

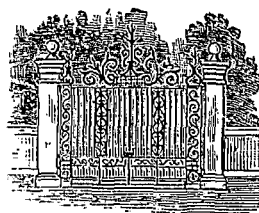
to manage it alone. A four-roomed cot can be "redd up" by ten o'clock each day; sandwiches cut, and something ready placed for the return (N.B.—This is not so trivial and unimportant as it seems), and away we go, with key in pocket, for a long day of perfect freedom. If the weather is uncertain, there is a shelter to return to; a meal which can be had at any time of day, and a fireside with blazing faggots instead of chilly shavings. To many people this is far more comfortable and home-like than the horse-hair sofa, and the gorgeous "chair backs" of the model lodging-house.

Following this course a few articles of food should be provided. It is far better to collect these leisurely and take them with you than to depend on snuffy little shops, and hurried purchases last thing at night when you reach your destination. Whiteley's, or the Stores, will pack a box with provisions for a certain number and despatch it on before. If, however, choice is to be made, the following comprise a fair supply of necessaries—say for three persons for a month:—a pound of tea, a tin of cocoa or of coffee, a pound of lump sugar and a pound or two of moist, pots of marmalade and jam, and two pennyworth of pepper, salt and mustard, a pound or two of rice or other grain; a little arrowroot and cornflour make nice additions, and are useful with stewed fruit; two or three pounds of cheese, a solid cake and biscuits should be added; even a leg of mutton, ready cooked, will not be found to come amiss, and a piece of ham or bacon; a dozen eggs, a loaf of bread, and butter, with a bottleful of milk will tide over the first night and morning. Soap, candles, matches *avant tout*, must never be forgotten. A spirit lamp is of course the greatest comfort possible, but the whole supply of methylated must be carried, for in country places it is virtually unattainable. A small oil stove—and some of Reppingill's are very portable—is far more suited for the purpose, as oil is plentiful enough.

Lastly, if making an arrangement with a stranger—and the *Church Times* and other papers teem with offers of such cottages—insist upon exact instruction and advice, how best to reach the house. Any one accustomed to the place and district can arrange it easily. They can order you a fly, or invoke the friendly 'bus,' when you would probably be charged a ten-fold fare, if luck threw even a conveyance in your way. These small matters seen to, and a fair share of weather, health and moderately according tastes and dispositions to depend upon, all should go well and happily. Probably, like many others who have tried it, you would look back for months and years hereafter on "that jolly time we spent together in the wilds."

## — Outside the Gates. —

### WOMEN.



THE two women workshop inspectors (Miss Squire and Miss Deane), appointed by Kensington Vestry six months ago, have proved highly successful. The Vestry has lost one of them (Miss Deane), who has been made a Government inspector under the Home Office, but intends to renew Miss Squire's appointment and engage a new one. Dr. Orme Dudfield, the medical officer of the parish, at whose suggestion the experiment was undertaken, and under whose supervision the young ladies carried on their work, has produced an interesting report on the subject. Dr. Dudfield adds his favourable appreciation of the way in which the inspectors have carried out their work, but adds that their position has been a somewhat anomalous one. He suggests that they should be qualified sanitary inspectors and recognised by the Vestry as such. It would greatly facilitate their work, extend their usefulness, and be an economic arrangement for the Vestry if they had the power to act as sanitary inspectors with respect to places where women are employed.

#### THE INSPECTORS' REPORTS.

Miss Squire, in her report, says:—

"During my six months' work in North Kensington, I have inspected 258 workshops and workplaces. Of these, 186 are laundries. Seventy-five workplaces were in an uncleanly state, and, in compliance with statutory notices, 73 of these had to be cleansed; two have been vacated, being in such a condition of dirt and dilapidation that repairs and cleansing could not be carried out during the occupation of the premises as workshops. Eight work-rooms were found to be insufficiently ventilated, and measures have been, or are being, taken to improve the ventilation. Eleven wash-house floors were found to be defective and have been repaired. In 50 workplaces sanitary defects were found, which were duly reported to you. At many of these premises the drains have had to be taken up and relaid. With the commencement of the season, over-crowding is creating a difficulty in the dressmakers' work-rooms, and, although cautionary intimations may have been temporarily complied with, on subsequent inspection the overcrowding was again met with."

Miss Deane reports as follows:—

"Since commencing work on November 18th, 1893, I have inspected 212 workshops in South Kensington. Twenty-nine of these were in an uncleanly condition: in compliance with statutory notices served, 21 of them have been cleansed. In connection with numerous cases of overcrowding, I have sent 32 cautionary intimations, which, for the time being, were for the most part complied with. In two cases, where these did not produce the desired effect, they were followed by statutory notices, which were temporarily complied with. Neither of these measures, however, produced the desired effect by preventing recurrence of the nuisance."

The inspectors have drawn up a joint memorandum on the subject of overcrowding.

Referring to the new Factory and Workshop Bill, Dr. Dudfield says that the inclusion of laundries "would greatly facilitate the work of Miss Squire, who has in her district probably not fewer than two hundred laundries, the sanitary condition of many of them being at once unsatisfactory and difficult of improvement, through want of the powers the Bill proposes to confer on the sanitary authority."

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