

Louis Antoine Godey (1804-1878)

# •The founder of Godey's Lady's Book.

•In 1830, he published the first edition of the Lady's Book, composed of reprinted articles and illustrations from French magazines.



•He was considered to be:

"The guiding star of female education, the beacon light of refined taste, pure morals, and practical wisdom."



Godey is quoted in the *History of American Magazines* as saying, after retiring from the *Lady's Book*, that

"not an immoral thought or profane word could be found in its pages during the entire period of [his] connection with it."





Godey's Lady's Book, was the most widely circulated magazine in the period before the Civil War.

Its circulation rose from 70,000 in the 1840s to 150,000 by 1858.

In 1845 Godey began copyrighting each issue of the magazine, making it one of the first magazines in America to be copyrighted.

# Sarah Josepha Hale

- Author of Mary Had a Little Lamb
- "editress" of the Lady's Book from 1837 until 1877.
- She only published original American manuscripts.





Sarah, like Queen Victoria, spent the rest of her life wearing black in perpetual mourning.





She was one of the first American women novelists.



She famously campaigned for the creation of the American holiday known as Thanksgiving.



- From 1828-1836, Sarah
  Hale worked for Rev. John
  Blake in Boston as "editress"
  of his Ladies' Magazine
  before it was purchased by
  Godey and encorporated
  into his Lady's Book.
- When Godey asked her to carry on as his editor, she agreed only on condition that she remain in Boston where her son was attending Harvard.



Although she did not consider herself a feminist, Sarah Hale, because of her position as the editor of the Lady's Book, became quite an arbiter of American taste and used her influence to further several women's causes.

Hale encouraged the education of women "not that they may usurp the situation, or encroach on the prerogatives of man; but that each individual

may lend her aid to the intellectual and moral character of those within her sphere."

In 1852 She started a regular section of the Lady's Book entitled "Employment for Women."





Sarah argued strongly that a woman's proper sphere was in the home - however

She championed women's colleges and urged that women be given the chance to teach in them.



The bookbinders

**Coined the phrase: Domestic Science** 

She supported Elizabeth Blackwell's determination to become a physician and argued that single women should be allowed to become missionaries.



She was instrumental in creating the curriculum for Vassar, the first Collage for Women in the United States



Sarah retired when she was 90, shortly after Godey sold the magazine, writing:

"I must bid farewell to my countrywomen, with the hope that this work of half a century may be blessed to the furtherance of their happiness and usefulness in their Divinely appointed sphere."





Sarah Hale wrote an extensive editorial each month. Here are two examples of her thoughts:

January 1856- "Heart service in the cause of humanity belongs naturally to women."

February 1857- "Genius has no sex,"



Ms. Hale held up Queen Victoria as a role model of femininity, morality and intellect. Based on this affinity, Godey's is credited with introducing both the white wedding dress, and the decorated **Christmas tree** to American culture.

This woodcut of the British Royal Family with their Christmas tree at Windsor Castle was the first widelycirculated picture of a decorated evergreen in America. Subscribers paid \$3.00 for a years subscription to Godey's Lady's Book



1850

In 1859, Godey pointed out that it cost \$105,200 to produce the Lady's Book, with the coloring of the fashion-plates costing \$8,000.

Godey employed as many as 150 women working in their homes to apply the watercolor to each plate.



## GODEY'S LADY'S BO LIPBRART AND PICTORIAL,

#### THE BOOK OF THE NATION AND ARTS UNION OF AMERICA !!

THE LADY'S BOOK is now in the twenty-second year of its publication by the same Publisher a fact inprecedented in the history of any American Magazine. Nothing but real worth in a publication could be the cause of so prolonged an existence, especially in the literary world, where everything is so evanescent. Hun-dreds of magazines have been started, and, after a short life, have departed—while the "Lady's Book" along stands triumphant, a proud monument reared by the Ladies of America as a testimony of their own worth. Many mathematical provides the started and the start the "Lady's Book" is intended merging for

Many persons, who seek no further than our title, presume that the "Lady's Book" is intended merely for the amusement of a class, and that it does not enter into the discussion of those more important questions con-nected with the realities and the duties of life which every well-informed *noman*, mother and daughter, should be acquainted with. But such is not the fact. It is now, as it has ever been, our constant care to combine, in the pages of the "Lady's Book," whatever is useful, whatever is elevating, whatever is pure, dignified, and virtuous in sentiment, with whatever may afford rational and innocent amusement.

