

FOR THE FAIR SEX.

SEASONABLE HINTS AND MATTERS OF MOMENT.

A Dove-Colored Gown—An Afternoon Toilette—Double Skirt House Dress—Fashion Notes.

FASHION NOTES

Cloth jackets, have tiny Zouave jackets of velvet.

Feather boas are made of black and white coques' plumes.

Black plush capes are trimmed with jet and a feather boa.

Magenta or cream accessories are used for black wool or silk gowns.

Shaded felt hats are made of contrasting colors or two shades of a color.

Cream felt Alpine hats, are trimmed with black velvet and wings.

Double faced felt hats are trimmed with double faced satin ribbon.

Opal earrings, surrounded by small diamonds, are being more extensively worn than ever.

Silk bonnets in Paisley designs are coming into favor, and are very effective with braces of lace over the shoulders.



A PLAID STREET GOWN.

This gown is made of plaid wool goods, trimmed with black velvet facing and bretelles of velvet. The vest is of plaid surah in a blending shade.

After the unsuccessful attempt to harmoniously blend all the colors of a gorgeous parrot in one gown, it is a relief to find that the stylish combinations of black and white or black and cream are popular again.

Sloped gowns let into the back of a lounging gown produce a graceful bell effect.

A decided decrease in skirt widths is a noticeable characteristic of autumn fashions.

Candied chrysanthemums are the fashionable floral sweets of the moment.

New basque bodices are pointed as a rule. They have an umbrella back or are slashed in tabs each of equal length on some form, others graduated and made several inches shorter on the sides.

Beautiful costumes, following the present craze for magpie effects of black and white, are seen at Newport just now that are formed of white cloth either braided in black, machine-stitched on the edges of skirt and jacket with heavy saddlers' silk in black, or made of creamy white veiling and trimmed with straight rows of narrow jet gimp, or black velvet ribbon. A white felt sailor hat trimmed with velvet and black-bird's wings is the invariable addition.



DOUBLE SKIRT HOUSE DRESS.

Shot velvets are used in millinery and in wrap and gown finishing. These shot velvets are newer than their name indicates, as they are not the shaded velvets known by that term which have been in use so long. They are two-tone fabrics, a very dark shade of a color being used in the pile, while the underweaving is a bright shade. Dark red, like the black cherry, is undertoned by bright cherry. Two colors are associated as well, red showing through green and through black.

WILL MOTHS EAT SILK?

For all of these years we have put away our silken fabrics with the utmost complacency, in the belief that moth and rust at least would not deprive us of the enjoyment of their beauties; but of late when we unfold these glossy treasures find here a little spot that looks as though it had been scorched, there a tiny hole, and somewhere else a furrow with a very suspicious appearance. Investigation reveals the fact that some insect depredator has been at work, and on several occasions a moth has been found regaling himself on this, to him, new dainty.

Just why moths should take to silk after all these years is one of the unsolved problems of life. Whether the treatment of the silk, the dyes or the finish has anything to do with this or whether it is a new species of moth, or maybe, if tired of one sort of diet, this insinuating pest has made up his mind to try new pastures, some one well up in the science of insectology might decide, greatly to the satisfaction of the perplexed housewife. Certain it is that women who own silken garments are finding it necessary to take great care of certain sorts of silk. Some fine Japanese crapes seem to have offered a very tempting bait to these small creatures, for the fabric is perforated with holes as clean-cut as though made for all her dresses. Two-yard wide sheeting is cut in suitable length for the skirts. A hanger, such as is used in the shops, is fastened to the bag, the skirt is put over this, the waist is attached by tapes, then the bag is drawn over and closely tied with a draw string. If these bags are washed and stored, they are almost impervious to moths, and a little precaution of this kind may save a dollar's worth of dresses. The bag is equally good for wool or silk, and half a dozen of them should be in the wardrobe of every woman who owns good dresses.—[Brooklyn Citizen.]

BONNET PINS.

