

THE FAIR SEX.

A Column of Interesting Reading for the Ladies.

THE USEFUL AND THE ORNAMENTAL.

Notes of Fashions and Fashionable Folks.

The Effects of Tight Lacing.

Now that rational ideas as to dress have acquired a definite place in public esteem, it may be imagined that the practice of tight lacing and customs of a like nature, if known at all, are not what they used to be. A case of sudden death lately reported from Birmingham proves that it is still too early to indulge in such illusory ideas. The deceased, a servant girl of excitable temperament, died suddenly in an epileptoid fit, and the evidence given before the coroner respecting her death attributed the fatal issue to asphyxia, due in a great measure to the fact that both neck and waist were unnaturally contracted by her clothing, the former by a tight collar, the latter by a belt worn under the stays. We have here certainly those very conditions which would lead us to expect the worst possible consequences from a convulsive seizure. There is no organ of the body whose free movement is as much time more important than the heart. Yet here we find, on the one hand, its movement hampered by a tight girdle so placed that it could with difficulty be undone as a critical moment; on the other, a contrivance admirably adapted to allow the passage of blood to the brain, while impeding its return. This is no isolated case as regards its essential character, though, happily, somewhat singular in its termination. Minor degrees of asphyxiation, we fear, are still submitted to by a good many self-torturing children of vanity. The tight corsets and the high heel shoes work mischief on the bodies of their devoted wearers. Taste and reason, indeed, combine to deprecate their injurious and vulgar bondage, and by no means unsuccessfully. Still the evil maintains itself. Cases like that above mentioned ought to, if they do not, open the eyes of some self-worshippers of the other sex who heedlessly strive by such means to excel in a sickly grace. We would strongly impress upon all of this class the fact that beauty is impossible without health, and would advise them, in the name of logic as well as comfort, to avoid those methods of contention, one and all, by which elegance is only caricatured and health may be painfully and permanently injured.—*London Lancet.*

The Tea Gown.

The day of the tea gown has by no means passed. Quite the contrary, it seems to have just dawned, so popular has this most comfortable garment become in our own country, as well as in England. Even French modistes have made more charming concoctions on this model. Madame Jane Harding particularly has helped make this style of dress popular with the simple grace with which she wears it. Sarah Bernhardt often appears in a sublimated tea gown, known by some other name, perhaps, but a tea gown just the same and a most graceful one. Flimsy materials are no longer the only ones used in the construction of the tea gown. Brocades, silk poplins and such silken stuffs are much more favored this season, at least for the main part of the gown, while for the front soft gossamer stuffs are preferred still and give the character to the gown. Lovely embroideries are lavished on the new out tea gowns in preference to lace, which has so long been the only adornment allowed on this graceful garment. A regal model in a tea gown from a famous house in Paris had a fine and delicate embroidery in gold threads on a rich, dark red, eastern silk. A net of old point de Venise made a dainty in the front and was caught in place by a gown string. A robe fit for a princess more truly was such a tea gown. Creamy white with gold embroidery also makes an exquisite combination in the tea gown and one which is always becoming.

Travelling Dresses.

Correspondents who have asked suggestions for travelling dresses for autumn are advised to get faced cloth of light quality and make a princess coat; or, if a separate bodice is preferred, a good plan is to have a coat bodice, which is a contrived basque of even length around the hips and back. This bodice should open over a pleated vest of light armor silk, which has a velvet yoke and collar at the top and three straps of velvet ribbon across the waist line, each fastened by a buckle. The large coat sleeves have a pointed puff of the velvet at the top and the cuffs are fastened double like the revers. Around the throat is a scarf of crepe lisse, Indian mull, soft silk, or some similar fabric tied in a large bow, the ends being tucked in the open front.—*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper.*

Mirth is Beauty.

