

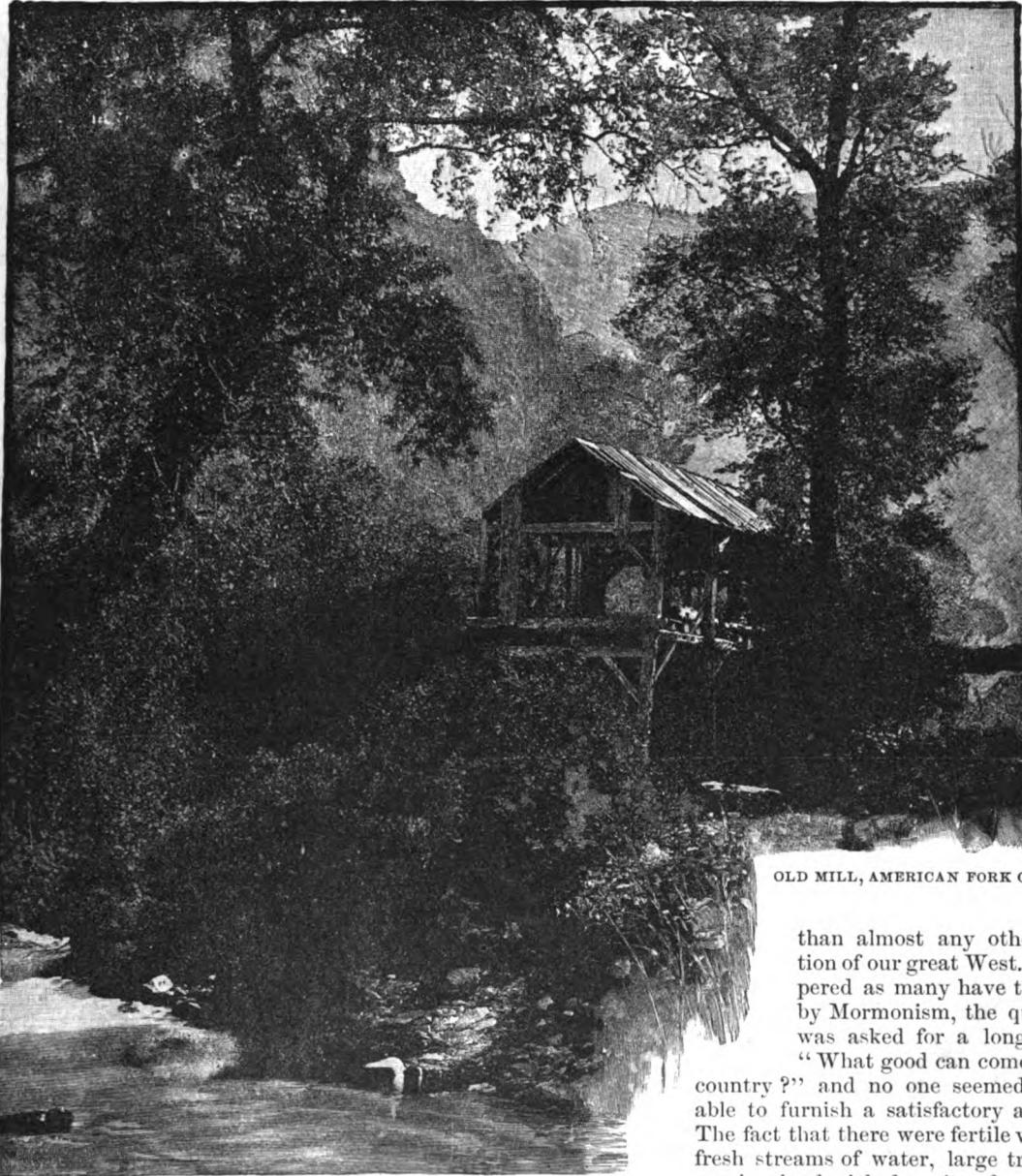
# THE CONTINENT

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## BY-WAYS OF UTAH.



OLD MILL, AMERICAN FORK CAÑON.

“The earth was made so various that the mind  
Of desultory man, studious of change,  
And pleased with novelty, might be indulged.  
Prospects, however lovely, may be seen  
Till half their beauties fade; the weary sight,  
Too well acquainted with their smiles, slides off  
Fastidious, seeking less familiar scenes.”—*Cowper*.

UTAH, with its eighty-five thousand square miles of territory, has been less explored and less understood

than almost any other section of our great West. Hampered as many have thought by Mormonism, the question was asked for a long time: “What good can come of the country?” and no one seemed to be able to furnish a satisfactory answer. The fact that there were fertile valleys, fresh streams of water, large tracts of grazing land, rich deposits of gold, silver, copper and coal, was lost sight of.

