



WHY THE HARE PLAYS A PART IN EASTER

To the learned men who go grubbing in kitchen middens, and who can tell without stopping to count, just how many sausages it takes to reach the moon, it's as plain as the noon-day sun why the hare is here at Easter with a wheelbarrow full of eggs. But for you and me, who couldn't build up a dinosaur from a decayed tooth in another million years, and who mix up history with historical novels, a little time is required to disentangle the truth from the tradition.

There's no doubt that the Easter hare has arrived. You have seen him in nearly all the confectioner's windows for some time past, either trundling a wheelbarrow full of eggs or proudly drawing a huge egg set up on wheels.

Now, be sure not to pronounce that "aigs" and "aig," as they do in the South, for if you do, you will be falling into the same unscientific error as the confectioners have made in representing the sacred hare as his humble American cousin, "B'r'r Rabbit." The rabbit is all well enough in his way, and without him we wouldn't have "Uncle Remus," perhaps, and a lot of people would have to take out accident insurance instead of prowling around graveyards in the dark of the moon.

many, from which we have borrowed the tradition of the Easter hare, who is quite an important figure in his way in the Fatherland as is St. Nicholas himself at Christmas. Where did the Germans get the hare myth? To determine that you would have to make a pretty long excursion into the past. And perhaps, in the end, it would be "up to" the Sphinx to answer you, and you know very well how crabbed that lady has become through all the centuries, with no one to talk to but impertinent tourists.

The truth seems to be that little Rameses "picked" eggs with his boy neighbors. That was long before the Gauls introduced the custom of the Easter hat.

If Cleopatra, who came somewhat later on the scene, affected the lily at this season of the year, it was probably the tiger lily; but you may be sure she knew all about the hare and its relations with the moon, and consequently with Easter itself.

For it is a fact, even if it is a fable, too, that the moon and the hare and Easter—likewise the Easter egg—are all dependent the one upon the other, and have been since the time when Easter, the Saxon goddess of the East, gave her name to our Christian festival. Now, you may think, with your limited knowledge of Egyptiology, that

head that it can see all around. You never heard a hare make that old sneering excuse for carelessness—"You might think I had eyes in the back of my head." To all intents and purposes the hare has.

Well, then, to make it quite clear, "un" is hare, or "open," and the moon is "the open eyed watcher of the skies at night." But that isn't all.



Ecce Homo.

The Egyptians being a people of few, because difficult, words, made "un" do duty for "period," too. Thus the hare, being never comma-tose, "became the type of period-icity, human and lunar, and as the opener became associated with the opening of the new year at Easter." Finally, it came to be connected in the popular mind with the eggs, broken to satisfy the opening of the year. "And there you are!" exclaims triumphantly the enthusiastic scientist to whom I am indebted for this information.

In Germany, if Little Hans and Gretel are good, the white hare steals softly into the house on Easter eve, when everybody is sleeping, and leaves in the nooks and corners many brightly colored eggs for the "kindergärtner." In the morning the children and their parents hunt for these eggs amid great excitement. So says Mr.



Fresh Easter Eggs To-day.

—From a German postal card.

William Walsh, who is a composite of authorities. To this may be added Meier's explanation that in Swabia and Hesse children are actually sent to the hare's nest in search of eggs. Mannhardt goes still further, saying that the hare is reputed to be a fire and soul bringer, and that children are supposed to be procured from the nests. It would seem, however, that the stork has largely usurped this function, which some persons will consider fortunate in view of the immense number of eggs laid by the hare.—New York Herald.

"Easter" Surprises in Serving Ice Cream.

Beside the conventionalized presentation of ice cream in the mold of an Easter rabbit or a large Easter egg colored chocolate, violet, orange or rose, we have more and additional resources this year for the Easter party. One party will be served with individual ice creams frozen and molded in the shape of Easter lilies. The Bernuda lily makes a capital design. The children appreciate the suggestion and like the generous size of the portion.

A Bad Investment.

"Guess I was stuck when I give you thirty cents for this rabbit. I ain't laid no colored eggs yet."—New York Journal.



THE DESCENT FROM THE CROSS.

Peter Paul Rubens, 1577-1640.

But the rabbit is not a hare, and has nothing to do with Easter. Unfortunately, there are no hares in the East and South, and out on the Alkali plains, where they insult the tame American hare by calling him a jack or jackass rabbit, they are behaving pretty well when they remember that it's Sunday at all, much less Easter Sunday.

