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be a year before American makers were copying them in cotton—and here they are! Beautifully woven, perfectly printed in pink-and-white, brown-and-white, black-and-white, and lavender-and-white checks, with small embroidered figures.

Silk-and Cotton Pongee—A new fabric brought out because of the rage for all silks that have a little roughness and unevenness in weave. You may look as though you were dressed in silk, though the warp is strong threads of cotton.

The Umbrella Skirt—Promises to be the new shape for spring. In the gowns that have already arrived, it fits snugly at the top but spreads out into great width at the foot. There are new ways of inserting pleated panels into these skirts, and of putting on flounces, that can only be understood by seeing them.

The Sleeve of the Spring—Whether it will be an elbow sleeve or not is the vexing question. Paris says yes—and it's possible! You may see it on some of the new lines and taffeta gowns in the Riviera Show.

The new silk blouses are bringing leg-of-mutton sleeves, shirred up once or twice in soft line folds.

Irish Dimities Transformed—This year's dimity designs are so radically different from anything hitherto that they give dimities new possibilities. Carnations, garlands, sprays of little flowers, lilies-of-the-valley and large roses are peeping from under the bars and checks, besides the conventional Dresden patterns that everybody knows.

When Buying Blankets—In buying wool blankets get the best makes, but not too heavy. Before using at all, cut apart and bind the raw edges to correspond with the upper ones, then follow the English house-keepers' custom of covering the end of the blanket or comfortable that comes next the face of the sleeper with a strip of thin muslin or cheesecloth which can be readily replaced when soiled. A wool blanket is never improved by washing, and should be kept as immaculate as possible. Dry cleansing is the only proper way to renovate a wool blanket. Those with cotton warp stand washing much better.

Word of Expostulation—Hear, however, a word of expostulation. While bedding should be thoroughly aired, the place for it is not out the front windows. It is an offense against the canons of good taste to obtrude bedding in the face of the general public. In many of the large German cities a householder on a fine residential street who dared to fling sheets and blankets broadcast from the windows would be reprimanded. In this country, even in aristocratic neighborhoods, it is no uncommon sight to discern sheets and blankets waving defiance to the artistic sensibilities of the whole community. There is a place for all things, but the front windows are not the place for bedding.

Airing the Bedroom—Even in the coldest weather the bed should be aired thoroughly every day. To simply throw back the covers for a few moments and then make with the bodily heat still in the bedding, invites disease. Each piece should be taken off separately and placed where the air can touch every portion. The mattress should be turned every few days, and the bed springs and slats wiped off weekly. If there is any danger of the "pestilence that walks in darkness" a clean cloth dampened with kerosene should be used for the springs and slats.

Hair Pillows—There is a growing fancy for hair pillows in place of feathers. These are much cooler than the old style head rest, have no odor and retain their firmness. They are made to order only, but are inexpensive, costing less than half as much as those made of live geese feathers. Both black and white hair are used, the latter being more expensive though really no better. As one can see both ticking and hair in buying to order it is a satisfactory way of purchasing.

Some very effective short curtains seen recently on a casement window were made of tan-colored cotton voile, the dress material so much in vogue the past summer, and costing only 12½ cents the yard. The scrim-like texture of the fabric made it very easy to draw threads, and the bottom and sides were finished with a two-inch hemstitched hem. At the top they were shirred on brass rods and they were tied back by red silk cords and tassels.

Perhaps you have taken the advice of some decorator or writer and had your bedroom furniture painted green, and yet the result is disappointment. Try combining it with a large-patterned chintz or taffeta with not too bright flowers and abundant green leafage. Until one has tried it one has no idea how well this combination looks and how much it brightens. The effect is delightfully cheery, and both furniture and chintz gain by the contrast. It must be borne in mind, though, that the green of the foliage of the chintz must be duller than the green of the furniture, and that the chintz must not have a dead white ground.

Three Months Bloody Work.

According to the report of the Interstate Commerce commission on railroad accidents in the United States during July, August and September, 1904, those three months were the most disastrous on record for passengers. Records show that 228 passengers and 123 employees were killed and 2154 passengers and 1593 employees injured in train accidents. Other accidents to passengers and employees, not the result of collisions or derailments, brings the aggregate casualties for the quarter up to 1032 killed and 13,207 injured. There were 1439 collisions and 1321 derailments, the damage to cars, engines and roadway being \$2,439,073.

The report says that while these figures show a gratifying decrease in the numbers of employees killed, the three months as a whole may be termed the most disastrous on record in fatal accidents to passengers.

California.

Thirty-three Day's Tour via Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has arranged for a special personally-conducted tour through California, to leave New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington on February 16, by the "Golden Gate special," composed exclusively of Pullman parlor, smoking, dining, drawing-room, sleeping, compartment, and observation cars, returning by March 21st. This special train will be run over the entire route. The best hotels will be used where extended stops are made, but the train will be at the constant command of the party.

Round-trip tickets covering all necessary expenses, \$375 from all points on Pennsylvania Railroad except Pittsburg, from which point the rate will be \$370.

For itineraries and further information apply to ticket agents; C. Studds, Eastern Passenger Agent, 263 Fifth Ave., New York; Hugh Hanson, Jr., Passenger Agent Baltimore District, Baltimore, Md.; B. M. Newbold, Passenger Agent Southeastern District, Washington, D. C.; Thos. E. Watt, Passenger Agent Western District, Pittsburg, Pa.; or address Geo. W. Boyd, General Passenger Agent, Philadelphia, 49 5 2t.

The World's Population.

The Bulletin of the American Geographical Society states that in *Die Bevölkerung der Erde* Dr. Supan gives the results of the latest censuses and estimates concerning the population of America, Africa and the polar lands, the changes of figures in parts of Europe that have affected the European total, together with the latest results in Asia, Australia and New Zealand. He then sums up his estimate of the population of the world in the following table:

	Total Population.	Per Square Mile.
Europe.....	392,298,000	104
Asia.....	319,556,000	46.6
Africa.....	140,790,000	13
Australia and Polynesia.....	6,483,000	3
North America.....	105,714,000	13
South America.....	38,482,000	5
Polar lands.....	91,000	—
Total.....	1,503,280,000	38.6

Medical.

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Maple Sugar and Syrup in 1qt. 2 qt. and 4 qt. cans—Pure goods. Fine sugar Table Syrup at 45c, 50c, and 60c per gallon. Fine new Orleans Molasses at 60c, and 80c.—straight goods.

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