

NEWS FOR THE FAIR SEX.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ON NUMEROUS FEMINE TOPICS.

Woman "Codfisher"---Tip-tilted Hats---Use For a Half-worn Skirt---Trials of an Empress---Etc., Etc.

WOMAN "CODFISHER."

Mrs. William Champlin of Montauk, has just made for herself a record as a "codfisher." Her husband, who is engaged in the codfish business of Montauk, has usually been accompanied on his trips by another bayman. Last week he was taken sick, and Mrs. Champlin volunteered to fill his place as "second man" in the boat. Her husband was rather dubious as to her ability to fill the bill, but she was not to be daunted.

She donned the attire of a fisherman and set out with her husband's partner. The day was spent in fishing, and when they returned to the beach the couple had caught together a total of 175 fish.—New York Times.

TIP-TILTED HAT.

To be in style every woman must have at least one hat which tip-tilts over her nose. When becoming, this style of wearing the hat is very becoming; but when unbecoming it is horrid. No woman with a turned-down nose should wear a hat turned down to meet it, for then brim and nose look exactly as if they were trying to get at each other and couldn't quite make it. On the other hand, a conspicuous straw hat loaded down with veiled flowers, feathers, and so on, should not be set down over a large drooping nose, for then the brim looks very much as if it were running the said nose a good race. To the average nose the tip-tilted hat is becoming, and that is well, for everybody is wearing it. Nothing is more fascinating than to see a pretty pair of dark or blue eyes peering out from underneath one of these flower-laden brims.—New York Sun.

USE FOR HALF-WORN SKIRT.

A prominent woman possessing a half-worn skirt can now have it made to look fresh and fashionable by using it as a foundation for ruffles, extending from the hem to a circular yoke, which should be made of a fresh piece of silk. Apply the top flounce to the joining. Black and white striped or dotted silk can also be freshened in a like manner. Any odd bodice looks well with the black skirts. Fluffy odd blouses are still in demand. One built of lavender mousseline de soie is gathered into full puffs with triple headings between. They are arranged to encircle the corsage. From the top of each sleeve comes a scarf of lavender taffeta arranged in loops over the shoulder. They are also draped across the front of the corsage and are tied in a knot to form a cascade at the middle of the bodice. The close fitting sleeves of the taffeta are veiled with the mousseline de soie.

TRIALS OF AN EMPRESS.

The German Empress has been obliged to protect against too open demonstrations from her subjects in public. Women who have been in the habit of throwing her bouquets of flowers as she drove by have sometimes inflicted uncomfortable wounds, the wires about the flowers scratching her face. There were only two things to be done—either the enthusiasm of the women must be suppressed or their skill in throwing flowers might have been established. There are schools for almost everything else we do, from dancing, speaking, breathing to thinking; from making proper approaches and salutations to beating proper retreats. A child is even taught how to kiss properly, so as not to bump against the face or to be awkward or uncomfortably ardent in its demonstration. But an accurate and sure aim, so that dangerous results might be avoided and proper enthusiasm expressed, was recognized, no doubt, as lying beyond the possibilities of the average woman with missiles of good will in her hands. At any rate, it was thought better to suppress rather than to cultivate her, which, all things considered, seems well.

WORK OF A TRAVELING WOMAN.

Mrs. Jane Macdonald, who is sent South and East by the Chamber of Commerce and "Half Million" Club of San Francisco to boom her State and attract immigrants there, has had a checkered, but in all a successful, life. She first went to California when twelve years old. On the way she rode horseback with her father, who was captain of a wagon train, from Council Bluffs to Carson City. They started on April 1st, and arrived in Carson City on September 15th. Mrs. Macdonald tells how, when left a widow with children to support, she started a millinery shop; failing in that she began to canvass books. In this she succeeded until facilities for travel decreased her receipts. Then she traveled for hotels, then for railroads, and now the State of California has secured her services. Mrs. Macdonald will accept no place at smaller wages than men demand, for, as she says, she will not cheapen woman's work.—New York Tribune.

THE BABY'S OUTFIT.

