

LADIES DEPARTMENT.

Fashion Fancies.

Cuffs must match collars.
Shirred waists are much worn.

Red remains the most popular color.
New hosiery matches the dress goods.

Bullet-shaped buttons will be much worn.

Stockings must match the dress this season.

Skirt draperies are more voluminous than ever.

Twilled silks take the lead for both dresses and millinery.

Pink and blue are favorite combinations in gingham.

Shirtings or gagings are everywhere, both on skirts and bodices.

The rage for Japanese figured stuffs for dresses is on the increase.

There is a great suppression in the number of seams in a bodice.

Drop ball trimmings are used for trimming sateen foulard dresses.

Muslin fichus showing the throat are to take the place of linen collars.

One of the new medium-sized poke bonnets is called the Bayadere.

Some of the new polonaises are made with full, panier-like draperies over the hips.

Ombre satins de Lyon grow more and more popular for both dresses and bonnets.

Linen Scotch plaid gingham will be the popular novelty of the coming season.

Shirred effects in skirt draperies appear on the most fashionable imported dresses.

A dash of yellow, blue or red is deemed essential to the finish of all dark toiles.

Steel buttons with glittering centers of bronze, emerald-green, sapphire-blue or garnet are very elegant and fashionable.

The new Scotch gingham are very brilliant in coloring, and the fabric is unusually fine. They are as handsome in appearance as the plaid silks of last season.

A new style of low shoe is cut into diamond shaped apertures on the instep and is stitched with silk matching the stocking, and tied with a cord and tassel of the same color.

Steel lace in the shape of simple net in figured edgings, and in crowns wrought with beads, will be used on all kinds of bonnets except those of yellow straw this summer.

A close curtain or piece of reversed braid finishes the back of the new bonnets; each one is trimmed so as to harmonize with the style in which the wearer arranges her hair.

A growing eccentricity is the wearing upon one arm of innumerable bangles hung with charms of every description, and upon the other a gold band of massive thickness and prodigious size.

Mechlin and Languedoc lace will both be used by the milliners during the season. Scarfs of muslin and Brussels net will be trimmed with them and they will be mingled with flowers. Spanish lace scarfs will be used for black hats.

The number of tints and styles shown under the name of woolen mixtures is really bewildering. There are stripes and clouded stuffs and checks so slightly defined that one can hardly be quite sure that they are visible or only imaginary, and the hue of the material changes with each movement of the wearer.

Ladies who make their belt bows of narrow ribbon with long ends reveal their good intentions but also their lack of knowledge. Nothing but sash ribbon should be used for these ornaments, and not less than a yard and a half can be employed for a bow. Three long standing loops, and one short loop and two ends about ten inches in length are required. Repped or satin ribbon may be used as one pleases.

New Features and Hints.

One of the maxims in millinery this spring is that all trimmings are placed low, yet there are bonnets that give a high effect, for the faces that need it, by the use of full wreaths and side pompons with erect aigrettes, or by the long-looped bows on top. Among the novelties is the Tuscan lace made of straw as fine as thread; this is put on for trimming, and there are crowns and whole bonnets made of it; such crowns are not lined, leaving the back transparent to display a handsome coiffure, while the brim has shirred surah inside. There are also imported bonnets for summer that are lined with black silk plush of light weight, and this facing is studded near the front with large buttons of cut steel such as are seen on dresses at present. Very long ostrich plumes shaded through one color, or it may be two, as from yellow into maroon, are placed high on the left side, allowed to curl across the back to the right, and fall in front of the chin. Roses with soft flexible stems, on which are thorns, are among the expensive novelties that are on Parisian bonnets that are marked \$60. On such a bonnet the brim is cut in battlemented squares, and two or three plaitings of

