

*Household Comfort*

**Tamar Stone**

*Household Comfort*

bed project (doll bed) © 2004

**Spec Sheet**

**Wooden Bed with rope mattress support:** 10 1/4" (W) x 20 1/4" (L) x 9 1/2" at headboard (H)

**Pillow Case:** (*cotton*) 7 1/4" (W) x 4 3/4" (L)

**Pillow:** (*cotton ticking, poly stuff fill*): 6 1/4" (W) x 4" (L)

**Bedsread:** (*vintage cotton, cotton trim*) 22" (W) x 31 3/4" (L)

**Comforter:** (*antique linen, hand quilted, cotton stuffing*) 14 1/4" (W) x 21" (L)

**Top Sheet:** (*cotton*) 17" (W) x 25 1/2" (L)

**Bottom/fitted sheet:** (*cotton*) 14" (W) x 23" (L)

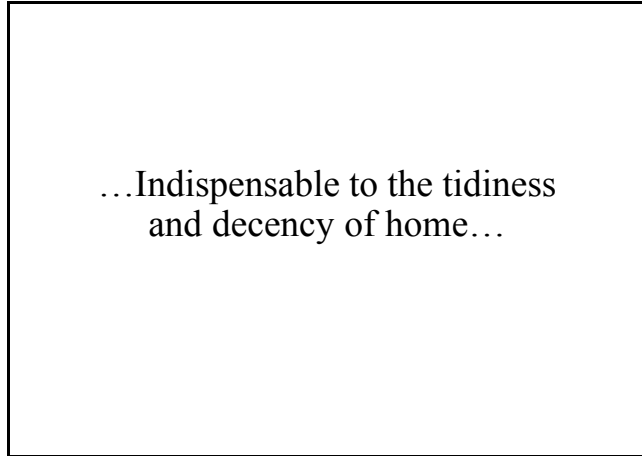
**Mattress:** (*cotton ticking, hand tufted, cotton stuffing*) 9" (W) x 19" (L) x 1 1/2" (H)

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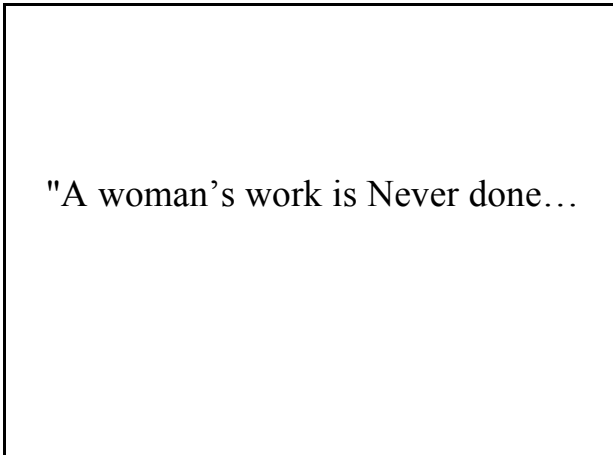
**Pillow case - front:**



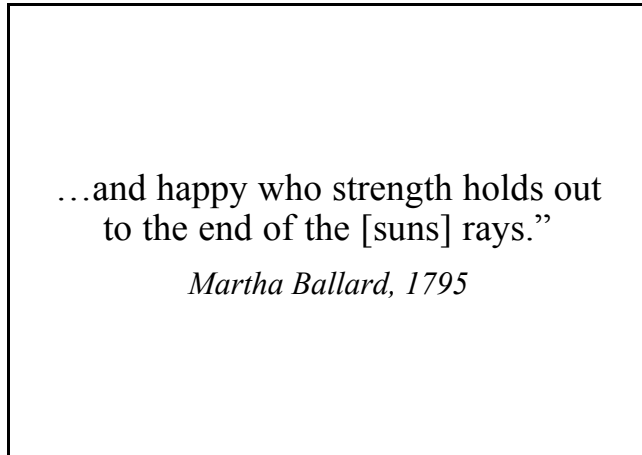
**Pillow case - back:**



**Pillow - front:**



**Pillow - back:**



**Bedsread top side**

As a natural consequence of our  
division of labor on sex-lines, giving to  
woman the home and to man the world  
in which to work, we have come  
to have a dense prejudice  
in favor of the essential  
womanliness of the home duties....

We have assumed that the preparations  
and serving of food and the removal of dirt,  
the nutritive and execrative processes  
of the family, are feminine functions; and  
we have assumed that these processes  
must go on in what we call the home,  
which is the external expression of family...

**Bedsread back side**

Even cleaning, rightly understood and  
practiced, is a useful, and therefore,  
honorable profession.

It has been amusing  
heretofore to see how this least desirable  
of labors has been so innocently held to be  
woman's natural duty.

It is woman, the dainty, the beautiful,  
the beloved wife and revered mother,  
who has by common consent been expected  
to do the chamber-work and scullery work  
of the world.

All that is basest and foulest  
she in the last instance must  
handle and remove.

*Charlotte Perkins Gillman, "Women and Economics," 1898*

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### **Comforter top side**

“If I’ve got a routine,  
I like to try to keep to it,  
otherwise I get very disorganized  
and upset.

I feel very inadequate  
if I can’t live up to the standards  
that I have and  
I start to feel guilty  
as well.”

*(Cinema Manager’s wife, mid 20<sup>th</sup> cen.)*

### **Comforter back side**

It is a good plan,  
to strip the clothes off your bed  
and shake it up  
as soon as you rise from it;  
by doing it then, your cap protects  
your hair from any lint or feathers,  
and being lightly clothed,  
your movements are perfectly free,  
and the glow occasioned by  
the exertion makes you  
on a cold morning,  
feel less dread of cold water.

*Mrs. John Farrar, “The Young Lady’s Friend, By a Lady”. 1837*

*Household Comfort*

**Flat sheet top side**

“Clean sheets  
twice a week are  
now possible.  
Last week, when the dryer  
broke down, the sheets  
didn’t get changed for eight days.  
Everyone complained.  
We all felt dirty. I felt guilty.  
Isn’t that silly?”

*Housewife, 1963*

**Flat sheet back side**

Mrs. B. of Chicago  
dropped her bed  
on a car parked |  
beneath her window.  
She explained, “*When  
I shake my bedding,  
I shake it bed and all.  
It just slipped out of my hands.*”

1946

**Fitted sheet top side**

As sleeping  
is one of the  
most important functions  
of life,  
it is necessary to know  
how to prepare for it,  
and how, if possible,  
to maintain a healthful  
and  
comfortable position  
during the hours  
of repose...  
Somehow, lack of sleep  
affects a woman’s looks  
more quickly than a man's.

*Harriet Hubbard Ayer, “A complete and  
authentic treatise on the laws of health and  
beauty” 1899*

**Fitted sheet back side**

If  
a woman  
undertakes  
homemaking  
as her occupation  
she should make that  
her *business*  
and  
the possibilities  
of this today  
are almost  
endless...

*Proceedings of the Fourth Annual Conference  
on Home Economics, Lake Placid, NY, 1902*

**Mattress top side**

**Mattress back side**

Mattresses  
should be turned every day,  
or at least as often  
as every other morning.

It is well to examine  
the seams and edges  
once a fortnight, and  
turn them end for end.

This,  
with dusting the bedstead,  
will prevent  
harboring of insects.  
All beds, pillows, etc.,  
should be exposed to  
a current of fresh air  
a few minutes every morning.

Pillows and bolsters  
ought to be placed  
in the sun now and then,  
to remove all tendency  
to unpleasant  
effluvia.

*Godey's Lady's Book, 1855*

Home Comfort  
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