At one time every one fastened on her hat with a piece of elastic. Then this was discarded and far from ornamental black and white headed pins, as the case might be, were used. The appearance of many a pretty little bonnet was marred by the reckless use of these unsightly articles. But we have changed all that, and nowadays bonnet pins are made a special study of, with the most charming results. It is necessary to have a set of pins to tone with each hat or bonnet, and they may be obtained in all shapes, sizes and colors. Some of the prettiest simulate flowers.

Blue corn-flowers have a tiny crystal glistening in the center of the stems, and brilliancy is added to counterfeit Neapolitan and wood violets by the same means. Pink tipped daisies make bewitching pins, as do sweet pea blossoms in natural tints. Pin heads set with crystals are always effective. Of more costly and elaborate designs there is an immense variety. Moonstones are much used in conjunction with diamonds, and many fanciful ideas are carried out in the multi-colored stones which have been so fashionable of late.—[New York Commercial Advertiser.]



AN AFTERNOON TOILETTE.

CAUSE OF BAD COMPLEXIONS.

The main cause of a bad complexion is a bad digestion. Eating too much, eating foods that do not nourish or that do not agree with the system, derange it. Indigestible or superfluous food, instead of being converted into blood, decomposes and causes either a yellow complexion or pimples or cold sores. The best cure for a sallow or blotched skin is a simple diet. Anointing the face is time and effort wasted. The disease is inside, and that is where the remedy must be applied. Some simple medicine will be absolutely necessary to clean house and start the human machinery on a new and health-producing basis. After that temperance, bathing and dieting will do the work. Just what the diet should be will depend upon the individual, but simplicity, abstemiousness and regularity are indispensable to health and good looks. People who go to prison and into convents and monasteries are always healthier and handsomer when they come out than they were before they went in. Bread and water may not be toothsome, but it is wholesome. Children and babies who leave asylums and institutions for homes in private families get sick the first week, proving that nature does not require either rich or abundant material for beauty and health.

BRAID, BRAID, BRAID.

Braid is to be the prime trimming—braid straight or wavy, woven more or less fancifully, wide and small combined, fantastically arranged as embroidery, braid of every conceivable kind, in short, black, white or colored. The new jackets are braided in straight lines or stripes on sleeves and plastron. The new cloth skirts are braided in either horizontal lines or groups of vertical lines to the knee. Of course, shaded braids are to be used, and a large amount of shaded metal braids or galons made of tinsel or silk and tinsel combined. Some splendid effects are obtained in the shaded metal galons. They are some-

times beautifully worked up with silk or are combined with jet or enameled plates. I have seen many shaded gilt and silver galons worked up with jet. But the shaded trimmings are likely to become very common.



A DOVE-COLORED GOWN.

This dress of lady's cloth has a full front of sky-blue Bengaline, which passes beneath a vest of cloth that is cut in a new and particularly smart fashion.

WRAPS FOR LITTLE FOLKS.

Cloaks for the wee ones are daintier and more luxurious than ever before. They are frequently made of soft faille or bengaline in white or any delicate shade of color, and are mostly coats in Mother Hubbard style. The yoke, however, is merely deep enough to sew the fullness of the skirt upon it. A bunchy effect is really aimed at and easily achieved, with the fullness so high, and tiny capes or plaitings and ruffles added over the shoulders. They are very fascinating; and they are properly completed with cunning poke hoods to match them, which come in sizes up to seven years old.

For misses and young girls there is a great variety of coats, ranging from short jackets to long redingotes. The boucle and other rough, but heavy and soft, cloths are used for these, in many fancy mixtures. The brown boucle trimmed with beaver is very handsome, as is also a long green coat trimmed with gray fox; while for a brunette nothing could be more becoming than a dark red-and-black garment of a heavy diagonal weave, trimmed with black Hercules braid.

