

softly for my sins, is avowedly entitled to hold the ballot in her fair and dimpled hand.

What mere man could claim that his soul was not hers, but his own, in the fact of the handicap she has set upon masculine prowess in art and in business?

If she will but lend her intelligence and her sanity to the question of the things women may do and not strike us unpleasantly with the conviction that they have ceased to be women Olympus will be stripped of laurel wreaths for the new woman's adornment.

Cooking Vegetables.

Do not let your cook take too thick a rind off in paring potatoes. The best part of the potato is near the skin.

On the other hand, turnips should have a thick rind pared off. The turnip has an outer part that destroys the flavour of the whole if not thoroughly removed.

Onions should not be added to a stew or put in to cook with anything else until they have first been boiled for about ten minutes and the water thrown away.

City cooks too frequently fail to properly "string" beans before cooking them. This is annoying at the table. Beans are vastly improved by a cream or milk and butter dressing.

Cabbages are better if boiled with meat. Potatoes should always be boiled separately. Otherwise they are sodden and unpalatable.

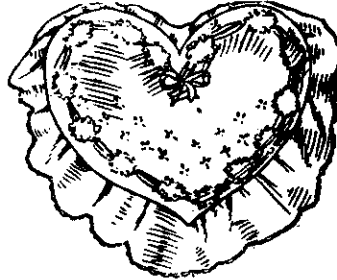
See that cucumbers are sliced as thin as possible and put cracked ice over them half an hour before they come to the table.

To clean celery of the insects often found on it take a wineglassful of hot water in which a little bicarbonate

of soda has been dissolved. Plunge the celery into this after it has been washed. Then cool in ice water before serving.

WORK COLUMN.

Persuaded somewhat against my will at a recent large patriotic bazaar to join in a raffle, to my delight and surprise I became the proud possessor of this charming cushion, which on my return home I immediately sketched for the benefit of my readers. The whole idea struck me as so unique and pretty that I really could not resist giving you this description



HEART-SHAPED CUSHION.

of it. On a ground work of fine white muslin, cut in the form of a heart, is embroidered a design of wreaths of pink rosebuds linked together by pale blue ribbon, also embroidered. Round the cushion is a frill of the muslin buttonholed round the edge with a pale shade of pink silk. Under this upper frill is an under one of plain pink silk matching that of which the

casing of the cushion is made. I learnt on inquiry from the clever lady who had contributed this dainty article that she had found it necessary to fix the muslin in a frame before embroidering it, as otherwise it was very apt to pull. These frames, which are useful in many kinds of work, can be bought very cheaply at any fancy-work shop.

The pretty and novel-shaped cushion called the "Balloon" is very easy to make. The actual cushion itself is made by cutting the casing into quarters after the manner of making a ball or melon cushion, and then joining these pieces together and stuffing



A COUPLE OF DAINTY CUSHIONS.

