

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

The Mother of Forty-four Children. If the great Napoleon's famous definition of superlative female excellence may be accepted as correct, Dr. Mary Austin is unquestionably the most admirable woman in France. This lady has just completed her thirty-third year of wedded life, during which period she has presented her husband with no fewer than forty-four pledges of her wifely affection. In the spring of 1853, four years after her marriage, Mary Austin, nee Klind, passed her final examination at the Medical College of Orleans, and obtained diplomas authorizing her to practice in both branches of her profession. As soon as the Franco-Prussian war broke out she joined the army of the Union with her husband, and the prolific pair served with extraordinary distinction throughout the four years' struggle—she in her surgical capacity and Colonel Austin as an active militant. The former, while attending to the hurts of her comrades under fire, was thrice wounded in action—the latter five times. At the conclusion of the war, the valiant doctor, having lost her left eye in the service of her country, but in other respects none the worse for her injuries and fatigues, returned to her private practice covered with glory and in the enjoyment of a staff officer's pension. Since then she has lived in peace and honor, the pride of her fellow citizens, and indefatigable in her endeavors to render her warrior lord the happiest of fathers.—Boston Transcript.

Professional Beauties.

Professional beauties, says a London correspondent, were rapidly becoming disturbing influences in the best conducted London circles. To be the rose, or to boast the presence of the rose, in a brilliant company was one thing; the display of a multitude of buds vying in their ambitions with the mature and perfect blossom was another. The spirit of a burning, and in nearly every instance most unbecoming coquetry was instilled into a number of breasts. Society was agitated by the discussion of rival claims till it grew sick of hearing about them. There was not a youthful or middle-aged bean who did not think it incumbent upon himself to start some lady who had been sufficiently unfortunate to attract his favorable opinion in the professional beauty line. This, it was felt, was going a little too far. There was no reason why individual cavaliers might not have their preferences, but there was every reason why they should not ask society to indorse their choice. If Paris had only been one of a multitude of connoisseurs in feminine beauty the apple which he gave to Venus would not have been so bitterly grudged by the brace of neglected goddesses. The system of professional beautydom was in fact found to be incompatible with the harmonious working of the social machine. Drawing-rooms were split up into different camps. The gentlemen who pleaded the claims to pre-eminence of the particular lady they had honored with their championship, were growing as much nuisances as, according to the refrain of Bon Gaultier's ballad, the man who, lost his heart a short time ago. Moreover, the absurdity of the whole thing was patent. The professional beauty was only one star in a galaxy, and not necessarily the brightest. Her own vanity might be gratified at the selection, but the boredom which this condition of things resulted in provoked a wholesome retraction. Mothers and fathers, husbands and lovers, began seriously to reflect upon what would be the general consequences of the system if it indefinitely developed. The names of a score of professional beauties were so habitually on peoples' lips, their photographs were so aggressively conspicuous in shop windows, that society wearied of hearing of them. It also began to be a little apprehensive as to consequences. It received some highly practical admonitions—the revelations of the law courts, and it came to the conclusion that on the whole, both in the way of enjoyment and of credit, it had more to lose than to gain by perpetuating the regime.

Fashion Notes.

Moiras continue in favor. Trains are of medium length. The coat sleeve remains a favorite. Short suits continue to grow shorter. New skirts are plaited in front and back, but not on the sides. An old fabric revived is linen gingham. New flannel suits show brass ball buttons. Terra cotta velvet trims white woolen costumes. Plain sleeves, with simple cuffs, are most stylish. Spotted and sprigged muslin is used for white dresses. New sash ribbons have raised chenille flowers and leaves. Terra cotta ribbon on black straw bonnets is very stylish. White dresses are embroidered all over the waist and skirt.

PEARLS OF THOUGHT.

