

**LADIES' DEPARTMENT.****What She Has Come For.**

Mrs. Anandaibai Joshee, the wife of a Brahmin employe of the government in India, has come to America to study medicine in the Women's Medical college in Philadelphia. The women in the harems are not permitted either to see or to touch a strange man, and when they are ill, there is nobody of skill to minister to their wants. Hence the necessity for a woman physician. Mrs. Joshee says that, contrary to conjecture, she does not become unclean, and lose her high caste by crossing the sea. Arrangements have been made to enable her to cook her own food, and thus escape the penalty of losing caste by eating from dishes that have been touched by persons who are not of her caste. She is eighteen years of age.

**Flower-Books.**

Very many ladies have a habit while travelling of gathering leaves, sprays, or single blossoms, small reminiscences of pleasant journeys, etc., and pressing them in a sketch-book or small portfolio, previous to their being taken home and prettily arranged in the long winter evenings, when they awaken pleasant or sad remembrances, as the case may be, of days long past. The dried flowers, leaves, grasses, moss, etc., should be arranged on pieces of cardboard cut the same size, either in different groups of flowers, or like a graceful frame around a small sketch, with a quotation from a favorite poet below. In this case the single flowers must be gummed on with a rather thick liquid gum, which of course requires great care. If kept in a case on purpose, the collection will soon form a pretty album.

**The Spanish Marriage Stone.**

If Ireland has its Blarney Stone, which assures to any one kissing it uncommon eloquence and persuasiveness—"blarney," in fact, for there is no other equivalent for the mysterious gift—Spain has her "marriage stone," the virtues of which are equally remarkable; for any single person, male or female, who absolutely touches it, is absolutely sure to be married within a twelvemonth. The stone forms part of the masonry of the college of Sacra Monte, in Granada. About twelve months ago, two young ladies paid a visit to the old Moorish capital, and were shown over the college by one of the resident clergy, who acted as cicerone, and who treated the fair visitors with unusual deference and respect. When they came to the "marriage stone," the padre smilingly explained the peculiar powers with which popular superstition credited it. "Touch it," said one of the ladies to her sister, who laughed incredulously, but followed the advice none the less—touching the stone, not once, but twice or thrice. Now the two young ladies were the Spanish Infantas Dona Isabella and Dona Paz, and the latter it was who touched the stone. She did so on the 3d of April last year, and she was married to Prince Louis of Bavaria on the 2d of April of the present year.—*St. James' Gazette.*

**Fashion Notes.**

Velvet turbans are fashionable. Gloves contrast with the costume. Quantities of chenille fringe are worn. Red is a favorite color for children's dresses. Hunter's green is a fashionable color for tailor-made dresses. Little people, boys, misses, and grown women all wear jersey. The leading sleeve is in the coat shape, full in on the shoulder. Veils of plain Brussels net are more fashionable than the dotted ones. The high-looped, very full overskirt is the prevailing style for ordinary wear. Highland kilts for small boys are made in velvet and plush as well as in wools. Turban-shaped hats with the rounded and sloping Langtry crowns are in demand. Handkerchiefs with Kate Greenway borders are most used with set costumes. There is as much variety in millinery ornaments as there is in shapes and materials. Grays and grays are favored, severe-severe subdued shades are blended in costume. Alligator skins are used in natural colors, and in dark green and brown shades for bonnets. Broad bands of bias velvet on the bottoms of skirts with self-trimmed hems are again in vogue. A decided preference for black is still exists, particularly when low cut shoes are worn.

Large crinoline, so offensive to good taste, need be no longer dreaded, as its dimensions are now on the wane.

Some leading New York dress-makers are trying to introduce the straight, unlooped old-fashioned overskirt.

All kinds of hats and bonnets large, small, and medium sizes, and in every imaginable shape, are in fashion.

Felt, cloth, velvet, chenille, wool braid, leather, kid, cashmere, and worsted embroidery bonnets are all worn or will be worn this winter.

White velvet, white cashmere, shot and dotted with silver and gold, and white brocaded stuffs are the materials used for white evening bonnets.

A new Paris fashion is that of wearing a small bird fastened on the left shoulder, and a larger bird of the same color to loop the drapery of the skirt.

The great variety of subdued and brilliant tints in browns, blues, grays and greens, leave it at the discretion of each wearer to choose for herself what will appear to the best advantage.

Velvets are indispensable, and plain ones are especially liked; in fact, all plain materials lead in millinery this season, there being very little approach toward fancy styles of any description.