The *New York World* says: "Mirth, cheerfulness, animation and other expressions of a happy spirit or a vivacious mood are to beauty what fragrance is to the rose—its soul, its subtle charm. The doll-faced girls who have no expression are never anything more than pretty. Beauty is something deeper than color, something finer than regularity of features. Many a woman who lacks the charm of prettiness is seen to be beautiful when she speaks and smiles. What constitutes beauty is a theme as old as love. It has been the puzzle of poets, the despair of artists. The bias of affection or conformity to an ideal makes nearly all women attractive to somebody. But the one thing which enters into and enhances all beauty is the smile that reflects sunshine in the heart." Think of this, girls! With a little effort, and no outlay of capital, you can all be beautiful.

Scotch Camel's Hair.

A new fall fabric that is sure to achieve much popularity is a soft Scotch camel's hair that comes in dull shades of brown, green and gray, or a handsome Scotch plaid that has of late been adopted by the Duchess of Fife and when walking or driving about her husband's Highland estates. The beautiful Miss Leichter, who made her debut at Newport during the summer season, has an autumn gown of green ground and her colors. The skirt is heavily lined the whole way around; the only relief in the draperies is a long fringed

plaid scarf knotted at the left hip, and a round short coat is slipped over the loose cashmere skirt. Broad, solid, low-heeled walking shoes are worn.

A Eulogy on SILK.

Silk is an agreeable and healthy article. Used in dress it retains the electricity of our bodies; in the drapery of our rooms and furniture covers it reflects the sunbeams, giving them a quicker brilliancy, and it heightens colors with a charming light. It possesses an element of cheerfulness, of which the dull service of wool and linen are destitute. It also promotes cleanliness, will not readily imbibe dirt, and does not harbor vermin as kindly as wool does. Its continuously growing use by man, accordingly, is beneficial in many ways. Grace and beauty, even, owe something to silk. You cannot stuff it like thick woollen or linen without destroying all its gloss and value. The more silk ribbons, therefore—the more silk kerchiefs and robes are used instead of linen and wool—the more graceful becomes the outward aspect of mankind. A number of strange, grotesque fashions originating in the use of linen would never have been invented during the more general employment of silk. The flustering of ribbon, the rustling and flowing skirts of silk, the kerchiefs loosely knotted round the neck, have materially contributed to make our customs more natural and pleasing to the eye.—*Exchange.*

Fashions and Fashionable Folks.

Mrs. Tani Kwo Ying, wife of the newly-appointed Chinese Minister, has nineteen finger tips, with which she jewels the long nails of her last three fingers. These quaint thimbles are as much like the beak of a woodpecker as anything you can imagine. Some are gold, some filigree silver, others are of shell, and those for ordinary wear are modelled in ivory, to be worn in bed or the bath, or when the royal lady is bundled up in wraps. All are exquisitely carved. A very beautiful set of four, made of old gold, have bits of jade in mosaic for decoration.

Wisdom for Women.

Homely people make the best friends. There never was a marriage in which one party did not impose on the other. To flatter a young woman, ask her about her victims; every girl likes to think she has victims.

Elegant Mourning.

The most elegant dresses to be worn as deep mourning are made of a combination of two kinds of crepe, the greater portion of the dress being of the lustreless canton crepe trimmed with the wrinkled English goods.

Early Fall Wrap.

This dainty little vesture may be made of cloth or of the costume fabric. The one pictured is made of hazel-brown faced cloth, braided over with dark-brown souache in an essential pattern. The fronts are extended into narrow tabs, which cross at the waist and are knotted together at the back. The coachman's cape, in sets of three or four, is extremely popular with young ladies, and to a great extent will take the place of jackets. Among the latter there is one of the "Incrucible" type, which has double revers pointed in front, the upper one of the coat material, lengthening into a deep, square collar covering the shoulders, while the under revers of different material and lighter shade shows about two inches below the other, the point extending well out upon the arm. The coat fastens with three large buttons below the bust, while the skirt part is straight over the hips, with a few plaits at the back and the cuffs are fastened double like the revers. Around the throat is a scarf of crepe lisse, Indian mull, soft silk, or some similar fabric tied in a large bow, the ends being tucked in the open front.—*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper.*

Mrs. Burnett Hurt in a Runaway.

