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F. A. Mitchel

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Woman's World

Mrs. John Bruce Dodd
Founder of Fathers' Day.

1884



MRS. JOHN BRUCE DODD.

No longer will "mother's day" have to do double duty in honor of mothers and fathers in Spokane, for Mrs. John Bruce Dodd of Washington state set apart a certain Sunday (last June 19) to celebrate father's day. On this Sunday a rose was worn by all persons in sympathy with the movement, and in the churches there were appropriate sermons, such as "The Influence of Father," in which one pastor explained that the influence of the father should be as great as the mother.

Fathers' day is likely to be observed in all the states of the Union next year, and as the matter now stands the third Sunday in June has been selected as the day of commemoration.

By F. A. MITCHEL.

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"Speaking of nerve," said the Confederate veteran. "I saw a bigger instance of it before I went into the army than during the whole four years of my term of service. I don't mean a case where a man excited by the booming and the volleys of battle goes in like a lunatic without realizing what he's doing, but where he coolly calculates on an advantage the failure of which will cost him his life.

"I was living at the time in my native town in Virginia. Abraham Lincoln was the Republican candidate for president, and we were all watching for the result of the election, for it was generally known throughout the South that in case the man nominated on a platform of 'No slavery in the territories' was elected our political leaders were going to take the southern states out of the Union.

"Virginia at that time was a Union state. At any rate, there were a lot of Union people in it, and I was one of them, though afterward I went over when the fighting began. When we heard that Lincoln was elected, you bet everybody looked serious. Some were hot for secession right off, some were opposed to anything of the kind, while the rest didn't know what they wanted. I was one of those who were on the fence, and it was our kind the leaders were laying for to make secessionists of. When a man was an out and out Unionist it was pretty hard to move him, though lots of us that were strongly opposed to seceding fought hard enough after the Old Dominion seceded.

But what I started in to tell you

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