**Tippling and Feeling.**

The English, or, rather, the continental, habit of "tippling" is becoming one of the habits of this country also. At large and fashionable hotels and restaurants it is hard to get served properly without feeling the waiter. He and the sleeping-car porter stand at the head of the "tippling" profession, but beneath them are hotel porters, messengers, baggage carriers, janitors and others. The man who resists or overlooks them has more courage than Wellington himself. We know a gentleman who among his acquaintances is esteemed a veritable hero for having given a sleeping-car porter ten cents instead of twenty-five, claiming that the ten was all the porter earned by blacking his boots, and that the sleeping-car company paid the porter for making up beds and attendance.

The system of "tippling" or feeling is still young in this country; but it will probably grow, as everything else does, to enormous dimensions. The time may come when our farmers will, as we once knew an English farmer to do, demand a sixpence for showing an American gentleman the farmer's own fat cattle at a cattle-show; and tailors will, as we once knew a London tailor do, charge an American sixpence for allowing his traveling sack to stand in his shop an hour or so, even after the American had bought a suit of clothes of him. Indeed, it is said that one need scarcely be afraid to offer anybody, no matter what his appearance, either in England or on the continent, a fee in return for service rendered. Only he must not make a mistake by handing over a small piece of a socially large person.

There cannot, however, be many persons of the sort in England concerning whom Prosper Merimee, a Frenchman, tells this story: "I gave a half crown to a black-coated person who showed me the cathedral, and then asked of him the address of a gentleman to whom I had a letter from the dean. He found it was himself to whom the letter was addressed. We both looked foolish, but he kept the money."

**The First Confederate Killed.**

"Do you know," asked Capt. James R. Crowe, of Pulaski, Tenn., of a Louisville *Courier-Journal* reporter, "who was the first soldier killed on the Confederate side during the war? Well, his name was Noble Devotee, of Americus, Ga., and his father was a Baptist minister. We were pupils early in 1861 at Marion, Ala., and heroically organized a company to repel the 'fowl' invader. Anxious to be in among the first, the governor ordered us to Fort Morgan. This was about the 11th of January, 1861. After trying the hard realities of poor beef and hard-tack a few days, we appointed a committee of one to go home and procure more palatable commissaries, and young Devotee happened to be that one. The very outset of his trip was fatal. Stepping from the shore to the boat he lost his balance and was drowned—the first enlisted Confederate soldier who lost his life. This happened January 20, 1861, and, coming so unexpectedly, it was quite shocking. We had not then seen the death and desolation of Richmond, Perryville, Chickamauga and a hundred other terrible fields of battle."

The corn crop of the United States is worth about \$800,000,000.

**POSTAGE STAMPS.****How they First Came to be Used Abroad and in the United States.**

The first government to use stamps for the prepayment of postage was Great Britain, and, although it was not until 1840 that the stamps were used in that country, they have now become common, as many a boy's stamp-album will show, in every nation on the globe. The original stamp of England was in the form of an envelope for the transmission of letters to any part of that country, at 1 penny for a single-rate letter. This plan was originated by Sir Rowland Hill, who has been aptly termed "the father of postage stamps." There is, however, another aspirant for the honor of inventing the postage stamp. In Italy, as far back as 1818, letter sheets were prepared and stamped by the government on the lower left hand corner, and the letters so stamped were delivered by specially appointed carriers on the payment of a sum of money equal to that represented by the stamp. This stamp represented a carrier on horseback, and was of three values. It remained in use in Italy until 1836, when its use was discontinued. But whether Italy or Great Britain originated the postage stamp, it is evident that it was the movement of the latter country in the use of these convenient articles which was the incentive that caused their adoption by the continental nations of Europe. England, however, enjoyed the monopoly of using stamps for two years, and has, at the same time, made fewer changes in the designs upon her stamps than any other country in which they are used. Since 1840 the main design upon all British stamps, except the half-penny, has been the portrait of the queen, and ever since that date the British stamp has borne the girlish form of Victoria forty-three years ago. While in Great Britain no other portrait than that of the queen has appeared upon any of the stamps, in this country, the Sandwich islands, the South American republics, Mexico, Brazil, and some other countries the honor of portraiture has been distributed among the various prominent officials, and the denominations have been designated by the different portraits they bore, as well as by the different color of the ink with which they were printed. There has been only one exception to this in this country, when, in 1769, a 3-cent stamp was issued, the design being a train of cars. It was, however, in use only a short time, when it was replaced with another bearing the Roman nose and queue belonging to our esteemed fellow citizen, George Washington, and, with that exception, his classic features have invariably adorned the stamp most in use. The first country to follow Great Britain in the use of stamps was Brazil. In 1842 Brazil adopted a series of three stamps, the designs being large numerals printed in black, denoting their value. Brazil was followed by Switzerland and Finland, and then by the following countries in the order given: Bavaria, Belgium, France, Hanover, New South Wales, Tuscany, Austria, British Guiana, Prussia, Saxony, Oldenburg, Trinidad, Wurtemberg, and the United States. It may not be gratifying to our national pride to know that we did not adopt the postage stamp until after it had found a place in New South Wales and Trinidad, but such is the case. Following the United States were the many other nations in which it is as common now as it is here. The man who brought the stamps into use in this country was the Hon. E. A. Mitchell, the postmaster at New Haven, Conn., who adopted it in his office in 1847. It did not differ in form and size much from the stamps now in use, but was of a brown color, and printed in black. Upon it was printed: "Paid, New Haven Post office; 5 cents. E. A. Mitchell, P. M." The merchants and business men of New Haven complained at the loss of time occasioned by their having to wait while they paid their postage, having to take their places in the line at the clerk's window, and also because they could only mail and prepay postage while the post office was open. For their accommodation he had these stamps printed, which he sold to them, thus enabling them to mail their letters quickly and at hours when the office was closed.—*Chicago News.*