Bayadere stripes appear on many new parasol covers. Dress parasols have the entire top covered with artificial flowers. Intense colors and aesthetic styles are avoided by fashionable women. Full apron skirts, looped very high on the hips, have been revived. Balls of colored wool are made use of to edge flounces and basques. Dark green contrasted with a flower yellow is seen in bonnets. Long gloves are worn outside the sleeves half way up to the elbow. Spanish lace trims the handsomest parasols and coaching umbrellas. Carved teak-wood is a favorite material for sticks for elegant parasols. Manila hats, with velvet crowns, are well fitted for the first spring days. The woven Marguerite lace gloves will be worn with summer dresses. Black grenadine over red, olive or yellow satin is used for new mantles. Dark green, ecru and terra cotta are the prevailing shades for bonnets and dresses. Velvet tabliers and vests give a rich effect when combined with fine wool dresses. Few of the fashions are new; most of them are revivals of styles worn only a few years ago. There is quite a bewildering variety in fancy ties and jabots, and every lady may invent her own style. Variety is all that is necessary. Spring fans are in various designs. Some are of lace and flowers, others are hand-painted on satin, while others are made entirely of feathers. For morning wear, linen or cambric collars are worn. They are immense, and are trimmed round with Irish lace. They are made like children's collars. Dress skirts are wider this season. They measure two and one-half yards around the bottom. The draperies are more bouffant and elaborate than last season. Irish lace trimmed with clusters of shamrock leaves and forget-me-nots was the garniture of the green velvet dress worn by the Prince of Wales at the queen's last. The Saxony flannels, or dress flannels, as they are called, are largely imported this season for early spring suits, for ladies' wrappers, mountain dresses, and for children's suits. The quaintest designs are seen in the embroideries of pocket handkerchiefs; some represent pet animals, such as cats, dogs, parrots, and other birds, encircled by wreaths of flowers. Black and gray and black and white check, plaid, and stripe in linen gingham will be popularly worn the coming season by ladies in mourning; and in the heat of summer traveling costumes and ulsters will be made of this cool, washable fabric. A Terrible Avalanche. The avalanche that came down the mountains at Genoa, Nev., was of great extent. Occurring as it did in the morning, when most of the people were in bed, the wonder is that more of the residents of the town did not lose their lives. The first intimation had by the people was a rumbling sound like that of an earthquake. Bells were rung, and cries for assistance passed along the streets by those who happened to be up. The slide came down the gorge immediately south of Genoa canon and swept everything before it as far as Main street. No obstacle checked this moving mountain until it spread out and lost its force on the nearly level piece of land on which Genoa is built, fully a quarter of a mile from the base of the mountain. Broken lumber, splinters of furniture, pine and fruit trees, hay, clothing, kitchen ware and bedding were distributed through a body of snow and ice from ten to fifteen feet in depth and several acres in extent. The "Long" building, which stood nearest the mountain, was occupied by Indians driven from their wigwags by the severity of the storm. As near as could be ascertained but seven were in the house at the time of the catastrophe. No trace of the building could be recognized. Next came the residence and barn of Minerod Bowers, which was completely crushed to pieces and carried into an adjoining lot. Minerod and his wife were found still in bed and almost on top of the snow and debris, both dead. The residences of D. W. Virgin, W. D. Gray and that of H. Boerlin were on the next street below Bowers'. Boerlin's house was completely demolished. The occupants were Mr. and Mrs. Boerlin, their two children and Mr. Chisholm and wife. All were buried in the ruins.—Genoa (Nev.) Courier. Belgium has sixty daily papers, of which fifty-two are printed in French and eight in Flemish. The number of the weekly journals is 308, of which 237 are in the French and 161 in the Flemish language. Over 2,500 men in Utah have more than one wife a piece.

WELL-KNOWN PHRASES.

