

FOR THE FAIR SEX.

SEASONABLE HINTS AND MATTERS OF MOMENT.

Summer Souvenirs—Notes on Dress and Millinery—Lucy Stone No More—A Natty Coat—Mrs. Beecher Still Active in Good Work.

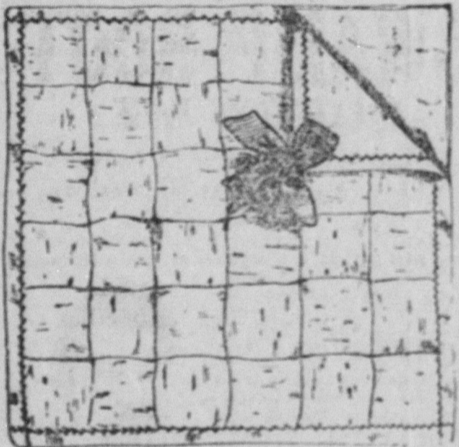
SOUVENIRS OF SUMMER.

The woman who has made the most of the summer has resources for many of the unique Christmas gifts. Birch bark, cattails, ferns taken up with their native mold about them, the green pods of milk-weeds—these and a thousand other things should now be in your possession.

Then for some friend who never goes into the country, perhaps for some "shut in" who never leaves her room, what more welcome than a pot of ferns—growing in a common red earthen pot, if needs must—in a pretty glazed jardiniere if you may. With pasteboard and lichens and mosses you can make a pretty case for the pot.

Any city friend would be charmed with a set of milkweed cushions, which are not so delicate nor so difficult to make as the pretty fluffy pompons. Select three of the green pods and open them; take out the contents and dry thoroughly both pods and contents, now cut the pods in two, lengthwise, and in them fit little cushions filled with the fluffy silk taken from the pods. Yellow or dark red china silk will contrast prettily with the brown pods. The stems must not be removed, but fastened together at the top with a bit of wire to which a brass ring covered with crocheted to match the silk is also attached. In this tie a ribbon bow to hang it up by and point each pod with a small silk tassel. Let each cushion be liberally scented with sachet powder.

Birch bark can be fashioned into numerous charming gifts. You can paint or embroider the bark as easily as you can silk or suede. A frame for a child's photograph, painted about the opening with daisies or violets which struggle over the glass, is delightful. It is very pliable, and can be sewn over a pasteboard foundation with the greatest ease. If you are ambitious you may even frame



FASHION NOTES.

Mink borders and tails are used for millinery and dress trimmings.

Colored frills and ruchings are suitable for dress necks and wrists.

Suede-finished cashmere gloves are adapted for the coming cool days.

New velvet Spanish and Zouave jackets are finished with ruchings of cream colored guipure.

Tabliers, tunics and overskirts are a foregone conclusion.

Braiding is again in high favor on skirts, redingotes, capes, sleeves, coats and lozies.

French designers use red and green shot velvet to trim brown bengaline, cheviot and Scotch tweed gowns.

Red serge, camel's hair or sacking dresses are combined with black watered silk and trimmed with many rows of very narrow jet gimp.

Charming capotes of jetted net have for their trimming a scarf of the glossy satin antique in ruby, Jacqueminot or magenta red.

Velvet crowns are of delightful metallic colors wrought in silk stitches that may be very rich and glowing or in dark tones to suit the most refined taste.

The old time face screens of peacock feathers are revived.

Sofa pillows of demin are braided all over and then couched with soft white cord.

The so-called gold bonnets, with crowns of bullion embroidery, are very effective with pleated brims of brown velvet trimmed with parrot's wings standing out from choux of white chiffon edged with gold picot loops. White satin ribbon strings two inches wide start from the back and are tied under the chin in a stiff bow.

Dainty misses and matrons are putting huge flat sachets oforris root powder under their rugs and carpets. It diffuses the delicate odor throughout the atmosphere so much sought after in fashionable drawing-rooms.