**He Withdrew.**

"Aw, can you sell me, aw, a blue necktie to match my eyes, you know?" inquired an Austin dude in a gentleman's furnishing store.

"Don't know as I can, exactly," replied the salesman, "but I think I can fit you with a soft hat to match your head."

Then the dude withdrew from the store, a crushed, strawberry hue suffusing his effeminate features.—*St. Louis.*

**SCIENTIFIC SCRAPS.**

Irritation destroys young fish, as has been proved by M. C. Raveret-Watel. The young fry penetrate suddenly into the channels and die when the current is quickly shut off.

If it is true that sparrows and swallows forsake a district when cholera is about to make its advent, the fact should be generally known and thoroughly established on all creditable data.

That the wild horse is not of exclusively Asiatic origin is disputed not only by Dr. A. Mehring, but by Prof. Morse, the latter showing conclusively that the natural country of the horse was America; but there is reason for the belief that the animal existed nearly in its present form as far back as the tertiary age.

The London *Lancet* says that a series of investigations into the origin of the yellow fever has resulted in the discovery that the blood of a patient suffering with the fever contains a micro-parasite which, in one form or another, continues in existence after the death of the sufferer. A guinea-pig that was kept closely upon earth taken from a yellow fever cemetery died in five days, and its blood was found to contain similar parasites to those in the blood of a yellow fever patient.

Dr. P. P. Deherain maintains that the electric light contains rays hurtful to vegetation, but these, he says, can be held back by transparent glass. The light itself, he finds, contains enough of the rays useful to vegetation to maintain the life of plants two months and a half; but the quantity of favorable rays is too small to bring crops to a condition of maturity.

Very simple natural phenomena often excite surprise and sometimes alarm. Some travellers walking along the shore of Loch Etive, Argyleshire, Scotland, noticed that they cast a double shadow. The explanation was simple when the facts were examined. A well-defined shadow was produced by the direct rays of the sun, and a fainter one by the sun's reflected rays from the lake, which happened at the time to be quite still and mirror-like. The strange appearance might, however, have caused a shock to sensitive nerves.

**The Streets of Jerusalem.**

The streets of the holy city are narrow, badly paved, and crooked as a corkscrew; the principal being the street of David, leading from the Jaffa gate to the Haram; the street of the Columns, running from the Damascus gate to the street of the gate of the Prophet David, under which name it continues to Zion gate; Christian street, running from the street of David to the church of the Holy Sepulchre; and the Via Dolorosa, running from the church of the Holy Sepulchre to St. Stephen's gate. There are very few open places, and not one street in which a carriage can be driven; the bazaars are poor and not to be compared for a moment with those of Cairo or Damascus; they are in narrow lanes, for the most part vaulted over, and exhibit the usual articles to be found in eastern bazaars—shoes, pipes, tobacco, hardware, jewelry, cutlery, etc.—each stall being under the superintendence of a man in flowing robes and turban, who sits cross-legged and smokes while the crowd buzzes unceasingly around him. There are two good hotels, the "Mediteranean" and the "Damascus," and several hospices—the Casa Nova of the Franciscans, the Austrian hospice, and the Prussian hospice of St. John—but the majority of travelers who are making the tour of Palestine, camp outside the city, as indeed do many of the inhabitants in the summer time for the sake of purer air. Almost every house in Jerusalem has a cupola, with a flat surface on the roof to allow a stroll round it, and all the houses are of stone. Very few of them exhibit any traces of architectural beauty; in fact, the dwelling-houses generally suggest poverty and dirt.

