

Through Rain and Mud.

General Horace Porter draws the following picture of war-time experiences in his "Campaigning with Grants in the February Century." The campaigning was most disconcerting. On May 19 Grant wrote to Halleck: "We have had five days' almost constant rain, without any prospect of its clearing up. The roads have become so impassable that an ambulance with wounded men can no longer run between them and Fredericksburg. All offensive operations must necessarily cease until we can have twenty-four hours of dry weather. The army is in the best of spirits, and feels the greatest confidence in ultimate success. . . . The elements alone have suspended hostilities."

In the Wilderness the army had to struggle against fire and dust; now it had to contend with rain and mud. An ordinary rain, lasting a day or two, does not embarrass troops; but when the storm continues for a week it becomes one of the most serious obstacles in a campaign. The men can secure no proper shelter and no comfortable rest; their clothing has no chance to dry; and a tramping of a few miles through tenuous mud requires much exertion as an ordinary day's march. Tents become saturated and weighted with water, and draft animals have increased loads, and heavier roads over which to haul them. Dry wood can not be found; cooking becomes difficult; the men's spirits are affected by the gloom, and even the most buoyant natures become disheartened. It is much more difficult for an army marching to do, being compelled to move principally on exterior lines.

Staff-officers had to labor day and night during the present campaign in making reconnoissances and in cross-questioning natives, deserters, prisoners, and fugitive negroes, in an attempt to secure data for the purpose of constructing local maps from day to day. As soon as these were finished they were distributed to the subordinate commanders. Great confusion arose from the duplication of the names of houses and farms. Either family names were particularly scarce in that section of the State, or else the people were united by close ties of kinship, and country cousins resorted to a common name, so many farms were located in some of the localities were occupied by people of the same name that, when certain farms were designated in orders, serious errors arose at times from mistaking one place for another.

Tracing His Family Tree. I met a man in one of the down town hotels yesterday who follows a unique profession. He makes his living by hunting up, inventing or otherwise procuring pedigrees for persons who have newly-acquired wealth and social ambitions.

"Old experience," he said to me, in answer to a question. "Oh, yes, frequently. I've just finished a job for the emigrant old ironmaster that I've done with. He came to me and said that his family was one of the oldest in the United States. In fact, he was confident that some of his ancestors were among the first white men who settled on this continent. I went to work to trace back the genealogy through a succession of obscure New England farmers, and with only two or three breaks, I managed to bring a line for him going back to the Mayflower. I thought that would please him and at first it seemed to.

"But a couple of days after he had paid and discharged me he came around to see me and he was in a towering passion. He accused me of cheating him, of having slighted my work and wanted back the money he had paid me. When I finally got a chance to ask him to explain what he meant, he said:

"Why, I told you distinctly that my ancestry went back to the first white men who landed on this continent. And here you've stopped with the year 1620."

"Well, I said, 'that was the year when the first white men came to this part of the country. You can't go any farther back.'"

"Can't do," he shouted, 'that shows all you know. I didn't have to read a United States history half an hour to learn that white men landed on the New England coast in 1601. I want my ancestry traced back to those men, and, if you can't do it, I'll find some one who can.'"

Something to Depend on. Mr. James Jones, of the drug firm of Jones & Son, Cowden, Ill., in speaking of Dr. King's New Discovery, says that last winter his wife was attacked with La Grippe, and her case grew so serious that physicians at Cowden and Pana could do nothing for her. It seemed to develop into Hasty Consumption. Having Dr. King's New Discovery in store, and seeing it is of a nature to break down, and to the surprise of all she began to get better from first dose, and half dozen bottles cured her sound and well. Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption, coughs and colds is guaranteed to do this good work. Try it. Free trial bottles at Snyder's drug store, Somerset, or at Bralier's drug store, Berlin.

A writer in the Chicago Times-Herald tells an incident of how honesty was rewarded. He says: "After a cable car conductor had passed me several lines without asking for my fare I turned his arm and gave him a nickel. A few minutes later as I got the car I found him on the next platform. He said: 'Don't ever do that again,' he said. 'If a conductor misses you, don't hand him up. He doesn't want to do it. If I miss a passenger the chances are about even that no one will notice it except the fellow himself. But when he catches up to pay a fare I have missed every cent, and notices the fact that I have been negligent, and if there is a 'spotter' aboard I lose my job. The next time save your nickel; it may help me to save my position.'"

Prepared Breakfast Ate. NEW CASTLE, Pa., Jan. 25.—Miss Vandy Newton was summoned from bed at 4 A. M. to prepare breakfast for her brothers, who work in one of the factories. She arose, donned her wearing apparel, set the table, ground coffee and set the stove on the fire. Her mother, thinking she worked in a very quiet manner and was longer than usual calling the folks to their morning meal, got up and went to the dining room, where she was surprised to find her daughter standing sound asleep. It was with considerable difficulty that she was aroused. With the single exception that she had neglected to kindle the fire in the range and had put her feet on the coal, the meal was prepared. The first woman performer and she hopes it will be her last.