A London cable says: Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett met with a serious accident to-day. She has been living at Doris Court, East Grinstead, and while driving to the station to-day her pony shied and dashed up the bank. Mrs. Burnett was hurled out of the cart and fell upon her head. She was picked up unconscious, and is now lying in a condition so serious that a London doctor has been called to attend her.

A Cronin Suspect's Health.

A Chicago despatch of Wednesday says: Judge Baker to-day issued a writ of habeas corpus, returnable to-morrow, requiring the State's Attorney to show cause why Frank Woodruff, one of the Cronin prisoners, should not be released on bail. The confinement is apparently breaking the young man's health down.

Sixty girl candidates for the Mormon life of multiplex blessedness were landed yesterday from the steamship Wyoming and packed off to Utah. If they knew more about the country and its customs they would stop in Chicago, where divorce is had as easy and as often as one wishes. Besides, Chicago wants the World's Fair. And it has so few of them.

Dr. Naussen, the Norwegian explorer, is organizing an expedition to the North Pole. Twenty thousand pounds have already been subscribed towards the venture and additional funds will be forthcoming.

Joseph Jefferson, the actor, was urged by his son to extend his season to thirty weeks instead of twenty. "My boy," replied the actor, "I can't afford to waste my time in making money."

CURRENT TOPICS.

CINDERELLA PARTIES ARE TO BE FASHIONABLE THIS SEASON.

In Montreal they are said to be quite popular already. Cards of invitation bear the words "Cinderella Party." The leading feature of these parties is that promptly at 12 o'clock at night a gong sounds and the guests immediately depart, as did the heroine of the glass slipper. By this means those who have to be at business on time next morning have a chance to obtain something like a night's rest.

LETTERING SLAVES IN A PEEK AND FEEDING THEM UP LIKE ANIMALS DESTINED FOR THE TABLE, AND THEN LEADING THEM TO SHAMBLES WHERE THEY ARE SLAUGHTERED LIKE OXEN, CUT INTO PIECES, AND SHARED BY HIS AMONG HUNGRY CANNIBALS—such is the practice which is permitted, according to M. Fondese, a French explorer, in some of French, Belgian, Portuguese, and even British territories in Ubanghi. M. Fondese was sent out three years ago by the French Government to discover the sources of the Niariguillon, and having returned after the successful accomplishment of his task, he hastens to tell his countrymen about the terrible things which he had seen in his travels. The "fastening parks," or paddocks, are, he says, to be seen in each village, and contain men and women who have been taken in the war. The poor wretches take their doom philosophically, and some of them to whom M. Fondese offered freedom actually refused it. They eat, drink, dance and sing until the busy "Fetish man" comes around, accompanied by an orchestra of tom-tom and tin-kettle players, selects a sufficiently fat specimen, carries him or her to the market place of the village, and splits his or her head with a hatchet or a knife. The eyes and tongue of the victim are given to the "boss" of the sh, and the rest of the body is divided among the atrocious anthropophagi. M. Fondese, who has gone right through the heart of the African continent, has brought several interesting reports back, which he proposes to read in a public meeting, Cardinal Lavignerie, the anti-slavery crusader, will undoubtedly find a new incentive in his philanthropic work after having heard the testimony of the new explorer.—*London Telegraph.*

THE VANCOUVER, B. C., NEWS-ADVERTISER RECOMMENDS THE CULTIVATION OF HOPS IN THAT PROVINCE, AS THE EXPERIENCE OF WASHINGTON TERRITORY HAS PROVED THAT THE SOIL AND CLIMATE OF THE PACIFIC COAST ARE ESPECIALLY ADAPTED FOR THE PERFECTION OF THE PLANT.