Men seemed only to think that Utah was a territory situated in the midst of vast deserts, and that it consisted of high, snow-capped mountains, extended alkali deserts, salt seas and uninhabited arid plains. Even when the transcontinental railway was built, the road hardly touched Utah, and the country for years after remained unknown, unexplored by sight-seer or prospector, and was even thought so neglected

Minton make, is also effective for use at this stage of the meal.

Salad-sets may be of majolica or porcelain. If of the former, a pretty salad-dish is tall in shape, with panels at the side, in which are raised representations of lobsters, vegetables, etc.—everything, in fact, from which salad can be prepared. Do not, however, purchase the plates that usually accompany this dish, as the raised surface is awkward for use, and should never be selected except for fruit or some such service.

The ice-cream and berry-set is prettier in glass than any other material, not only for its own beauty, but to serve as a foil to the charms of porcelain and earthenware, of which by this time the eye has wearied. Craqueled, amber, iced and cut-glass are offered for your selection, and in choosing you cannot go far astray, as either of the styles named will make a handsome display on the table. The first two are rather old, and, if expense is no object with you, by all means select the heavily-cut glass. If possible, let it be of English make, this being better in color and workmanship than the domestic article.

Nothing now remains for consideration in the regular table course but fruit or dessert-plates, after-dinner coffees and finger-bowls.

Of the first there seems to be no end. Every grade of ware or style of decoration, from every country where pottery is made, has representatives. Please your own taste in the selection, but they must or should be of the same ware and general character of treatment as the after-dinner coffees, with which they really belong as part of a course service. A popular custom, and one that produces a very pretty effect if properly chosen, is to have this course furnished with a variety of designs, all, however, being upon ware of the same make, and the decorations such as harmonize with each other. Do not overlook the necessity of following this latter suggestion, or the entire effect may be spoiled by a collection of designs all beautiful in themselves but unsuitable for simultaneous use.

The assortment of after-dinner coffees is even greater than of fruit-plates, and it would be useless to attempt to guide your choice.

In finger-bowls select colored glass in preference to plain, or even cut crystal, this being not only newer and more fashionable at present, but more delicate in appearance, as the colored glass prevents the water showing at the sides. They should be of assorted colors, and each one have its own plate of glass to match resting on a napkin of crimson or other color, which, in its turn, rests upon a dessert-plate. The glassware upon

the table should be all of the same style, and must be either the thin blown glass or the heavy cut—the latter is preferable, but much higher in price than the thin article.

These pieces form the necessary assortment for the several courses; yet, while they include all that is really necessary, as your design is to produce an effect really artistic and worthy to be a model, every little detail must be carefully studied. The little things upon the table—outside of and belonging to no course—are like conjunctions and prepositions in language, connecting or adding to the various services; and in these seemingly insignificant details lies the beauty or ugliness of the entire collection. Briefly summed up, these little things are: Individual butter-plates of majolica or porcelain, prettily decorated but different from any other set upon the table; individual or table salts (both are much used), generally of cut glass; sugar-bowl and cream-pitcher, both of Wedgwood's exquisite jasperware, but differing in color, having one black if possible; syrup-pitcher, if used, may be of the same ware. For berries or fruit a little sugar-bowl and cream-pitcher of folded green leaves are daintily attractive.

But need I continue? In this outline I only design giving the framework or skeleton upon which each must hang the garments as taste may dictate. My plea is for more care and thought toward the gratification of the eye when furnishing the table than is usually considered necessary. The dining-room should be cheerful and attractive. The meal should be partaken of with that entire pleasure that can only come from a complete gratification of all the senses. Try if the charms of a well-appointed breakfast-table will not induce the head of the household to lay aside his morning newspaper and join in cheery conversation, and this room thus become for all, residents and visitors alike, what, as I said at the beginning, it should be—the most attractive in the house.

It has been suggested to me that a fitting topic with which to conclude this subject would be "Pottery in the Ash Barrel;" but there are certain emotions or sentiments of the human breast too sacred for idle comment, too tender for rough handling, and this is one. The woman who is

"Mistress of herself though china fall,"

is in possession of a degree of self-control worthy of monumental recognition. The mere mention of the subject brings to the memory of each a flood of painful recollections of departed treasures, over which we shed a parting tear and consign them to oblivion's kindly keeping.

FRANK P. ABBOT.

## CASTLE-BUILDING.

"What are you building, darling?"

I asked of my girlie fair,  
As she quietly sat on the hearth-rug,  
Piling her blocks with care,  
While the ruddy glow of the firelight  
Danced in her golden hair.

"I am building a castle, mother,"

My little maid replied.

"These are the walls around it,

And here is a gateway wide,  
And this is the winding stair  
To climb up by the side."

So the busy, flitting fingers  
Went on with her pretty play,  
And the castle walls were rising  
In the fading winter day,  
When—a sudden, luckless motion,  
And all in ruins lay!

