

SOMEWHAT STRANGE.

ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS OF EVERYDAY LIFE.

Queer Facts and Thrilling Adventures Which Show That Truth is Stranger Than Fiction.

SIMON OPPASICH, a millionaire who has been sentenced in Vienna to seven years' hard labor for repeatedly perjuring himself, is a remarkable illustration of the possibilities of begging in a European capital. He was born without feet or arms. His father and mother were professional beggars, and in his twelfth year he was put on the street by them to solicit alms. His physical defects brought him an exceptional amount of sympathy and goldens. He saved his money, and in 1880, at the age of 47, he had accumulated \$30,000. With this sum he began business as a furrier and real estate speculator. In 1888 he had increased his fortune to \$125,000 in cash and some \$200,000 in Trieste and Paronzo real estate. Since then he has quadrupled his wealth by trading on the Bourse. His miserliness led to his present trouble. He had promised to marry a woman, but eventually threw her over to avoid incurring the expense of a wedding. When she threatened him with legal proceedings he bought her forbearance for four cents a day. This expenditure was impoverishing him, he told her after a few months, and so he discontinued it. In the trial of the case which she then made against him he swore that he never had contemplated marrying her, had never promised to do so, and had never paid her four cents a day. After all this had been proved false, he was tried and condemned for perjury.

EDDIE THOMPSON, age two and a half years, weight eight-five pounds, three feet and seven inches high and twenty-eight inches around the chest, is one of the notable citizens of Louisville. Though fat, he is amply able to take care of himself. He is quick in his movements, has the strength of a six-year-old boy, and never knows what it is to be sick. His appetite is wonderful. He is always eating, and a piece of fat meat is just as acceptable to Eddie as cake. The child has made a wonderful record in the matter of gaining flesh. He was not born great, for at his nativity he weighed only nine pounds. Until three weeks old he was like all other babies. Then he began to take on flesh. He grew like a weed. At the age of eight months he weighed thirty-five pounds, and when twenty-two months old he tipped the scale at sixty-one. Since then he has gained twenty-four pounds. He measures thirty-four inches around the waist, thirty-four at the pit of the abdomen, wears a nine-and-a-half shoe, and a six-and-a-half hat. His feet are so broad and flat that his shoes have to be made to order, but they are stout enough to sustain his sturdy body. His legs are tremendous in size, but are muscled like a football player's. He wobbles a little in walking and running, but gets over the floor with considerable swiftness. His flesh is all hard and firm.

A MEDICAL correspondent sends to a contemporary an account of a remarkable operation recently performed in one of the largest London hospitals, and which had a very successful result. It seems that an artisan, about thirty years of age, some five years ago fell and severely injured his right arm. It was operated upon at the time, and the result proved that either the surgeon by misadventure had divided the nerve or it had been torn in the fall. At all events, the injured arm never recovered its former appearance, but wasted and became quite useless. It was a serious misfortune to a working man, and it was decided to open up the arm and explore, with the result, as first surmised, that the nerve was found to be partially divided. Two fresh ends were made, and a live rabbit having been obtained, it was rendered unconscious, skinned, and the two sciatic nerves were extracted and stitched to the two ends of the divided nerve in the man's arm. The wound was then stitched up, and the patient placed in bed. It is now some weeks since the operation, and the result is most favorable. The man has perfect power in the right arm, which is rapidly regaining the original bulk, and he is now able to follow his employment.

The Times of India says that a very strange incident is reported from the Godra districts in the Panoh Mahal. A large panther had been for some time causing much injury to the cattle of the district, and the Superintendent of Police, J. V. Cooke, went out in pursuit. He succeeded in getting a shot at the animal and bowled him over, the bullet going right through the panther's heart without touching a bone. The panther fell close to a hole or den within which, unsuspected by the party, a female panther lay ensconced. The bullet, after passing through the body of the male panther, struck the second animal in the forehead and entered her brain, killing her at once. The whole episode of the proximity and accidental death of the second panther was unknown to the shooting party, and it was not till the next morning that the body of the female panther was found in the den with a bullet in the brain. It was a most providential accident, as the panther, whose presence was unknown and unsuspected, would in all probability have charged the party while taking away the male panther which had been shot.