It is very fashionable to cut the back of the bodice without a single seam, the seaming being done on the glove-fitting lining, but as this style tends greatly in appearance to shorten and broaden the figure, only women with long slender waists should select this style of bodice.

Glass curtains are a pet novelty of the hour. They are made of wee squares of colored glass, each framed in zinc, and attached to each other by S-shaped hooks.

Round waists have lost none of their prestige, but are rivalled by basque-bodies and pointed corsages with frills attached to the lower edge. Draped double skirts will appear with winter gowns, and accordion and kilt-pleated skirts are already seen—the pleats or kilts by contraction and expansion wherever needed obviating the necessity of shaping by means of scissors. Many of the balloon sleeves are now cut into two moderately full puffs. Roll-over collars are new, and with these small cuffs appear.

Little folks are wearing some odd and pretty clothes. School frocks are as dainty as their purpose will permit, and dress gowns are dreams. Crepon makes up beautifully in Empress style for maidens from five to seven years. There is a high-cut yoke from which the skirt hangs full and straight. Three exceedingly narrow ruffles of velvet finish the skirt, and an Eton jacket of velvet supplements the waist.

GYMNASIUM FOR WOMEN.

The first gymnasium or college for women in Germany was opened a few weeks ago in Carlsruh, the fan-shaped capital of the Grand Duchy of Baden. The course of instruction is precisely the same as in the gymnasias for boys and young men. Six years are necessary to complete it. The founders of the institution hope that by the end of that time,

A REFORMER GONE.

The Passing Away of an Anti-Slavery Leader and a Champion of Woman Suffrage.

With the death of Lucy Stone, who who passed away at her home in Dorchester, Mass., the reforms in which women are interested lose a valuable champion.

Lucy Stone was born on a farm near West Brookfield, Mass., on Aug. 13, 1818. She came of good New England stock. Her great-grandfather fought in the French and Indian War; her grandfather was an officer in the Revolutionary War, and afterward captain of 400 men in Shay's Rebellion. Her father was a prosperous farmer, much respected by his neighbors, but fully imbued with the idea of the right of husbands to rule over their wives, as was most men of his generation. He helped his son through college, but when his daughter wanted to go he said to his wife: "Is the child crazy?" The young girl had to earn the money herself. She picked berries and chestnuts, and sold them to buy books. For years she taught district schools, studying and teaching alternately. At the low wages received by women teachers, it took her until she was twenty-five to earn the money to carry her to Oberlin, then the only college in the country that admitted women. She earned her way by teaching in the preparatory department of the college and by doing housework in the ladies' boarding hall at 3 cents an hour. Her first public speech was made during her college course. The colored people got up a celebration of the anniversary of West Indian emancipation, and invited her to be one of the speakers. But she had determined never to marry, but Mr. Henry B. Blackwell, a young hardware merchant of Cincinnati, who was fully in sympathy with her work, promised to devote himself to it if she would marry him, and she did so in 1845, at her home in West Brookfield, the officiating clergyman being the Rev. T. W. Higginson, then pastor of a church in Worcester, who went thirty miles to marry the young couple because no minister could be found nearer than that who would leave the word "they" out of the service. Whoever has been fortunate enough to have known this gentle woman will cherish her memory, for she was not only loyal to woman, but she was also humanity's friend.



Born Aug. 13, 1818. Died Oct. 18, 1893.

when the first graduates will leave it, the doors of every university and professional school in the Fatherland will be open to them. This seems probable, as the prejudice against the capabilities and the higher education of women in Germany is fast giving way to a belief of their intellectual equality with the members of the sterner sex. The classes and lectures in the gymnasium will be held entirely in the afternoon, it being the hope of the teachers that the lessons may be prepared in the morning and that night work will be unnecessary.—[New York Tribune.]

THIRTY ORPHAN BRIDES YEARLY.