Ah, merry little builder,  
The years with stealthy feet  
May bring full many a vision  
Of castles rare and sweet,  
That end like your baby pastime—  
In ruin sad and fleet.

Yes, laugh o'er the toy walls fallen,  
For sunshine follows rain,  
And we may smile, looking backward  
At ruined shrine and fane.  
While the heart has shattered temples,  
It may not build again.

LUCY RANDOLPH FLEMING.

## LEX TALIONIS IN THE NURSERY.

IN these days when insignificant causes are credited with large results, and trivial influences are recognized as potent factors in development, it may not be amiss to scan with critical eyes even our most familiar nursery ways, lest traits not altogether charming may be unconsciously fostered by them.

This occurred to me the other day with the freshness of a new idea when I saw a fair and gentle young mother, quite an ideal Madonna, instigate her baby to retaliation when he thumped his head against a chair. "Naughty chair to hurt the baby!" cried mamma, eager to divert the little fellow and check his tears. "Baby pound the chair." Whereupon, with a vindictive wrinkle across his little nose, he pounded and was comforted. His mother, glad of restored cheerfulness, smiled on the performance.

It seems usually to be assumed in the nursery that all a baby's mishaps are malicious and unprovoked attacks upon him. No venerable piece of furniture is supposed to be too sedate to assault the youngster in his lurching rambles around the room, and when the crash comes it is always this unprincipled assailant—never the baby—who is to blame, and nurses smile to see the baby forget to cry in his vigorous retaliation.

It would be interesting, if it were possible, to know how much of the inconsiderate treatment of others and the lack of appreciation of the consequences to another of our own acts, which we see in later life, is due to, or at least encouraged by, these nursery tactics. It is such a strong impulse of human nature to impute blame to another and shirk it one's self that a few years of irresponsibility and revenge in the nursery must give this impulse a chance to become a habit and strike deep root in some congenial soils.

The small boy who bullies the nursery furniture, and considers somebody else responsible for every infantile bump, will bully his playmates by and by, and accuse every one but himself when things go wrong; and the little fist that was so quick to pound an offending chair will illy bear restraint when a comrade offends.

This applies more especially to those autocrats of the nursery, only-children, or children so much younger than their brothers and sisters that they miss the wholesome friction and restraint of conflicting, and occasionally dominating, interests. But in every family where children are under the care and influence of nurses there is occasion for discretion in this matter.

The mother of one imperious little fellow early recognized his tendency to self-assertion and resentment under supposed injury. As she had especial reason to dread the development of these traits in him, she sought, while he was a mere baby, to modify them. Whenever the baby's

head and the door-knob came in collision they were mutually consoled with, while baby was made to feel that he was the trespasser. A severe bout with the rocking-chair was compromised to the satisfaction of all parties by the application of brown paper to the forehead of the baby and the rocker of the chair. It was found that the supposed injuries of his fellow sufferer diverted his attention from his own, serving that purpose as well as the retaliatory method, while teaching him self-forgetfulness and sympathy.

It did not seem wholly laughable to that mother when, at three years of age, she saw him, supposing himself to be alone, turn and apologetically kiss the door-step upon which he had inconsiderately slipped and bumped.

This child was one who instinctively thought every injury intentional, and whose native impulse was a revengeful blow or kick. A temperament sensitive to affront, misconstruing the slightest act into an insult, quick in resentment and slow in forgiveness, inevitably brings keen pain to all lives closely associated with it, and any modification of these traits during childhood is a far-reaching blessing. This mother felt that, although her imperious and hot-tempered little man might grow into an imperious and hot-tempered big man, he would never be so inconsiderate of others as he might have been had he not kissed that door-step.

Thoughtfulness for others and a sense of mutual responsibility certainly can be taught very young children; and one of the many ways to teach it—one of the little ways which it is not safe to ignore or disrespect—is not to let even the baby suppose that anybody or anything wantonly injures him; to teach him that accidents are purely accidents, for which he is likely to be as much to blame as any one else—often the most so—and that if he is hurt, he must not forget that the other party may be hurt, too, and needing sympathy as much as he. It is a frequent thing to see large children angrily resenting the most evident accidents, and sullenly reiterating "he *meant* to," "he *meant* to hurt me—see if I don't pay him for it," etc., etc. Defective nursery training must share with natural depravity the responsibility for some of these unlovely manifestations. Magnanimity may be a virtue of slow growth, but the seed should be planted all the earlier and tended the more carefully for that reason.

Since the small things of life sum up its happiness, and the every-day mental attitude and mood of a friend affects our comfort more than spasmodic exhibitions of the greatest nobility or heroism, no ungracious tendency is too insignificant or possible grace too elusive for thoughtful treatment in the development of a child.

MARY H. BURTON.