Three or four flannel shawls, about thirty inches square and bound with ribbon, will be found very useful while the baby is young. They are easy to wrap around the baby after a bath and when ready for a nap. Little sacks are also needed, and can be knitted in white with pink and blue borders, or

be made on a short yoke, or can hang straight from the neck, and be trimmed with a broad collar, and tied with a ribbon in front. Two or three wrappers can be simply made, perfectly of Scotch flannel, either on a yoke or with a cluster of tucks across the front. Three or four knitted blankets are necessary, and can be made of light pink, blue or white. White, as a rule, washes best. The long coat can be made of silk, cashmere, or any soft, white goods. It should be lined with a thin silk, so as to slip on and off easily, and if a winter coat lined throughout with lamb's wool. It can be trimmed with a wide collar or a round shoulder cape if desired. A little cap should go with the coat, made of the same material, and lined if for winter; but in summer the dainty little muslin caps are the best.

The baby's basket is a delightful article to plan about, and can be made in a variety of ways. The long, low shape is perhaps the most convenient. If it is to be trimmed at home tack cotton batting on to the sides, which have been sprinkled with orris powder and then cover with whatever material is desired. Rose or light blue silk is a pretty foundation, covered with either a fine dotted muslin or point d'esprit lace. The muslin or lace should be sewed on full, but the silk can be put on plain. A flowered silkotone can be used in place of these. This, of course, should be put on full, as it does not have the lace over it. A big satin bow at the side or on the top makes a pretty finish. In the tray are kept the baby's toilet articles, and in the underneath part of the basket the baby's clothes. The tray should contain a pin-cushion on which are the assorted sizes of safety-pins. A little cup shaped bag can be made of rubber cloth covered with whatever material the basket is trimmed with, and sewed into one corner of the tray for the baby's sponge, which should be small and fine. A piece of good soap in a little dish, a powder box and puff, a bottle of vaseline, a small box of borax, a quarter of a pound roll of absorbent cotton, a roll of old linen, and a pair of small blunt-pointed scissors. These little things are constantly needed, and should always be on hand.—Harper's Bazar.

THREE POPULAR PERFUMES.

There was a time when the fashionable woman selected her perfume with a view to individuality of fragrance. Such is no longer the case. There are three perfumes which nine out of every ten fashionable women are using. The majority of them, selecting one of the three scents, uses it on both dressing table and in the numerous sachets of her wardrobe, while others select any or all three indiscriminately. According to a well known New York dealer, the most popular of the favorite perfumes is an extract of violet, which can scarcely be distinguished from the fresh flower itself. The next in popularity is crushed rose, which does not smell the least bit like the ordinary extract of that flower, but like the old fashioned rose jar. A tiny drop of the double extract on a woman's handkerchief will give a room the subtle, spicy perfume for which the rose jar was so much desired, while the same perfume used as a sachet makes one's clothes smell as though fresh rose petals had been strewn among them. The third claimant for popularity is wild clover. This, it is said, is the most lasting of the three, and a few drops on one's handkerchief will last as long as the handkerchief itself.

The latest use of sachets is for scented clothes hooks. The ordinary wire extender for bodice or skirt is padded with cotton batting, thickly sprinkled with sachet powder. Over them is drawn a silk or muslin bag, shirred full around the shank of the extender, or tied with ribbons, so that they may be easily removed when there is a necessity for renewing the powder. Another method employed by dressmakers, in place of the dainty bags of sachet formerly stitched about in the bosom and sleeves of a bodice, is the new cotton or wool perfumed padding. It can be bought with any scent, and is much more enduring.

WOMEN AT PECULIAR WORK.

Chicago has a woman cooper. Her name is Margaret Buggee, and by making barrels she has made a barrel of money. In a few years Mrs. Buggee has cleared \$50,000. She not only superintends the making of barrels in her shops, which are in a crowded part of the southwestern end of the city, but is practically experienced in this branch of business. She thinks nothing of pointing out to half a hundred able-bodied men their sins of omission or commission in perfecting a big hog-head, and when they can't seem to grasp what is wrong with their work she picks up the necessary tools and shows them. The following sign is conspicuously posted over the entrance to her cooperative:

"This place is for business—keep out."

Perhaps that is the keynote to her success.