Many coats have from three to seven overlapping skirts, sometimes cut in circle shape and sometimes following the seams of the bodice part. The style with three of these skirts is the most effective, and when they are cut very narrow they have the effect of folds.—[Demorest.]

SLOPING SHOULDERS AGAIN.

When the whistling winds call for capes we shall see the sloping shoulder once more queen of fashion. The shawl-like effect is to be introduced again, so goodly to the athletic tailor-made shoulder, square set and Minerva-like. The newest bodices have shoulder seams 5 1/2 inches long, and all the trimming falls from a line over the point of the shoulder, which adds to the sloping effect of the bottlelike curves now demanded by the mode.—[St. Louis Republic.]

The great Russian family of Menschikoff, which has played so important a part in the history of the empire, is now extinct. The first Menschikoff was the son of a pastry cook, who, after becoming Chancellor, died, in 1729, an exile in Siberia. The last Prince Menschikoff, who passed away at Baden-Baden, was one of the most ardent of European sportsmen and had many English friends. His enormous fortune passes to a distant relative, Prince Gagarine.—[London World.]



LITTLE GIRL'S GOWN.

Velvets and bengalines will be used for coats, and so will cloths, the newest of which are rough chevrons in plain colors and in mixed effects.

Tabliers, tunics and overskirts are a foregone conclusion.

SOMEWHAT STRANGE.

ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS OF EVERYDAY LIFE.

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

It is alleged of a gauger, not long ago dismissed from the revenue service, that he lost his place because of a tin breast-plate. This chest protector followed in shape the contour of his form, fitted on beneath his vest. It was hollow and held about a fluid gallon. Its frequent filling at the expense of wholesale liquor dealers led to his downfall.

Wesley Everett of Mullan, Idaho, while hunting cinnamon bear, wounded a full-grown animal, which closed in on him. The bear knocked the gun from his hand, crushed the right leg above the knee, lacerated the right arm in a frightful manner, but expired just at the moment when his teeth had closed on Everett's throat. The latter will recover.

The latest development of the insurance business is interesting. You can buy suspenders which entitle your next of kin to \$500 if you are killed while wearing them, and there are also hats which entitle your heirs to a similar amount if you are found dead with one on your head. If the hat is found by your side both it and the insurance are "off."

The oldest twins in Connecticut are Mrs. Eunice Pierce of New Haven and Mrs. Louvicy Williams of Meriden. They are eighty-seven, and as bright, smart, spry, healthy, industrious, and cheerful bodies as any in the State. Mrs. Pierce has just been paying her annual visit to her sister in Meriden, and the twins had a happy time of it for a week or so. They are members of a family of nine children, all of whom are dead except themselves and a brother in Kansas.

GEORGE JAMISON, of Croft's is one of the most expert and experienced hunters in Northern Pennsylvania. A few days ago he consented to take his friend Michael Nelson along with him gunning, but under protest, as Nelson knew nothing about handling firearms, Jamison kept a watchful eye on him as they went through the woods. "It is as much as a man's life is worth," he said to Nelson, "to go into the woods with a greenhorn who has a gun, so you must look out, Mike, and be very careful or you may shoot me." The words were hardly out of Jamison's mouth when he stubbed his toe and fell. His gun was discharged. The full charge entered Nelson's breast, killing him instantly.

High upon a snow-clad slope of the Rockies a hunter from the East came upon a curious and tragic record. Far as the eye could reach there stretched the trail of a jack rabbit. The creature had evidently been stretched to the utmost in mad flight, for his footprints were much further apart than they would have been had his gait been of ordinary speed. A few yards before the trail ended each print of the rabbit's feet was accompanied by the clear outline upon the snow of an eagle's outstretched wings. This was repeated again and again. Then came evidences of a struggle. The snow was stained with blood, and there were tufts of fur lying about. Then the trail ended.

