

## NEWS FOR THE FAIR SEX

### NOTES OF INTEREST ON NUMEROUS FEMININE TOPICS.

**A Temperance Queen—The True Keynote of Beauty—The Red Haired Lady—The Trailing Skirt—A Novel Little Folks' Party—Etc., Etc.**

#### A Temperance Queen.

The Queen of Holland, it is stated, is a total abstainer, and ostentatiously refuses, on all public occasions, to partake of wine. The Queen is a patron of the Total Abstinence Society and of the Women's Social Party League, and it is said she is among the most active of party workers.

#### The True Keynote of Beauty.

"Happiness is the true keynote of beauty," says Mme. Adeline Patti, who is the possessor of apparently perennial charms. She declares she has banished care, for that means wrinkles, and she has surrounded herself with beautiful things, for that means beautiful thoughts. Her pleasures are temperate, her fatigue healthful. She loves the rain, because it is a balm for her complexion. Patti rises at 8.30, has a light breakfast, takes a walk for two hours, rests after dinner, and devotes the evening to pleasure or to singing. She eschews tea, coffee and chocolate, and avoids sweets.—London Answers.

#### The Red Haired Lady.

Red hair is a gift of the gods. The woman to whom this rare endowment has brought the accompanying gift of a fine, close-grained skin and a clear complexion, with glorious brown eyes, need ask no odds of any one. She belongs in the line with the historic beauties of the centuries. Red hair and blue eyes are a charming combination, but red hair and brown eyes are beyond all things fascinating.

The girl with red hair should avoid lavenders, purples, yellow-greens and indeterminate browns and grays. She may not wear pink in any of its shades but deep ruby red and any of the wine tints which omit purple are very becoming to her. Black suits her, if it be opaque, and so do dark shades of green, while white is her especial choice and sets off wonderfully her radiant style and glowing beauty.

#### The Trailing Skirt.

That women should willingly subject themselves to the filth, to say nothing of the possible dangers, of trailing skirts, has long been a wonder to sensible people who are acquainted with bacteriology, says the Philadelphia Medical Journal. For street wear they certainly cannot be considered in any sense either cleanly or hygienic. However, we cannot expect reform in this matter unless those who set the fashion can be influenced, for women are bound to be in the fashion, regardless of any ordinary considerations. There is some encouragement in the fact that at present bicycle skirts and golf skirts are in vogue, and we hope they will become still more popular.

#### A Novel Little Folks' Party.

One of the prettiest of the entertainments that I have been to here was a small folks' party, and there was an innovation on the rather worn-out Jack-Horner pie that I must remember. Over the middle of the supper table, suspended from the ceiling by pretty ribbons, was a large, elaborately braided white straw basket, of fancy shape, apparently filled with flowers and greens.

The flowers were bunches and bouquets of sweet peas—one for each child—and asparagus vines hid the stems; fastened to each bunch was a package. At the end of the supper the basket was lowered, and every one drew his or her posies, and when the treasures came to light with the flowers screams of joy arose; the bottom of the basket was filled with bonbons and mottoes, which were emptied over the heads of the children. A scramble ensued for them, into which every child entered, and this ended the party.—Anna Wentworth in the Woman's Home Companion.

#### Comfort in Journeying.

There is a way to keep moderately cool in the hottest cars, and this is the way to go about it:

See to it before you leave home that you are dressed with entire comfort. Go leisurely to the station and walk quietly to the car without fuss or hurry or excitement.

Take a soft silk or linen handkerchief, put it about your neck in loose folds, then take a light book or paper with which to pretend to pass the time, and there rest in absolute peace until your destination is reached.

Don't get up and drink iced water every half hour.

Don't fidget about at every station and wonder why yours is never coming.

Don't rasp your voice and excite your blood by useless conversation.

These are the trifles that make traveling such a nuisance; their opposites will bring a sense of comfort that is more refreshing than a cool wave.

The longest ride must have an end some time, and the best traveler is always the one who adapts herself to circumstances and takes dust, delays, and even hot boxes as a matter of course, and the necessary accompaniments to transportation.