#### CODEY'S SPLENDIG ENGRAVINGS

It is the fashion with many magazines to announce in their advertisements, "Splendid Engravings, Fashion Plates," &c. What is the disappointment of the duped subscriber with he receives the numbers of a magazine thus advertised, to find all his splendid engravings dwindled down to paltry wood-cuts-as contemptible in design as in execution !

The publisher of the "Lady's Book" performs all he promises, and, as some of our exchanges are kind enough to say, "more than he promises." Each number of the "Lady's Book" contains at least

#### THREE ENGRAVINGS FROM STEEL PLATES, ENGRAVED BY THE BEST ARTISTS,

either in LINE, STIPPLE, or MEZZOTINT, and sometimes FOUR.

#### GODEY'S RELIABLE FASHION PLATES

are published monthly, and are considered the only really valuable fashion plates that are published. They have been the standard for over twenty-one years. In addition to the above, every month selections from the following are given, with simple directions that all may understand :--

Undoubted Receipts, Model Cottages, Model Cottage Furniture, Patterns for Window

Curtains, Music, Crochet Work, Knitting, Netting, Patchwork, Crochet Flower Work, Hair Braiding, Ribbon Work, Chenille Work, Lace Collar Work, Children's and Infant's Clothes, Capes, Caps, Chemisettes-in fine,

#### everything that can interest a Lady will find its appro

priate place in her own Book.

#### 

#### TERMS CASH IN ADVANCE, POSTAGE PAID, AND NO DEVIATION.

One copy, 1 year, -	•			nii.	\$3	Five copies, 1					- 5	\$10	
Two copies, 1 year,					5	One copy, 5 y	rears	-				10	
One copy, 2 years, -		-		g	5	Eight copies,				-	-	15	
Ten copies, 1 year, \$2	0.	And	one	cons	ext	a for a year to the	Derson a	ending	the r	Inh c	f ter		

No old subscriber will be received into a club until all arrearages are paid.

- Small notes of the different States are received at par for Godey's Lady's Book.
- Club subscribers will be sent to different towns.

13" Additions of one or more to clubs are received at club prices.

REGISTER your letters, and, when remitting, get your postmaster to write on the letter " Registered." The money will then come safely. Remember, we have no traveling agents now, and all money must be sent direct to the publisher.

- IF A Specimen or Specimens will be sent to any Postmaster making the request.
- We can always supply back numbers for the year, as the work is stereotyped.



# An advertisement for the Lady's Book

Godey disliked discussing political issues or controversial topics in his Magazine. He forbade the journal from taking a position during the Civil War to such an extent that the Lady's Book makes no mention of the war at all from 1861-1865.





 Godey's Lady's Book appeared under seven different titles during its sixtyeight year history (1830-1898).





### GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK January 1850

The Flight of Time (Illustration)

January Bills (illustration)

- •Philip Hamilton and His Mother
- •The Three Calls

#### •(poetry) The Introduction of Christianity Into Great Britain,

Isle of Song, Rich and Poor, The Evening Star, Purity in Acrostic, Scripture Sketch, Allondale Priory, To Louise, Song to the Sea-Wave, The Village Stile, To Hebe, The Vacant Chair, Sonnet-Father of Waters, The The Faithless One

#### •Flowers

- •The Royal Sister-In-Law
- •The Mysterious Singer
- •Our Grannit HIlls
- •Ideal Husbands: or School Girls Fancies
- •The Earl's Death-Bed; or The Force of Conscience
- •Capes, Caps, etc.
- •Fashions for January
- •Points of Etiquette
- •Editorials by Sarah Hale and Louis Godey

#### CATALOGED

#### V. 42-43

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Full page illustrations were common. These included both engravings and woodcuts.