The other day a wedding took place in St. Petersburg which excited a very general interest. It was that of the daughter of the Semenovskiy Regiment of the Imperial Guard with Lieut. Alexander Redansky of the Eighty-sixth Infantry Regiment. The young lady, who is now eighteen years of age and has always gone by the name of Eugenie Semenovskaia, taking her patronymic from the regiment, was found as a baby lying half-naked in a ditch by the men of the Semenovskiy Regiment as they were marching from Plevna upon Constantinople in December, 1878. The little Turkish foundling was tenderly cared for, and after a time baptized into the Russian Orthodox religion, her godfather being the surgeon of the regiment and her godmother the Princess Eugenie of Oldenburg. The regiment entrusted her

education to qualified persons, and the bride now brings to her husband a hand some dowry, provided by her military guardians.

It is said that Andrew Irving, of Pembroke, Canada, has in his possession one of the most curious freaks of nature in the world. Trees often grow in strange forms, but this is the strangest ever heard of. It bears an extraordinary resemblance to a squaw's head, and is a portion of a limb of a birch tree which grew out of an Indian grave many years ago on Allumette Island. The feature of the squaw's face are well defined, a growth around the forehead and the chin being raised above the features as if by a covering of cloth used for winter protection. A portion of the original bark is still on the cranium. About three feet of the branch has been sawn off, making with the appearance of the grave and the growth of the tree, the portrait must be at least 100 years old, and it is believed that no person, either Indian or white, could have produced so remarkable a work.

One mode of transportation among the poor whites of southern West Virginia is known as "riding and hitching." It is resorted to when two travellers find themselves with only one horse and they are going too far to ride "double." In "riding and hitching" one traveller takes the horse and goes a mile or more, while the other foots it behind. The equestrian naturally makes faster speed than the walker. So, after he has ridden his share, he dismounts and hitches his steed to a tree by the roadside, and pushes on afoot. In time the other walker comes to the hitched animal, mounts him, and rides on until he has overtaken the first rider and got some distance in front, when the operation is repeated. Thus each rides alternately, and the horse gets a breathing spell.

The Indianapolis News thus describes the way in which certain little Western banks were started: "A corn broker or a pork broker feeling out for an extension of business puts a few dollars into a bank, and is given credit; in another bank whose owner nominally puts up a like amount. This process is repeated, and a thousand dollars are made to do duty as bank capital in a dozen communities. The whole business is a farce and an outrage upon the public. This State was disgraced for a generation by its wildcat banking methods, and was only beginning to get over it when the corn-pork brokerage system was introduced. The first financial flurry has brought these 'banks' down, and has probably given an effective warning in time to avert serious disaster."

The experiments of Colonel Smolton, of the Russian Army, with falcons as carriers of despatches have proved successful and the Russian army hereafter will employ them in preference to the ordinary "homing" birds. The Colonel has found that the falcon can carry 150 grams without diminishing its rate of speed, which is considerably greater than that of the pigeon. The falcons, he says, are less likely to fall prey to other birds, as they are better fighters than the pigeons. It is on record, according to the Duke of Salina in Spain. It seems highly probable that the falcon will become the servant of other European Armies.

SMUGGLING of Chinese and opium flourishes in the Puget Sound region, and just as soon as one trick is discovered another is invented. What is termed an opium combine is reported to be in full working order in Canada. Silks from China are baled with a quantity of the drug stowed inside. The bales are apparently too precious for this traffic, but in that notion lies possibly the secret of success. On the bales to the Atlantic towns and then the opium is reshipped to Puget sound for distribution. There are other methods of supplying this vicious article of contraband to its enslaved consumers.

A MILLER ninety-four years old is living near Versailles, Ky., in an old water mill that he has been running continuously for upward of eighty years. He started it before the war of 1812, and remained by it all through the civil war, scarce knowing a war was in progress about him, the place is so secluded. He is hale and hearty, can shoulder a sack of grain or flour with ease, and his mind is clear and his life smooth running as the creek he has lived by and listened to for four score years.

