

Talks About Mankind

A Reminder of the Sixties.

The bobbing brims of children's hats weighted down with a bunch of flowers in front reminds an elderly woman of the days of the 60's, when to the front of similar wide-brimmed hats was attached a "puller," or narrow ribbon, which was used to pull down the brim to secure the effect now obtained by the weight of flowers.

The Wedding Gown Box.

The wedding gown box is one of the latest fads to be adopted by the bride-to-be. That every bride possessed of any sentiment wishes to keep her wedding gown in a state of preservation is a foregone conclusion, and this receptacle is admirably suited for the purpose for which it was designed. If it is made of light wood, enameled white, and has the bride's initials in silver letters on the top. It is lined with tufted white satin, and the lock is of silver.

Cabochons For Fall Triumphant.

The new cabochons are of very large size. They are flatter than they have been, and are often in arabesque open work set with cut jet or steel, or in chaste oxidized silver or dull gilt. Some of the gilt cabochons are sold in pairs, the two joined by a double festoon of gilt beads. These are used to trim the under side of hats. When a feather is placed on or under the edge of the brim, it will often be fastened by a large cabochon, says the Millinery Trade Review. A new ornament is provided to serve this purpose. It is a chaste metal snap that clasps over the edge of the brim, securing the feather to it. Shoals of osprey or aigrette are sometimes fastened in this way by their middle, to the edge of a plateau. Milliners are also using small gilt or steel buttons to fasten down straps of ribbon.

Ostrich Plumes and Feathers.

By what has gone before, the important place which ostrich feathers occupy at the present writing will be realized. It is understood that the trade is prepared to satisfy a very large demand for amazons and also for feathers of medium length and tips. High class milliners will do a great deal in shaded and variegated feathers. The arrangement referred to above, namely the twisting around of the tip of the feather into a pouf, gives a massive and rich effect to an amazon, but only the very largest can be so treated. Plumage of cock's feathers in natural colors, as well as dyed in different bright tints, are likely to be very much favored, possibly, however, white more than any, says the Millinery Trade Review. Wings continue in much request, particularly large, stumpy shaped wings and quite small ones, such as those of blackbirds and parakeets, and there is a renewed demand for coqueaux, which are mostly asked for in pairs. They are not very long, but wide and often dyed in variegated tints, including checks and plaits. Some are colored to imitate leaves and broad grasses. In fashionable shops frequent mention has been made of fruits. These will divide favor with seasonable flowers for the autumn months. It is understood that black flowers, mounted with green leaves, will be worn, they already having been shown on some hats.

New Methods of Making Bows.

Special interest must be attached to the different new methods of making up bows, rosettes and other arrangements of ribbon or piece materials, as applicable to early winter hats. Louis XV. bows are now made of quilled ribbon wired in the ordinary way. A piece of the quilled ribbon may be sewn in a circle round the centre of the plateau, and the rest of the ribbon be arranged in a very large wired bow resting on the back of the hat, which shelves down in the neck. The under sides of some hats are trimmed with narrow Pompadour ribbons laid on flat in the form of Louis XV. bows. Bows made of No. 12 ribbon velvet are often placed under the brim, loops and ends hanging down behind the ear. Fan shaped bows, with a great many loops, for the backs of hats, are sometimes made of this ribbon, sometimes of piece velvet. Large bows of four or more large loops, fastened in the centre by a buckle, are laid flat on plateau hats, says the Millinery Trade Review. Another arrangement consists of a wide piece of accordion pleated satin, forming a big flat rosette, the pleats being smoothed out on either side. Ball rosettes about the size of a big orange are very fashionable. These may be made of loops of rather wide ribbon or of a fold of material closely gathered. Wide Pompadour and plaid ribbons may be used for the purpose. Large flat rosettes or cockades are equally favored, particularly made in two shades of bright green or golden velvet, or of chine flowered ribbon bordered with black satin.

The Women's Hotels.

