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Ancora.

What airy form is this, all grace, That lingers on the wall, A plucking in the shadows, A robed from its stalk?

A CRITICAL MAID.

The lecture was just over. We four girls, the lecturers, were standing notebook in hand, in a little group in the corridor, talking in subdued tones, consulting one another on a knotty point in the history of grand jury. The lecturer came out of the lecture-room and passed us. He bowed gravely as he passed, and went hastily down stairs, his college cap in his hand, his long gown falling limply about his tall, thin figure. We were all very much out of sight; then our tongues were loosened, and we no longer spoke in subdued tones.

Very young.

"Very young," said Claudia, conclusively. "Then you called him shy—well, he is shy. You said he blushed—well, he does blush. "That is just it," I groaned. "It is all the same to me. He is shy, and he blishes, and he is very young."

Bits HATS AND LONG HAIR.

How the Cowboys Used to Make Their Own Hats. "Take," says a cowboy of the plains, for instance the cowboy's big rimmed hat. The fact alone that it has been worn without changing fashion for generations after generations is enough to indicate that use, not vanity, dictated its origin. Until recent years, when the importance of these hats was recognized by hat manufacturers and wool-sellers and furriers turned to account in making them, we made our own hats. A hole, as near the shape and size of our heads as we could make it, was dug in the ground. A large circular piece of rawhide, about as big as a table-top, was spread over the hole. With a bunch of grass or buckskin the center of the rawhide was pressed down into the hole until it assumed its size and shape. The hole was then filled with mud, and the rim was kept flat on the ground by constant patting of the hands all around it.

RELIGIOUS FEELINGS IN INDIA.