black thread lace fall forward on the hair; the bonnet itself is made of straw drops beaded with gold; the wide satin merveilleux strings are of many shades of yellow. Gilt beads are introduced in many of the lace straw bonnets, and red is the favorite color for lining these transparent open-worked straws. Real gilt buttercups in clusters are pretty on the Spanish-looking hats. The most simple way of using a lace scarf for strings is to form one loop behind of one end, and have but one string, which is brought from the left side under the chin, around to the back, and passed through this loop. The shaded net seen in the shops is a very effective trimming for black chip pokes, being put carelessly across the top, and used as strings. Flower bonnets are represented this season by crushed rose crowns, with a wreath on the edge of the brim, and the spaces between covered by scarfs of d'Aurillac lace; the pale coral pink and salmon roses are very pretty in these dressy bonnets, which are usually of medium size. The yellow-green shades that are sometimes called mustard and sometimes olive, are shown in velvet and thin plush for strings; this quaint color is used with black blonde lace, and is as new as the silver lace with pink already described.—*Harper's Bazar.*

Marriage and Stockings.

The following letter accompanied a present of a pair of stockings to a young bride:

DEAR COUSIN:—Herewith you will receive a present of a pair of woolen stockings, knit by my own hands; and be assured, dear coz, that my friendship for you is as warm as the material, active as the finger work, and generous as the donation. But I consider this the occasion of your marriage. You will remark in the first place that there are two individuals united in one pair, who are to walk side by side, guarding against coldness, and giving comfort as long as they last. The thread of their texture is mixed, and so, alas! is the thread of life. In these, however, the white predominates, expressing my desire and confidence that thus it will be with the color of our existence. No black is used; for I believe your lives will be wholly free from the black passions of wrath and jealousy. The darkest color here is blue which is excellent, where we do not make it too blue.

Other appropriate thoughts rise to my mind regarding these stockings. You will perceive that the tops of these stockings (by which I suppose courtship to be represented) is seamed, and by means of seaming are drawn into a snarl, but afterward comes a time when the whole is made plain, and continues so to the end and final toeing off. By this, I wish you to take occasion to congratulate yourself that you are now through with seaming and have come to plain reality. Again, as the whole of these comely stockings were not made at once, but by the addition of one little stitch after another, put in with skill and discretion, until the whole presents a fair, equal piece of work you see, so life does not consist of one great action, but millions of little ones combined; and so may it be with you. No stitch dropped where duties are to be performed—no widening made where bad principles are to be reformed or economy preserved; neither seaming nor narrowing where truth and generosity are in question. Thus every stitch of life is made right and set in the right place—none either too large or too small, too tight or too loose; thus you may keep on your smooth and even course, making your existence one fair and consistent piece, until together, having passed the heel you come to the very toe of life, and here, in the final narrowing off, and dropping the coil of this emblematical pair of companions and comforting associates, nothing appears but white, the token of innocence and peace, of purity and light—may you, like these stockings, the final stitch being dropped, and the work being completed, go together from the place where you formed, to a happier state of existence, a present from earth to heaven. Hoping that these stockings and admonitions may meet a cordial reception, I remain in the true blue friendship seemly, without seeming, yours from top to toe.

Bombs that Killed the Czar.

Alexander II. was killed by Orsinj bombs. These destructive shells are very dangerous, not only on account of the quantity of fragments they scatter about on exploding, but also on account of their special construction, which renders them explosive at the least shock. At the time of Orsinj's attempt against the life of Napoleon III. one of the conspirators had his arm blown off by one of the bombs he was holding in his hand. These bombs are of spherical or ellipsoidal form. In the first shape they are covered all over with caps; in the other, the basis of the shell being heavier than the other parts, the projectile thrown in the air always falls on the same end where the caps are, and the explosion takes place.

The importation of thoroughbred horses, cattle and sheep from Europe to this country for the past year exceeds in number that of any former year.

THE FAMILY DOCTOR.

Poison from bees, hornets, spider-bites, etc., is instantly arrested by the application of equal parts of common salt and bicarbonate of soda, well rubbed in on the place bitten or stung.