Miss Estella Louise Mannofthis city earns a good living by singing into the reverberating hollow tubes of a phonograph. Hers is one of the few feminine voices which have ever made a successful record for the phonograph or graphophone. Her voice is powerful and her enunciation distinct and clear and she could not have remained in the business. To sing without an audience is not very inspiring, but Miss Mann says she knows in reality that the world is her audience, so when she takes her stand before her phonograph every morning she simply imagines that she has the world at her feet, and that helps her to expend her best ef-

fort. She is a daughter of E. H. Mann, assistant superintendent of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, and a graduate of the Cincinnati Musical College. Her songs from her "records" can be heard from twenty to forty feet from any good-sized phonograph.

FASHION NOTES.

The demand at the stores for moire velour almost exceeds the supply. Moire renaissance is much called for also.

A pretty and fashionable design in table linen is the shamrock. It is used on napkins and promises to become popular.

Pique's, marseilles, lawns and linens will all be much worn this summer for morning gowns, as well as at the watering places.

Aigrettes in the hair seem to be taking the place of aigrettes in the bonnet. Birds are also being worn as coiffure ornaments.

A novel design in wool gloves for street wear is a plain check of gray and white, over which runs a larger check of pink and turquoise.

A fashionable summer gown is of golden brown dimity, with insertion of brown and white running up each seam and at the top of the lower flounce.

A hat that milliners say will be much worn is of green soft silk, a number of puff ruffles at the side with a spiral and a large white aigrette.

Yellow vies with blue for prominence in millinery. Yellow flowers, yellow tulle, chiffon, and yellow straw are brilliantly conspicuous, besides all the warm tints of burnt orange.

A new ornament for the hair is a large single artificial flower mounted on a wire with a tuft of colored tulle at the base. One damask rose has a rosette finish of red tulle.

Among the novelties in French shirt waists are those made of batiste with hand embroidery in white outlined with narrow heading and bordered with a tiny frill of real Valenciennes.

A pretty morning hat is a black sailor of rough straw with a band of burnt orange satin ribbon, which finishes in a spiral of the same. Three black spangled quills complete the trimming.

Braided black nets, with tiny frills or gauze ribbon between the bayadere patterns, are a very popular material for the transparent gown which is a fashionable necessity this season.

The most approved neckwear for golf, bicycling, yacating, and sports generally, is the white pique stock, with a Scotch zephyr tie, forming a band around the neck, and a coaching puff in front.

There is a great variety in hats, the new Alpine being among the ones that have been favorably received already. It is gray, with wide ribbon and band, finished in the left side with a bunch of long coque feathers.

Innumerable fine tucks with silk picot are one of the many elaborations in dress trimming. Groups of narrow tucks adorn the skirt of an ecru nun's veiling, and each one is finished with a silk picot of the same color.

Curious Presents for Sigbee.

"The next command that Captain Sigbee gets," said a close friend of the gallant ex-commander of the wrecked battleship Maine "he'll surely have enough tidies and dollies and pin-cushions and whisk brooms and worked picture frames and fancy towel racks and sachet bags and other gear like that with which to fix up his cabin in pretty fancy style. He's been the recipient of loads of that kind of stuff from the nice girls and matrons of this land ever since the day he returned to Washington, and he brought a couple of ditty bags filled with similar stuff along with him from Key West. Since he arrived here the express wagons have been rattling up to his house by the dozen, delivering pretty specimens of the handiwork of American women who want to show their appreciation of a masculine and level-headed man. If the Captain lives to the age of a hundred, he'll never be able to wear but the slippers that have been brought to him, and he's already got together enough hat bands and beautifully crocheted cravats and dainty laundry bags and change purses and equipments like that to start a well-stocked fancy goods shack. He's a man of very quiet tastes, and a sailor who eschews extreme luxuries from choice, is Captain Sigbee, and he smiled when he said to me the other day, in pointing out the array of pretty things that have been sent to him, 'I suppose, that I'm some sort of a sea-ranger Sardanapalus.' If he fitted up his cabin apartments on the next ship he gets with all of the dainty bits of finery that have been so graciously sent to him, the cabin would make a queer-looking picture of a var-hued fetsam and jetsam in case a ten-inch shell from an enemy's gun happened to puncture it."

The Corinth Ship Canal.

The Corinth ship canal, after being in operation four years, yields a total revenue of about \$90,000; or just enough to meet the working and administrative expenses. On the debt of \$4,250,000 there is outstanding about \$1,000,000 in unpaid interest. The one party benefited by the undertaking in a financial way is the French Government, which annually receives \$2,000 in taxes on the shares and bonds for the right of negotiation in France.