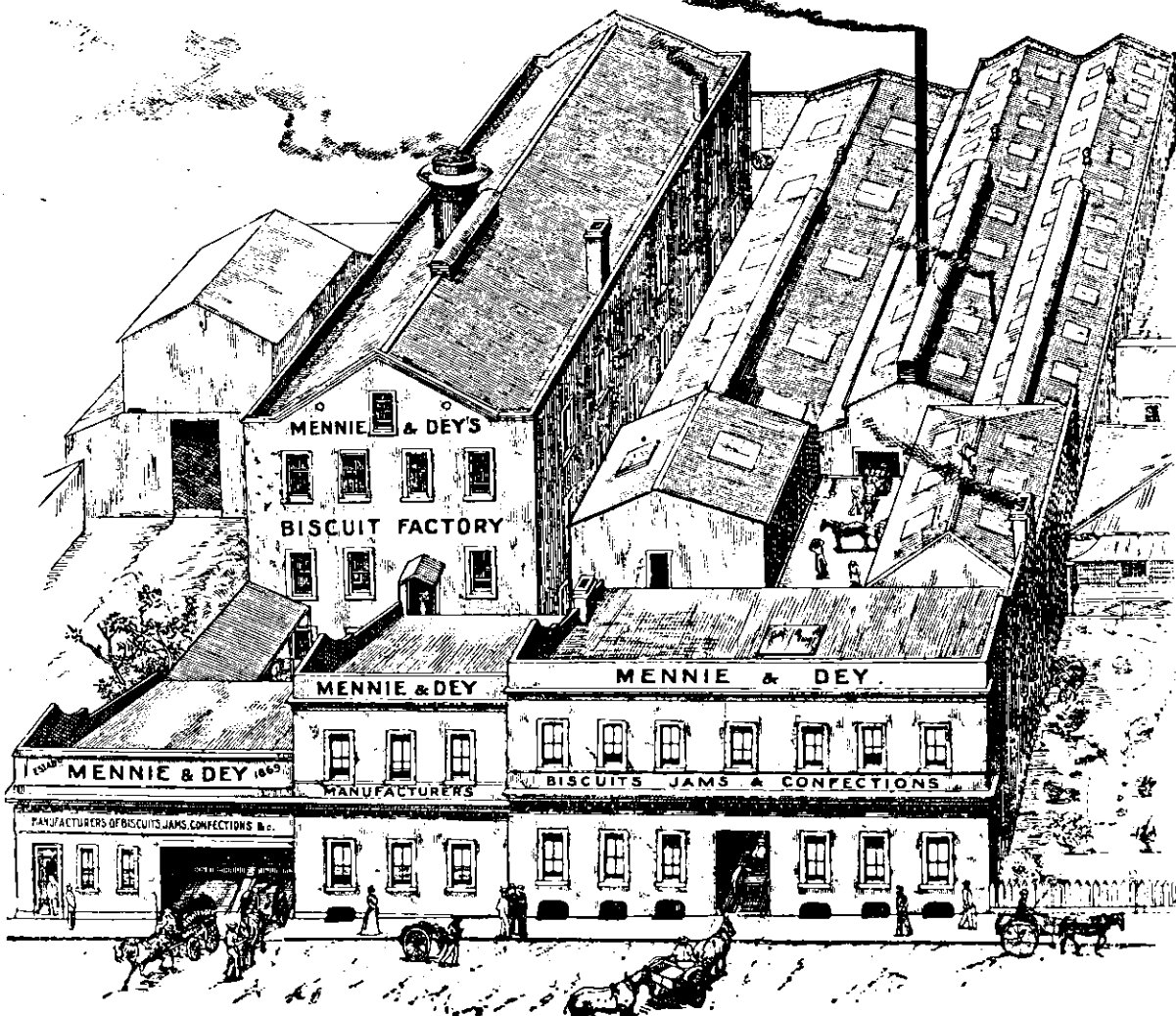
the case full, but not over full lest it be hard and solid. The cover is simply a straight piece of muslin or silk sufficiently large to completely cover the cushion. The silk is then ornamented with strips of insertion or ribbon, and joined up the side, leaving the top and bottom ends open so that it forms a kind of petticoat frill at the bottom. Run a draw-string in the

silk close to the top, and another one eight inches from the bottom. Place the cushion in its cover and draw up the strings, which may be hidden, if you wish your cushion to be elaborate, by a soft silk ribbon tied round the frill at the bottom, and a large bow of the same sewn on at the top end. This style of cushion is a most comfortable one for using in a carriage or in any chair or seat the depths of which you wish to fill up, and can either be used direct or will lend its aid to the support of other cushions. It has also other and very practical advantages in the ease with which it can be washed and ironed, for when untied it of course folds out quite straight again. The long-shaped cushion of which also I give a sketch here, is carried out much in the same manner over a bolster-shaped foundation. The cylindrical-shaped covering opens at each end to form a frill. This cushion is also a very practicable one for use when travelling in railway carriages and all places where things are likely to get quickly soiled and creased, for it, too, is easily renovated. For use on the beach or on a seat in a garden it would be an invaluable comfort. The trimming of lace insertion can be either put on round the silk or muslin cover, or lengthways, or in a spiral fashion, as in the illustration. This latter method is, however, more complicated than the others, and requires great care to keep the insertions at regular distances from each other. Instead of the lace, ribbon or strips of velvet could be used for the ornamentation.

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