**Lost Its Romance.**

"I tell you, pard," said old Jimmy Cannon, a guide, "the west has lost its romance. Only a little while ago, it seems to me, where once there was nothing but the whoop of the Indians and the song of the six-shooter, now there are railroads and churches and commercial men and high schools and three-care-monte men and lecturers and daily newspapers and every little while a natural death. Why, within two months, if the papers tell the truth, several men have died in Wyoming of disease. I tell you, it looks as though our old-timers would have to move away. When we have to wait for lingering disease to snuff us out, its time to light out for the frontier."

**The Army of the Revolution.**

T. W. Higginson, the author of an article in the "Dawning of independence," in *Harper's Magazine*, says: All that was experienced on both sides at the beginning of the late American civil war in respect to rawness of soldiery, inexperienced officers, short enlistments, local jealousies, was equally known in the early Continental army, and was less easily remedied. Even the four New England colonies that supplied the first troops were distrustful of one another and of Washington, and this not without some apparent reason. In a state of society which, as has been shown, was essentially aristocratic, they had suddenly lost their leaders. Nearly one-third of the community, including almost all those to whom social deference had been paid, had taken what they called the loyal, and others the Tory, side. Why should this imported Virginian be more trustworthy? Washington in turn hardly did justice to the material with which he had to deal. He found that in Massachusetts, unlike Virginia the gentry were loyal to the king those with whom he had to consult were mainly farmers and mechanics—a class such as hardly existed in Virginia, and which was then far rougher and less intelligent than the same class now is. They were obstinate, suspicious, jealous. They had lost their natural leaders, the rich men, the royal councillors, the judges, and had to take up with new and improvised guides—physicians like Warren ("Doctor General" Warren, as the British officers called him), or skilled mechanics like Paul Revere, or unemployed lawyers and business men like those whom Governor Shirley described as "that brace of Adamases." The few men of property and consequence who stood by them, as Hancock and Prescott, were the exceptions. Their line officers were men taken almost at random from among themselves, sometimes turning out admirably, sometimes shamefully. Washington cashiered a colonel and five captains for cowardice or dishonesty during the first summer. The Continental army as it first assembled in Cambridge was as was said of another army on a later occasion, an aggregation of town meetings, and, which is worse, of town meetings from which all the accustomed leaders had suddenly been swept away. No historian has yet fully portrayed the extent to which this social revolution in New England embarrassed all the early period of the war.

The king of Prussia recently visited a needle manufactory in his kingdom, in order to see what machinery, combined with the human hand, could produce. He was shown a number of superfine needles, thousands of which, together, did not weigh half an ounce, and marvelled how such minute objects could be pierced with an eye. But he was so struck in this respect even something still finer and more perfect could be created. The borer—that is, the workman whose business it is to bore the eyes of these needles—asked for a hair from the monarch's head. It was readily given and with a smile. He placed it at once under the boring machine, made a hole in it with the greatest care, furnished it with a thread and then handed the singular needle to the astonished king.

**Raisins.**

A very pretty device for a banner in a temperance procession, says the *Youth's Companion*, was a bunch of grapes with the motto, "If you eat us we are food; if you drink us we are poison." Institutions have been built for the practice of the "grape-cure," a diet of grapes being considered corrective and restorative. In the dried form such salutary food is certainly within the reach of everyone; and the superiority of it to a fiery drink is almost self-evident.

According to Sir William Gull, Queen Victoria's physician, and of course eminent in his profession, it is better in case of fatigue from overwork, to eat raisins than to resort to alcohol. In his testimony before the Lords' Commission in London, a few months ago, he affirmed "that instead of flying to alcohol, as many people do when exhausted, they might very well drink water, or they might very well take food, and they would be very much better without the alcohol."

He added, as to the form of food he himself resorts to, "In cases of fatigue from overwork, I would say that if I am thus fatigued my food is very simple—I eat the raisins instead of taking the wine. For thirty years I have had large experience in this practice. I have recommended it to my personal friends. It is a limited experience, but I believe it is a very good and true experience."

**A Touching Romance.**

Twenty-five years ago two lovers dwelt in New York city. They quarreled over some small matter. A letter of explanation miscarried. He went west and settled in St. Paul. She removed to Buffalo. This story doesn't seem to come out just right, for he is in St. Paul yet and she is in Buffalo. Both are married and have large families.