"Doc" GOODIN, who recently broke the world's record for steering in forty-eight seconds, lassoed a mountain lion on the mountain trail near Wickenburg, Arizona. The cougar made a desperate fight, but the skillful cowboy managed to run his horse on one side of a mesquite tree and the ferocious animal on the other, breaking the latter's neck, and by a skillful movement hanging him to a tree. The scalp was sent to Prescott for the \$25 bounty.

HANDSOME, Miss., has a mule which has to have a bell on while it is at work. Unless that bell is attached to him he utterly refuses to be hitched up or driven, but with the bell on he goes quietly about his work. It is explained that this mule was used for several years in New Orleans as motor for a street car, and because so accustomed to its bell that he can't get along comfortably without it.

A BLOCK of coal believed to be the largest ever mined in this country was taken out of a mine at Roslyn, Wash., several days ago. It is 24 feet long, 5 feet 8 inches wide, 4 feet 8 inches high, and weighs 41,000 pounds. It is, perhaps, the largest lump ever mined in the world, as it is larger than the block England is sending to the Chicago Fair as a prize specimen.

SOME notion of the vastness of the Western forests may be had from the fact that a new logging camp just established at the headwaters of the Skagit River in Washington, is under contract to turn out an average of about a million feet every month. Five camps on the Skagit will turn out 35,000,000 feet of fir logs alone this year.

In one township alone in North Carolina there are seven men who have passed the age of 103 years, and local papers say the State has probably more old people within its borders than any other in the Union.

THE BODY AND ITS HEALTH.

HAIR AS A CLEANSING AGENT.—That the hair covering the body of an animal or the head of a human being serves the purposes of warmth and protection is manifest, but one would hardly expect to find that it also acts as a cleansing agent. This, however, appears to be the fact, according to a scientific authority. The minute scales which cover the outer portion of a hair are fastened at one edge and free at the other, and the free edges lie in the direction away from the skin. The surface of a hair, therefore, is like that of a piece of fur or cloth covered with nap; rubbed from root to tip it is found to be smoother when rubbed in the opposite direction. This being the case, it is evident that particles of matter in contact with the hair must find their direction of easiest motion to lie toward the tip end of the hair and away from its root. So, by virtue of the peculiar structure of its surface the hair serves gradually to remove from the skin which it covers all foreign particles which may have found lodgment there. The oily secretion emanating from the follicles of the hair probably assists this action by gathering up the fine particles of extraneous dust and scales from the skin, and thus enabling the hair to retain them, so to speak, in the grasp of its curious system of brushes. Every movement of the hair, however produced, must tend to set the particles sticking upon it in motion, and, as we have already seen, the motion can be in only one direction.

DON'T READ TOO MUCH ABOUT CHOLERA.—It is agreed by medical authorities that the virulence of an epidemic may be increased by the element of fear in the public mind. In this connection Dr. D. B. St. John Roosa, President of the New York Academy of Medicine, writing on the cholera prospect says: "During an epidemic of any kind each individual should endeavor, as indeed he should under any circumstances, to maintain his mental equilibrium in other words, to keep cool. It is very difficult in our time to accomplish this, for the simple reason that some of the daily journals think it their duty to print sensational headlines, and sometimes sensational paragraphs, which have very little actual foundation, but which excite and terrify the timid, and sometimes even the bravehearted. The writer was once in a foreign country where an epidemic was prevalent. He never knew how violent it was until he received the newspapers from his own country describing it. Such an effect did they have upon his friends that he was written to by several of them, urging him to fly at once, when, as a matter of fact, he was in no more danger than he would have been in his own dwelling at home. The cholera was only prevalent among the vicious, intemperate, and ignorant classes, who violated the most ordinary rules of personal cleanliness, and yet the news set from these several places intimated that every individual (even in places free from cholera) was likely soon to be attacked and swept off the earth. I am not in favor of governmental censorship of the press, but I am very earnest in my hope that the press in our country will be moderate and judicial in statement should cholera ever become epidemic among us. A panic stricken people become easy victims of disease, even if it be not the disease then prevalent. Every individual may not find it easy to maintain his peace of mind during a cholera epidemic, if the press continues to think it expedient—and the authorities continue to allow them—to publish highly colored paragraphs, in regard to the disease. I think that it can be properly urged upon the citizens of New York and adjacent cities, should the cholera appear, that they refrain from reading about it, unless they are sanitary or medical experts, wishing to learn all they possibly can as to the progress of the epidemic, and are able to look upon it in a scientific and cold-blooded way."

