

# NEWS AND NOTES FOR WOMEN

### TEA GOWNS.

Every woman looks well in a tea gown. Every woman should have at least three. If she is the least bit tasty and knows anything about planning she can get up half a dozen lovely tea gowns for a very short sum.

A tea gown of black and white lace silk is not to be despised. A draping of white chiffon in front makes the gown very dainty and chaste looking.

A dahlia-red tea gown, made a la Medici, looks regal upon almost any woman. The sides and back piece should be tight fitting, and the front fall from the bust to the hem in a triple box pleat.

An Indian ten gown of copper colored velvet is something new. It is made after a design Indian in treatment, but much like the regular Greek frock. A handsome neck ornamentation is made up of ruching of white satin, finished with rosettes of velvet.

—New York Mail and Express.

### "ANGEL OF THE TOMBS."

It is not generally known that Mrs. Ernestine Schaffer, the "Angel of the Tombs," New York City, is a wealthy woman living in a fine house near Central Park. She is the owner of a great deal of property and on Sundays and holidays may be seen driving a team of beautiful ponies in front of one of the finest little road carts in town. Mrs. Schaffer's time, however, instead of being spent in idleness or in seeking recreation, is devoted to a cause to which she has resolved to give the rest of her life. This is nothing more or less than the work of helping people unjustly accused of crime and assisting others who have been guilty of wrong doing, and whose sentences have expired. Scarcely a day passes without the "Tombs angel" extending a helping hand to some unfortunate victim of over-zealous guardianship. She has two offices down town and engages a lawyer by the month to assist her. On several occasions she has loaned out more than \$20,000 for bail, and she declares that her losses are less than \$1000.—New Orleans Picayune.

### SHE DANCES AND LABORS.

There is a type of Mexican woman more Indian than Spaniard, and this mixture produces always a rather stunted, though interesting, result. These men and women are both short, thick set, with heavy features, black, beady eyes and high cheek bones, but their physique does not make them like the corresponding type of cob horse Englishmen. The woman is live and a wonderful bearer of burdens, for she has the thighs and sinews of a Sambo. Like that little Mexican mule which can carry a burden weighing three times as much as itself for a day with patience, she has the enduring power which enables her to take upon herself the arduous agricultural labors of a man. She dances, too, and very well, and her silk and cotton garments of rainbow hue are embroidered in gold patterns. The tiniest feet and ankles are hers and slim little hands, with tapering, artistic fingers, that tell one she is dainty in feminine arts as well as a sturdy worker.—New York Advertiser.

### THE SPINSTER IN SOCIETY.

It is difficult to see who would take her place socially, should the spinster vanish from the land. A gracious lady, tactful beyond the dreaming of the young girl, to whom the world is still a place of enchantment, in which, half unconsciously to herself, she poses as the principal figure, the spinster smooths away embarrassments, does the right thing, speaks the right word in the right place, and keeps the wheels of life running without friction. To her, serene, well bred, tranquil, aware of good and evil, tolerant of that which is mere erudition and inexperience, severe only where absence and cruelty challenge, soft spoken, sweet mannered, or possibly brusque and spicy, yet none the less charming.

If a woman of wealth, the spinster holds in her capable hands the threads of many charities, advising here, bestowing there, withholding or endowing, as she deems judicious. Perhaps she develops in her own person rare gifts—music, painting, embroidery—attaining in each a degree of excellence which only leisure and taste in combination can arrive at. Very likely she prefers to seek out gifted younger people, boys and girls, who need that some one should believe in and help them on, and to these she is a patron saint. Many lines of work are open to her which marriage would have closed, since the wife and mother must exclusively devote to her home and its sphere of action talents and sympathies which the spinster may use in the service of her age. Though the one be more blessedly happy, the other is not without rewards and compensations.

Poor in this world's goods, the spinster fills equally a most important niche. Her modern education makes her an independent factor in many fields, a not-to-be-despised competitor in the market and the shop. And since probably she need not remain a spinster unless she choose, society owes her its thanks for her generosity in keeping herself at its service, and making so winsome a feature of its moving panorama.—San Francisco Chronicle.

### GOSSIP.

The Princess of Wales has a great passion for music and has composed several pretty airs.

David Livingstone's sister, Miss Livingstone, has just died in Edinburgh at the age of seventy-seven.