The following data are collected in the interest of the movement in cities for housing and feeding women workers en masse. It is "girls, girls, girls," that appear chiefly as beneficiaries of the movement, but any self-supporting woman should be entitled by right and not by grace to the advantages of the collective home or hotel. Reports from ninety of these homes in forty-six cities are given very fully in Bulletin 15, 1898, United States Labor Department. The first started in New York City in 1856. Almost none has become en-

tirely self-supporting in the half-century of development. This fact will show in history the small share of the commonwealth allowed the working women of the country at this period. The wages of our working women in Boston are a little below those of New York and Chicago, while the cost of subsistence is much higher. Taking data from one of our more recently established homes, the boarding house under Unitarian auspices, formerly on Berkeley street, we learn that in its first seven years in a hired building, with about forty boarders and few transients, the average cost per capita for board, laundry and other incidentals, was \$3.30 per week. (Price of board and lodging \$4). The cost of raw material of food averaged \$2.15 per week. There was a surplus of \$600 or \$700 per annum to go toward the salary of superintendent and rent. In Chicago, a woman's club, grown to 100, self-managed, for some years covered all costs of their home at \$3 per week per member. There are thousands of working girls and women in Boston who cannot pay even the lowest rate charged by the present homes in Boston, including the latest, the Franklin Square House, \$3.50 per week, and must still live in garrets, or worn-out lodging houses with "relief" in plain sight. One important fact, not strictly appropos to increase of wages, is from the Maria Louisa Home for temporary guests, New York City. In 1896, 561,000 pieces were laundered at a cost of seven-eighths of one cent per piece. This item, if none other, decides for such a home against the average private house, with its picaresque methods, where the difficulty of washing a handkerchief makes the thought of cleanliness a perpetual nightmare.—Boston Evening Transcript.

Boydor Chat

Mrs. John W. Mackay was declared in London to be the richest widow in the world. A bronze medallion of Susan B. Anthony will be presented to Rochester University this fall. It was Miss Anthony's efforts which made co-education possible at Rochester, N. Y. An international exhibition of women's arts and crafts will open in Paris soon in the great glass building on the banks of the Seine, in which were held the horticultural shows during the World's Fair of 1900. The woman who lives in the suburbs might not get a lot of ferns from the woods, and when they are thriving in the fall get orders for them. Being so popular they ought surely to be in demand, and if not, there would be no loss incurred. Representative George H. Fall, who introduced and championed the bill which recently passed the Massachusetts Legislature making mothers equal guardians of children with fathers, states that two-thirds of the credit for its passage is due to Mrs. Fall. He is a lawyer, and after her marriage Mrs. Fall studied law also. Mrs. Clara L. Kellogg has raised modern embroidery to an art. She furnishes entire homes in embroidered textiles, producing harmonious effects throughout. She travels abroad every year, studying embroidery and design. All her designs are original and are founded upon suggestions received from old paintings, mosaics, furniture, anything, in fact.

FADS AND FANCIES

Chantilly is a revived classic. Persian effects are still favored. Embroidered linen discs are smart. Jeweled velvet bands are very good. Crystal and jet figure with spangles. Pongee blossoms in applique are here. Some passementeries boast five materials. Lace appliques adorn many parasols effectively. Posies of taffeta often adorn Chantilly applique. Linen applique is used upon dresses of hop-sacking. Bulgarian embroidery is the rage on acetate as well as linen. Chenille in a color touches point de Venise most attractively. Orchid patterns in delicate shades of chiffon are ideal on silk gauze. Striped veiling makes very pretty gowns and requires but little trimming. Soft shaded Roman stripes are appearing in some of the wider white ribbons. Many new designs are being produced in ribs, which have become a pet feminine fad. Silk mull waisties are very much tucked this season, the tucks being of the wide variety. Pongee suits in the natural color are trimmed with bands of black taffeta, stitched with white. Linen gowns in the pretty new shades of green, blue, pink and gray are made with Gibson waists stitched with white. A yellow pongee gown with yellow and white embroidery, and a tucked white silk vest and front of skirt, is artistic in the extreme. Silks in black and white and blue and white checked effects are expected to be very fashionable in the fall for gowns and separate waisties.