Of the 95,815 men who perished in the Crimean war, 89,000 were Turks and Russians.

THE WONDERFUL TORPEDO.

INGENUOUS CONSTRUCTION OF THE AUTOMOBILE MACHINE.

Most Dangerous of Weapons---Though Once Considered a Cowardly Contrivance, It Has Taken a Front Place in the Art of Naval Warfare.

If the ordinary man in the street were asked what he considered the most wonderful machine ever invented, he would probably reply that it was either the loom, the steam engine or the printing press. And very possibly he would be right, too, if by the word "wonderful" was meant that which had the most far reaching results on mankind. But if he simply based his choice on that machine which was the outcome of the highest mechanical ingenuity and perfection of construction, the most correct answer that he could possibly give would be the automobile torpedo.

As the physician is continually improving his knowledge of the inner workings of five or six feet of human bone and tissue, so the torpedo officer is always finding out some new trait or eccentricity in the steel "babes" as he affectionately styles them, which are placed under his charge. This comparison appears all the more true when it is remembered that each torpedo has its own idiosyncracies, which have to be carefully studied and corrected continually if it is to be trusted to perform its duty properly when the time comes for it to start on its one and final errand of destruction and give its puny life for the life of a ship. And if that mission is faithfully performed, then indeed will the constant care and attention bestowed on it during its lifetime be amply rewarded, for the ship which receives a blow from an automobile torpedo is doomed as surely as if she were already situated as is the ill-fated Maine.

The arts of shipbuilders and steelworkers stand as nothing in the face of the explosion of 200 pounds of gun-cotton, which is the charge contained in the warheads of our navy torpedoes, so that in the hands of skillful and resolute men, the automobile torpedo is the most terrible engine of warfare the world has ever seen.

The construction and working of this form of weapon was originated only about 35 years ago, and in this most powerful and destructive weapon there is no half measure. Either the object of its attack escapes entirely or it is utterly and completely destroyed, for it strikes at its victim's most vital part, namely, that "twixt" wind and water, or "well below the belt."

It is not surprising that torpedoes used to be looked upon as unclean things, as something devilish, stealthy and altogether uncanny. Indeed, by a certain school of seamen they are still considered an unfair and cowardly weapon; but that feeling is quickly dying out now, and torpedoes have, after a good many years of curious neglect, taken a front place in the art of naval warfare.

During our civil war no fewer than 28 vessels were blown up by mines, and six vessels by various forms of torpedoes. All these weapons were of the most crude and makeshift description, yet they served the double purpose of doing what was required of them and of giving their users the first useful insight into what was fated to be a highly important branch of warfare. Curiously enough, in spite of the enormous benefits which torpedoes gave to their users on this occasion, they received only the scantiest attention on this side of the ocean after the close of the war. Yet their remarkable success set a good many clever heads thinking, and about the close of the civil war the original idea of the Whitehead torpedo was evolved from the brain of an officer in the Austrian navy.

So consistent have been the care and attention bestowed on the construction of this style of torpedo, and so many are the improvements effected, that no less than twenty-four different patterns now exist. Many of the older patterns are gradually being eaten away by the rust, or constant wear and tear, though the newer forms are likely to last a considerable time longer, owing to the fact that their working parts are made of non-corrosive metal. The engines, and in fact the whole mechanism, are stouter and stronger.

The adoption of the "controlling gear" the improved system of loading and ballasting the torpedo whereby its stability is greatly augmented, the increased working pressure of the air, and its general finish and delicacy of construction, have served to render this weapon a veritable marvel of mechanical skill. When one considers that it can be fired from the fastest ships and make reliable practice no matter what the bearings or the speed of the enemy, it is easy to understand its claim for absolute supremacy as an engine of naval warfare. The adoption of the torpedo as a naval weapon has had one especial and beneficial effect on the sea service of the present day. It has been the means of supplying the younger officers of the navy with a fresh outlet of dash and enterprise.