Even Marion Crawford is amazed at Mrs. Humphry Ward's ability to turn out a 300,000 word novel in a few months.

The work of photographing the sky at the Paris Observatory is carried on under the superintendence of Mme. Klumpke.

### Queen Victoria has been making presents of some of her famous cashmere shawls to the wives of some South African chiefs.

There is a professional woman diver at Gravesend, England, who often makes as much as \$35 a day at her submarine pursuit.

It is said that the habit of smoking green tea cigarettes, which is exceedingly injurious, is becoming popular among English women.

The two daughters of the late Stephen Preston, who held the title of dean of diplomatic corps at Washington, are about to open a cooking school in Newark, N. J.

Just what led up to it is not stated, but the town of Williams, Arizona, has just passed an ordinance prohibiting women from appearing on the streets there in bloomers.

Mrs. Leland Stanford's jewels are to be offered at public sale in New York City. The value of the collection is variously estimated at from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000.

The tablet at Petersburg, recently erected in memory of Mary, Queen of Scots, was paid for by subscriptions of English women named Mary. It cost \$5000.

Mamie Newhall Jackson, of Reading, Penn., has waded with a girl friend that she will have proposed to at least one young man before leap year is four months old.

A woman, Franklin Marie Schwartz, has been made director of the girls' public school in Vienna, Austria. All the male teachers in the city protested against the appointment.

Mrs. Keeley, the venerable actress whose ninetieth birthday was recently celebrated in London, sang the "Mermaid's Song" in a performance of Oberon, conducted by Weber himself, in 1826.

The dress to be worn by the Empress of Russia to the coronation ceremonies next spring has just been ordered in Paris. It will be decorated with pearls and gold, and will cost \$200,000.

A favorable decision has been arrived at in Hungary with regard to the admission of women to the Budapest University and their participation in the study of medicine, pharmacy and philosophy.

A Rushville (Indiana) man, after a hard struggle, overpowered a burglar, whom he caught in his house, and discovered that it was a woman. He chivalrously let her go without ascertaining her identity.

Mrs. Louis Pond, of Dedham, Me., has carried on her farm alone since her husband's death some time since. She does all her hauling and plowing with a bull, which she puts in harness like a horse and controls with a rope fastened to a ring in his nose.

Mrs. Elizabeth Anderson, widow of General Anderson, of Fort Sumter fame, has the flag which her husband planted over that fortification locked in a fireproof vault in her house in Washington. She expects eventually to present it to the Government.

Miss Mamie Dickens, the eldest daughter of the great novelist, makes her home at quaint old Dunton rectory, in the town of Brentwood, in Essex, England. The love of flowers, which with her amounts to a passion, is fully gratified in this beautiful country. Her real life work consists in ministering to the poor and sick and needy.

### FASHION NOTES.

Small checks are much used this winter for the vests of tailor-made gowns.

Velvet and thick Indian silks are the handsomest materials for winter tea gowns.

Pearls or emeralds in combination with jet can now be worn for mourning in Paris.

Ostrich feather boas are worn altogether with opera coats and are of every conceivable shade.

Very large side combs in Marie Antoinette fashion are replacing the small side combs so much worn of late.

For dainty outdoor wear, Tibet goat and Korean fox look extremely well on dark colored cloths or broadcases.

If you have a dress which is very low in the neck, get a Marie Antoinette fichu and drape it over the shoulders.

The bolero front seems to be still such a favorite that one sees in it all sorts of stuffs, for women of all sorts of ages.

A lovely model for a tea jacket is made of vicux rose velvet. The coat fronts are ornamented with miniature buttons.

Gold hatpins studded with stones have become elaborate affairs, and are used instead of the gold hairpins formerly in vogue.

In speaking of blouses to wear with skirts, some of the prettiest are made with applications of lace on black mousseline de soie.

A beautiful outside jacket is made of maize-colored broadcase with waterfall trimmings of fine black net, spangled with jewels.

Carved rings of East India gold are straight bands the size of a wedding ring, the color of the metal and the decorations being thoroughly Oriental.

A very pretty every-day gown for a woman no longer young is of black cloth, the skirt plain, the bodice made with black satin basques and cut bolero in front.

Topaz brooches are also in great favor, their golden-brown color coming out with great beauty when treated, as are amethysts, with pearl and diamond frames.