At the far end of Naples lies the little church of Santa Maria Annunziata, which once a year, on the "Day of Our Lady," wakes up into a brief life and excitement. In a silent row before the high altar kneel thirty girls, all in black garments, with folded hands and eyes fixed on the picture of the madonna before them. These are orphans from the neighboring foundling asylum, and once a year all those who have reached the age of eighteen are brought here to the church and may be chosen in marriage by an honest man whose papers are in order and whose character is good. At the door leading to the sacristy leans a gray-headed priest, the head of the asylum. By and by a young man makes his way from the back of the church and hands him a little packet of papers. These the priest reads carefully and, being evidently satisfied, he gives back the papers and leads the candidate toward the row of girls. All their eyes are fixed more steadfastly than ever on the altar; all their hands are clasped tighter together, their faces turn a shade paler, their hearts beat quicker as the young man walks slowly along the row. At last he stops. His choice is made. He stretches out his hand with a little smile. The girl rises, casts a long look—half thanks, half entreaty—at the picture of the madonna, puts her hand into that of the stranger and together they disappear into the sacristy.—[Boston Transcript.]

A JAPANESE TRANSFORMED.

There is not, in a five-cent Japanese dollie, much of a suggestion of a pretty and useful present, and yet pin cushions made from these were the cute and useful souvenirs lately at a girl's pretty luncheon.

It seems cruel, but you must amputate both legs, and in their place put four



little stuffed bags, sewing them tightly to the waist. These can be made from the merest scraps of silk, satin or bolting cloth, and of four harmonizing or contrasting colors: fold a strip of silk over his chubby shoulders and put on bows of baby ribbon; conceal the sewing about the waist with a sash and bows and ends of ribbon.

OMELET PARTIES THE LATEST.

Omelet parties are the very latest fad among society belles and beaux. At a recent entertainment given by the members of the Boston Cooking Club, says the Washington Post, the gentlemen were invited to appear in full dress at the residence of one of the leading members. Upon arrival they were received by the servants and ushered into a room in which two tables were set. On one were ranged ten small loaves of bread, each with a designating mark, but conveying no hint of the maker. The second table was laid with plates and forks. The company was requested to form two committees as bread judges and omelet tasters. Badges had been furnished the guests, consisting of sprays of wheat for the committee on bread, tied with heliotrope ribbon, and artistically designed with white satin hens for the omelet committee members. In the meantime the fifteen members of the club, all young girls from the highest ranks of society, were busily engaged in the kitchen preparing dainty omelets for the delectation of their male friends. Each prepared and sent to the room the

EIDER DUCK FARMS.

FACTS ABOUT ONE OF ICELAND'S LEADING INDUSTRIES.

When the Mother Prepares to Set She Covers the Eggs with Down from Her own Breast—This the Farmer Steals and Sells.

There are pleasant capitals to reside in than Reykjavik, the chief town of Iceland. All the available space on the shore not taken up with houses is covered with codfish, drying in the sun, and giving out an intolerable stench. All the rocks, palings and even the roofs of the houses themselves are covered with these gleaming testimonies of the city's chief occupation or trade. Other products of the place are eider down, horses and hot water. One of the larger eider duck farms is situated on a small island in the bay, and, with the permission of the owner, can be visited by strangers.

Not much agricultural labor or ingenuity is expended by the eider duck farmer upon his property. It consists for the most part of a large open field of stunted grass, which has been blown by the wind and worked by the action of the weather into round hammocks, such as may be frequently met with all over the barren and devastated country of Iceland. In the recesses, and holes and cavities between the hammocks the eider ducks may be seen sitting on their nests.

These, there are several scores, and the birds themselves when setting are perfectly tame, some of them even allowing a stranger to stroke them with the hand. They are not all hatched at the same time, and many are still in the egg when others are hatched and swimming about in the sea. The drake, as is so frequently the case with the male bird, is a handsome, showy creature, with much white in his plumage. He is excessively shy and wary, while the female, whose plumage is brown and glossy, is, on the contrary, tame and confiding. The ducks lay from five to six eggs at the beginning of June, and it is no unusual thing to find from ten to sixteen eggs in one nest, together with two females, who sit either at intervals, or, if necessary, both together at the same time, and, strange to say, seem to agree remarkably well with one another. The period of laying lasts from six to seven weeks, and the birds are in the habit of laying three times in different places. From the first and second of these both the down and the eggs are taken away, but from the last it is very seldom that the farmer removes either. Should he do so with any degree of persistency the birds would desert the locality, and he is not such a fool as to destroy the duck with the golden eggs.