The Flight of Time – celebrating New Years, 1850



# The Coquette: 1851



## Taking Tea in the Arbor: 1852







## Man, First to Last, Requires Assistance: April 1856



MAN FROM FIRST TO LASTREQUIRESASSISTANCE.



Sing me that sweet song again.

## Happiness: September 1850





Recipes were a regular item :

RASPBERRY WINE.--Bruise the finest ripe raspberries with the back of a spoon; strain them though a flannel bag into a stone jar; allow one pound of fine powdered loaf sugar to one quart of juice ; stir these well together and cover the jar closely. Let stand for three days, stirring up the mixture every day; then pour off the clear liquid, and put two quarts of sherry to each quart of juice or liquid. Bottle it off, and it will be fit for use in a fortnight. By adding Cognac brandy, instead of sherry, the mixture will be raspberry brandy.



COOKS.

Engraved expressly for Godey's Lady's Book.

# Carbonated Syrup Water (1860 & 62)

Put into a tumbler lemon, raspberry, strawberry, pineapple or any other acid syrup sufficient in quantity to flavor the beverage very highly. Then pour in very cold ice-water till the glass is half full. Add half a teaspoonful of bicarbonate of soda (to be obtained at the druggist's), and stir it well in with a teaspoon. It will foam up immediately, and must be drank during the effervescence.

By keeping the syrup and the carbonate of soda in the house, and mixing them as above with ice-water, you can at any time have a glass of this very pleasant drink; precisely similar to that which you get at the shops. The cost will be infinitely less.



# **Another Method of Cooking Eggs (1864)**

This dish is particularly suitable to invalids and little children who are not of an age to masticate their food. All the nutrituve qualities of the eggs are preserved, together with the lightness of the omelette.

The requisite number of eggs is beaten, seasoned, and passed through a sieve, to which a small quantity of good gravy [broth] is added. The mixture must be placed in an enamelled stewpan, and set over a slow fire till the eggs thicken, The stewing pan is then removed and a small piece of fresh butter is added to the mixture, which, when melted, is ready to receive the addition of any finely minced fowl, meat, fish, asparagus, pease, or cauliflower, that may be desired. N The latter ingredients must be stirred in until warm through, but not suffered to boil.

# **How To Make Yeast**

Boil one pound of good flour, quarter of a pound of brown sugar, and a little salt in two gallons of water, for one hour. When milkwarm, bottle it and cork it close. It will be ready for use in twenty-four hours. One pint of this yeast will make eighteen pounds of bread.



# Poetry was highly prized. TO LOUISE. BY G. W.

How dear to me the hour when first My wondering eyes thy form beheld! Then on those eyes a vision burst More fair than fabled fay of eld! But dearer far was that sweet hour When low the words of love were spoken, And, blushing, thou didst give a flower, Of thy pure heart a happy token.



### A Mother's Christmas Thoughts.

BY MADGE MERTON.

E kissed her with a soft good-night, Her boy, grown tall and strong; And she, alone in dim twilight, Across the years has gone.

Sweet, patient face, dear mother heart, Aching its sad, lone way To those past years—that nobler part Where little children play.

And all the fire-lit, cosy room She filled with vanished joys; And 'round the hearth, in dark'ning gloom, Clustered her one-time Loys.

Wee Harry played with drum and fife, And led a mimic fray; Poor lad, he lived a coldier's life, And died the death one day. Vol. CXXIII—No. 33. And Harold watched an engine puff And o'er the hearth-rug fly;"I'll be a driver, sure encugh, Won't I, mamma," he'd cry.

Tall John was all was left to-night, The others nobly died;One in the thickest of the fight, And one steel rails beside.

Slow down the mother's cheeks there ran Tears born of chastened grief; The tears that bridge a sorrow's span, And bring a sweet relief.

Sweet, patient face, dear mother-heart, Aching its sad, lone way Across to Christmas Eve's apart, Where little children play.