#### Autumn Lingerie.

Corset-covers are made to take up just as little room under the dress waist as possible. Many women do not wear them at all, contending that they take up too much room under the waist of the gown. But those that are turned out are made of the finest possible material, and are not very elaborately trimmed. The fichu corset-cover is as popular as ever, and now a new era has come in play. It is to have this same fichu made to tie in the back, or rather to have the ends cross in the back. It is the best possible kind of a corset-cover to wear with shirt-waists, for it folds the figure in place better than any other thing that has yet been designed. It is trimmed with a narrow beading of lace and a fine lace edge. The ends are long enough to cross at the back, and have ends of tape that tie in the front. It takes up very little room, and with the low-busted corsets that are fashionable makes it often possible for stout women to wear shirt-waists and look well in them without having them bunched or lined.—Harper's Bazar.

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#### How to Dress the Foot.

The new strapped slipper is a very pretty thing—as smart a bit of footwear as fashion has favored us with for a long time, indeed—but it has one disadvantage and that is, it exposes any deficiency in the instep that its wearer may possess.

It takes a foot with a real Spanish arch to look well so clad; the flat one is most painfully and conspicuously flat when the straps hang loose over it.

Nine women out of ten do not consider the shape of their pedal extremities at all in buying their evening footwear, but invest in the latest mode, regardless of whether or not it will be becoming.

Now, the woman with the low instep or with none at all should cover her foot with an Oxford tie, or else with a long-tongued slipper which has a bow of sufficient importance to hide the deficiency—should consider effects, indeed, just as she would in buying any other article of wearing apparel.

By-the-by, it is noticeable that tan shoes are not worn by women this summer to nearly the same extent that they have been for three or four seasons past. Shrewd manufacturers of such goods have never believed that their popularity would last and many concerns this year did not send out samples in light leather at all.

The reason for this is not hard to find, for a tan shoe, size for size, looks larger than a black one, and besides not nearly so neat in appearance.

The growing disfavor to light footwear does not, however, extend to evening slippers of blue, pink and other delicate tints, which are more than ever worn this summer. A unique but pretty shoe noticed the other day was of soft black kid and had heels of violet satin, while the broad cut-steel buckle which ornamented the front had its center filled in with violet velvet.

Worn with one of the all-black costumes so fashionable now, this makes an attractive detail.

#### Frills of Fashion.

The earliest importations of autumn dress goods showed smooth finished surfaces, but now there is an incoming wave of zifeline goods also, with very rough hairy surfaces. Many of these materials show pronounced white hairs on dark backgrounds.

Soft crush folds of gauze or chiffon, held in broad dog collar shape by being passed through jeweled slides, and finishing with a chon at the back are being worn with the prevalent demi-decolletage, as well as with the full evening dress.

Already the orthodox Empire coiffure is affected with evening toilet by some women and the traditional single ostrich plume waves over the knot. There is even talk of resuscitating the gilt hair net that properly belongs with this coiffure and is remarkably effective over very dark hair.

Empire gowns are bringing in their train a host of empire accessories. The finest and most extravagant of fans belong to the mode; and every day handsomer ones blossom out in the Paris shops. The jeweled girdles and bandeaux are other costly straws showing the direction of the tide.

The plain black velvet slippers may be, as authorities announce, the decreed mode for winter wear, but shoemakers are certainly turning out shoes that are far from plain and are veritable works of art. Jeweled buckles are decidedly in evidence, and jeweled embroidery also appears.

The benignant and popular white elephant and pig bangles have in Paris given place to new favorites; and every other woman one meets wears two tiny trinkets in honor of Rostand. One is a bust of Cyrano de Bergerac. The other is an eagle holding Napoleon's hat—a tribute to "L'Aiglon."

Huge artificial flowers of chiffon, wonderfully tinted, are among the new millinery novelties, and in many cases have jeweled centres. They will be remarkably effective on the lace, tulle and chiffon evening toques that are to be worn. These chiffon flowers, as well as the beautiful ones in velvet, are utilized by dressmakers who take them to pieces and applique them flatly to cloth or other material, making new centres, stems and leaves for them.