A standing antidote for poison by dew, poison oak, ivy, etc., is to take a handful of quicklime, dissolve in water, let it stand half an hour, then paint the poisoned parts with it. Three or four applications will never fail to cure the most aggravated cases.

The food of the eye is light, as air is for the lungs, bread for the stomach, and as the fins of the fish pre-suppose water. To shut ourselves up in dark rooms, with or without weak light, is simply suicidal. Weak eyes, indeed, are the accompaniment of dark rooms, stained glass and gas.—*Dr. J. H. Hanford.*

Persons convalescing from rheumatism should choose a residence where the death rate from heart disease is low. It is desirable that all persons whose family history indicates a proclivity to rheumatism should choose for their homes such localities and districts as experience has shown to have a low mortality from the secondary results of this disease. Thus may be avoided disease to which their constitutions are already prone.

Exercise should not be continued after the effort has become at all painful. Our muscles, like the rest of our bodies, are made susceptible of pain, for the beneficent purpose that we may know that they are in danger, and may thus be excited to do everything in our power to remove them from it. It is a mistaken notion that exercise of all kinds, and under all circumstances, is beneficial. Unless it is adapted to the condition of the muscles it will prove the agent of death—not the giver of sound health.

For carache take about the size of a walnut of raw, fresh mutton, burn it on a red-hot iron plate, till it is reduced almost to a cinder; then put it into a clean rag, and squeeze the moisture out into a silver spoon. Heat the spoon well in boiling water, and dry it well before you drop the expressed juice of the mutton into the ear, as hot as it can be endured. This remedy has been known to prove efficacious after laudanum has failed to afford relief.

A medical authority says when you get chilly all over and away into your bones, and begin to snuffle and almost struggle for your breath, just begin in time and your tribulations need not last very long. Get some powdered borax and snuff the dry powder up your nostrils. Get your camphor bottle, smell it frequently, pour some on your handkerchief and wipe your nose with it whenever needed. Your nose will not get sore, and you will soon wonder what has become of your cold. Begin this treatment in the forenoon and keep on at intervals until you go to bed, and you will sleep as well as you ever did.

The Magnetic Poles.

The reason why the needle points in the northerly direction is that the earth itself is a magnet, attracting the magnetic needle as ordinary magnets do, and the earth is a magnet as the result of certain cosmic facts, much affected by the action of the sun. The laws have periodicities, all of which have not as yet been determined. The infernal and ultimate reason of the existence of any fact in nature, as gravity, light, heat, etc., is not known further than that it is in harmony with, and the direct resultant of, the action of forces existing under general laws. A condensed explanation in regard to the needle pointing to the northward and southward is as follows: The magnetic poles of the earth do not coincide with the geographical poles. The axis of rotation makes an angle of about twenty-three degrees with a line joint to the former. The northern magnetic pole is a present near the Arctic circle on the meridian of Omaha. Hence the needle does not everywhere point to the astronomical north, and is constantly variable within certain limits. At San Francisco it points about seventeen degrees to the east of north, and at Calais, Maine, as much to the west. At the northern magnetic pole a balanced needle points with its north ends downward in a plumb line; at San Francisco it dips about sixty-three degrees, and at the southern magnetic pole to the south and points directly down. The action of the earth upon a magnetic needle at its surface is of about the same force as that of a hard steel magnet forty inches long, strongly magnetized, at a distance of one foot. The foregoing is the accepted explanation of the fact that the needle points to the northward and southward. Of course, no ultimate reason can be given for this natural effect, any more than for any other observed fact in nature.—*San Francisco Era.*

The longest private telegraph line leased by any newspaper in the world is supposed to be the wire which connects the office of the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* with its office in Washington, D.C.

Habits and Fancies of Authors.