Twenty years ago there was every prospect that the introduction of mastless ships would turn the life of an ordinary junior officer into the most uneventful and humdrum of existence. It looked as though "walking pitch" and routine drills were to be the sum total of his career in peace time. The advent of the torpedo and the new classes of vessels which followed in its wake have changed all that, however. With a flotilla of torpedo boats and a number of "catchers" or "destroyers" that are bound to follow, there stand many opportunities of displaying in-

dividual ability, and in war time many roads to fame and honor. In battle the greatest prizes may fall to the hands of the youngest officers.

Can anyone, for instance, conceive a greater feeling of victory and exultation than that which arise in the heart of an officer who having successfully delivered a torpedo into the side of the enemy, sees the great ship bowing down before him, shattered and overcome, the victim of his skill and daring? One minute of a man's life under such circumstances is well worth the other years together. In a word the torpedo has brought into the navy a fresh zest, a new romance, and possibilities more brilliant than were ever existent before its adoption.—New York Times.

Things That Are Different in Mexico.

Mexican tailors bring the new clothes of their patrons to their offices or homes to be fitted.

Gentlemen wear spurs two or three inches in diameter when they ride. They are so large that it is necessary for them to walk on their toes when they dismount.

When hauling or transporting of any kind is done by means of wagons they usually proceed in trains of six or a dozen in charge of an overseer, who accompanies them on horseback.

Servants of all kinds are almost universally paid by the month. The family sits in a circle on the floor, with the common dishes in the centre, and they deftly dip their food out with pieces of their tin tortillas curled up in the shape of the bowl of a spoon.

March, April and May are the warmest months of the year on the great plateau of Mexico. They come at the end of the dry season. After the rains begin, the last of May, or early in June the air is pure, there is no dust, and the temperature is always delightful.

Celery is not bleached, although, as it grows green and unprotected, it is very sweet and tender. Lettuce grows in heavy bunches almost as large as a cabbage head. The outer leaves are tied together at the top, and only the heart, that is white and tender, is served on the table.

The principal reasons that houses cannot be built rapidly in Mexico is that the walls are always made very thick in order to withstand the occasional earthquake shocks. In the thin walls usually put up in the United States the mortar will readily dry and "set" after the wall is erected, but here, where walls are made anywhere from two or three to six feet thick, they must be allowed to dry thoroughly as they are built, or serious consequences result from the drying of the outer edges while the centre is still "green." Thus it is that one sees the walls all over a new building in different stages of completion, and it is often a curious sight to see thin, interior walls completed to a point much higher than the thick outside walls.

A New Device for Signaling.

A new electrical device for signaling and sending messages between arm posts and vessels was tested last night by representatives of the Government at Ulmer Park. The apparatus was erected on top of the hotel there. It consisted of a frame five feet by three, containing sixty-one incandescent bulbs, which, by the manipulation of a keyboard resembling that of a typewriter, threw out in bold relief any desired letter of the alphabet or numeral.

Shortly after 8 o'clock the apparatus was found to be in thorough working order, and the test began. A small steamer containing those who witnessed the trial left the dock at a three-knot gait, and those on board watched the letters as they appeared in the frame, and with the naked eye nearly all of them could distinguish each letter and figure at a distance of one mile off shore. At a mile and a half some of those on board could distinguish the letters clearly, but the majority of the figures and letters were easily discerned with the aid of glasses up to the three-and-a-half-mile mark, and had it not been for a light shower which fell just then it is possible that messages could have been read at a distance of four miles.—New York Times.

Decorating a Heroine.

The French troops at Tonquin were recently called out in parade, and while the soldiers presented arms they witnessed an unusual sight, namely, the presentation of the Cross of the Legion of Honor to a woman. In the history of the few women who have received the Cross of the Legion of Honor it would be hard to find a braver career than that of Marie Therese, the French Sister of Mercy, who has received the decoration at the hands of the Governor of Tonquin. At the age of 20 years this woman received her first wound in the trenches of Sebastopol. She was again wounded at the battle of Magenta. Later she followed the flag of her country still further and ministered to the sick and dying in Syria, China and Mexico. She was carried away from the battlefield of Worth wounded and suffering, and before she had recovered she was again performing her work of mercy and love. On one occasion a grenade fell into her ambulance; mindful only of the wounded men, she seized it and ran with it for 100 yards or more. She herself was severely injured, but the lives of her soldiers were saved by her heroism.

Too Much Staring.

Did ever any woman noting an unusual amount of staring at her sweet self in the street fail to find by a look in some shop window that her skirt braid or dust ruffle was waving in the breeze?