The most curious of all objects in New Zealand is that which the Maoris call "aweto." One is uncertain whether to call it an animal or a plant. In the first stages of its existence it is simply a caterpillar about three or four inches in length, and always found in connection with the rata tree, a kind of flowering myrtle. It appears that when it reaches full growth it buries itself two or three inches under ground, where, instead of undergoing the ordinary chrysalis process, it becomes gradually transformed into a plant, which exactly fills the body and shoots up at the neck to a height of eight or ten inches. This plant resembles in appearance a diminutive bullrush, and the two, animal and plant, are always found inseparable.

SEVERAL hundred acres in Humboldt county that last summer raised the biggest hay crop in Iowa, are burning. The soil itself is being consumed by fire and in places eaten away to a depth of fifteen feet. Two years ago the land was several feet under water and was known as Owl Lake. It was purchased by George R. Pearson and drained by a big ditch. It dried up, leaving a very rich soil. The earth was peaty in character, and a few days ago, when a prairie fire swept over it, the soil itself took fire, burning like turf. All efforts to quench it are unavailing, and unless rain comes the whole bed of the lake will be burned away. The fire eats down to a hard clay, that will be of no use for farming purposes. Any number of fossil remains are exposed to view where the fire has burned out. Several acres have already been burned over. A veil of smoke hides the ravages of the fire.

T. S. HILL of Knoxville, Iowa, is the proud owner of a porcine oddity that, to use a strictly original phrase, lays all the elephant pigs and other monstrosities in the swine family "completely in the shade." To say that it is "strangely and woefully made," would be putting it too mild by several degrees. It is of average size, plump and fat, notwithstanding the fact that it never "breathed the breath of life." The shoulders and neck are well proportioned and resemble those of any other baby hog, but, aside from that and an enormous ear, there is nothing to distinguish the shoulders from the hams except the "set" of the feet. The beast hasn't the least sign of eyes, snout, mouth or jaws. At about the center of the end which should have carried the head, probably directly over the place where the nostrils would be in the regulation pig, there are three excrescences, each provided with a small opening.—[Republic.]

PROBABLY there is not another man in New England who has had such surprises this week as Mr. William J. Brown, of Belfast, Me. Years ago he had two brothers, Jonathan M. and Levi, the home of the family being in Sears-

mont. Jonathan entered the navy and for thirty years had not been heard from, his family naturally supposing that he was dead. Levi, at the age of fifteen, sailed away in a Stearns ship commanded by a Capt. Charles Nickels, bound for South America. For eighteen years he had been considered dead, as no tidings of him had ever reached home. Some weeks ago William was surprised by getting a letter from South Africa from his brother Jonathan, saying that he was about to leave on a steamer to visit his old home in Waldo County. He also stated that he was a rancher and editor of a paper. Before the family had got through talking over this news William, a fortnight later, received another letter, dated in Australia from his other supposed dead brother, Levi. This also stated that Levi was about to start for his native clime.

"One of the most remarkable cases in my experience," said a well-known piano man the other day to a Minneapolis Journal reporter, in speaking of wave sympathy and its effect in sometimes causing discords in the harmonious sounds of a piano through wave vibrations with articles of furniture, loose doors, chandeliers and stoves in the room with the piano, "I occurred a short time ago when I was called upon to tune the piano of a prominent lady and a well-known musician in this city. After running the scale I found the discordant key, and immediately proceeded to act upon the wave theory in trying to find the loose articles of furniture from which the unsympathetic tone was produced. I had the lady in the meantime sounding this particular key, but after searching and listening all around the room I was unable to locate the cause of the discordant note. Finally, getting upon a chair, I sounded the ceiling. In one place the sound appeared to be more distinct than in any other spot. On sounding the wall I found that the paper had been stretched over a stopple hole and that there were some small pieces of loose plaster lying on the paper. I removed these pieces and immediately the discordant note became perfectly harmonious."