How the Following are Said to Have Originated. "Do, re, me, fa, sol, la."—Guido, an Italian of the eleventh century, has been called the father of modern music. It was he who invented, or for the first time systematically used, the lines of the staff and the intervals or spaces, and thus fixed the principles of modern notation and introduced the names of the first six notes of the scale, do, re, me, fa, sol, la. Guido was a monk in the monastery of Pomposa, and, while chanting with the choir a hymn, he was struck with the regularly ascending tones of the opening syllables, which led to his invention of an educational method by which, according to his own statement, a pupil might learn within five months what formerly it would have taken him ten years to acquire. "The king is dead! Long live the king!"—The death of Louis XIV. was announced by the captain of the body-guard from the window of the state department. Raising his truncheon above his head, he broke it in the center, and throwing the pieces among the crowd, exclaimed in a loud voice: "Le roi est mort!" Then taking another staff, he flourished it in the air, as he shouted: "Vive le roi!" "What shadows we are and what shadows we pursue."—This quotation is often supposed to have been derived from the Bible. It is from an electioneering speech of Edmund Burke in 1780, referring to the death of one of his competitors for a seat in parliament. Agnostic.—A word of late coinage. It is composed of two Greek words, signifying "I don't know," or "I have not sufficient evidence on the subject to enable me to decide." An agnostic is a kind of know-nothing in religion; he neither affirms or denies. One author defines such a person thus: "An agnostic is a man who doesn't know whether there is a God or not; doesn't know whether he has a soul or not; doesn't know whether there is a future life or not; doesn't believe that any one else knows more about these matters than he does; and thinks it impossible and a waste of time to try to find out." "A Rowland for an Oliver."—These were two of the most famous in the list of Charlemagne's twelve peers, and their exploits are rendered so ridiculously and equally extravagant by the old romancers, that from thence arose that saying, amongst our plain and sensible ancestors, of giving one a "Rowland for his Oliver," to signify the matching one incredible lie with another.—Thomas Warburton. "Where the shoe pinches."—Plutarch relates the story of a Roman being divorced from his wife. "This person being highly blamed by his friends, who demanded: Was she not chaste? was she not fair?—holding out his shoe, asked them whether it was not new and well made. Yet, added he, none of you can tell where it pinches me." "Am I not a man and a brother?"—From a meditation by Wedgwood (1768), representing a negro in chains, with one knee on the ground, and both hands lifted up to heaven. This was adopted as a characteristic seal by the Anti-Slavery society of London. "Bravest of the brave."—A title conferred upon the celebrated Marshal Ney (1769, 1815) by the French troops at Friedland (1807) on account of his fearless bravery. He was in command of the right wing, which bore the brunt of the battle and stormed the town. Napoleon, as he watched him passing untrifled through a shower of balls, exclaimed, "That man is a lion;" and henceforth the army styled him "le brave des braves." "Catching a Tartar."—Signifying the encountering of an opponent of unexpected strength. The story of the origin of the expression is as follows: "In a battle an Irishman called out to his officer, 'I have caught a Tartar.' 'Bring him here, then,' was the reply. 'He won't let me,' rejoined Pat, and as the Turk carried off his captor the saying passed into a proverb. "Before you can say Jack Robinson."—This current phrase is derived from a humorous song by Hudson, a tobacconist, in Shoe lane, London. He was a professional song writer and vocalist, who used to be engaged to sing at supper rooms and theatrical houses.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat. All She Could Afford. She was a real sweet-looking lady, with a seal-skin sack and a big plush hat, and she stood on the step of an up-town residence, having just pulled the bell. "I called to see," said she to the lady of the house, who was very red in the face from frying doughnuts over the kitchen fire, "if you wish to give anything to the heathen to-day." "No, I don't want to give anything to the heathen to-day. I just gave the woman next door a piece of my mind about her son-a-way of a boy that broke down my plants. That's all I can afford for the heathen just now."

