

NEWS AND NOTES FOR WOMEN

IN GAY PARIS.

I have often wished that Americans—in particular American women—would not be so zealous and outspoken in their endeavor to get their money's worth of wickedness when they come to Paris, though the native of the women in this respect is delicious. They turn from the tomb of Napoleon and demand, "Now where is the Moulin Rouge?" They spend the day at the Louvre, and at night they go to Maxim's. They vary grand opera, classic drama, and courses of lectures at the Sorbonne with the Bal Bouillier, the Folies Bergeres, and the cafes. Everything is embraced in their notion of the education to be derived from foreign travel, and in order to know la vie, they devote themselves as conscientiously to the wickedness of Paris as one touring splinter whom I lately encountered was studying the lives of all the saints in order—so she told me—to perfectly understand the art in the churches. Still, while the American woman is ever, everywhere, eminently to be trusted, we really ought to bear in mind that our culture of the wickedness of Paris not alone confuses foreign conceptions of American morals, but in a very practical way becomes the substance and support of wickedness. It is an open secret that a great deal of the varicolored evil which tourists seek in Paris as representing la vie is manufactured expressly for foreign consumption, and has as little part in the natural life of the people as the steam heat, porcelain tubs, chocolate layer cake, baked beans, chewing gum, which one is able to find by paying the price in centres where extensive patronage has made these things a profitable investment.—Harper's Bazar.

MISS CHRISTINE LA BARRAQUE.
Miss Christine La Barraque, now twenty-eight years old, who has been blind since was a baby, is a lawyer. She was graduated at the head of a law class in a California law school, and has been admitted to the bar in that State.

Miss La Barraque is a remarkable young woman. She is a graduate of the University of California, a finished linguist, an accomplished equestrienne and a musician. She is now in New York city completing her musical education.

"Nobody thought I could get through the university," she said. "I engaged three readers and managed to keep them all busy. I already knew French and Spanish, and I took up Italian. It was easy in geometry and trigonometry, but in integral calculus I thought I was lost."

Getting her degree, she announced that her ambition was to become a lawyer. The professors told her it was absurd, but she insisted and became a night school teacher to earn enough money to carry her through the law school. There were seventy-five men in the class, and at the end only thirty-nine remained. In the final examination Miss La Barraque led them all.

"Of course, I realize that a blind woman could hardly practice law successfully, so I decided to take up music as my livelihood," she declared, "and I know I shall succeed."

FEMINIZATION OF THE SCHOOL.

At the session of the American Academy of Medicine President G. Stanley Hall urged the separation of the sexes after the age of twelve and the provision of men teachers for boys above that age. Dr. Woods Hutchinson emphasized the importance of home training as the fundamental means of education, to which the school instruction is merely supplementary.

In the current number of the Arena Dr. W. L. Howard vigorously criticises both the policy of educating boys and girls together and the preponderance of woman teachers in the public schools. Undoubtedly there is much ground for this sort of criticism, especially as regards the desirability of men teachers for boys. It would be better for the boys in every way to place them at the age of ten or twelve under the instruction of men. The difficulty, however, is to get the right sort of men. A few schoolmarm is, after all, preferable to an effeminate, narrow-chested, under-vitalized apology for a man. Until the pay of school teachers is made high enough to attract men of power, breadth and personality into the service of the schools it will be necessary and desirable to rely chiefly on women teachers in the lower grades. In any event no amount of masculine influence in the school can take the place of home education personally conducted by the father. The excessive absorption of the average American father in business is the root of the present trouble. This has led to wellnigh complete abdication of the educational duties of parenthood. Only correction of this evil can bring a remedy.—Boston Transcript.

POETRY FOR GIRLS.

It is a great mistake, in my opinion at least, to use poetry, and especially good poetry, as a medium of grammatical instruction and scholastic or domestic discipline. To parse "Paradise Lost" is to lose it again, and probably forever. The teacher, or parent, who gives out "The Ancient Mariner" or "The May Queen"

to be learned by heart as a punishment, should be most severely dealt with—compelled to commit to memory several reports of the Bureau of Education, or to attend the sessions of a Summer School of Metaphysics for six successive years. One reason why so many young readers conceive a lasting dislike for poetry is because at the beginning they are forced to put it to base uses. It should be treated always as "a dear and genuine inmate of the household of man," welcomed for the pleasure that it brings, read for the light of wonder and joy that it throws on the world in which we live and on the secret movements of the human heart.—Dr. Henry van Dyke, in Harper's Bazar.

EDUCATING HER CONSCIENCE.