A SERMON FOR SUNDAY

AN INSTRUCTIVE AND ELOQUENT DISCOURSE ENTITLED "NOW PETER."

The Rev. Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman's Analysis of a Cold-Hearted, Wayward, Generous, Biblical Character—The Three Denials.

NEW YORK CITY.—The following readable and instructive sermon by Rev. Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman, the best known evangelist in the country and one of the most popular preachers in New York. It is his sermon on "Now Peter," which he preached from the text: "Now Peter sat without in the palace." Matt. xxvii: 99.

This is the master stroke of the great artist in painting the picture of this cold-hearted, wayward, generous, loving man whom we know as Peter. It is one of the shadows in the picture, but the shadows help us to appreciate the more the light. It is a single sentence, and yet in it we find the secret of a soul's downfall, the cause of the heartache of the Son of God, and a note of warning for God's people everywhere.

Peter was in a dangerous position. First of all, because he sat in the presence of the enemy. In the first Psalm the warning is given: "When thou art walking in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stand in the way of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful," and this last is the most hurtful position of all. Peter sat in the presence of the enemy. He was in the presence of the Christ, the Son of God, and the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power and coming in the clouds of heaven.

"And they did spit in His face," but He never saw them. His eyes were blinded to His insults, but Peter in the presence of His enemies was a blow at His very heart. They smote Him until, if He had been only man, He would have staggered in His weakness, but He would not. He was struck a rock like Gibraltar and expected it to fall as to move Him with their blows, but when Peter stood in the presence of those who were against Him, like one of them himself, it was a terrific blow at the Son of God.

The third part of the trial was before the Sanhedrim. He is led out from the court where he has seen both Annas and Caiaphas, and passes through an outer court to the room where the Sanhedrim is to meet. As he passes, possibly near enough to reach out His hand and touch His disciple, suddenly He hears Peter call out: "I know Him not."

He could forget the spitting of His enemies, the blows of those who hated Him, and the rods that had fallen upon Him in the hands of the angry multitude, but He could not forget Peter.

That which hurts Him the most in these days is not the sin of the unrestrained heart, but the sin of the unregenerate heart, and the sin of the unregenerate heart is the sin of the unregenerate heart, and the sin of the unregenerate heart is the sin of the unregenerate heart.

There is an infinite amount of paths in the world. There is a path that leads to Peter. No word of reproach fell from His lips, but simply an expression of sorrow was there to be seen. Does He not look back upon the days of His life? Does He not remember in your life—words that you have broken—pledges that you have never kept? "Jesus, let Thy pitying eye call back the wandering sheep." "False to Thee like Peter, I would fain like Peter weep."

III. But do not be discouraged. Man's usefulness is not infrequently springs from his recovery from some sin. Out of Peter's fall came his first epistle. The first glimpse that I have of the Saviour's heart is the glimpse which comes when I think of His personal dealings with individuals. When I think of the God of Abraham I think of one who stretches His child under the yoke. The God of Jacob is my encouragement to believe that my old nature may be conquered, and my name changed from Jacob to Israel, the prince of God. The God of Elijah teaches me that prayer must be answered. The Saviour of Thomas encourages me while in doubt; the Saviour of Paul sustains me in my sufferings; but the Saviour of Peter is the restorer of the penitent.

Peter and Jesus met after the Resurrection on the shore of the lake. It was most significant that when he denied Christ he was in the presence of the fire of coals in the court of the enemy. When the Son of God met him on the shore of this lake there was fire of coals burning there. I doubt not but that all the story of his denial came rushing upon him. What was said at that interview we shall not know until we hear from Peter's own lips, but it is safe to say that all his sins were forgiven, and even the marks of his denial were taken away.

If you have denied this same Lord in your business, in your home, or in society, He waits to forgive and to forget, and He "is the same yesterday, to-day and forever."

Better Than Smashing.