White gloves and white veils dotted with black show no disposition to be taken themselves to the background of popularity. They hold their own remarkably well in spite of their unassuming appearance.

## HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

### HOUSE PLANT LURE.

Keep them in the sun. Keep them as far as from gas and furnace heat as possible. Keep them wet, warm and clean. Keep soap out of the water. Keep a brush or carpet-rag to wash them. Keep the soil loose. Never pull off a leaf; the plant may bleed to death. Clip the withered tips of palms -- New York World.

### A DELICIOUS SWEETMEAT.

Ginger pears are a delicious sweetmeat. Use a hard pear, peel, core and cut the fruit into very thin slices. For eight pounds of fruit after it has been sliced use the same quantity of sugar, the juice of four lemons, one pint of water, and half a pound of ginger root, sliced thin. Cut the lemon rinds into as long and thin strips as possible. Place all together in a preserving kettle and boil slowly for an hour. —New York Advertiser.

### HOW TO ROAST THE SUCULENT OYSTER.

Select large oysters and have them scrubbed thoroughly, then place them in the oven in a large tin with the round side of the shells down, so that when they open the liquor will not be lost. As soon as they do open remove the upper shell, sprinkle them with salt, pepper and chopped parsley, add a little butter and serve hot as possible on a bed of watercress. Oysters served in this way make an excellent first course at dinner if accompanied by thin slices of brown bread and butter. —Ladies' Home Journal.

### CUSTARD SOUFFLE.

A really dainty dessert is custard souffle, which is made by melting one ounce of fresh butter, sprinkling into it a half ounce of flour and stirring it till smooth and well blended. Pour over it a full glass of boiling milk and stir it over the fire for seven or eight minutes. Beat the yolk of an egg very fresh with one ounce of castor sugar, add this to the milk and turn it all out to cool. When cold, add to it the white of the egg beaten very stiff and bake in a well buttered pie dish in a very sharp oven. Serve at once, either plain or accompanied by cream or boiled custard sauce. —New York Times.

### RICE FOR GARNISHING.

A rice border makes an attractive-looking dish of any warmed-over meat, fowl or fish. Wash a cup of rice and put it in a double boiler with three cups of white stock; place over the fire and cook thirty minutes. Add half a teaspoonful of salt and two tablespoonfuls of butter and let it simmer twenty minutes longer. Beat the yolk of two eggs with three tablespoonfuls of cream and one of chopped parsley, and add to the rice five minutes before it is ready to take from the fire. Butter a border mould and pack the rice into it. Let the mould stand in the heated oven ten minutes and then turn it out on a hot platter. Fill the centre with the prepared meat. —New York World.

### HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Variety is the best culinary spice. A good cleanser for paint is weak lye or saleratus water. Always buy rye in small quantities and keep it well covered. Batter should be kept in stone if possible and never in tin. Lard and drippings should be kept in earthen ware and should not be salted. Sugar is just as cheap in small quantities as in large, and it is better to keep only a little on hand at a time. Provide on Saturday for Monday, so as not to take up the fire with cooking or time in running errands on washing day. Arrowroot, tapioca, sago and all such articles should be bought in small quantities and kept in glass jars or covered boxes. Bathe your eyes frequently in weak alum water if they are weakened by close work, such as painting, embroidery or reading. Buckwheat, rice and hominy should be kept in small tightly covered boxes or in tin cans, and should be examined often as vermin is apt to infest them. Cook a peeled white onion in the same pot with your mushrooms, and if they do not turn black you may eat them with a feeling of tolerable security. Never put away clean clothes without examining every piece to see if it is in any way out of order. Stockings, especially should be carefully darned. Vinegar is best purchased by the half barrel or the keg, and should be never be put in glazed ware, as the glazing is eaten off and forms with it a poisonous compound.

### Entangled Birds.

Birds that employ hair in the building of their nests sometimes come to grief by hanging, but I should say very seldom, indeed, in the following singular manner: A gentleman who had a number of colts upon his farm one day noticed a small bird entangled in the long hair of the tail of one of them. The little creature had evidently been in search of material wherewith to line its nest, and by some unaccountable accident, had become ensnared in the unkempt hair of the colt's tail. Cases of birds getting their feet entangled in bits of yarn or string are not at all uncommon, especially in the breeding season, and whenever the victim of this kind of a mishap happens to get the impediments fastened in a tree or among stones, death is pretty sure to be the result, unless prompt human aid is forthcoming. In the spring of the year, as everybody knows, the dead leaves of the pampas grass fall to the ground and curl up like shavings from a carpenter's bench. A field correspondent mentions finding a poor robin which had accidentally got one of these pieces coiled around its neck so tightly that it was unable to feed and died of starvation. —Cornhill Magazine.