CAPT. HURLBURT of the British bark Bowman B. Law considers himself fortunate in coming out of a terrible typhoon in the China seas, not without a scratch, but without the loss of any of his crew, or even of a spar or sail. This is his latest experience as he related it: "We left Sourabaya, Java, the 29th of July, bound for the Columbia River. All went well for the first week. The men put in their time well about the ship, and one particular job that was attended to was painting the mizzen-topmast. This was wood, the other masts and topmasts being iron. I noticed that the paint on the spar blistered more or less under the tropical sun. One fine afternoon, under a clear sky, the storm came on us. There was hardly any warning. The typhoon shot out of the Gulf of Siam as though it came from a cannon. What in the distance was a ripple on the surface of the sea, as it approached us became a feathery foam dashed mass of waves, and the next minute the hurricans struck us. All sail was stowed away, and we tore ahead under bare poles at locomotive speed. When the fury of the typhoon abated, we found everything intact. The mizzen-topmast, however, was bare of paint. The wind had blown the blisters off and nothing remained but the uncovered wood.—[From the Oregonian.]

A YOUNG business man of this place bought a furnace and had it set up Saturday, says a Moline (Ill.) correspondent of the St. Louis Globe Democrat. Sunday he worked all day showing his wife how to work it, so she would not burn the house down, and that evening he took a sleeper for St. Louis. Near Fulton he had a vivid dream. He thought his house was afire and his family was locked up inside. With yells of desperation which fairly froze the blood of the other passengers in the sleeper he kicked in the door and found the floor burned away, his wife and everything in the house cremated, and he himself landed in the cellar with a heavy thud. The blow awoke him, and picking himself up he found himself by the side of the railroad track, gleaning about him, expecting to see the train a wreck and the other passengers killed, he saw in the distance. He had actually kicked out the double window of his berth with his bare feet and thrown himself feet first through the window to the ground while the train was running twenty-five miles an hour, and was unhurt save three cuts on his left leg, caused by the broken glass. The passengers notified the conductor, and when the train was backed they found the man walking to meet it. He was clad only in his night clothes. It was almost impossible to believe his story, but his condition and the deserted berth containing his clothes and the broken window confirmed it.

It may not be generally known by people in this vicinity, says the Lumpkin (Ga.) Independent, that there is a rocky region in Meriwether County, near the pine and oak mountain ridges, that seems to be a favorite haunt of snakes in that section, and the following terrible incident occurred in that locality: It was about the middle of May, and Mrs. Richard Smith, the wife of a farmer, had gone to the field with her husband, who was replanting corn that had failed to come up regularly. While they were at work Mrs. Smith wandered off to one side of the field where there were a thicket of dewberry vines. While picking the berries she stood upon a pile of rocks that had been picked up from the field and thrown in a heap and the vines had covered them. When she finally started to step down some of the stones were dislodged and rolled noisily down. Instantly the pile swarmed with furious serpents that hissed and writhed about the frightened woman like so many demons. The sight was so terrible that Mrs. Smith stood horror-stricken while the venomous creatures twisted and twined about her limbs and glided over her person, striking and biting her furiously. At last fear gave way and she screamed for help. The men soon came to her rescue and were nearly overcome by the sight. The wretched woman was now fighting with all her strength for life. She grappled the writhing things and attempted to tear them away. Acting on the directions of her friends she stumbled to the open field, where they could assist her, and in a few minutes seven-

teen copperheads and four rattlesnakes had been killed. Several of them had followed her from the stone pile, hissing and writhing in anger. As soon as possible Mrs. Smith was taken to her home and assistance summoned, but there was not the slightest chance of saving her life. Her body became quickly swollen to an enormous extent, and the skin assumed hideous colors. She had been bitten a dozen times in the face, and her features became one mass of bloated green and black. Sight fled and speed left her. The pain soon drove her into delirium, and in the most horrible agony life passed away.

Genius and Training.