In some cases the owner resides on or near the farm. In this particular instance he visited the island from the mainland once a week at least. So soon as he and his men arrive at the nest they carefully removed the female, and take away the superfluous down and eggs. The duck immediately begins to lay afresh, and covers the eggs with new down, which she plucks from her own breast. If the supply is inadequate the male comes to her assistance and helps to cover the eggs with his down. This being white is easily distinguished from the brown covering which the female supplies, and is not so good in quality. The nest is now, as a general rule, left until the young ones are hatched. There is not much callousness and helplessness about these youngsters. About an hour after they are out of the shell they quit the nest together, when it is once more plundered.

The best down and the greatest number of eggs are obtained during the first three weeks of the laying period, and it has in general been observed that the birds lay the greatest number of eggs in rainy weather. The female is a close and persistent sitter, and so long as she is sitting the male, with commendable constancy, remains on the watch hard by, but so soon as the young are hatched he considers his responsibility at an end, and leaves them to their own devices and the care of their mother. It is a curious and pretty sight to see how the latter looks after her brood. She leads them out of the nest, so soon as they creep out of the eggs, and precedes them to the water, while they toddle after her. When she reaches the waterside she takes them on her back and swims with them for a few yards; she then dives, and the young ones are left floating on the water like yellow corks, and are forthwith obliged to look after themselves. Indeed, the farmer seldom sees his flock again till the next breeding season, for they become comparatively wild, and live out among the damp rocks in the sea, where they feed upon insects and seaweeds and other like rivers. Some idea of the value of the crop may be gleaned from the fact that one female during the whole time of laying generally gives half a pound of down, which is, however, reduced one-half when cleaned.

This down is divided into hang-down or scawed down, and grass-down or grass down. The latter is generally considered to be the best in quality. The down is very valuable, and fetches from \$1 to \$3 a pound.

The three takes of down vary considerably in quality, the first being superior to the second, and the second to the third. The birds themselves, apart from their down-giving capacities, are of little value. The down taken from dead eider ducks is valueless, as it has lost all its marvellous elasticity. An eider duck farmer is excessively proud of his ducks, and regards them with intense and peculiar affection. The owner of the farm just described was in the habit of saying that he would rather lose one of his children than one of his ducks, but to any one who had seen both, this statement would seem to have but little comparative value.—[New York Tribune.]

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Reyber estimates that between 5,000 and 6,000 of these insects make their home in his bottling department, which occupies a large room probably sixty feet square.

The ceiling is fairly covered with thousands upon thousands of little patches of fibery material within which the insects nest and lay their eggs. At this season they spend little time in their nests, but in the daytime hide in dark, out-of-the-way cracks and corners, but in every command of their woven snares.

Spider webs are everywhere, spanning the space between floor and ceiling or spread about the machinery, in front of the window—everywhere, in fact, the busy weaver can find a place from which to hang their network. A big corner of the room is besides given up to the insects, which have apparently divided the space into many four-walled apartments.

Mr. Reyber is a pleasant and intelligent talker and a shrewd observer. Said he: "Those creatures know more than a great many people. I keep them because they wage such constant war on flies, cockroaches and other vermin which are very troublesome to me and which are attracted by the syrups, sugar, etc., used in the bottling business."

"A spider never cares for sweet things nor drops into my vats or Lotties. Flies and cockroaches are nature's scavengers, but those spiders watch everyone that approaches like hawks and soon lure him into their meshes. I never disturb them when I can help it, except to feed them occasionally."

"They appear to know my call, and will come when called and crawl upon my hand or take a fly from my fingers. They are tame and have never bitten me, though I couldn't promise as much to a stranger."

"This spider is a hibernating animal, and shuts himself up during most of the winter in those little nests you see like mud daubs on the ceiling. When winter comes I brush away all these webs, for the spiders prefer to weave new webs every spring."