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

A French physician has made the discovery that many children, apparently born dead, can be brought to life if they are immediately immersed in a hot bath. Emigration from Switzerland has become so great in late years that predictions are made that unless it ceases certain districts will lose the greater part of their inhabitants, if they do not become literally depopulated. The acconitine with which Dr. Jamson, the American, murdered his young brother-in-law, Percy Malcolm John, in England, is a most atrociously virulent poison. The one-hundredth part of a grain of it nearly killed a two-year-old colt, and a two-hundredth part of a grain killed a sheep dog, which weighed 211 pounds, in thirty-three minutes. It is said that war between China and Japan is not unlikely, but that the latter power has not yet begun to make preparations. Such a war would be very interesting here, in view of the assertion that China has become such a formidable war power since her encounters with Western nations that, if she so willed it, she could make it exceedingly uncomfortable to the United States. Though Italy possesses 57,000,000 acres of culturable land, equal to the whole of Great Britain, and has only 9,000,000 of inhabitants dependent on agriculture alone, 3,000,000 of these are laborers who are wretchedly poor, earning in many places less than a shilling a day, and nowhere receiving more than 1s. 8d. They have no cottages, but herd in the small towns, and die rapidly of diseases produced by bad living. Preparations for the national mining and industrial exposition at Denver, Col., have so far advanced that it is considered safe to announce its opening for August 1. Forty acres of land in the most attractive suburb of Denver have been secured, a plan for the buildings has been accepted, and abundant funds to carry out the designs of the association which has the enterprise in charge are promised. As a display of all that pertains to the mining industry this exposition will doubtless be exceedingly interesting and important. The czar of Russia seems to be having a particularly unpleasant time of it. He has to keep as much in the dark as if he were an impecunious creditor keeping out of the way of the bailiff. Instead of being an impecunious creditor he is ruler of all the Russias, and has more money than he knows what to do with. He is in constant dread of his life, and with the fate of his father before him, it is easy to understand what a state of mental unsettlement he must be in. The following table is interesting as showing, approximately, the consumption of cotton last year in some of the leading manufacturing States:

States	Bales
Massachusetts	729,421
New Hampshire	217,659
Rhode Island	203,984
Maine	141,574
Connecticut	135,925
Pennsylvania	108,805
New York	88,217
Georgia	85,821
Total	1,711,408
All other States (about)	288,592
Grand total (about)	2,000,000

There can be little doubt that premature burial occasionally takes place in France and Algeria, also in Germany, in consequence of the laws ordaining prompt interment. It is no wonder, therefore, that the following discovery signaled in L'Electricite has been received with great satisfaction. According to this journal it has been ascertained that the application of an electric current to the body is a certain test of vitality. Such a test being applied five or six hours after presumed death, the non-contraction of the muscles will prove beyond a doubt that life is extinct. Governor Colquitt, of Georgia, has pardoned Kate Sothern, who killed Narcissa Cowart, her rival in the affections of her husband, in Pickens county some years ago. She was sentenced to death for the killing, but the governor, in response to petitions from every State in the Union, and in view of the extenuating circumstances of the case, commuted the sentence to ten years' imprisonment. The Atlanta Constitution says: "Kate Sothern has been living for some time as a domestic in the house of Colonel Chess Howard. It is understood that she and her husband will not return to Pickens county, but will make their home elsewhere. Thus ends one of the most noted cases ever in the courts of Georgia; one that created perhaps more interest and excitement than any ever known in the State." An unprecedented Mississippi flood, involving unparalleled loss of life and property and suffering; great fires in various places, burning up of millions of dollars' worth of property; "blizzards" of wind, snow and cold in the

Northwest, with their accompaniments of death, disaster and delay; steamboats burned, sunk or injured and lives of passengers sacrificed; great storms of thunder, lightning, wind, hail and rain, involving death and destruction over a wide space; shipwrecks near home and abroad; men blown to pieces by powder, mill and boiler explosions—these are part of the extraordinary record of a most remarkable spring. Last year was calamitous beyond precedent; this year thus far has been far more so. The scientists tell us sun spots, comets and other celestial objects are likely to have disturbing influence upon the earth. Are these occurrences to be traced to such sources?