"Contrary to common experience, my conscience is more tender now than when I first went into business," said a young woman who is employed downtown. "Then I did not mind working for any kind of a fakir. Now I strongly object. One of my first jobs was for a man who was sending out a lot of letters containing tips on racing. One day when I was in the thick of the work another customer read one of the circulars.

"I wonder," he said, "how many poor devils will lose every cent they have in the world by being drawn into this unethical scheme."

"I don't know," said I, "and, anyway, that is not my lookout."

"Then your conscience doesn't trouble you?" he asked.

"Not in the least," said I. "It is purely a matter of business with me. They will have to look out for themselves the same as I do. There is one thing sure, I shan't lose anything."

"So I went ahead and wrote the letters. There were so many of them that my bill amounted to \$25."

"I wonder," put in a listener, "if many people really did lose?"

"I know one that did," said the young woman, sadly. "That was me. I never got my \$25."—New York Evening Post.

SUPERSTITION ABOUT STONES.

Emeralds are a spur to ambition, and promote the spirit of a leader. A piece of jade worn in a bracelet clasp or vinaigrette ring will drive away bad luck even more effectively than the rabbit's foot or horseshoe.

In the moonstone the wearer has an aid to beauty and the gift of pleasing. Under this stone's influence she sees everybody and everything about her in the best aspect. Some ancient writers believed the moonstone cured epilepsy, others that its powers waxed and waned with the moon.

The topaz banishes melancholy and imparts serenity and a contented mind.

If a young woman wears an amethyst, she has an amulet against flightiness and folly.

If she wears a sapphire, she will be proof against deceitful suitors, no matter how artful their wooing may be.

If she wears a ruby, she has a charm against rheumatism and kindred diseases, and a promoter to vivacity and fascination of manner. Falling the ruby, the carbuncle and the garnet will exert a similar influence.

In the turquoise the wearer has a talisman for self-possession. The pretty blue gem will enable her to think clearly and keep her presence of mind under the most trying circumstances.

DON'T CAARY TALES.

Do not carry or evil reports. Everybody knows the irritating and disturbing effect of tale-bearers. It is said that the famous Hannah More had an excellent way of managing these undesirable persons. Whenever she was told any unkind thing about another, she would say: "Come, let's go and ask if it is true." The tale-bearer, somewhat discomfited by this, would often hurriedly beg that no notice might be taken, but Hannah More insisted on having her own way, with the result that her immediate circle was singularly free from scandal.

Such a course would be invaluable in our own lives, for who has not experienced the pain and incalculable mischief wrought by a thoughtless and ill-founded statement? The barbed arrows of slander are the most deadly and poisonous among weapons, and their effect is widespread, for, like a stone thrown into a pond, slander begins with a little disturbance, but spreads in ever widening circles, until one wonders at the magnitude attained by it.

Truth and Poetry.

An English tourist engaged the jarvey who recommended his horse, "because it's a jewel of a political baste." Dublin was reached at last, after a long journey. "Why," asked the delayed tourist, as he paid his fare, "why did you call your horse political?" "Shure, yer honor, it's thure," said Pat, with his best blarney, "for his good qualities are imaginary, not real."—Cassell's Little Folks.

The Smolon tunnel in Italy, longest in the world, was completed in 1905.

America's Unofficial Independence Day

By H. Addington Bruce.

NESTLING in the Piedmont region of North Carolina stands the little town of Charlotte. Today it looks sleepy, and peaceful, and quiet, but in colonial times it was perhaps the liveliest place in the Old North State. Indeed, at least one of His Most Gracious Majesty's officers referred to it as the "hornet's nest" of America. This epithet, born of baffled wrath, was not misplaced.

Almost from its first settlement by the sturdy Scotch who emigrated thither early in the eighteenth century, from their native land or from a temporary abiding-place in the north of Ireland, Mecklenburg County, of which Charlotte is the centre, was famed as the seat of the temper and spirit of the men of Mecklenburg, and as the years passed and the British yoke became more and more unbearable nowhere was disloyalty more openly voiced than among the glades and hills of this charming region. If it be true of the rest of the country that the prevailing sentiment in the period immediately preceding the Revolution was for an amicable settlement of the difficulties with Great Britain, it would seem certain that in Mecklenburg, at least, there was a well-defined opinion in favor of repudiating allegiance, cutting loose entirely from the motherland, and entering upon a career of independent nationality. This opinion, if the claims of the Mecklenburgians and their descendants are to be accepted, culminated in May, 1775, in the adoption, by regularly elected delegates to a county convention, of a bold and warlike declaration of independence, setting forth the wrongs under which the colonies were laboring, and in no uncertain terms asserting that "we do hereby declare ourselves a free and independent people; that we are, and of right ought to be, a sovereign and self-governing people under the power of God and the General Congress; that we maintain, and of which independence we solemnly pledge to each other our mutual co-operation, our lives, our fortunes, and our most sacred honor."