FOR LITTLE FOLKS.

WATER POWER. A Simple Little Engine That Any Smart Boy Can Make. The principle illustrated in the accompanying cut might readily serve to generate power without the use of machinery. We give it, however, merely as an interesting and easily made experiment.

Four water into a good sized glass tumbler until it is two-thirds full of water.

Stand it upon a canister to give it the necessary elevation. Through the flat cork on the surface of the water is a stout straw, which transversely supports one of the same diameter. To the latter are attached two other straws of smaller diameter, each of these having a bit of straw about an inch in length attached to the end at an obtuse angle, with the outlets out on the slant to facilitate the exit of the water.

All the joints are hollow and are made water tight with sealing wax. The ends of the depending straws are left open. Now, to start this unique homemade apparatus, let two persons stand on either side of the depending straws until the water begins to flow, and when they take their mouths away the device will begin to revolve, while the water pours steadily from the open ends.

This revolving siphon will soon empty the tumbler, but you may keep the action up as long as you please by pouring water in as fast as the straw let it pour out.

A Boy and a Banana Skin. One day last week a white haired old gentleman was walking up Fifth avenue with his cane. Not far in front of him dawdled a boy eating a big ripe banana. It was near the noon hour, and the old man, who seemed to be leaning heavily on his cane, and picked up the banana skin. Just then the boy looked over his shoulder and saw what the old man had done. He stopped, with his hands in his pockets, and watched curiously. Close to the curbing stood a forlorn old dry hound, with its head hung down and one leg bowed out. He looked up at the old man's feet, and the old man's head was bent enough to eat in mouth.

The old man held out the banana skin, and the discouraged old hound instantly pricked up his ears. He was evidently suspicious of the old man's intentions. He reached forward and sniffed the banana skin with his snout. He came to the end of the stick, and he saw that the old man was looking at him. He looked up at the old man's face, and the old man's head was bent enough to eat in mouth.

Lamp Shades and Screens. Three years ago when women were fond of 1830 in their sleeves—whatever they were in anything else—lamp shades acquired to rival their voluminousness and blossomed forth into veritable canopies, covered with elaborate confections of silk, lace and ribbon. Last year innumerable roofs had been taken to rival their voluminousness and blossomed forth into veritable canopies, covered with elaborate confections of silk, lace and ribbon.

The Hot Water Pipe. A plumber, called in to thaw out pipes frozen in a cold snap, gave this piece of advice with his bill: As it is the hot water pipe that is first and surest to freeze, it is better not to use the hot water at all late in the evening. Keep it out of the treacherous pipes, and you will lessen the danger of a stoppage there before morning.—Philadelphia Press.

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There are in Paris 8,000 women who are heads of mercantile houses.

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The club was organized in 1890 by six young women who recognized the fact that a home of luxury was the fate of comparatively few, and who longed to divide the favors fortune had bestowed upon them with their less fortunate sisters. They had worked together for some time in the Ashland circle of King's Daughters, but the club was not organized until the summer of 1890.

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The entire house has had finished floors, and the rooms, with the exception of the large auditorium, are furnished with rugs. The furniture except the auditorium folding chairs was donated by friends of the institution. This is probably as attractive a clubhouse as any in the city, and when it is taken into consideration that it is managed entirely by girls. These young women say the organization is what its name indicates—delightfully managed, and has carried on its work for the leisure class have time and ways to plan and to work for the support of the club outside the club's own limits. The wage workers do their part in regular and always ready response to the calls, for which they pay a dues and admission price as a help to the revenue of the club. It is impossible to estimate the value to the leisure class of the leisure class, but it is generally understood when it is taken into consideration that it is managed entirely by girls. These young women say the organization is what its name indicates—delightfully managed, and has carried on its work for the leisure class have time and ways to plan and to work for the support of the club outside the club's own limits.

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The expenses were defrayed at first by the proceeds of a concert, which made a nest egg of \$368 to start on. The first year was very successful, the small quarters at 121 Superior street were built. About \$1,500 was raised by subscriptions, entertainments and bazaars, which paid for the lot at 531 West Superior street, upon which a

handsome and commodious clubhouse was built which cost \$7,000, \$500 being paid each year on the indebtedness. This amount is raised by outside subscription, entertainments, etc. The house was dedicated amid great enthusiasm and has drawn an immense membership from that vicinity. It is furnished admirably and furnished for the typical needs of the organization. On the ground floor are the rooms occupied by the janitor and his wife, the matron, and consist of a little five room flat, two bathrooms, which are always open for the members, a large kitchen in every sense of the term. The third floor is divided into a large auditorium and two music rooms in front.