This distinction between the hare and the undersized rabbit is really important, and chiefly because the rabbit burrows in the ground, while the hare makes forms of grass for his habitation. Are you so keen-witted that you never sought a hare in a hen's nest? Ah! now you begin to understand. And when you reflect how impossible it would be to find the Easter eggs if the hare hid them in a deep hole, it's perfectly plain that the New York dealers in confectioners' supplies are propagating a mischievous error. Maybe it is a blow at the Belgian hare trade. In these days of international rivalry, who can tell? Yet it is Belgium's neighbor, Ger-

many, who has no language other than the queer signs you may see today on the obelisk in Central Park, but you are mistaken. Those hieroglyphics were, perhaps, merely stenographic notes dictated by Osiris to Iris, and afterward transcribed in the cuneiform tablet.

With the lapse of ages some of them have grown so "cold" that the best handwriting experts of to-day cannot decipher them. But in the everyday language of the Nile region the equivalent of hare is "un," which, in English, is "open," "to open," "the opener." Also, the hare has been from remote time a symbol for the moon, and for several reasons. Two of them are that the hare is a nocturnal animal, and that the hare and the moon have both been credited with the power of changing their sex. Again, the young of the hare, unlike rabbits, are born with their eyes open, and are fabled never to close them. Hence the traditional "hare's sleep." As a matter of fact, rather than of fable, the hare's eyes are so situated on the sides of its

Simple Fashions

New York City.—Blouse Etions with shoulder capes are among the newest coats shown and are peculiarly well suited to young girls. This May Man-



MISSSES' BLOUSE ETON.

a real ostrich plume in any but black or white. But now the styles of thirty years ago have become popular, with the exception of the shading from a cardinal to a pastel hue in one long plume, which is distinctly of this revival. Gowns from Kinu, a Japanese cloth of silky texture, are being purchased by women who want something "brand new." Kinu is like pongee in color, for where pongee has a smooth surface Kinu has a heavy rib that gives the cloth a rough appearance. It would make excellent traveling gowns, for it sheds the dust readily.

A Prediction.

It is predicted that handsome fur pelicans and stoles will be worn later this year than ever, and will accompany many very thin costumes and summery hats.

The Cachepeigne of Flowers.

For midsummer millinery the cachepeigne of flowers will be favored by Dame Fashion.

Elaborately Trimmed.

Sleeves have never been more elaborate or more elaborately trimmed.

Fancy Blouse.

Yokes shaped to form points at front and back and to extend well over the sleeves are among the latest and smartest shown. This May Manton one is made of sheer white lawn with trimming of cream lace and is outlined, but the model suits soft silks and wools equally well and the fitted lining can be used whenever desirable.

The Eton is made with fronts and back, the back being laid in a box pleat at the centre with an outward turning pleat at each side. The cape is in two portions and is finished with the stole, the lower portions of which are joined to the upper beneath the points. The sleeves are in one piece each and at the waist is a stitched belt.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is three and one-quarter yards twenty-one inches wide,

A Late Design by May Manton.



HAPPY WOMEN.

Wouldn't any woman be happy, After years of backache suffering, Days of misery, nights of unrest, The distress of urinary troubles, She finds relief and cure? No reason why any reader Should suffer in the face of evidence like this:

Mrs. Alma A. Jackson, of East Front St., Traverse City, Mich., says:



"For twenty years I never knew what it was to have good health. Every physician consulted said I had liver trouble, but their medicines did me no good. Just before I began using Doan's Kidney Pills I was al-

most paralyzed. I could hardly stand on my feet because of the numbness and lack of circulation. Had a knife been thrust into my kidneys the pain could not have been more intense. My sleep was disturbed by visions of distorted figures. The kidney secretions were annoyingly irregular, and I was tortured with thirst and always bloated. I used seven boxes of Doan's Kidney Pills. The bloating subsided until I weighed 100 pounds less, could sleep like a child and was relieved of the pain and the irregularity of the kidney action. My circulation is good and I feel better in every way."

A free trial of this great kidney medicine which cured Mrs. Jackson will be mailed on application to any part of the United States. Address Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y. For sale by all druggists; price 50 cents per box.

How They Interpreted It.

We are taught not to be anxious for the future, as the future will come in time. We are taught in the Sermon on the Mount not to think of the future, because the evil we do in one day is sufficient.—Answers of London school children.

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Saw Mills

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FANCY BLOUSE.

when accordion pleated, with one and one-eighth yards of all-over tucking for sleeves and yoke and three-quarter yards of silk for belt.