As the story goes, the convention was the outcome of several earlier meetings of the leading spirits of the county, held for the purpose of ascertaining the attitude of the inhabitants with respect to the claim of Parliament to tax colonies and otherwise regulate their internal affairs. So soon as it was learned that open opposition to the home authorities would receive popular support, Thomas Polk, the colonel commandant of the county, issued an order to each militia captain directing him to call a company meeting for the election of two delegates to a county convention. This was done on May 19, 1775, the convention assembled in the Court-house at Charlotte.—Harper's Weekly.

The English Ha-Ha.

By Mrs. F. H. Burnet in Country Life in America

LITERALLY it is an extremely clever arrangement of the landscape gardener of long ago (or one may suppose he was of long ago, as the ha-ha is found oftener in old places), and it is the device of one who dealt with English gardens attached to broad English private parks. Its raison d'être is the following:

In most private parks deer, cattle or sheep are usually pastured, partly for the utilitarian purpose of fertilization and close cropping of the turf and partly because of their forming a picturesque detail. Deer are obviously ornamental, so are fine cattle, especially the shaggy black Highland bulls or stag eyed Jerseys, and nothing produces a more softly completing effect than a scattered flock of snow white sheep, straying and nibbling or resting in groups under spreading boughs of oaks and beeches. From these, of course, the garden must be protected by some sufficient barrier, and for this purpose the ha-ha was invented.

A feature of most park surrounded pleasure grounds is that it has been part of the designer's plan that they shall not appear to be limited by any stretch of fence or hedge which would break the line of sight, but that the garden shall produce the effect of melting into the sward of the park and seem to be part of its broad sweeps and spaces. A hedge or fence would form an obvious boundary, and the ha-ha was the ingenious alternative.

A dry moat is dug where lawns join park lands. One side, that toward the lawns, is perpendicular; the other gently slopes; the tops are carefully levelled with each other, and the whole neatly turfed. The perpendicular side is usually fitted with a short horizontal fence of wire netting to prevent the incursions of rabbits. No animal can cross this, and when it is carefully levelled the result achieved is that, even when one stands at a distance of only a few yards from it, the eye notes no break in the sweep of the turf and sees nothing of the barrier, either depression or fencing, the moat being below the line of view instead of forming a limiting obstruction to it.

An Appeal for the Old Standard of Honesty

By Theodore P. Shonts, Chairman of the Panama Canal Commission

THE highest function of a university is to supply well-disciplined and well-informed minds, which are capable of accurate thinking. There has never been any lack of the opposite kind of mind, which is the very fountain-head of misinformation and error. This crop, like those of weeds and mosquitoes, takes care of itself.

Calm reasoning is necessary to meet and direct into safe channels this spirit of discontent and revolt that is abroad today. That there are grave causes for it cannot be denied. The demands for reform, hysterical and unreasonable as many of them are, are well grounded and must be heeded. The evils complained of have come about because, as a people, we have drifted from the old standard of honesty and patient accumulation into a mad rush for wealth, for the piling up of enormous fortunes in the shortest possible period of time. We must be brought back to the old moorings, not by violence and unlawful methods, but by calm and inflexible application of law.

That the country will right itself, that it will pass safely through this crisis as it has passed through all those that have preceded it, no one familiar with its history can doubt. At heart the people are sound, and at heart they are also just and rational. They have always been more wise, more patient and more fair-minded than many of their would-be leaders, for they have always insisted upon becoming possessed of the truth before taking action.

Nothing breeds a spirit of anarchy so quickly as disregard of law, or successful violation of law, by those who should be its staunchest supporters. Nothing so stimulates the growth of Socialistic ideas as the belief that rich and powerful men have been violating the law and escaping the consequences of their offenses. By far the larger part of the Socialistic feeling that exists in this country today is due to a conviction of this kind in the minds of thousands of people. The evil consequences of this state of mind can only be avoided by a convincing demonstration that there is the same law for the rich as for the poor, the same justice for the Trust magnate as for the penniless man.

Some Things Glasgow Does for the People

By Frederick C. Howe.