The entire house has had finished floors, and the rooms, with the exception of the large auditorium, are furnished with rugs. The furniture except the auditorium folding chairs was donated by friends of the institution. This is probably as attractive a clubhouse as any in the city, and when it is taken into consideration that it is managed entirely by girls. These young women say the organization is what its name indicates—delightfully managed, and has carried on its work for the leisure class have time and ways to plan and to work for the support of the club outside the club's own limits. The wage workers do their part in regular and always ready response to the calls, for which they pay a dues and admission price as a help to the revenue of the club. It is impossible to estimate the value to the leisure class of the leisure class, but it is generally understood when it is taken into consideration that it is managed entirely by girls. These young women say the organization is what its name indicates—delightfully managed, and has carried on its work for the leisure class have time and ways to plan and to work for the support of the club outside the club's own limits.

One of the most unique necklaces worn this winter with an evening gown was made or combined after an original design of the wearer. She had a beautiful chain of silver, of a fine design. In a shop in the city where antiques are found she discovered some beautiful old Spanish paste bracelets. They were a beautiful, rich crimson, almost like carnelians. Some of them were genuine Spanish bracelets. She secured a number of them, had them fastened as pendants to her chain, and the effect has been the admiration and envy of her friends.—New York Letter.

The Hot Water Pipe. A plumber, called in to thaw out pipes frozen in a cold snap, gave this piece of advice with his bill: As it is the hot water pipe that is first and surest to freeze, it is better not to use the hot water at all late in the evening. Keep it out of the treacherous pipes, and you will lessen the danger of a stoppage there before morning.—Philadelphia Press.

Canvas Cloth. The canvasses materials are in great demand. Most of the styles are seen, both in solid hue and figured weaves. One of the most open of canvas weaves is suggestive of a fish net and demands a silk lining, which will be distinctly visible through the large meshes. There are plain canvases in fancy color combinations, covered with fine fibers of cloth.

The Height of Style. Upon stylishly attired young women in afternoon dress at the various picture galleries in the city are noted gowns of cloth, soft India cashmere or drap d'ete in black or colors, dark or pale, the costume consisting of the general lined with silk and a little tolozo jacket on velvet, brocade or moire, edged with fur, a giraffe to match, a huge empire bustle, a spreading picture collar with a wickerlike crown and any number of distorted looking feathers apparently fastened on with one stitch and a promise and blown hither and yon over the "picture" material. The wearers of these jackets, spite of their big muffs and big hats and merely ornamental fur trimmings, look cold and long spirited and their insufficient little 12 inch jackets. Certainly until one has been accustomed to this mode of dress it would appear to be one's sense of the appropriate or becoming for winter wear on the street. However, it is considered "the height of style;" therefore what further need be said against it or in its favor?—New York Post.

Bridal Toilet. On some of the corsages of bridal toilet the neck is rounded low, the space thus left filled with shirred or plaited museline de soie or a full Russian gumpie of embroidered satin, the sleeve puffs matching this gumpie. When a high close, satin bodice is preferred, it has a battlemented collar band of the satin, with plaitings of very rich lace showing between the stiffened pearl trimmed tabs. Below this a dainty jacket of the same lace, caught here and there with jeweled pins, drapes the front of the corsage from throat to waist.

"I should be glad," wrote Mrs. Julia Ward Howe to some Chicago reformers the other day, "to join in any effort, made with wisdom and charity, to better this state of things, but the burden of years begins to weigh upon me and my powers, such as they remain, are heavily mortgaged."

A sleeve that terminates at the wrist bone marks the gown to which it belongs as being a relic of last season, while a plain or low collar is equally reliable as an indication of antiquity.

The French women artists and sculptors are petitioning the School of Fine Arts for admission on the same terms as men.

WOMAN'S WORLD.

GOOD WORK ACCOMPLISHED BY A CHICAGO GIRLS' CLUB. The Majority Petition—Pique and Cotton Canvas—The Rainy Day Club—Lamp Shades and Screens—The Height of Style.

The clubhouses of the Girls' Mutual Benefit club at 121 Superior street are in good financial condition so far as its running expenses are concerned. It is self supporting, although the fees are so small, the initiation fee being 25 cents and the dues 5 cents a week. The membership numbers about 225, and includes a number of the leisure class besides a large number of self supporting young women.

The club was organized in 1890 by six young women who recognized the fact that a home of luxury was the fate of comparatively few, and who longed to divide the favors fortune had bestowed upon them with their less fortunate sisters. They had worked together for some time in the Ashland circle of King's Daughters, but the club was not organized until the summer of 1890.