In 1868 Japan exported 131 tons of sulphur; in 1892, 14,589 tons.

## SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

### In large doses mace is said to be strongly emetic.

Distilled water is recommended as a solvent to act upon the earth salts in the blood and expel them from the body.

A prize of \$3000 has been offered by the German Hygienic Association for a paper on the efficiency of electric heaters.

That tuberculosis is increased by living in thickly settled communities is shown by statistics collected by Dr. Pettit for 662 French towns.

A telegram from New York to Australia has to go nearly 20,000 miles, 15,000 of which are by submarine cable, and it is handled by fifteen operators.

A Swiss scientist has been testing the presence of bacteria in mountain air, and finds that not a single microbe exists beyond an altitude of 2000 feet above the level of the sea.

Attention has been drawn to the fact that the coal oil used in the lamps in the cars of the Manhattan Railway Company, of New York City, is 150 degrees below the test required by law.

A new kind of water-color paper, the sheets of which can be warranted to be free from blemishes, is to be made by a process discovered by Mr. North, associate of the Royal Academy.

Only the purest water is employed by the Chinese in washing the finer grades of silk. Ordinary well water is in its natural state is unsuitable, and is purified by placing a quantity of mollusks in it for a day. These prey on any impure organic matter and act as filters.

The island of Zealand boasts of an amphibious boat, which makes a daily trip across three lakes and the isthmuses which separate them, making the land trip on wheels which run on a track. The seventy passengers make the entire voyage—if it can be called such—without disembarking.

Cripple Creek will be the first mining camp in the United States to adopt electricity as a motive power to travel from one mining point to another—a journey that heretofore has been made afoot or by muleback. A double track-road is to be built to take in all the surrounding hills and all the mines of importance.

J. L. Allen, a telegraph operator at Loretto, in Marion County, Ky., has invented a railroad clock that is a marvel of ingenuity. It registers each train as it passes and the time at which it passes, and an accompanying device gives warning to incoming trains if another train has passed the station within fifteen minutes.

### "Little Kentucky."

"Little Kentucky," as it might be dubbed very appropriately, is located opposite Island No. 10, where Kentucky and Tennessee meet. The river, by gradually cutting out the Kentucky bank, had worn off a narrow strip of land, until one bright morning several people who lived on this side of the line woke up to find themselves on the other side. In other words, the swift current had washed away the neck of earth which made the extreme southwestern corner of this State a part of the commonwealth of Kentucky. The section of territory thus separated from its parent, as it were, is ten miles long and five miles wide—quite a good mouthful to take in at a quite a good rate for the greedy Mississippi.

Every well-posted river man and every person who is acquainted with the geography and topography of this State will understand how such a thing could happen. Right at the State line the river forms a loop about ten miles long. The loop extends up into Fulton County. The swift stream has simply drawn this noose tight and formed an island out of what was formerly a peninsula. Hickman is the closest town of any size to the place where all this land making occurred. Darnell, a little hamlet over in Obion County, Tennessee, is quite near the spot.

The boundary line between Kentucky and Tennessee has always been rather complicated down about Island No. 10, owing to the peculiar bend in the Mississippi mentioned above. The lakes, bays and sloughs which bisect that corner of Fulton County in all directions also serve to mix matters. The biting off of such a large strip of soil will add to the general confusion, and the question may arise as to whether "Little Kentucky" will hereafter belong to the domain of the volunteer State or still be a part and parcel of the dark and bloody ground. —Paducah News.

### The Shop Has Brains.

The tendency of successful business is to enlargement; and with enlargement comes a new multitude of agents, a new variety of markets, a new kind of competitive danger, to avert which absolutely requires mind. The very number of his employees compels the great tradesman one day to become a judge of character; the very expansion of his market drives him to study many countries, many tariffs, many laws; and his extreme danger from competition makes of him an artist, a chemist, and a critic. The process is slow, because he is always governed by the idea of selling, and he often learns rather to know public taste than to know what taste is, and to seek in his purchases the popular rather than the good; but still the process must develop his mind.—The Spectator.