An estimable young married lady of a Kansas village waited until the small hours for her husband, and he came not. She could not stand it longer, and, rising, she dressed herself, armed herself with a revolver, and proceeded to a saloon in the village, where her suspicions that her husband was there were found to be well founded. The wayward husband had spent the evening and night until 3 a. m. with four or five companions in convivial pleasures in the saloon, and when the judgment march marched into the place behind a gleaming revolver barrel there was a startled party of tipplers indeed. Straightway she commanded her husband to leave the saloon and go home. Then she turned to a man in the party who had demurred to leaving the place: "You have a good wife at home, too," she remarked quietly but firmly. "You had better go home, and go right now." He went.

"Now," said she, turning to the proprietor, "you blow out your lights and lock up this place. Eleven o'clock is late enough, and if the village authorities cannot enforce the law, will," she said, as the whole party left the place. The saloonkeeper closed his door, and they walked away in the night, the woman with her hand still firmly grasping the handle of the revolver. She revolved a joint without smashing it, and the best comment in her own town applauds her act.—Journal Press.


Kindness.

Did it ever occur to you that "kindness" was one of the elements of humility? Indeed it is only the humble person that is in a condition to show kindness to others, for the opposite of kindness is unkindness, and there can be no humility where there is unkindness. The unkind person is the one who is always demanding that others serve him and bend to his wishes, and this is an accented form of arrogance, or self-assertion. Kindness of heart and pride of manner never go together.—Presbyterian Journal.

Wireless telegraphy is to be used on Italian trains as a means of preventing railway accidents.

One-Sided Education.

By Dr. George G. Groff.



FEW weeks ago, in a Pennsylvania college, the professor of botany requested each student to bring into his class on the morrow a complete dandelion plant—root, stem, leaves and flowers. In this class was a young man, a sophomore, considered above the average as a student in languages and mathematical studies, who lives in one of the Atlantic seaboard cities, who did not know what plant was meant by dandelion.


This may be an extreme illustration of how many children are trained and how little they know of natural objects, but many others of a similar character could be cited. Few college students from the cities know our common trees by sight. Comparatively few country boys know the names of any grasses except timothy and orchard grass. The common mammals they may know by name, but few know the names of the birds about them. Under the elective system now in vogue in our colleges a man may graduate from almost any institution, never having studied for an hour chemistry, botany, geology, zoology, or any other science which treats of nature. It is scarcely too much to say that such graduates are not fitted for any position as leaders in modern life.

In Porto Rico a year ago a clergyman who had made a tour of the island was asked if he had seen the coffee plants. He replied that he had, and that they were annuals, about the size of tomato plants! And yet this man went to the island that he might be informed about it and its people. His early education had been defective and he could not observe.

Without some knowledge of chemistry it is impossible for one to read any good modern book, journal or paper. Our civilization is built on chemical knowledge. So, also, because our age is so material, one needs some knowledge of plants, minerals, rocks and animals. If these subjects should be pursued by youth in general, how much more important are they for boys and girls in the country! A present difficulty is that few teachers, comparatively speaking, know enough of botany, geology or zoology to give any intelligent instruction in the branches. They have been trained in language and mathematics, but science has been slighted. If they attempt any instruction at all, it is from a textbook, and science is not to be learned from books. Think of reading of a dandelion in a textbook and not knowing it by sight.

The Place of the Horse.

By William F. McSparran.



THE good horse will never lose his place in his service to mankind. His usefulness as an indispensable agent for purposes of labor and locomotion will no doubt be still further modified, and much that the horse is doing to-day in time to come will be performed more cheaply with some other power; but as the changes grow toward that end the horse will more and more move into his impregnable position as the steadfast and intelligent friend and companion of man.

The cable car, the electric car, the bicycle, each in its turn, it was predicted by the enthusiasts, would drive the horse into disuse, and finally practical extinction, but the horse is still here, better than ever, and those who love horses show no evidence of that love growing cold.