A new waistcoat has made its bow to the Parisian public, and seems to have hit feminine fancy. It is of white taffeta embroidered or painted in water colors with small roses, and is made, like a man's waistcoat, with a strap and buckle in the back. Being worn with a bolero or Eton, there is no pretence of hiding this buckle, which is of the most elaborate character and matches the handsome waistcoat which, in front, fastens the waistcoat over a jabot of costly lace.

A new trimming just introduced in Paris consists of small gold or silver rings, sewed to the goods of the gown in two rows a few inches apart. The rings of the two rows alternate, so that velvet ribbon or cord run through them forms points, and the effect, particularly with black velvet ribbon or gold cord, is distinctly attractive and original. These small rings are also sewn on the edges of goods and ribbon or cord laced across to form an open work insertion over color.

Velvet capes are displayed in Paris and are pretty enough to win popularity, if favor goes by desserts. They are made in a succession of capes, sometimes as many as six, and each lined with white satin and bordered with a narrow band of gold and jeweled embroidery. The high collar turns down deeply with an edge of the embroidery and fastens at the throat, with a large soft scarf of chiffon embroidered all over in a cobwebby design of gold and colored silks.

#### PICTURE FRAME MOULDING.

Thousands of Styles Now and Additions Made to the Variety Yearly.

Picture frame mouldings, such as are manufactured and sold by wholesale in strips to be cut up as may be required in the making of picture frames, are produced in uniform lengths twelve feet. There are also produced cheaper picture frame mouldings in imitation of some of these woods, as of oak. These various mouldings are made in many widths and many thicknesses, and in great variety of form; great numbers of them with no ornamentation whatever, and many of them ornamented with a beading or other design, which may be carved in the wood by the machine in which the moulding is made, or pressed or stamped in the wood. Sometimes this beading is gilded, or so treated as to look like oxidized metal, and sometimes a straight, smooth line or division of a wood moulding is finished in the same manner.

Many picture frame mouldings are finished in white; some in white with another color; some are made in combinations of colors, and some are made in single colors, and these last may be made in many shades. Then there is a variety of mouldings in black. Many of these colored mouldings are plain in design. And then there are many of the colored mouldings that are highly ornamented.

Of gilded picture frame mouldings the variety produced is very large. Some are gilded with gold; some with a lacquer laid on over silver leaf, and some are gilded with a cheaper material.

Picture frame mouldings, taking them altogether, are produced in thousands of styles, and new styles are constantly being added, these being put on the market twice a year, for the spring and the fall trade. A picture frame moulding manufacturer producing mouldings in literally hundreds of styles would still produce more or less new styles, twenty, perhaps, or forty, each season. But for all the great variety offered there are certain kinds and styles of picture frame mouldings that are staple goods, and that sell steadily; just as there are staple lines in all kinds of merchandise.

There are big factories devoted solely to the manufacture of picture frame mouldings. Some manufacturers make a specialty of gilt mouldings, some of natural wood and other mouldings, and in some factories all sorts of mouldings, and frames as well, are produced. Formerly picture frame mouldings were all made in the East, and mouldings are still made here; but the great bulk is now produced in the West, where the factories are nearer the sources of supply of the wood used in their manufacture.

As compared with twenty years ago, picture frame mouldings are now made in far greater variety; and there are produced a far greater number of artistic mouldings than ever. And with the use of advanced modern machinery in their manufacture picture frame mouldings are much cheaper than they were in old times; so that it is nowadays possible to get from among the great variety of mouldings offered suitable and handsome frames at low prices. As compared with a year or two ago, the wholesale prices of picture frame mouldings are now a little higher than they were then, this being due to the present increased cost of the lumber and other materials entered into their manufacture.—New York Sun.