Notes from the collections Accessible ARCHIVES



### Essays were also prized:

Several knotty points of etiquette have, from time to time, been submitted ecision; and one or two of them are really of consequence enough to be noted. to request gentlemen occupying good seats at r for the escort of a lady or lecture, to give them up to himself and charge, and retire to parts unknown in search of a standing place, if the room should be crowded? To this, we would answer that, if the gallantry of the gentlemen thus situated does not prompt them to proffer the seats in question, it is rudeness to request it. A lady is a lady, it is true; but if she could not come early enough to get a good seat, she cannot expect that spectators who *did* should inconvenience themselves for her sake. If it is at the theatre, where seats have been taken, it is the height of rudeness to request such a favor; particularly if ladies be of the filet party. They must then be separated from their escort; a strange lady is set down in the midst of their party, and all are placed in an awkward position. We are afraid that the inborn politeness of American men has spoiled some of our ladies, if they expect so much. In Europe, you would be laughed at, if such an exchange were demanded; and it would be fortunate if the affair did not end in a *rencontre*, if the parties were equals. We may as well mention here, for the sake of the other sex, that loud thumping with canes and umbrellas, in demonstration of applause, is voted decidedly rude. Clapping the hands is quite as efficient, and neither raises a dust to soil the dresses of the ladies, nor a hubbub enough to deafen them.

## Architectural renderings were common in lady's magazines through the 20<sup>th</sup>







century.



ORNAMENTAL GOTHIC COTTAGE.

### Victorian Hairstyle for a Young Lady - 1867

Coiffure for a young lady. The hair is slightly waved, and brushed to the back of the head, where it is caught up in short curls, bound in with a very heavy plait of hair.



# Hairstyle for a Ball - 1867



Ball coiffure. The back of the head is covered with short curls , and a row of short curls fall over the forhead. A broad plait of scarlet velvet is twisted round the head and falls over the shoulder.







# Nina Headress, 1863


Hair pieces were a common addition to elegant hair styles.







The magazine is best known for the hand tinted fashion plate that appeared at the start of each issue which provides a record of the progression of women's dress. Almost every issue included an illustration and pattern with measurements for a garment to be sewn at home.



1846

1850

1880





OUR PRACTICAL DRESS INSTRUCTOR.

CORACO EUGENIE.



## July 1855: Practical Dress Instructor Coraco Eugenie

We this month give one of the most beautiful of the Paris costumes. The robe is of printed tafetas, with four embroidered scalloped flounces. The body is open over a chemiseette of plaited muslin. The sleeves are open, the sides being held together with bands of quilled ribbon. The undersleeves are of muslin, to match the chemisette, and are fastened round the wrists by ribbon bracelets, with long ends, to correspond with the color of the dress. The bonnet is of lace, with small roses and leaves made of crape.



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*Figure* 3. Black-spotted tulle over a pink silk slip. Double skirt, and a triple berthe cape. The hair is arranged very simply, with a wreath of pansies and drooping green foliage. A tasteful and simple costume.

*Figure* 4. Dress of rich white silk, the second skirt open at the right side, and fastened by a graceful festooning of crimson velvet leaves and Roman pearls. The hair is in Grecian braids, nod the wreath is of crimson velvet leaves, with festoons of Roman pearls to match the skirt. This is a novel and pleasing style. The long sharp boddice is the mark of a Parisian evening dress.

## Children's dresses for fancy dress parties



CHILDREN'S DRESSES .- (See Description, Fashion Department.)

THE expediency of children's parties is a question not yet set at rest by the magazines and journals devoted to nursery tactics; but as, in the mean time, children will enjoy themselves after this fashion,

and there are mothers indulgent enough to gratify them, we give a plate of some of the prettiest costumes Parisian taste and elegance have copied or invented.

These costumes, though, at first sight, seeming so costly, can be easily arranged at very little expense. Any mother, with ordinary taste and ingenuity, could do so with few purchases; and, as the dress is worn but once or twice at most, there is not much matter about the length of stitches. Indeed, a very pretty costume has been finished with the aid of *pins* alone.