Now, it is asserted that the automobiles, the electric motors and future developments of these new methods of migration will surely supplant the horse. These are new. The horse is old, and the human heart is not easily weaned permanently away from its traditions, and the horse will no more be supplanted by the new rivals than he has been by the earlier ones. Man's love for a horse is not transferrable. The man may love any number of other things, animate and inanimate, but they will not in any measure usurp the love he has for a good horse. We may, and do, enjoy the race between the expensively constructed and skillfully handled automobiles; we cheer the winner and rejoice that the brain of man has conceived and the craft of his hand constructed such a beautiful machine, but we miss the supreme thrill of sympathetic enthusiasm that goes out to the superb performance of the beautiful horses coming down to the judges' stand.

The machine is a triumph of art and skill and applied mechanics; the horse is as much or more a triumph of the art and skill and patience and life labor of the men who stand behind his pedigree, while his performance on the track and on the road is the intense expression of his individual life and the aspiration of his intelligence; and the heart and life of man goes out to him in the great struggle with a sense of brotherhood.

A thousand mechanical motors can be built to do what the best one horse can do, but ten thousand horses may have to be bred and trained and tried before all one can equal the record of the winner; and while the breeding and all is being done for the horse, the lives of men are being contributed to the doing, and men's love for the horse is growing, and no machine will ever take its place.

Osier Culture on Waste Lands

By Grey E. Mitchell.

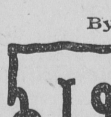


IN many farms where there is some water front, land otherwise waste can be profitably used for osier culture. While willows will grow almost anywhere, they should be planted for greatest profit in a deep, sandy loam, well drained and thoroughly prepared. The ground should be level and moist, but there should be drainage. However, willows will grow in a comparatively dry soil, but the whips will be smaller, though tougher and more durable than when grown in a rich, moist soil. The growth under moist conditions is naturally more vigorous and much more rapid. According to Dr. B. E. Fernow, Professor of Forestry at Cornell, the best situation for free and rapid growth is along the banks of rivers and brooks which pass through a level country and on the small islands which frequently occur in the midst of streams. Hollows or swales, the soil of which is composed of rich, soft, earthy particles, and which can be laid dry, furnish eligible situations for conversion into osieries; if water can occasionally be diverted onto such lands during the dry summer months, the situation may be considered as perfect. There are at present thousands of acres of marshy lands in the country. Mr. Fernow states, not paying two per cent, per annum, which, if drained at a small outlay and planted with willows, would yield an immense return, paying as high as twenty or thirty per cent, profit. The willow reaches its greatest production in the third year, and with proper care and good cultivation, it will continue to yield good results for a long run of years.

Willow baskets, hampers, chairs, etc., are a class of articles for which there is to-day an enormous demand. The manufacture in this country is increasing rapidly, but not sufficiently to meet this demand. Five cents a pound for dry willows is the price generally paid. At even a much less price there is a large profit in growing willows and an occupation is furnished for the winter months.

Demand For One Cent Letter Postage

By Hon. Geo. W. Smith, Representative From Illinois.



IT is but a question of time when letter postage will be reduced to one cent per ounce, and the reduction will be made without creating any great deficiency in postal revenues.

Since I introduced the bill last December providing for penny postage I have presented to the House petitions signed by at least a million business men from every State and section of the country, all urging its passage. Owing to the pressure of other measures, involving questions of party policy, no opportunity was presented for the consideration of the Penny Postage bill. But this much has been accomplished: The introduction of the measure has directed public attention to the subject, and has called forth statistics to show that, while a deficiency in the postal revenues will at first follow the reduction of letter postage, yet within a year or two the increase in receipts will be more than sufficient to make up for the loss caused by the inauguration of the cheaper rate.

The United States Government is the mightiest and best Government in the world, and it can well afford to give its citizens the cheapest postage in the world. As we are expanding, let us expand the business of the Post-office Department. One-cent postage would mean an enormous increase in the number of letters mailed. It would be a boon not only to the private citizen, but to the business interests of the country, and especially the big advertising houses which spend hundreds of thousands of dollars a year.

One-cent letter postage would distribute its benefits all around, and in a very little while would more than pay for itself.