### Birds Make a Nest of Steel.

A curious gift has been made to the Natural History Museum of Soletta. This gift consists of a bird's nest constructed entirely of steel. There are a great many watchmakers at Soletta and in the vicinity of the workshop there are always the remains of the old springs of watches, which have been cast aside. Last summer a watchmaker discovered this curious bird's nest which had been built in a tree in his court yard by a pair of water wagtails. It measures ten centimeters in circumference and is made solely of steel springs. When the birds had fledged their brood the watchmaker secured their unique nest, as an interesting proof of the intelligence of birds in adapting anything which comes with in their reach.—London News.

## One Woman's Trio of Triplets.

In an almost inaccessible mountain fastness, in Mendocino County, eighteen miles northeast of Ukiah, is the home of nine children, all triplets. The mother of this remarkable family is Mrs. George Walters. All the family are well and happy, and the last trio are as healthy a set of youngsters as can be found anywhere.

The Walters home is in an out-of-the-way part of the Mendocino forest district. Two of the sets of triplets were by Mrs. Walters' first husband, Orville Orrin Oates, a Missourian. Three years elapsed between the birth of the first and second triplets, and two years between the birth of the second and third sets.

Mrs. Walters' maiden name was Ellen Elaine Emmony. She was born in Quebec about 1855. She met her first husband during the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia. After their marriage they moved to Alton, Mo. It was at Alton in 1879 the first triplets were born. They were named Wheeler Henry, James Rutherford and Martha Christine, being two boys and one girl. The family moved to California in the fall of 1880, and settled at first in Inyo County. From there they moved to the Little Bear Valley, San Bernardino County. There, in October, 1882, the second triplets were born. They were all girls, and were named Matilda Ann, Rebecca Elizabeth and Marie Louise. While out on a prospecting tour, seeking a fortune for his fast-growing family, Mr. Oates became lost in the vast deserts of Western Arizona, and was never again heard from.

The widow then determined to move to the upper part of the State with her six children. They traveled north by easy stages, and on the way she met Mr. Walters. He helped her and her children along the way, proposed marriage, and was promptly accepted. They kept on their way north, seeking for some far-away valley where they could set up their home. They found it in the location already described. There, in June, 1894, the last triplets were born. They were named Grover Eldred, Jasper Otis and Ruth Ellen.

The children of the first two sets of triplets do not resemble one another at all, but the last, the babies, look so much alike, that they cannot be told apart. The only way to distinguish them is to dress them differently, and when put to bed they wear different kinds of night dresses, so that the mother in the morning can tell which is which. —San Francisco Examiner.

### It Was the Bull.

At a village near Acerrington there is a certain Wesleyan chapel where a bass viol has been introduced to assist the choir. On a recent Sunday, while the parson was in the middle of the sermon, a big bull got out of his pasture and came swaggering down the road, growling as he came. The minister heard the low bellow, and looking up toward the singers' seats with a grave face, said:

"I would thank the musicians not to tune during service time; it annoys me."

The choir was surprised, but nothing was said. Pretty soon the bull gave another grumble, and then the parson became frantic. He stopped short, and looking directly at the bass viol player, said:

"I now particularly request Mr. L. that he will not tune his instrument while I am preaching."

This was more than the fiddler could stand. Popping up in his seat, he snapped out:

"It isn't me, parson—it isn't me! It's the old town bull."—London Telegraph.

### The Absence of It.

If there is any truth in the saying that happiness is the absence of all pain, mental and physical, the enjoyment of it can only be found in heaven. But so far as the physical is concerned, it is within easy reach; at least measurably so, as far as cure will go. The sum of human misery in this line is made up of greater or less degrees of physical suffering. The minor aches and pains which afflict mankind are easy to reach and as easily cured. There are none in the whole category which, if taken in time, cannot be cured. They must in some form afflict the nerves, the bones, the muscles and joints of the human body. They are all more or less harmful and wasteful to the system. St. Jacobs Oil is made to do them, to search out hidden pain spots, and to cure promptly in a true remedial and lasting way. Very, very many have not known happiness for years till they used it, and very many are putting off cure and happiness because they do not use it.

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Witness my hand and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1896.

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