THE DUM-DUM BULLET.

There is hardly a Parliament in Europe whose members have not questioned their war offices concerning the famous Dum-Dum bullet, the new rifle projectile of the British army. Many alarming stories have been told of its terrors, and Governments have been asked to object to its use by the arms of Great Britain. And the Paris, Berlin and St. Petersburg papers have given considerable space to describing its terrible effects upon the body. The other day Deputy Hubert, in the French Chamber gave notice to Mr. Hanotaux that France would insist upon raising the question of the legality of the employment of the Dum-Dum bullet. Of course, the question of legality has for basis the Convention of St. Petersburg, where the powers decided, among other things, against the use of the explosive bullet in their armies. The Dum-Dum is not an explosive but an expansive bullet, and although small in calibre, inflicts a wound similar to that produced by the old time Minnie ball, while its penetration is as great as the nickel and steel cased bullet. The modern bullet of small calibre and long range has a terrific striking force, and can pierce several ranks of men; but the wound, unless in a vital member can be easily healed. The Dum-Dum's velocity is just as great, but the wound is large and lacerated. The effect is produced by a leaded cylinder of steel, capped by a wedge of soft metal, and a steel point. In the House of Commons the other day Mr. Powell-Williams, the Under Secretary of State for War, said that these bullets were made in India by the Indian Government and issued by it to the army. The effect was that when it struck soft tissues it "inflicted a wound sufficiently serious to stop the enemy," but that its use did not infringe the Convention of St. Petersburg. Some of these bullets had been made at Woolwich for one of the West African colonies at the request of the Crown agents.

Long Wars.

It is argued by many philosophical writers of the day that there never again be a long war. The facilities of modern communication, the improvements in arms, and, above all, the mighty interests of modern commerce, forbid, in the opinion of these writers, the possibility of such a deplorable event. Let us devoutly hope that the conclusion is just. Human passions, however, when thoroughly aroused, cannot readily be governed by the rule of policy.

It will not do, however, to trust too much to modern civilization as a preventive of protracted and vindictive war. The taste of blood that converts the tamed tiger into a sanguinary monster has pretty much the same effect upon the civilized and Christian man. The latter, it is true, makes his onslaughts under certain rules and regulations, and gives quarter to his prostrate and bleeding foe. But let the war last long enough, and even the chivalry and mercy that should mitigate its horrors will at last be forgotten. The true way to prevent war is to make a strong war. Every overwhelming blow is a mercy stroke. In a short-time combat, when one party has no hope for victory he cries enough and as it is with man the individual, so it is with aggregates of men. The policy, the true Christian policy, in war is to smite irresistibly, and then tender the olive branch with brotherly hand.—New York Ledger.

His Fing's Better Than Eyes.

The manner in which the late Dr. H. O. Cox, librarian of the Bedeian Library at Oxford for many years, discovered the falseness of the Gospel manuscripts gotten up by Constantine Simonides, is told in the old gentleman's own words in a recent number of the Spectator. It was his delicate touch that helped him, as he did not look at a page of the manuscript. He told the story as follows: "I never really opened the book, but I held it in my hand and took one page of it between my finger and thumb while I listened to the rascal's account of how he found this most interesting antiquity. At the end of three or four minutes I handed it back to him with the short comment, 'Nineteenth century paper, my dear sir,' and he took it away in a hurry and did not come again. Yes, I was pleased. But I have handled several ancient manuscripts in my time, and I know the feel of old paper."

Floors for Magazines.

Cement floors in powder magazines are dangerous, because cracks and cavities may form in them, constituting receptacles for inflammable matter, besides which cement nearly always contains silicious particles which may cause ignition by shock or merely by rubbing. Such floors have been forbidden in France since 1881 and in Belgium since 1894, the mine regulations requiring that powder magazines be floored with asphalt or planks. A circular from the Belgian minister of industry calls the attention of mine inspectors to the necessity, when authorizing a powder magazine, of requiring that the regulations be strictly observed in this respect, and also that timber floors be made of oak planks well jointed, perfectly smooth and free from cracks.—Scientific American.

Last year Italy exported 21,000 antique and modern works of art, valued at \$120,000. More than half of them went to Germany.

No particular form of religion receives official recognition in Japan.