Clashes of Rival Superstitions. At this moment, when serious riots are taking place in northern India between Hindus and Mohammedans through the clashing of their festivals, the following facts may be interesting. It so happens that in this year the greatest religious festivals of the two races have taken place at the same time; and the simultaneous processions, which form a very important part of them, by the antagonistic communities have given rise to the present disturbances, in which the Mussulmans are said to be the aggressors. The concurrence of the rival festivals is not very unusual. For the Mohammedan festivals are fixed according to lunar months, their year consisting of 354 days and a few hours; so that the Mohammedan New Year's day happens every year about eleven days earlier than in the preceding year, thus shifting the feast days continually. The Hindus, on the other hand, have a solar system, their months being pretty well fixed and their year consisting of about 365 days; and so their festivals take place at nearly regular intervals. Hence once in every few years the Mohammedan and Hindu festivals clash with the Dussehra of the Hindus, which is observed in the autumn after the rains. Mohammedan, or more properly Muhammad—meaning "to which is forbidden," "anything sacred"—is the first month of the Mohammedan year; during the first ten days of which the Shi'ah Muslims lament the martyrdom of Hussein, the second son of Fatima, the prophet's daughter, by Ali; the tenth day only being observed by the Sunni Muslims, in commemoration of his having been a day on which Adam and Eve, having been expelled from Eden, life and death were created. The ceremonies of the Mohurrum differ much in different places and countries; but the procession forms the most striking part of them in India. For two or three days the long and narrow, the sword and spear, the standards and banners of Hussein are carried through the streets, followed by richly caparisoned horses, some borne over men's shoulders, and others on carriages, and the people crying in a most piteous voice, "Wah Hussein! wah Hussein!" The Dussehra of the Hindus, on the other hand, is a joyful occasion, and is being celebrated in commemoration of the victory of Ram and Hanan, the ten-headed monster and king of Ceylon, who abducted the beautiful and virtuous wife, Sita, of the former. This festival is also for the most part a day of processions forming a prominent part of it. Both communities are in a state of great excitement during these festivals, and the slightest contact of the rival parties seemed to turn in his favor and permanent recovery set in.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Fully one hundred babies have been named Grover Cleveland. The jails about Atlanta are rapidly being filled with moonshiners. Outside of Charleston there are not 100 saloons in all South Carolina. Voluntary attendance at prayer at Harvard has so far proved a great success. No arrests have been made in Matamoros, Ill., in two years, so the police force has been dispensed with. In St. Louis seven thousand pounds of copper have been used in making just one steam kettle for a brewery. Ferris Paul Miller has bequeathed \$75,000 to the University of Iowa to found a chair of Darwinian philosophy. There is a young married woman in Washington who has three dozen pairs of stockings that cost all told \$300. An Orange county farmer took six barrels of apples to Newburg, and none of them weighed less than a pound apiece. The paper gas and water pipes introduced so extensively in Vienna, some time ago, it is claimed are a complete success. Fresh milk is now given to patients and suffering when all other substances are thrown off. A London lady utilizes the parcel post to obtain poultry from Ireland at much less cost than she could buy it for in the home market. A rich merchant at Calcutta, who is evidently a believer in metempsychosis, has established and endowed a hospital for sick animals. Olla Washington, a colored woman 115 years old, died recently near Marietta, Ala. She had sixteen children, the youngest being 56 years old. Nickels are so scarce in Sioux Falls, Dak., that by a mutual agreement iron washers are made to do duty for that much abused article of circulation. A correspondent of the New York Christian Chronicle calls attention to Catherine Hood, of Hinesburg, Vt., aged 103, as the oldest Methodist in America. The Earl of Dufferin has probably the smallest book in the world. It is an edition of the sacred book of Sikhs, and is said to be only half the size of a postage stamp. Hamilton College students are considering a plan for a structure to be used both for the College Young Men's Christian Association and the Gymnasium Club's quarters. The dogs in Constantinople, it is said, only bite foreigners who "walk with a laughing air." That is the distinction Colorado folks make when dealing with the underdogs. A veteran who is often seen in the streets of Columbus, Ind., led by a little girl, has been granted a pension of \$10.426 and \$72 per month. It is one of the largest pensions ever granted. People who have presence of mind enough to get out of a burning house lock the hands behind the back, fully intend the lungs and close the mouth, may thus keep themselves about some time. Several Arabs joined the Salvation Army in Jackson, Miss. They address crowds on the streets, although they speak no English. One of the Arabs used a city directory for a Bible during an address. A citizen of Brandon, Vt., who is a believer of clairvoyance, has spent thirty thousand dollars during the last three years in a search for silver coins which he believes are buried somewhere in the village. One of the peculiarities of a 250-pound pumpkin grown at Newburg is that it was full of water. A root was sent out from the pumpkin to a basin of milk, and it consumed a pint of the fluid each day. A man in Quincy, Ill., has succeeded in raising five months old raw prunes, with a crop of tea, three times a year. He has not only maintained his excellent health, but has gained three pounds in weight. Victor Hugo is an engraver, George Washington a hatter, Andrew Jackson a cooper, John Brown a policeman, Oscar a truck driver, and Brutus a laborer. At all events that is what the Chicago directory says. George W. Childs, the editor of the Ledger, said a short time ago: "I have noticed that Philadelphians generally succeed in business when they move over to New York, while New Yorkers coming here are rarely very successful." It has been shown that the strength of the lion in the fore limbs is 69.9 per cent. of that of the tiger, and the strength of the hind limbs only 65.9 per cent. Five men can easily hold down a lion, but nine men are required to control a tiger. There are 7,000 hawkers of newspapers in London—big men, little boys, old women and young girls. A wholesale dealer says that the majority of the retailers are in the preliminary condition of John Bull, ragged and worn from hard work. A citizen of Minneapolis is building a genuine log house right in the city. It will be a big, rambling dwelling, with queer corners and quaint windows, but it will have all the modern improvements and will cost \$20,000. The following which appeared in the published report of a New York benevolent society, seems paradoxical: "Notwithstanding the large amount paid for medicines and medical attendance, very few deaths occurred during the year." Miss Lucy Green, of Davenport, Ill., was offered a new silk dress to walk through a graveyard at midnight alone. She started out with the greatest kind of nerve, walked half-way through, and then uttered a "who-oo," and fainted dead away. The keystone of a large arch in a Chicago building recently fell out of its position without any apparent effort, and came down to the sidewalk, a distance of 100 feet. On examination the stone was found to be rotten. The climate of Chicago seems to be a little hard on stones. There are 253,000 lead pencils, according to some unknown statistician, used each day in the United States. The Chicago Tribune feels very glibly that "if every woman who uses a lead pencil were to sharpen her own the compass pen is estimated, would amount to about 253,000,000 a day."