A correspondent of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat makes public an interview he had with Dr. Boynton in regard to the physicians in attendance upon President Garfield. Dr. Boynton says Dr. Bliss' retention in the case was caused by a misunderstanding between the President and Mrs. Garfield on the one side and Dr. Baxter and himself (Boynton) on the other. Dr. Boynton says: "The misunderstanding was brought about purposely and solely by Dr. Bliss. It was what he had said to Dr. Baxter and myself that induced us to believe that it was the wish of the President and Mrs. Garfield that he should continue in charge of the case. He, on the other hand, gave the President and Mrs. Garfield reason to believe that it was the desire of Dr. Baxter and myself that he should be continued in charge, and the contrary was not known for months afterward. The manner in which Dr. Bliss managed this part of the business was questionable in the extreme. Since that time, however, Dr. Baxter, Mrs. Garfield and myself have compared notes, and now each of us understand the matter thoroughly, and under the circumstances I conceived it to be no more than my duty to make a plain statement in writing, setting forth all the foregoing points, then have Mrs. Garfield indorse them as knowing them to be true as far as she was personally concerned. It was intended that Dr. Baxter should take this letter and show it confidentially to a few members of Congress who were friends of the Garfield family. We merely wished to inform them of the deception that had been practiced upon us and the family by Dr. Bliss." Regular Army Recruits. The number of foreigners in the United States regular army used to exceed the native born Americans in the proportion of at least four to one. But since the late war a great change has taken place and the Americans now outnumber the foreigners by about two to one. Out of 5,637 men enlisted last year, 3,821 were natives and 1,816 foreigners. The State of New York furnished 705; Pennsylvania, 583; Ohio, 344; Massachusetts, 316; Indiana, 217; Maryland, 180; Kentucky, 150, and Illinois, 116. The Southern States supplied 277 recruits, of whom 97 were born in Virginia, 81 in South Carolina and 35 in North Carolina. The mining States and Territories gave 24 men to the army, and even Alaska sent one representative. Sixty-five per cent. of the foreigners were British subjects, 664 hailing from Ireland, 220 from England, 54 from Scotland, three from Wales and 153 from various British possessions. Among the remaining foreigners were 527 Germans, 38 Swedes and Norwegians, 35 Swiss, 30 Danes, 23 Frenchmen, 22 Austrians, and one white man from Africa. The colored recruits numbered 267, of whom 223 were born in the late slave States, 44 in the free States and one in the West Indies. The percentage of accepted recruits was as follows: White, 22 7-10; colored, 30 3-10—which is decidedly in favor of the colored recruits. PREVIOUS OCCUPATION OF SOLDIERS. The class of men of which the regular army is composed is very fairly indicated by the following statement showing the occupation of the 5,637 men who joined last year:

Artists & mechanics	1,431	Musicians	181
Architects	1	Physicians	1
Clerks	276	Sailors	118
Cooks	51	Soldiers	785
Druggists	24	Salesmen	29
Dentists	1	School teachers	13
Farmers	494	Tel-graph opers	14
Gardeners	31	Teamsters	330
Lawyer	1	Vet. surgeon	1
Laborers	1,534	Miscellaneous	315
Total	5,637		

For many years past the average cost of obtaining recruits and forwarding them to the depots of instruction was \$20 per capita. This has recently been reduced to \$12 per capita, and the adjutant-general makes that amount the basis of his estimate of the expenses of recruiting for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883. He anticipates that 9,708 men will be required to keep the army at its authorized strength of 25,000 enlisted men, that 1,200 will probably re-enlist without expense to the United States, leaving 8,508 to be picked up by recruiting parties. These recruits, at \$12 per man, will cost \$102,096. The aborigines of America, in 1492, did not know the use of iron.