#### Getting Jurors in St. Louis.

It was not an easy thing for a man drawn on a jury to escape serving when he had to deal with Judge Lindley of St. Louis. The story runs that a raw German was summoned for jury duty, and wished to get off. "Schudge," he said plaintively, "I can nicht goot English understand." "Oh, you can serve," said Judge Lindley, cheerfully. "You won't have to understand good English; you won't hear any such in this court."

## NOTES AND COMMENTS.

An Indiana pastor has preached in favor of the shirt waist on the ground that if a man is comfortable it is easier for him to be religious.

A well-known French physician, Dr. Hervieux, is said to have made investigations which indicate that flies spread small-pox.

Possibly fashionable society suffers some from the fact that the people who do the foolish things nearly always get the most attention from the general public.

"The Boers' Last Stand" will be the heading of many a war tale from South Africa.

It is now reported that the King of Greece lost \$15,000 in less than an hour. He is one of the monarchs who are never heard of except in connection with some hard-luck story.

Although the Japanese language has an extensive and constantly growing vocabulary, it contains few abusive words and absolutely no means of cursing and swearing.

The consular corps of the Mexican republic has entered recently upon a period of unusual activity in order to enlarge the trade of Mexico with the countries of Central and South America. Success begins to accompany their efforts.

In New Jersey they still have women who merit the title of "common scold," and which, when conferred by conviction in court, carries with it a penalty. The other day a woman with an unruly tongue was fined the sum of \$100.

As an evidence of the supremacy of the English tongue in the Far East it is to be noted that the various foreign journals use the English word "Boxer" in speaking of the society which is fomenting such grave disturbances in China. For example, the Germans write "die Boxers," the Italians, "i Boxers," and in Spanish it is "los Boxers."

A society is about to be formed in Great Britain for the purpose of promoting the use of cane sugar as against beet sugar, for the purpose of benefitting the West Indies. The old exploded theory of the greater sweetening power of cane sugar is being worked to arouse public sympathy with the movement.

The game warden of Illinois has decided to free all the native birds now held in captivity, on the ground that they are useless in cages, and would be very useful in destroying insects if they should be liberated. The game laws of Illinois authorize the warden and his deputies to seize all such birds held in captivity and to turn them loose to shift for themselves.

The twelfth census has caused a decided reshuffling of honors among the cities of the Buckeye State. Cincinnati, which has led in population for many decades, is passed by Cleveland, which takes and promises to hold first place. Toledo, which was fourth in 1890, now leads Columbus, which was third then. Evidently the northern countries of Ohio are showing a greater growth and progress than is discernible in the central or southern belt.

At Newport, R. I., the other day a crew of the Federal navy successfully managed the submarine boat Holland, and found no especial difficulty in the task. Frequent experiments of this sort might induce a revision of the unfavorable opinion of the craft entertained largely in naval circles. If submarine boats are ever to be something more in the navy than mere toys, the enlisted men of the service must be made so familiar with them that a submarine cruise will cease to be regarded as a novelty.

To discover a universal language says the London Globe, is the dream of many a sane and domesticated gentleman. One of these patient scholars, we are told, has just hit upon a Volapuk which, he calls "Clarison," and which "contains no letter which is not in every continental alphabet, and no vocal sound which an Englishman, a Frenchman, a German, or an Italian would have to learn." A shorter way to a universal language, we believe, would be to turn three or four babies of every European nationality loose on a desert island, with plenty of food, for ten years, and then see what language they had evolved.

The commissioner of the general land office has ordered the demolition of the so-called "drift" fences on the government grazing grounds in New Mexico. Some years ago it was found that the cattle would "drift" many miles across the plains before the winter blizzards, involving the cattlemen in heavy expense in gathering them up in the spring. To prevent this the "drift" fences were built and became so multiplied that vast areas were cut up in fenced-in sections. As it is illegal to inclose any portions of these public lands, the commissioner has ordered the fences taken down, and the cattlemen are protesting.