HEALTHY APPLES.—Let us in the first place, says a writer in the Popular Science Monthly, take a survey of the normal subject, or, in other words, of a healthy apple. It is made up of five seed cases, which occupy the central portion of the fruit and constitute the core. Outside of this is the edible portion called the flesh, consisting of cells of small size filled with liquid substances. A tough layer covers the outside, which is the skin, and bears the coloring substance that determines whether the apple is green, red, mottled, or striped. At one end of the fruit is the stem, or, as found in the barrel, this former means of attachment to the branch of the tree may have been broken away or pulled from the fruit—a matter of no small consideration when the question of decay is concerned. This end of the apple is known to the horticulturists as the "cavity," and varies greatly in different sorts, sometimes being deep and narrow as in the Winesap and Pearmain, and broad and shallow in the Greening and Peck's Pippin. The opposite end of the apple bears the name of "basin," and sometimes the remnants of the blossom—sometimes called the eye of the fruit. This part of the apple is likewise deep in some varieties, and shallow and open in others. This is the weakest point in the whole apple as concerns the keeping quality of the fruit. If the basin is shallow and the canal to the core firmly closed, there is much less likelihood of the fruit decaying than when it is deep, and the evident opening connects the center of the fruit with the surface. There is no question about the importance of so far as possible preventing the bruising of the fruit. From what has been said in strong terms concerning the barrier of a tough skin which nature has placed upon the apples, it goes without saying that this defense should not be ruthlessly broken down. It may be safely assumed that germs of decay are lurking almost everywhere, ready to come in contact with any substance. A bruise or cut in the skin is therefore even worse than a rough place caused by a scab fungus as a lodgment provided by the minute spores of various sorts. If the juice exudes, it at once furnishes the choicest of conditions for molds to grow. An apple bruised is a fruit for the decay of which germs are especially invited, and when such a specimen is placed in the midst of other fruit it soon becomes a point of infection for its neighbors on all sides. Seldom is a fully rotten apple found in a bin without several others near

it by being more or less affected. A rotten apple is not its brother's keeper. The surrounding conditions favor or retard the growth of the decay fungi. If the temperature is near freezing they are comparatively inactive, but when the room is warm and moist the fruit cannot be expected to keep well. Cold storage naturally checks the decay. The ideal apple has no fungous defacements and no bruises. If it could be placed in a dry, cool room free from fungous germs it ought to keep indefinitely until chemical change ruins it as an article of food.

POPULAR SCIENCE NOTES.

Platinum at white heat, it is said, will consume any quantity of tobacco smoke and keep the atmosphere perfectly clear.

Nickel is a modern metal. It was not in use or known of till 1751. It has now largely taken the place of silver in plated ware and as an alloy with steel it is superior to any other metal, for it is not only non-corrodible itself, but it transfers the same quality to steel; even when combined as low as 5 per cent. it prevents oxidation.

GLASS AND SOLAR HEAT.—Attention has been directed of late to the necessity of considering, from a practical point of view, the part played by glass in disseminating solar heat—its importance, really, as a factor in ignition and, in some cases, of destructive consequences. In the transmission of solar light the absorption of heat by glass is scientifically stated as being ninety, to two of reflection; silver plate, on the other hand, absorbing but three and reflecting ninety-seven, while lampblack appropriates the total of heat without, of course, any reflection. All radiators are absorbers in a greater or less degree, and under specially favoring conditions, the capacity of ignition must at least be considered a jeopardizing condition, and this, in the opinion of the Age of Steel, is a point of weight in insurance risks; that is, a bottle or a carboy placed in position can so intensely solar heat as to start a bonfire in a pile of wood or paper, timber being set on fire by focused rays at a distance of ninety yards, and broken quartz softened into pulp by the same means. Broken bottles, too, in dry grass, have in some instances been suspected of kindling prairie and forest fires.