BUT Glasgow has its benevolences. It provides generously for public concerts in the parks; it has acquired some fine halls for public use; it has a splendid municipal art collection housed in a fine gallery. Its parks and playgrounds are extensive. They are beautifully maintained, and are open to the widest use. Its public library is comparable to those of many cities in America.

The city has its little extravagances, too. They are part of the show. For the British city delights in the spectacular. That is one of the things the Lord mayor is for—to be the city's host, and foot its entertainment bills. It seems like an anticlimax to a long and distinguished aldermanic career to be offered the privilege of expending from ten to twenty thousand dollars a year for the maintenance of the city's dignity and the entertainment of its guests. Yet this is a privilege to which the best of Britain's business men aspire. And Glasgow has many little flings at the expense of the treasury. The aldermen go on trips to England and the Continent in the study of other cities. Every fortnight or so one of the departments has an inspection which is its annual show. This is followed by the city's official, by a luncheon at the Town Hall. A hundred or more of the city's officials, with their guests, sit down to a dinner in the Council Chamber and hear about the committee's achievements.

I attended one of these inspections. We drove over the city and returned to the Town Hall to luncheon. There was all the orderliness of a state dinner; the rank and station of each man was assigned. There were speeches, vastly more interesting than those of an ordinary dinner, for they all talked Glasgow. Not as an American city might talk to a river and harbor committee from Congress from whom it hoped for a generous appropriation; it was not business, tonnage, bank clearances. These men were too big with Glasgow to talk about private business. It was rather the sort of thing that college men do at a fraternity banquet.

A boy of twelve in the custody of their business to find out his name the Paris police told them that it is, and address.

FARM AND GARDEN



INTENSIVE CULTIVATION.

A Prairie Farmer writer gives a whole volume in favor of intensive cultivation in a four-inch article in that paper. He seems to have been afraid to open his eyes to the truth of George Clark's views at that. The writer says:

"Some years ago the writer had a three acre plot 'ready' for oats, but when he started the drill he found the rubber pipes so worn that they would not allow the seed to run down, so he started the hired man to harrowing the land again and went away for new drill hose. The hand spent an entire afternoon with harrow and two horses on less than three acres, after it was considered fitted for the crop, and the result was that the crop on the well-fitted land was fully 50 per cent better than on the small patch drilled before going to town for new drill hose. On our present wheat crops we have a plain case of the value of good culture of the soil before planting. The writer was fitting the land with plank drag and harrow, and the boys had gone to a neighbor's for a few bushels of seed wheat. Something detained them, so we kept the drag and harrow going along one side of the field, putting perhaps an acre in much better condition than the rest of the field. The wheat at this writing is 25 per cent better on that strip than on the rest of the field and the stand of fall-sown grass is fully 50 per cent better.

Tobacco plants require extra good preparation of soil, and woe to the man who forgets this fact when making his beds, for he will surely have to wait for neighbors to finish setting and then take their refuse plants to set his crop.

While the trench system of growing potatoes is not perhaps best adapted to the general grower, the almost fabulous yields made by it were due to the fact that the land was well fitted before the seed was planted.

Clark's method of grass culture is attracting much attention all over the country, and the results attained by Clark and others were only made possible by the fact that every square inch of soil in the field is moved and mixed and turned and pulverized from ten to fourteen times in the preparation of a seed bed.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

There is food for thought in this extract from an interesting article on the garden in the current New England Farmer. The writer says among other things:

There is no part of the farm work than can be made to pay as much for the money and labor expended on it as the family garden. The produce from it consumed at the family table may seem of little value to those who consume it as freely and with as little thought of its monetary value as they do the air they breathe or the water they drink but when they remove to the city or village and have to buy at market prices that which has seemed to cost nothing as taken from the garden they will need to keep accounts but a short time before they learn that the income from a good garden is more than they had supposed the rent of the entire farm would amount to. I learned that some years ago when I hired a farm and agreed to supply the owner with milk, vegetables, eggs and chickens in payment of rent. He had no fruit or butter of me, and his family was not large, yet I found his bill was an average of about \$1 a day for four years, the year through, and yet I scarcely missed what I took to his house.

It should be kept in mind that a small, well-cared for garden will give better returns than or three or four times its size cared for in a slipshod fashion. First and foremost it should be thoroughly, intensely prepared. A half day spent in preparing and fitting the land will save many days time later on and the care-taker will have the added pleasure of a clean, wholesome plot, free from weeds and thrifty, and the crops grow much more rapidly. Spend an extra day with the disc harrow after you think the garden plot is ready for the seed. It will pay four fold before the season is over.

SOIL MOISTURE.

