

F. E. M.—We have frequently stated in these columns that marriages between Frenchmen and Englishwomen, wherever solemnised, are not binding or legal in France, unless the bridegroom has the full permission and written consent of his parents, and unless the marriage is properly published in France. If these legal acts are not performed, the wife may be a wife in England but is not a legal wife in France.

WATER-KAT.—Sea-water makes the hair sticky and disagreeable, and the hair should be washed in clean fresh water if wetted in the sea. You could, we think, plait the hair tightly, and fasten it up, and wet the top of your head with clean water before going in to bathe, and you could avoid wetting the head when in the sea.

E. A. T.—Constantly damping the hair makes it coarse, and has a bad effect on its growth.

HORRIFIED.—We have read the account with horror also, and we think all our girls should try to help in the matter. The secretary to the Duchess of Portland's Society for the Protection of Birds will answer any enquiries. Her address is—Mrs. A. F. Fielden Taylor, Devynock, St. Botolph's Road, West Worthing, Sussex.

ART AMATEUR.—A full list of work societies, where the sale of it is undertaken, was given at page 191, part 144, January, 1892.

MARGARET.—A good home of rest for girls in business is at The Hawthorns, Framfield, Sussex. Miss Mason is Matron. The terms per week are 12s. 6d.

A. P. B.—We cannot see why your maimed left-hand thumb should be a drawback. If it were of the right hand, we could understand it. Are you not making a fuss about nothing?

HOME PRISONER.—We think you would find an agreeable distraction of thought in the monotony of your external life were you to take up some special work, such as that for the Deep-Sea Mission, for which you might make articles in knitting, and they would send you their monthly illustrated magazine. Or you might join the Society of Watchers and Workers. The subscription is 1s. per annum, and you can send in contributions in stories, essays, or poems. Needlework is contributed likewise, and sold for the benefit of various charities; also spare leaflets, text-cards, and old Christmas illustrated papers, are distributed in homes and infirmaries. The monthly paper of this society is called *The Watchword*. For all further information write to Miss Edith Walker, Elm Hall, Wanstead, Essex.

BEPPU.—The 8th of March, 1871, was a Wednesday.

A WALL GARDEN.

A NOVELTY FOR SMALL TOWN GARDENS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "GIRL'S OWN PAPER."

DEAR SIR,—In answer to your letter of the 12th, I beg to say that our garden is so small that I took to growing my flowers on the walls, and they certainly do well. I first tried the garden pot that hangs on the wall with a nail; but I did not like it, as the roots were injured the same as in the ordinary garden pot. If the roots of a plant grown in a common garden pot are carefully examined, a very large percentage will be found injured at this time of year, when most flowers should be at their best; but if the roots of flowers are examined grown in these pots, without a back and partly growing on the wall, all rootlets will be found perfect. Hence the luxurious growth of the plants. I thought if the plants could partly grow on the wall it would be much better. I soon had a few made, and the result is good. The plants seem to get quite established, and grow freely; the roots seem to delight in the brickwork. They do

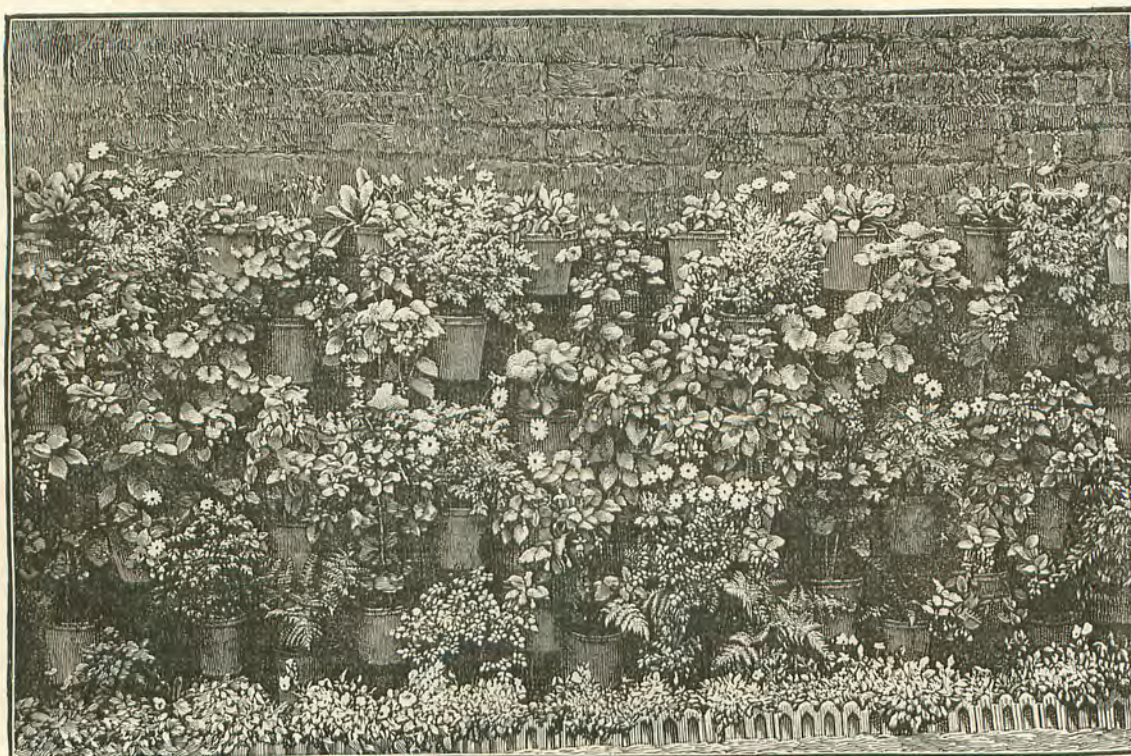
not require so much water as the ordinary pot. When the top ones are watered, the water runs through to the lower ones. I have five rows, one above the other. They are very nice to attend, as no stooping is required, so that it does not injure my dress, and, being raised above the ground, they are quite enjoyable to look at. The mustard and cress is quite a success, it grows so clean. The way I sow it is to nearly fill the pots with mould, then press it firmly and flat with the bottom of another pot. Sprinkle the seed thickly and evenly. Water with a fine rose, and cover it with a piece of slate, wood, or anything handy to keep the seed in darkness, as no mould must be covered over the seed. The object of the cover is that the seed will germinate regularly and quickly, as all seeds grow much better in the dark. We have a very fine cat, and he seems to invite many friends in our small garden. They used to play sad work with my plants on the ground; but now not one plant has been injured, although the meetings of pussies still take place. One

evening I counted eleven. The top of the wall is quite free for them, and they seem to make a parade of it; but they do not injure the plants. This I think is very satisfactory, as I love a good cat. There is great pleasure in repotting a plant. The pot having no back, the plant is laid in and the mould pressed evenly and firmly with the hand from the back. This is very important, as, when repotting in the ordinary way, I used a little stick, but much feared this injured the roots, the space being too small to use my fingers with a glove, as it would injure my hands to work without one. You will see by enclosed photo the tiles are only one foot from the wall. This gives a wider path, and enables me to tend the flowers without over-reaching. In setting out the plants, the dry-loving ones should be on the top rows, such as geraniums, nasturtiums, auriculas, etc., fuchsias and ferns in the lower ones.

Yours most faithfully,

E. T.

London.



A LITTLE TOWN GARDEN.