One grower in the Puuyallup Valley, who has kept an accurate account of the proceeds of his hop yard for seventeen years, states that the average yield for that period has been 2,000 pounds to the acre. During that period the average price has been 20 cents per pound or \$400 an acre, and, after deducting all expenses of cultivation and picking, the net profit has been about \$200 an acre. The quality of the hops raised is so superior to those raised in many other parts of the world, that a few years ago, furnished the chief supply, that the price they can be sold for in London are sufficient to cover all the expenses of transportation for so great a distance and leave the growers a good margin of profit. The price of labor presents no obstacle, as many of the hop pickers in Washington Territory are Indians from British Columbia, who annually go down for that purpose, after the salmon canning season is over. If, says the *News-Advertiser*, "some of the speculators who hold large tracts of land at high prices would offer some of it at reasonable figures to persons who would make hop gardens, they would find their lands adjacent would appreciate in value as soon as one season had passed, and the possible profits of the industry were realized."

CONSCIENCE MONEY.

The Victim of a Kingston Robbery Receives His Money Back.

A Kingston despatch says: About five years ago E. Brown, merchant, of Delta, attended the Provincial Fair here. He started at night for the G. T. R. station, and when near it some men seized him and dragged him into a vacant field. They then robbed him about 300 yards and gave him brutal treatment. After the men had robbed him of \$130 in bills, a \$5 gold piece, \$4 in silver, his watch, chain, ring and other valuables, they left him in a dazed condition. Keleher and Ahsara were arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced to fourteen and eighteen months respectively in the Central Prison. Now, for the sequel. On Monday a stranger called at the Dominion Express office and handed in a package for J. E. Brown, Delta. On Thursday Mr. Brown received the package and found it contained the articles stolen from him, and a note asking Mr. Brown to insert the following notice in the papers: "John E. Brown, of Delta, who, a few years ago, was robbed of a chain, watch, ring and \$130 cash, received a few days ago, through some unknown channel, as conscience property, the watch, chain, ring and \$90 in cash."

There was also a note of inquiry in the box asking Mr. Brown how much money he lost. The writer intimated that if he (Mr. Brown) would give a notice in the papers, stating exactly what had been stolen from him, he would probably receive more. The works in the watch were rusted.

A Hired Man Who Shoots.

A Brookville despatch of Wednesday says: A man named Ephraim Haskins, living at Elbe Mills, about eight miles from here was this morning shot by James Pennock. It appears Pennock was paying addresses to Haskins' daughter, which displeased Haskins, who discharged Pennock a few days ago. Pennock returned this morning, and a row ensued. Pennock shot Haskins in the groin, and also shot Haskins' son in the foot. He gave himself up, and claims he did it in self-defence. Haskins is very low, but may recover.

First Bull—Here comes a man. What shall we do? Second Bull—Let's toss up.

Dr. Naussen, the Norwegian explorer, is organizing an expedition to the North Pole. Twenty thousand pounds have already been subscribed towards the venture and additional funds will be forthcoming.

Joseph Jefferson, the actor, was urged by his son to extend his season to thirty weeks instead of twenty. "My boy," replied the actor, "I can't afford to waste my time in making money."

Jap Miller.

Jap Miller down at Martineville's the blandest fellow!

When he starts in a talkin' other folks ago to quit. Peas like that mouth of his, wasn't no nothin' else. But jes' to argy 'em down and gather in their pants. He'll talk you down on tariff, he'll talk you down on tax. And prove the poor man, page, see, all—'em about the facts. Religion, law, or politics, prize-fightin' or horse-bait— Jes' teach up Jap a little and he'll prove you wrong on all.

And the comicallest fellow ever tickled back a cheer.

And tuck a chaw tobacco kind o' like he didn't keet. That's where the father's strength lies—'em about common-like and plain. They hasn't no duds about old Jap, you see, nary grain! They 'lected him to congress and he never turned his head. And didn't make no difference what anybody said. He didn't dress no finer, nor rag out fancy clothes. But his voice in council meetin' was a factor in his fate.