As a cow must be milked every day, this wary and provident little creature must unravel each spring the silken fabric that is stored in its body. He does not make his appearance till May, when the flies have laid their eggs and hatched their first young, else the fly crop would soon give out.

Meantime the hundreds of eggs which each female spider laid during the previous summer and fall have been going through a process of incubation, and now turn out with the older ones to seek a living for themselves.

Mr. Reyber has encouraged the insects to harbor in his establishment for two years past, and finds the spider of such practical utility as to be almost indispensable.—[Chattanooga Times.]

The Hygiene of the Barber's Shop.

Dr. A. Blaschko has published a paper on the hygiene of the barber's shop, in which he enumerates the diseases which may be contracted in the barber's chair, either directly from the barber or indirectly from his instruments and appliances. His list contains herpes tonsurans, impetigo contagiosa, acne varioliformis, trichorrhexis nodosa, impetigo simplex, eczema, acute eczema, alopecia areata, syphilis, tuberculosis, and last, but not least, cholera, the infection of which, he thinks, might be conveyed by a napkin which had been used for wiping the face of a person who was suffering from or recovering from cholera. The implements of the barber's craft which, in Dr. Blaschko's opinion, may carry infection are napkins and towels, the razor itself, the shaving brush—which may itself in its own proper hairs suffer from trichorrhexis nodosa, sponges, powder puffs, combs, and brushes. The list of diseases is long and alarming, but to it may be added, perhaps, typhoid fever, which it has been thought, has sometimes been contracted by leaning over a basin with an improperly trapped waste-pipe during the process of shampooing. That there is very real danger of catching skin diseases unless the barber is very cleanly in all his arrangements and appliances, is undoubtedly true, and the immediate cause of Dr. Blaschko's paper appears to have been an epidemic Berlin of a disorder to which Stieffell applied the term "dermatomycosis tonsurans."—[British Medical Journal.]

Nocturnal Creatures.

Most curious in origin of all nocturnal insect hunters are the leathery winged bats, which may be regarded, practically speaking, as very tiny monkeys, highly specialized for the task of catching nocturnal flies and midges. Few people know how nearly they are related to us. They belong to the self-same division of the higher mammals as man and the apes; their skeleton answers to ours, bone for bone and joint for joint, in an ordinary manner; only the unessential fact that they have very long fingers with a web between as an organ of flight prevents us from instantly and instinctively recognizing them as remote cousins, once removed from the gorilla. The female bat in particular is absurdly human. Most of them feed off insects alone; but a few, like the famous vampire bats of South America, take a mean advantage of sleeping animals, and suck their blood after the fashion of mosquitoes, as they lie defenseless in the forest or on the open pampas. Others, like the flying foxes of the Malay archipelago, make a frugal meal of fruits and vegetables; but even these are persistent night fliers. They hang head downwards from the boughs of trees during the hot tropical daytime, but sall forth at night, with Milton's sons of Belial, to rob the banana patches and invade the plantation grounds of the industrious native. The bat is a lemur, compelled by dire necessity to become a flying night bird.—[Cornhill Magazine.]

A Precious Gavel.

A marble gavel used by President Washington at the laying of the cornerstone of the capitol a century ago is claimed to be in the possession of the Potomac Lodge of Masons, of Georgetown. The gavel is of fine marble, slightly yellowish, and about eight inches long. The relic is now stored in the vault of a prominent Washington banker, where it cannot be removed, except on the order of the Lodge.

A SPIDER FARM.

A New Industry Which Has Taken Root in Chattanooga. Many will be inclined to discredit the statement that spider raising is an established industry in Chattanooga, and is being successfully conducted by Ernest Reyber the proprietor of the Enterprise bottling work on Cowart street. Mr.

Nearly five hundred women recently met in Brooklyn, N. Y., to take some action regarding the Mayors' contest. Among them was the gentle and lovable but resolute widow of Mr. Beecher. We give a very fair sketch of her as she is to be seen to-day.