ELECTRICITY AND FATIGUE.—Professor Tarchanoff, of St. Petersburg, has been experimenting upon the electric currents of the skin. He connected the skin of various parts of the body, by means of nonpolarizable galvanometers, with Meissner's galvanometer. He noticed then the various stimuli of the skin, such as light tickling with a brush, heat, cold, a needle prick, sound, light, taste and smell. In all these cases a strong deflection of the galvanometer needle was observed. Merely opening the eyes after they had been closed for some time produced a considerable deflection, and mental efforts, like calculation, also had a similar effect. Concerning the foregoing a writer in the Electrical Review says: "These currents, if they exist, as told by the learned scientist, must pass off with the moistened deposits which are being constantly expelled, and a new supply of electricity would have to be found somewhere. Such electricity, having its source perhaps in the decomposition of metals, taken in the food we eat and the air we breathe, must of necessity entail upon the organism a continuous strain in its production. It may be that from such causes the body becomes fatigued after a few hours of exertion, and absolute rest becomes necessary for recuperation. Should these experiments prove true there is no doubt that, by the proper insulation of the human body, much the recuperative value would be its outcome."

RELIABLE RECIPES.

CODFISH BALLS.—Codfish balls when well made are always an acceptable dish, but it is not every cook who succeeds in making them light and just right. The fish must be picked fine and freshened sufficiently. Then mashed potatoes and well beaten eggs are put together and well beaten, after which a few table-spoonsful of cream and a piece of butter are put in with a little pepper. This must be well beaten again, when the balls are shaped and fried in very hot fat. In freshening codfish it is well to put it on the back of the range for a quarter or half an hour before picking it apart, and it is necessary to wash and beat the potatoes well separately, and then beat all the ingredients well together. The success of fishballs lies in their being light and smooth, as well as seasoned.

STRAWBERRY SHORT CAKE.—Put into a vessel half a pound of powdered sugar with half a pound of well washed butter; grate in the rind of half a lemon, and with the hand rise well for ten minutes; break in five whole eggs, one at a time, meanwhile mixing with the hand ten minutes longer; then add gradually one-half pound of flour well sifted, with one-half teaspoonful of baking powder, mixed well together. Cover a baking sheet with good thick paper; get three cake rings nine inches in diameter, divide the preparation equally into the three rings and place in a moderate oven to bake from twenty to thirty minutes. Remove the cakes when done and allow them long enough to get cool. Pick and clean three quarts of strawberries; have a desert dish with a fancy paper over; lay one of the cakes on top of this, spread over two table-spoonsful of whipped cream, then cover with your strawberries, nicely and evenly divided; sprinkle liberally with powdered sugar, then cover with another cake, spread over the cream as on the first cake and your strawberries also, not forgetting the sugar, then lay your last cake on; get a fluted tube into a pastry bag, put into it six or eight table-spoonsful of whipped cream a vanilla, and with it decorate the top of the cake in an artistic manner and send it to the table.—(Chef Hughes, in Hotel Mail.)

A SEVEN-HUNDRED-POUND bear was killed on a sheep range near Ukiah, Cal., last week. The proprietor of the range, who participated actively in the event, is seventy-four years old. He is hunting in the chapparel for four other big bears and a couple of cubs which he says have been boarding on his fat sheep for some months, and which he is determined to bag.

FOR THE LADIES.

THE QUEEN'S THREE RINGS.

It is said that the three rings which Queen Victoria prizes the most highly are: First of all, her wedding ring, which she has never taken off; then a small enamel ring, with a tiny diamond in the center, which the Prince Consort gave her at the age of sixteen, and an enamel serpent which he gave her as an engagement ring. For many years after the Prince Consort's death her Majesty slept with these rings on her fingers, only taking them off to wash her hands, as the water would, of course, spoil the enamel.—(St. Louis Globe-Democrat.)

THE HOSTESS' HEADGEAR.

The hostess at a luncheon party is apt to look rather dowdy with her uncovered head beside the smart bonnets of her guests, and it has become more or less a custom for her to don a hat herself. At a recent luncheon, however, the giver of the feast hit upon a better plan—which was to wear a little head-dress composed of a lace butterfly bow stuck on with a jeweled pin and a twist of velvet matching her dress around her coiffure a la Grecque. This little arrangement gave the needed emphasis to her toilet, and yet preserved her individuality as the lady of the house.—(St. Louis Republic.)