He's fer the pore man aver time, and in the last campaign.

He stumped of Morgan county through the machine and the rain. And heit the banner up from a train in the dust. And cut loose on monopolies and 'cuss'd and 'cuss'd and 'cuss'd! He'd tell some funny story ever—'em about you know. Tel, blame it it was bet'er than a jack-o'-lantern show. And if he furder yit, to-day, to-beat old Jap nor a. That say high-toned orator that ever stepped the State.

Why, that air blamed Jap Miller, with his sarcastic fun,

Has got more friends than any candidate ever run. Don't matter what his views is, when he steps the name to you. They allus coten with you're the same two and two. You can't take issue with him—'em about least, they hasn't no sense. In startin' in to down him, so you better do the same. The best way a jes' to listen like you're dumb. And jes' concede Jap Miller, in the best man ever was.—*James Whitcomb Riley in Indianapolis Journal.*

My Mother's Pumpkin Pie.

When the beautiful autumn time has come, With its wealth of golden days— When river and hill and meadow-land Are veiled in a purple haze, Down the backward track of the flitting year, Unbidden my memory flies To the autumn time in my childhood's days, And to mother's pumpkin pie.

The Kind of Scarfs and Ties that Should be Worn.

There is one undisputed axiom of fashion. Here it is: A man evinces taste on the lack of it more forcibly in the choosing of his neck scarfs than in any other regard. Having to do with fine dressing as an art, two treacherous elements enter into the consideration of the case—form and color. The shape of a scarf is mainly determined by the skill of the designer, and except in England, where Lord Euston or the Duke of Portland, or that exemplar of fashion incarnate, the Prince himself, determines upon some radical departure from beaten paths, it is largely an affair of convention, subject only to the usual venial modification of style. Color is everything. The scarf is the one item of apparel that admits of it. It punctuates and vivifies the entire costume, and is faultless and beautiful in proportion to the "degree" with which the devil of undue egoism and the deep sea of insipidity are excluded in its selection. The wearer's complexion is a matter of first importance. Men whose lead the rest of mankind follow—most of them without as much as suspecting it—have laid down certain precepts on the point which have acquired the force of inviolable laws. For example, says a writer in the *Post-Dispatch*, a man with swarthy features and black eyes should always wear a scarf of distinctive hue—say, black, deep blue, oxblood, red, maroon, violet, and kindred shades. Whether the scarf is illuminated with figures or not, the predominating tone should be pronounced. On the other hand, blonde men should avoid deep colors, restricting their choice to vague and uncommensurate shades—such as pale blue, light pink, etc. The various blinding that produce gayer and more buoyant effects. Persons of neutral complexion and gray eyes should exercise the utmost care and precaution in the selection of neckwear. The character and color of one's garments exert another decided influence which cannot be ignored. If a man dresses in drab or deep black he should never, unless when in mourning, or when wearing a vest opening unusually wide, displaying a big area of white shirt front, wear a plain, black or some scarf. To do so would produce a greasy ensemble. The safety-pin, it is agreed, is to seek a becoming contrast between the tone of the garment and the predominant hue of the scarf. There are men, however, who appear well dressed and who never affect any other color than black from head to foot. In the case of elderly gentlemen, especially if belonging to one of the learned professions, this exception is considered allowable, but at the same time the effect is exceedingly inartistic from the point of view of the man of fashion. The need for vivacious effect in neckwear this season is thought to be greater than ever, owing to the popularity of the cutaway and sack coats.

Modern science is extracting from the dry seed not only wood, alcohol, pyralignone acid, the bases of the alkalies, but many new compounds in medicine, etc. to say nothing of its being converted into wood pulp, or being pressed and utilized for fuel. Fortune and fame await the man who has the genius and skill to invent a contrivance or method to convert it into a cheap and merchantable fuel.