Strange have been the habits and fancies of authors. Carneades, the philosopher, seldom wrote without dosing himself with hellebore. *Aeschylus*, *Eupolis*, *Cratinus* and *Ennius* are said never to have sat down to compose till they were intoxicated. Dryden often had himself bled, and like *Fuseli*, ate raw meat to assist, so he said, his imagination. *Shadwell*, *De Quincey*, *Paulmanazar*, *Dean Milner*, *Coleridge*, and *Bishop Horsley* stimulated themselves with opium, as *De Musset* was helpless without absinthe. *Gray* seldom sat down to compose without first reading through some cantos of the "Faery Queen." *Cornelle* fired himself with the perusal of "Lucan." *Blackstone* never wrote without a bottle of port wine on his desk, nor *Schiller* without a flask of Rhenish within call. When his imagination was sluggish he would sit with his feet in hot water, drinking coffee "to thaw the frost on his wits." *Montaigne* was never happy without his cat, and with the pen in his right hand while the left was smoothing the glossy back of his favorite tabby, meditated his "Essays." *Bohorne*, the great Dutch scholar, could never write a word without a pipe in his mouth, and as he preferred a long pipe and yet required the use of both hands, he bethought him of a very ingenious device. He had a hat with an enormous brim, which impeded in front of his face; through this he made a hole to support his pipe, thus securing the double advantage of shading his eyes and enjoying without inconvenience his favorite luxury, and in this way he produced his voluminous and valuable writings. *Hobbes* had the same weakness, "ten or twelve pipes, with a candle," being his invariable concomitants at the desk, and *Dr. Parr* was not less dependent on tobacco. *Southey* could never write a line except at his desk, with his books round him, and with familiar objects. *Milton* could, he said, never compose anything to his satisfaction except between the vernal and autumnal equinox. At those seasons his poetry came like an inspiration. At other times, in spite of the most strenuous efforts, he would be unable to bring to the birth a single verse. *Thomson*, *Collins* and *Gray* had the same superstition about themselves. *Johnson*, with his usual bluff common sense, ridicules such fancies, and calls them unworthy of any sensible man—the good doctor's theory being that a man who had the power of writing always could write "if he set himself doggedly to it." *Crabbe's* fancies about himself are so serious that we will quote the passage in his son's biography of him which bears on the same subject: "He fancied that autumn was, on the whole, the most favorable season for him in the composition of poetry, but there was something in the effect of a sudden fall of snow that appeared to stimulate him in a very extraordinary manner. It was during a great snow-storm that, shut up in his room, he wrote almost currente calamo his 'Sir Eustace Grey.' Latterly he worked chiefly at night after all the family had retired." Even a robust and practical scholar like *Bishop Warburton* tells us that he could only write "in a hand-to-mouth style" and that the blowing of an east wind, a fit of the spleen, or the fact that he had not his books round him, completely destroyed his power of composition.—*Temple Bar.*

About Editors.

Every editor loves to have his friends, and particularly his readers, call on him. They belong to the same family, as it were. But when you call to see the editor don't stay too long. Editors are generally very busy in business hours. If you have any suggestions to make or news to communicate, state it in as few words as possible. Don't offer any excuses or indulge in a long preface to what you have to say. Blurt it right out; tell the editor you wish him well, and bid him good-day. Editors dote on such men as that; they love to receive calls from them. Don't argue with them; don't try to do it; he has no time for argument while at his work.

When you write to an editor for publication, make it short—boil it down, pitch right into the middle of your subject, and be sure to stop writing when you are through. Editors always like something fresh and original in the way of communications, and are especially fond of news. But the editor must always be the judge of what is worthy of publication. Of course every writer thinks his own production the best, just as every mother thinks her baby the prettiest that ever was born. But the editor may be so stupid as to have a different opinion. If so, it can't be helped. Don't try to argue him out of his notion. If he is too stupid to appreciate a good thing, you can't expect to remedy his dullness. You may think you are a good deal smarter than the editor, and that may be true, but the editor may be responsible and you are not. There is no class of people so covetous of the good opinion of others. It is well to remember that fact.—*Printer's Circular.*

Over 150 new butter and cheese factories will be erected in Iowa this year, making 400 in all.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

M. Bouley has lately recommended that children and young girls should be taught to detect infection of pork with trichina, so that they might be able to give such assistance to the meat inspector as would insure his work being speedily done. If this plan succeeds, it is probable that the present restriction on the importation of American pork into France will be removed.