AN ADVOCATE OF CYCLING.

A more enthusiastic advocate of cycling cannot be found than Mrs. Mary Sargent Hopkins, of Wilmington, Mass. She is now doing what may be termed missionary work among women in the New England States, and is lecturing to them on the advantages of cycling. Her talks are on women and the wheel, and she is attracting large audiences. Mrs. Hopkins says that cycling is the best sort of outdoor exercise, but adds that a great deal of unfavorable comment has been caused by the actual dowdiness of the woman cyclist. "Many seem to think," she says, "that any old thing is good enough for riding, and some of them dress in last summer's hat, a loose waist and an old skirt." Mrs. Hopkins has her wheel on the stage during her lectures and illustrates her manner of mounting and dismounting. Eight years of cycling has made her a very healthy woman. Just now, at the beginning of the season, Mrs. Hopkins is making converts all along the route, for her lectures are demonstrative and instructive.—(Boston Post.)

TROUBLES GIRLS HAVE.

Maybe some people think they have troubles, but the girl who put on her new purple veil, took a cab because of the rain and then found the driver was German and somewhat intoxicated besides, had the worst luck I ever heard of. She had to keep her head out of the window all the time, directing the driver where to go, and her veil melted. The spots wouldn't come off of her face, so she had to walk home, after all. That night was the last one before her young man went West. She had the courage to tell him it was from her veil. She thought the powder would hide it, but she cried so hard the powder all came off, and he thought she was changing color. He sent her a letter from Pittsburgh breaking off the engagement, and she never knew why. Some people never have any luck. There was another girl I knew whose doctor gave her something to take for her complexion. She put it on her face, instead of taking it internally, and it turned her all green. It was the very day before her coming out and she had to make it a mask party. Then her sweetheart proposed to her sister by mistake. Oh, I tell you, the world is just full of troubles!—(St. Louis Star-Sayings.)

SHE IS A PRACTICAL CARPENTER.

Miss Sophie Christensen, of Copenhagen, has decided to take up her residence in Chicago, and she is a lady of whom the Windy city may well be proud. She is the daughter of a retired and powerful captain in the Danish army, and some years ago, at the age of twenty, she terminated that she would not wait for a husband to support her or be dependent on her father's limited income, but would learn how to make her own living. After some difficulty she found a carpenter and joiner who was willing to accept her as an apprentice, and bound herself to him to learn the trade. She soon displayed great aptitude for the work and having just completed her apprenticeship has been admitted as a full member of the Joiners' Guild at Copenhagen by unanimous vote. In accordance with a sensible custom which prevails in Denmark, Miss Christensen had to submit a specimen of her own unaided work before being accepted the complete honors of the guild. She made an artistic, self-closing bookcase, the beauty and finish of which extorted the admiration of every member of the guild. The young woman, who is now twenty-six years old, thinks Chicago will be the best place for her to make a living in, and thither she will start in the course of a week or two.—(New Orleans Picayune.)

TYPES OF TENNIS GOWNS.

There are three types of tennis dress worn by three types of tennis-playing girls—the picturesque, the smart, and the "sporty" gown. The first is very elaborate, of many colors, high-heeled white canvas shoes, and a wide-brimmed hat add to the sweet impossibility of it, and the wearer only poses about with a fancy racket in her hand. The second is pinched at the waist, narrow in the skirt, and stiff of collar,—an out-and-out tailor-dress, meant to show off the figure; and the girl who wears it can't play "a little bit." The third is an abandonment of desolation; its wearer has short hair, rolls the sleeves of her shirt above her elbows, clasps her waist with a man's belt, dons an ill-cut alpaca skirt, wears a Tam O'Shanter, practices five hours a day, and looks like the strong lady in a dime museum, muscular, but homely.

Now my gown is a delightful compromise between all three. It is of my own designing, is simple, comfortable, convenient, and becoming. The skirt is of dark blue serge, cut to the ankles all around, and laid about the waist in broad plaits that fall loose without any elastic strap. It is lined with very sheer

black crinoline, for that gives the plaits body and adds only imperceptible weight. My shirt-waists are either of the very heavy cheviot or a light-weight flannel, belted by a broad band of dark blue canvas. A neat little four-in-hand tie gives the shirt-collar its finish, and my shoes are yellow pigskin with rubber soles. I always braid and coil my hair simply at the back of my head, and wear a dark blue sailor-hat held on by an elastic.—(Demorest.)