The system of economic living suggested by President Harper, of the

Chicago University, is extravagant compared with that practiced by the family of Joel W. Moore, of Monroe Falls, near Akron, O. Mr. Moore is 50 years old and his wife 43, and they have 20 children ranging in age from 23 years to four weeks. In addition they have an adopted child. Fifteen of the children live at home. This family was raised on Mr. Moore's salary of \$1.20 to \$1.30 a day. He buys flour, corn and shoes in wholesale lots. Every member of his family is insured.

Though the machines now used by the Postoffice Department for cancelling the stamps on letters can handle from 40,000 to 50,000 envelopes per hour, their work is not rapid enough to meet the increasing demands of the service, and experiments are being made with new devices with a capacity three times as great as that of the old ones. The New York Times expresses the opinion that eventually the work of the cancelling machines will have to be facilitated by the universal use of envelopes of two or three prescribed shapes and sizes and by the rigid enforcement of the rule as to the position of the stamp on the envelope. The uniformity of envelopes would not necessarily extend to the quality of the paper out of which they should be made, so there would still be room for the display of personal taste in the matter.

American coal has been tried on the Bavarian State railways. It was found superior to German coal, but this is offset by its high price. It costs per ton delivered at Munich, \$6.19, while the Ruhr coal can be had for \$4.28 per ton. There is also to be considered the fact that the American coal, during its four weeks' journey and repeated transshipments, loses a considerable percentage. At the mines it is loaded on cars, at the seaport it is put on shipboard, at Hamburg or Bremen it is again loaded into cars—by all of which it is broken and suffers a considerable loss in weight. In consequence of all these disadvantages the general use of American coal on German railways is under present conditions impossible.

English is now the language of Hawaii. All court proceedings must be in that language, legal notices must be published in papers published in the English language, and the last public school in which teaching was in Hawaiian has been closed. For over half a century there has been a dual system of languages in court proceedings. All persons with a drop of Hawaiian blood who were charged with criminal offense were obliged to be tried by an Hawaiian jury on indictment drawn in Hawaiian, and the proceedings were all in Hawaiian. In all civil cases where any of the parties were Hawaiian a jury composed half of Hawaiians and half of whites was impaneled.

There seems to be a shortage of women in the British colonies in the reports of the census taker are true. In two of them alone—Canada and Australia—there is a chance for half a million more to gain husbands and homes. According to the late figures, the population of New South Wales on December 31st consisted of 729,000 males and 628,000 females. Here is a deficiency of 100,000. In Victoria the discrepancy is not so marked, but in other colonies the difference is proportionately larger. In New Zealand, for instance, there is an excess of 50,000 males. It is strange under these circumstances that some of the million and more women in the United Kingdom who cannot find husbands, do not go to the colonies. Perhaps, if they realized how much they are needed there they would go in large bodies. It is said, however, that they are too timid to venture into strange lands, and are waiting for the colonists to come and take them. Students of conditions think something should be done to equalize the sexes, both in the colonies and in the United Kingdom.

Hardly a day passes without the publication of a report of a casualty due to the cantankerous peculiarities of the untamed automobile. The experience of the operator seems to be no guarantee of safety to those who ride in the horseless vehicle. So accomplished a mechanic as John Jacob Astor (who is said to possess the practical knowledge to construct a locomotive) finds it impossible to say when or how he will return when he leaves his house for a short dash with his automobile. Recently after a half-mile run in which the machine was as docile as a tired cart-horse he attempted to turn it about, but instantly it leaped into the air and turned a complete somersault. People may tolerate the buzzing, fixating and spitting of the internal arrangements of the automobile, and they may bear with its sudden efforts to butt against trees and clamber over the curbing; but when the caprices of the horseless carriage include somersaults and attempts to leap catskill ravines there is bound to be a reaction in favor of equine motive power. No vehicle has ever been constructed to spring over a precipice with safety to those inside, and even the automobile's ambition to climb up stone walls is inordinate. Unless a curb can be put on the spectator's aspirations of the "auto" its operations will have to be confined to inclosures into which pedestrians do not stray.

## MOTHER OF THE IMMIGRANTS.

Mrs. Regina Stucklen's Distinctive Work in New York.

