for some occupation or profession, as much as a matter of course as her brothers are now. One tendency, he thought, of the new status of women would be certainly to defer, and probably largely to decrease, marriages. For the proper organisation and development of the industrial education of women, he advocated the formation of an influential society. Mr. Watherston showed how far in this matter we are behind our Continental neighbours; and he gave a list of manufactured goods of the value of upwards of twenty millions sterling, which might be produced at home. Miss Helen Blackburne then read a paper on "Irishwomen's Industries." In connection with this subject, upon which Miss Blackburne has already written a useful handbook, she gave a great many interesting details. She described the position of each of the chief women's industries, and the number of hands employed. Her paper went to prove that the three urgent needs of Ireland, to enable its industries to flourish, are technical teaching power, for the exercise of which surplus workhouses, and convent schools afford facilities; organised means of distribution, such as the Home Industries Association in Dublin is endeavouring to establish; and arrangements for rapid transit of perishable produce.

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"AUNT CHLOE" (the lady who writes under this *nom de plume*) has a most excellent article in *Farm and Home* on "Training up Housewives," showing that something more than the knowledge gained in schools is necessary before our daughters are fitted to become good wives and mothers, and that the training really necessary is that of household management, the teaching in all its details of such homely things as washing, starching, ironing, cooking, cleaning, &c. Girls may be taught these matters, even when quite tiny, and a woman who knows how a thing ought to be done, even if she should not require to do it herself in after life, will be able better to direct and see that her servants do it properly. But "Aunt Chloe" insists that mothers, when teaching their children to work, should be very particular in seeing that the little tasks are performed neatly and thoroughly, and that it is far better for them to do one thing well than ten times the amount in a careless or slovenly fashion.—*Queen*.

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