To take a drink in Oregon costs a man so indulging \$5. The rum is not worth that money, but the city requires a license costing that sum before a man can get any bitters at any hotel or saloon. It is a penal offense for the proprietors of these establishments to sell to any person who is not armed with such license. Every six months the local papers publish the names of all who have applied for such documents, and the public thereby know who are the drinkers.

The precautions taken in Prussia to guard against trichina in swine are exceedingly careful and thorough. Berlin is divided into districts, each of which has its se arate inspector of swine's meat, an official who is held to strict accountability. In *Konigsberg* here is an establishment in which the meat infected with the dreaded parasite, after being cut into small pieces, is boiled for twelve hours, and then subjected to the action of chemicals that reduce it to a powder.

If the Canadian press fairly represents public opinion in the dominion an unusual degree of interest is felt in the workings of the prohibition law in Maine and elsewhere. Numerous allusions to the subject within a few months have attested a general disposition to consider the temperance legislation, and the *Toronto Globe* has just dispatched two correspondents to investigate the working of the Maine law, one from the prohibition point of view, and the other from the point of anti-prohibition.

To-day many of the homes in Denver compare favorably with those of any city in the country, in all that wealth can provide of culture and refinement. Colorado has made rapid strides in wealth and population during the past year. 50,000 permanent settlers located in that State in 1880. Her taxable property increased more than \$14,000,000, while the aggregate yield of her gold, silver, lead and copper mines amounted to \$20,000,000. The area of the State is 16,000 square miles larger than the whole of England, Scotland and Wales. The county of Gunnison alone is larger than Massachusetts.

Lord Beaconsfield's peerage patent of August, 1876, gives his title to his own children. As Beaconsfield never had any children the patent will expire with him when he dies, unless he has made some arrangement as Lord Brougham made, and has the title divert to his brother. He has a brother, *Ralph Disraeli*, living, who holds an office under the government which pays him \$10,000 a year. *Ralph* has a son, *Comingsby Disraeli*, named after the hero of one of Beaconsfield's novels. If the transfer is made, *Ralph* will get the *Hughenden* estate, with the earldom and other property of the Earl of Beaconsfield.

An English capitalist, *Mr. Gaston*, proposes to dam the Nile at the cataracts, and subject about 800,000 acres of land, which is now desert, to the influence of its fertilizing waters. This is a stupendous undertaking; but it is beyond a doubt that the present rapids are produced by the debris of ancient works of this description which are now strewn on the bed of the stream, and from an engineering point of view the work would be perfectly feasible. The inundation would then be under complete control, while the company which should carry out the work would be reimbursed by the lands allotted to it out of nearly a million acres, which would now for the first time be brought under cultivation. It is said that the preliminary capital has already been raised.

The question is asked along the Pacific coast what is to be the future of Nevada, if, as seems more than likely, the Comstock mines are wholly exhausted. The State has a population of scarcely 50,000, and offers few inducements to new settlers, especially if her mines are used up. Only a few patches and streaks of the land are fit for agriculture, and not much is good for stock raising. Even the small population now possessed by the State is diminishing, many of the miners about the Comstock migrating to California, Arizona and Colorado. The expense of conducting a State government is very burdensome under the circumstances, and it is thought that a return to the condition of a Territory will be considered an imperative necessity before long.