Deep, fine soil is an advantage in setting out young strawberry plants, for which reason the work should be done carefully, and early, in order to get the benefit of the spring rains, April being an excellent month for such operations. Use only the runners from last year's plants, and aim to secure those that are large and strong, having white roots, and which have an abundance of rootlets. A runner or plant, which has blossomed or borne fruit should be discarded, and when planting the runners let the roots be well spread out and not cramped. They should be set out on fine, deep, soft ground, that has been well prepared. Any manure used should be fine and free from litter. The plants are usually placed twelve inches apart in the rows, but may be given more room with advantage. The rows may be far enough apart to admit cultivation with a horse hoe, or closer, if hand hoes are preferred. The top soil should be kept loose by working the bed after every rain. When the plants are well under way

and before the dry season begins, fertilizer may be applied and worked into the soil, superphosphate being excellent, as it contains from three to four per cent of nitrogen. A fertilizer containing potash, nitrate of soda and superphosphate will be found suitable on the majority of soils, a mixture of 200 pounds of nitrate of soda, 200 pounds of superphosphate and 150 pounds muriate of potash, per acre, giving good results with many growers.

PROPER CARE OF LATE CHICKS.

Any of the late hatched birds who will not be old enough to begin laying in December or by latest, January 1, should have quarters arranged for them away from the older hens and the laying pullets. An excellent way of doing this is to divide the hen house, if it is large enough, with wire netting and a board or two at the bottom running up two feet. Place the younger flock in one side where they can not be interfered with, but where they may have all the comforts of a home. Supply them with low roosts, water, grit and all that the older hens have with the possible exception of nest boxes.

In this way they are early trained so that they will be ready to settle down in good form when the time for laying comes. If it is more convenient to keep them in coops for a time longer this will do no harm, provided the coops are comfortable and warm enough so that they will not get cold should the weather change. An excellent idea is to add, with hinges, a board to the front of the coop which

over the opening about three-quarters the way close—close this at night, and the chicks will not suffer even though the weather turn quite cold.—Indianapolis News.

THE VALUE OF POULTRY MANURE.

The general average chemical composition of poultry manure compared with other manures is as follows:

	Nitrogen.	Potash.	Acid.
From Hens ..	1.63	0.85	1.54
From Cows ..	0.34	0.49	0.16
From Horses ..	0.58	0.53	0.23
From Sheep ..	0.83	0.67	0.23
From Hogs ..	4.45	6.60	0.19
Feoed	0.50	0.62	0.26

It can readily be seen from this statement that hen manure has a real value as a fertilizer—ranking quite high above all the other manures—and because of this fact it should receive the best of care, and be used to the greatest possible extent, for when such is not the case it is equivalent to throwing money away. Hen manure loses its nitrogen very rapidly, as well as easily, unless proper precautions are taken to prevent it. This may be accomplished by scattering a liberal amount of straw, or some other good absorbent under the roosts. When this is removed from the house, for the sake of cleanliness, stack or pile it up, so that the least amount of surface is exposed to the atmosphere.

ADVANTAGE OF THINNING APPLES.

At a meeting of the Michigan Horticultural Society, Theo. Wade told of his experience in thinning apples during the last season. Their orchard of sixteen acres was set in 1880, and during the past season gave them a net profit of \$125 per acre. He said that as the season advanced and the limbs began to bend with their loads, it looked like a herculean task to undertake to thin such a mass of fruit. They succeeded in thinning four rows about half way up the tree, at an expense of \$70, and when the time for picking came the results were surprising. The fruit on the thinned portion was nearly all first-class, while on the unthinned portion of the trees and the remainder of the orchard, there were quantities of culls, not wormy, but imperfect, undersized fruit. He estimated that \$70 expended in thinning brought him in \$1,000 in cash, and that the neglect to thin the remainder of the orchard must have lost to him a great deal more than that amount.

FOR THE GRASSHOPPERS.

A speaker at one of the Kansas meetings said that grasshoppers had been very destructive in his section for several seasons, and various means for killing them had been tried, but with small results until the following preparation was experimented with and proved a great success:

- Wheat bran 100 pounds
- Sugar 8 pounds
- Saltpeter 1 pound
- Paris green 6 pounds

Wet with water, so that the bran is crumbly, but not too wet, and scatter where the "hoppers" are the thickest. About the third day after the application is made a very large number of the insects will have been killed. The pests will eat of the poisoned bran so long as there are any of them left. Of course, all kinds of stock must be kept out of reach where the poison is applied.

A man is seldom as old as he feels or a woman as young as she says she is.

Maud Muller met with a sad disappointment in the hay-day of her youth.