The training of men for work which requires the highest possible nicety of hand is not really training. It is far more the selection, by experiment, of men born with the true touch. For example, we doubt whether the very greatest surgeons—the men whose success depends upon their ability to make sharp steel as sensitive as a finger-tip—perform their hundredth operation better than their first. They have more confidence, no doubt, but the sleight-of-hand is unborn. Nobody can train a medical student into a great oculist. It is only the ordinary man of whom it can be said that practice makes perfect. The man with the special gift is born perfect. But genius is only the mental side of this gift, apart, and if the people whose business is with mind were as honest and as unsophisticated as those who deal with horseshoeing or brick-laying, we should not hear anything more about genius being merely the capacity for hard work. To say that the bricklayer with the "knack" is only a pretentor who takes pains, would be a bit absurdity. It is not less an absurdity, though a less obvious one, to say that a man with a genius for style and literary form is only a man who knows how to take pains, but no amount of takingpains will give him the genius of verse.—[London Spectator.]

Insects in Pharmacopoea.

Not only in industry and art, but in medicine also, insects are now utilized to a considerable extent, and indeed to a degree not generally understood by the non-professional. Even cockroaches, dried and powdered, are recognized nowadays as a remedy for dropsy, the dust contains an active principle termed antihydrophilia, which stimulates the kidneys and checks the complaint. Probably everybody is familiar with the fact that pulverized Spanish flies are commonly utilized for blisters, inflaming the skin through the operation of a substance called cantharidine; and it has latterly been ascertained that ordinary potato bugs dried and powdered possess an equal virtue of the same description; many other insects are also used for supplying cantharidine, there being so many as fifteen species of blister beetles obtained in this country. Cochineal insects, so valuable as a dye, are administered in small doses for neuralgia and to check the spasms of whooping cough. Lac insects, from which shellac is made, are resorted to as a remedy for dysentery; and the medical properties of extracts derived from the galls formed on plants by gall flies are well understood; these galls, which contain about seventy per cent. of tannin, being largely gathered in Asia Minor, mostly from oak trees.—[New York Telegram.]

Avenge by His Pets.

Meinrad, a famous Swiss saint, who flourished in the ninth century, led a hermit's life in a cell at Einsiedeln, where he was often visited for advice and help. The companions of his solitude were two tame ravens, to which he was much attached.

In the year 861 the saint was murdered in his cell by some men inspired by greed of gold, which they supposed the poor man to possess. After the foul deed they fled toward Zurich, whither they were followed by the two ravens.

There certain pilgrims identified the birds, and inquiries having been made at once, the murderers were arrested and punished.

The saint's cell remained untenanted for nearly fifty years, but was rebuilt of stone about a century afterward, and some two hundred years later the great convent of Einsiedeln, still the richest and most frequented in Switzerland, arose on the spot where the lonely preacher was slain.—[New York Journal.]

He Made His Deposit.

There is more or less humbug about the traditional slowness of the messenger boy. At least, there is one of them in Kansas City who is abreast of the age in which he lives. This unformal machine keeps an account in one of the banks, and it is growing rapidly, too. The other day he went in to deposit 50 cents. The teller, with more than his customary laughtiness, informed the boy that deposits of less than \$1 could not be received by the bank. The youngster wasted not a word in argument, but walked quietly to a desk, wrote a check for \$1 and presented the same at the window of the paying teller. The check was honored, of course. Then the carrier of the messages revisited the receiving teller.

"I'd like to deposit \$1.50, if you please," he said.

The deposit was accepted, and the receiving teller was very much chagrined.—[Detroit Free Press.]

Size of European Families.

The Berlin Anthropological Seminary has recently completed some curious tabulations on the average size of families in the various countries of Europe. According to these statistics the average number of persons in families in the different European countries is as follows: France, 3.03; Denmark, 3.61; Hungary, 3.70; Switzerland, 3.94; Austria and Belgium, 4.03; England, 4.08; Germany, 4.10; Sweden and Norway, 4.12; Holland, 4.22; Scotland, 4.46; Italy, 4.54; Spain, 4.85; Russia, 4.83, and Ireland, 5.20.—[St. Louis Republic.]