It is feared there has been great mortality among the bees in Western States during the past winter, not on account

of the severe weather, however, but because there was such a scant supply of food last summer that the industrious tribe failed to lay up sufficient stores for the winter. A correspondent of the *Chicago Times*, who has visited a number of bee-raisers in Kane county, Ill., reports the prevalent opinion that two-thirds of the bees in the Northwest have died since last fall or will be dead before July 1. He was told that *D. Martin*, of Geneva, had lost six or eight swarms—all he had. *B. C. Yates*, of Geneva, had lost all his. *James Woodman*, of Blackberry, had two hundred swarms; he now has two. The *Barber brothers*, of La Fox, have lost twenty. *Eugene Otis*, of Batavia, had seventy swarms last spring; all are dead. *William Way*, of Batavia, put eighty-five in the cellar last fall; he will have twenty-five by the first of July. *William Urie*, of Aurora, has three swarms left out of a total of eighty. *W. Webster*, of Elgin, has two out of thirty left. These statements are rather discouraging, it must be admitted, but the losses enumerated are all in Kane county, where the white clover crop on which the bees chiefly rely was a bad failure last year.

Some remarkable revelations concerning the adulteration of food are made in the annual report, just published, of the inspector of vinegar for the city of Boston. The total amount of the liquor sold and used in Boston each year under the name of vinegar is estimated at about 3,000,000 gallons. Of this, the inspector declares, less than one-tenth is pure apple-juice, the rest being a villainous decoction of molasses, glucose, acetic acid, sour ale, lager beer, distillery slops, etc., made for about half the lowest possible cost of pure cider vinegar. Nor is this all, nor even the worst view of the case. Such substances as oil of vitriol and other mineral acids are brought into requisition. One cent's worth of sulphuric acid is sufficient for the manufacture of four gallons of vinegar, and when disguised by other ingredients its presence cannot be detected by taste alone. Much of this wretched stuff, it is believed, has been sold in the Boston market as "Pure Apple Vinegar." Fifteen hundred barrels of it in a single cargo were seized by the officers, and fifty barrels more were captured in a warehouse and shipped back to the former owners. The extent to which this illegal and inhuman business is carried on is shown by the fact that the wholesale price of vinegar in Boston averages nine cents per gallon, much of it being sold as low as six cents, while the genuine article cannot be manufactured for less than twelve and one-half cents per gallon. It is only natural that the inspector, in concluding his report, should attribute the high death-rate of the city largely to the consumption of these deleterious compounds.

It is related that a California pioneer seeing a Chinaman coolly draw a "navy six" and shoot a white ruffian neatly through the abdomen, exclaimed, with much earnest enthusiasm: "Them Chinese is takin' on civilized ways surprisin' fast." If that same pioneer could to-day take a peep into any of the cheap photograph galleries of San Francisco he might be still more impressed with the rapidity with which his Celestial brethren are imitating the customs and vanities of our civilization. From reports made by the proprietors of the galleries in question, it seems that the desire of the Chinese to have their pictures taken amounts almost to a passion. They seem to have very fixed notions of their own as to just how they ought to be "taken." Almost without exception they stand before the camera with their arms akimbo and their heels pointing toward each other. Having taken this position they seem to imagine that they present the very picture of dignified repose; and upon many points in regard to which white people are most particular the Chinese sitters for photographs seem to care nothing. They never ask to have their wrinkles touched up, and they are entirely above the petty deception of having the unevenness of their features toned down. Their chief concern appears to be in regard to their clothes, their feet and hands and their fans. If these are all well and distinctly taken, particularly the fan, without which no Chinaman regards his photograph as complete, then the proprietor of the gallery seldom has any trouble in collecting a good price for his work. Before paying, however, the Chinese of both sexes, made justly suspicious by some knowledge of the ways of their Christian brethren, always demand to see their pictures and be assured that the camera has not entered into a conspiracy to cheat them. It is noticeable that this passion for having their portraits taken is not confined to the poorer or more ignorant classes of Chinamen. The rich and distinguished among them display the same innocent weakness in even a more marked degree. The Chinese consulate at San Francisco, for instance, is reported to have recently expended \$800 for photographs of its attaches, which were sent to friends in the flowery kingdom.