John Gilmer Speed writes as follows in *Ainslee's Magazine*:

"Probably no two women in America come so close to a varied personal history as Mrs. Regina Stucklen, Chief Inspector of the Women's Department of the Barge Office, and well known as the Mother of Immigrants, and her assistant, Miss Taylor. No church in all the metropolis solemnizes so many marriages as the Barge Office, and no matrimonial agent on earth arranges so many weddings as does Mrs. Stucklen; and beneath the majority of these there is a saving proportion of romance that leaveneth the whole heavy lump. Thus there are compensations even in the most arduous tasks and amid surroundings that are repellent to a refined feminine mind.

"Personally, with great benignity and with signal absence of official fussiness, Mrs. Stucklen regards the wants of all the women. She learns not only whence each comes, but whether each wishes to go and what each purposes to do. Of the struggles with the great problems of existence in all countries and in all grades of social life, Mrs. Stucklen knows enough to fill volumes. The Mother of the Immigrants is a woman of strong personality, calm, firm and sympathetic under most trying situations, and to the would-be bride, who has arrived a stranger in a foreign land to meet her promised husband, she is at once counselor, witness and friend. As about three hundred marriages take place annually at the Barge Office, or directly under its auspices—one solemnization for every working day of the year—and as Mrs. Stucklen inquires into the intimate history of each matrimonial affair, she has more than an ordinary opportunity to study this interesting side of life. Whether they go and how they prosper after leaving her guardian care, the Inspector has little opportunity of knowing—whether to found honorable and prosperous families, or to fall and fill the pauper's grave. Barely one per cent. of them ever retains enough grateful memory of her services to inform her. But there are rewards in knowing one's duty well done; and if there is a seeming ingratitude on the part of brides and grooms alike, it is because the Government, and the Barge Office as one of its institutions, is a thing of odium to the average immigrant—the thing from which he fled when he forsook his native hills and valleys; and the sorrows and tribulations of the destination pens the immigrant seeks to blot from his memory as speedily as possible."

#### The Poor Cobbler's Choice.

"They say Italians are cruel to their beasts," writes a correspondent lately in Tuscany. "But I beg you to consider the following true history: There is a cobbler in the Via della Dogana, Florence. His shop is a hole in the wall. The dreadful ciappanna (dog catchers) who were appointed to net stray dogs, and are rewarded by the municipality in ratio to capture, caught the cobbler's little cur—who would have been killed if not brought back. The dog was intrinsically not worth a penny, but the poor man loved him. To save his canine friend he found that he must pay nine francs, and to make up such an enormous sum he was obliged to pawn his bedclothes. It was cold afterwards at night without them. But what matter? His little dog was safe and with him."

#### A Patriotic People.

The new Queen of Italy comes of a race of mighty mountaineers renowned for their physical beauty, their purity of character and their love of country, which is illustrated by an answer given to a traveler who asked a Montenegrin how many soldiers were in service to the government. "We are all soldiers when our country has need of us."

No more remarkable country exists on the face of the earth. The towering Black Mountains which surround and dominate that region are smiled upon and illuminated by a sky of tenderest blue, which is opalescent with the harmonies of purple sunsets and the changing hues of the limestone hills, and no words can paint the atmosphere effervescing with the wind draughts of the Adriatic.

#### A New Business in Boston.

The Boston Transcript says that "store opening" is a new business in the Hub. It seems that enterprising real estate agents who have little stores to let in residential districts have discovered that an establishment in full running order, well stocked and presenting a clean, businesslike appearance, is much more likely to attract the eye of a prospective tenant than an empty store with unwashed windows and a cobwebbed ceiling. The agents therefore employ "store openers"—generally women—whose business it is to stock untenanted stores temporarily (the capital being supplied by the real estate dealers) and to conduct the same until rents are found.

G. M. Whitaker, Dairy Commissioner of Massachusetts, stated in an address to the Farmers' National Congress that the annual value of the dairy products of the nation is in round figures \$500,000,000.