BEARDED WOMEN OF THE FUTURE.

A learned German, who has devoted himself to the study of physiology, anthropology, and allied sciences, makes the rather startling assertion that moustaches are becoming commoner among women in the present day than in the past. He tells us that in Constantinople, among the unvelled women that are to be met with, one out of ten possesses an unmistakable covering of down on the upper lip. In the capital of Spain, again, the proportion of ladies with this masculine characteristic is said to be quite equal to that observable on the Golden Horn. An American medical man states that in Philadelphia fully three per cent. of the adult fair sex are similarly adorned, and probably the proportion would be still larger but that many women take the trouble to eradicate the unwelcome growth by the application of depilatory preparations. Is this increase in the number of women with hair on their faces to be regarded as a sign that the human race is improving? Very few men, at all events, will be disposed to consider that a moustache adds to the charms of the opposite sex. Englishmen, indeed, only a generation ago, had such a detestation of moustaches and beards that the practice of shaving all hair off the face down to their mutton-chop whiskers was all but universal. From one extreme our clean-shaven fathers plunged into the other, and beards and moustaches rapidly became the fashion. The fashion has of late years again been modified. Beards are less common, but the moustache is cultivated in England as widely as on the Continent. But why should the fair sex be visited by this inflection? Some writers on ethnology hold that the higher races of mankind are always the hairier, and Mr. Mott thinks that in a few centuries men and women will all be clothed with hair. But we do not believe Mr. Mott; and we certainly should not care to live to see the day of bearded beauty.—(London Standard.)

FASHION NOTES.

Some of the new skirts have elaborate draperies, but they are not much liked by the best-dressed women.

Full-plaited vests of velvet are worn with dresses of almost every material. Plaid silks and velvets are used to trim silks of plain wool in dark shades.

Silk mull, in black, white, and colors, is in demand for evening dresses.

Plain fine serges have been succeeded by the wide ribbed varieties which show to such advantage in the plain skirts.

The law has been laid down, and short skirts, and only short skirts, are to be worn in the street.

Children can stand any amount of Scotch plaid in a gown, but it is not wise to place too much of it as a trimming upon a woman's gown.

A new sleeve is gathered close at the shoulder, with the gathering almost hidden by a band of embroidery or galloon, from the gathering the loose puff falls, from which issues forth the plain cuff, also banded by galloon.

A pretty evening sleeve has a loose puff, the lines of which undergo a twist before they are gathered into the passementerie which holds them at the elbow. Then a little puff peeps out again below the band.

Young girls are wearing their hair in one heavy braid down the back. Fortunately is the young mademoiselle whose hair will reach to her waist.

In silver bonnet pins, the newest patterns are lilies, swords, and the polo mallet set with garnets.

Girls of the period in so-called Eton suits are probably indifferent to the fact that puff sleeves are unknown at Eton.

Upholstery materials are, if anything, handsomer than ever, some of the effects being not only "striking," but astonishing.

It is not likely the new rain-proof dress goods will crowd out the mackintosh, which comes in too many pretty and becoming styles these days to be discarded.

The style of wearing the hair, which consists of pulling much of it down over the ears, now obtaining among many girls of the period, can be briefly characterized as "simply hideous."

Sailor hats, shirt waists, russet shoes, sunshades and fans all tell us summer days are close at hand, and that the first three are to continue very much in feminine vogue.

The alleged female form divine, by reason of present fashions—bell skirt, small waist and huge sleeves—presents something of the appearance of a human hour glass. No one with an artistic eye can say present fashions in dress are graceful or becoming.

Among the fashionable greens a prominent tint is watermelon, and grenadine with a stripe of this color on white is among stylish fabrics now worn.

The prettiest blouses now shown at the importing houses are those made of the new tinted silks woven in puffs, with insertions of dainty striped satin. They are finished with great spreading wing-like revers or bretelles of lace or chiffon.