We this mosth give the pattern of the new of the user withink the most comfortable cloak of the pattern is within the bettern it will sho be the one of any is wone this wister. It may be made of any is within, either light or heavy, as you move the the the light or heavy, as you move the the the light of the light of the light of the the lig

our engraving having head ribbon laid on with narrow volvel on the Mark lines, with sheet black tassis. The bow from the front of the nock has very long, each. By reforing to our diagram, it will be soon that the pathers is very simple, and has the advantage of fitting well.

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YOUNG LADIES', Style 92.

FOR CHILDREN

**Combines Durability with** Delightful Ease and Comfort. The only perfect low-priced Walst made. Size, it is 12 years. For sale by all first-class first Goods Isolers. If unable to prouve in your toom solid to us for sample, enclosing 25 rents, or 15 cents for the better grade.





## BIRYE DAY OF THE YEAR.

A NEW YEAR'S SONG.

WRITTEN BY AMANDA M. DOUGLASS. MUSIC BY W. J. WETMORS.

COMPOSED EXTRESSLY FOR GODEN'S LADY'S LOOK.



Sheet music was Another common Addition to the Lady's Book.

Godey, reserved several pages near the end of his Book for a section he called his Armchair. From here he would regale his readers with the latest updates on the success of the Lady's Book, quotes from letters he had received, comments on the fiction for the month as well as anything and everything that he felt might be of interest or amusement for his readers. These comments generally filled 5-6 pages.

"THOSE REMITTING MONEY.--Don't depend upon the adhesive matter on the envelopes; always use a wafer in addition."

"Remember the Lady's Book is not a mere luxury; it is a necessity. There is no lady who takes the Book that does not save twice the price of it in a year in the matter of domestic economy. Its receipts, its patterns, its needle-work, its instructions in housekeeping are invaluable to the housekeeper."

Godey was quite adamant about the registered letter. He warned his readers often that the word "Registered" on the outside of a letter was an open acknowledgement to thieves that money was enclosed. He suggested they forego this method of sending mail.



Might Godey's Lady's Book have been instrumental in starting or inspiring the Women's Movement in America?

A woman was unable to vote, or have any political views.

She was excluded from most jobs.

She was often not allowed to read a newspaper. It was thought that "news" might inflame her brain and make her unworthy to carry out her natural role as caregiver and helpmate.

Women were not often very educated. Before the Civil War, there were only 3 colleges that women could attend in the U.S.

Once a woman was married, everything she owned became her Husband's; her land, her life savings, any slaves that she owned and her name. If a married couple divorced the husband kept custody over the children.



Elizabeth Cady was born in 1815. She studied law under her father and became a strong advocate of women's rights.



Chu, Mith lady Stanton

Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott travelled to London as delegates to the World Anti-Slavery Convention.

In 1848 Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton organised the Women's Rights Convention at Seneca Falls.

In 1866 Mott joined with Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucy Stone to establish the American Equal Rights Association.





Lucy Stone was born in 1818. Stone also advocated women's suffrage and was responsible for recruiting Susan B. Anthony and Julia Ward Howe to the movement.

In 1869 Stone, Julia Ward Howe and Josephine Ruffin formed the American Women's Suffrage Association (AWSA) in Boston.



Susan Brownell Anthony was born in 1820 into a Quaker family. In 1852 Anthony joined with **Elizabeth Cady** Stanton and Amelia **Bloomer** in campaigning for women's suffrage and equal pay. Anthony also became involved in the campaign for prohibition.



In 1869 Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Caty Stanton formed a new organisation, the National Women's Suffrage Association (NWSA).



**Carrie Amelia Moore Nation** was born on November 25 in 1846. She was a radical member of the temperance movement, which opposed alcohol in pre-prohibition America. She is particularly noteworthy for promoting her viewpoint through vandalism. On many occasions Nation would enter an alcoholserving establishment and attack the bar with a hatchet.

Or might it be that the growing Women's Movement caused the Lady's Book to Rise quickly to prominence and gave it it's place as major arbiter of the American cultural heritage?



