

Evolution.

Out of the dark a shadow,
Then a spark;
Out of the cloud a silence,
Then a lark;
Out of the heart a rapture,
Then a pain;
Out of the dead cold ashes,
Life again.

—JONAS D. TANN.

HUMOROUS.

The worst lies are half truths.
A cold snap—Breaking an icicle.
You know the fish hook is the cause of many sinful, awful yarns? Yes; it's a nuisance—something to a-bait.
"Such matters must be mined," said the butcher as he dropped a cat into the chopper.

Billing and cooing flourishes during the honeymoon. Afterwards the billing sometimes stops the cooing.

Clara—So Lottie is married? Is she perfectly happy, do you think?
Florence—Oh, dear, yes; I am sure so. Her trousseau was faultless.

Raoul—I had a dog who attacked all the rascals. His friend—What did you do with him? Raoul—I had to get rid of him. He was everlastingly biting me.

Servant Maid (in breathless excitement)—Professor, there's a burglar in the dining-room! Professor (deeply absorbed without looking up)—Tell him I'm engaged.

"If my employer does not retract what he said to me this morning, I shall leave his store." "Why, what did he say?" "He told me I could look for another place."

"But what can you do, young man? Haven't you some special talent or taste—some bent as they say?" Applicant (dubiously)—"N-no, not that I can think of—except that I am a little bow-legged."

First Tramp—Are you in favor of the income tax? Second Tramp—You bet I am. I go further'n that. I'm in favor of given' every man an income to be taxed.

Sammy—Let's take this basket back to grandma's now. Danny—No, sir; it's raining terribly out. I just came in, and I've got one pair of wet feet, an' I'm not going to get another pair of 'em.

"There, that will teach you what's what," puffed the teacher, as she banged the whipped back into his seat. "I—I—I already knowed what's what," sobbed the boy; it's a pronoun!"

In courtship he told her that
He'd die for her without misgiving,
Yet, married now and well insured,
He doth still persist in living.

Amy—Why did you marry Harry who never sent you any presents, while you refused Jack, who was always giving you jewelry, candy, books and the like? Mabel—Jack had spent all his money.

"May I not, he pleaded, "kiss those matchless lips?" "Not for an instant," she rejoined, "can I think of such a thing." Patiently he waited until an instant had elapsed, and was duly rewarded.

Mother—Johnny, on your way home from school stop at the store and get me a stick of candy and a bar of soap. Father—What do you want of a stick of candy? Mother—That's so he'll remember the soap.

First Lobster—It's getting lonesome here now with all the society bathers gone. Second Lobster—Never mind, we are liable to meet them after supper this winter, and then we'll get the rest of our fine work in.

Hardacres—You say that Whipple's horse jumped that ditch? That was a wonderful jump. Huntley—Yes; but it was nothing to the one Whipple made. He landed at least twenty feet farther on than the horse did.

Mother—I gave you ten cents to be good yesterday, and today you are just trying to show how bad you can be. Willie—Yes, but I am just trying to show you today that you got the worth of your money yesterday.

Miss Latest Fad—The beauty books say every woman should have a hobby.

Miss Growing Older—What is worrying me more than anything else just now is the fact that I should have a "hubby."—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Mrs. Watts—Isn't it in Turkey that a woman is not allowed to see her husband until the day of the wedding? Mrs. Potts—I don't remember, but anyway it is not much worse than the American way of seeing so little of him after marriage.

"Papa" inquired the editor's only son, "what do you call your office?" "Well," was the reply, "the world calls an editor's office the sanctum sanctorum." "Then I suppose," and the small boy was thoughtful for a moment, "that mamma's office is a spunkum spunkorum, isn't it?"

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

An Atchison (Kan.) woman's poodle dog sports a glass eye.

Chicago has twenty-two general and sixteen special hospitals.

Eleven hundred head of horses were bought in Oregon recently at an average price of \$1.80.

In the year 1681 the English Sepoy army in Bengal consisted of twenty men under a corporal.

Bismarck has 103 different orders of knighthood and as many uniforms as would set up a small army.

A 225-ounce gold nugget in the shape of a horseshoe has been discovered at Hargraves, Australia.

A Norman-Pereheron horse, owned in Detroit, Mich., and weighing 2,500 pounds, is the heaviest equine in the world.

The oil wells of Baku, Prussia, cover a distance of country twenty-five miles long by over half a mile in breadth.

A loaf of bread supposed to have been leavened and baked about 500 B. C. has been taken by a French explorer from a tightly sealed Assyrian sarcophagus.

A Clarke County, Georgia couple recently celebrated their golden wedding in the house in which they were married and which has been their home continuously since.

Natural gas has been used in China for many centuries. It issues from fissures in the earth near coal mines and is led through bamboo tubes to the point where it is consumed.

Harry Spies, a Cincinnati tinner, es, capped death recently by having a very heavy watch-chain, which caught a scantling and held him from pitching off a high scaffolding to the street.

The prize of \$50 offered for the druggist who, at the next session of the Missouri Pharmacists, shall correctly name most drugs by the smell, has set the doctors training their noses.

Gas lamps were introduced in the Paris streets in 1819. Their employment caused no little remark among the country people, who got an idea that there was some magic about the matter.

Queen Victoria's footmen wear wigs which have eight rows of curls, whereas those of the Prince of Wales are allowed seven rows and those of the Lord Mayor of London are allowed six only.

Mrs. Ann Adams Spear, who died at Quincy, Mass., recently, was born in that town March 4, 1797, on the same day that she has since lived, and a stone's throw from the house in which she died.

Pioquinto Miranda of Columbia, Central America, is living, blind and helpless at the age of 122. One of his neighbors is 105 years old and still able to work at knitting with coarse thread.

Mrs. Joseph Monarch of Peshtigo, Wis., is the mother of four generations. She was born in 1805 and recently was photographed with her descendants, the pictures representing an interesting and wholesome family group of five generations.

Huge Shells.

Among the largest bivalve shells known is the geoduck, a huge clam of the Alaskan coast, that attains a weight of five or six pounds, one shell affording food for a large family.

The conchs, especially those known as queen and trumpet conchs, are among the giants of the univalve shells, weighing, in the latter instance, sometimes twelve pounds—ponderous objects as they move along on the sandy bottoms of the lagoons of their choice.

The method of locomotion among these large conchs is singular, particularly when observed from above. The shell reaches out its foot, which is armed, in the case of the common strombus, with a sharp-pointed, saber-like operculum, thrusts it into the sand and gives a powerful wrench, which forces the shell along in a series of jerks. The real giants of the mollusca are few and are confined mainly to those described.—Ledger.

Smart.

Mr. Richmann—I don't demand that my daughter shall marry wealth, but I do insist that the man she marries shall have brains enough to get along in the world.

Young Sillimur—Well, I think I've shown pretty good judgment in selecting a father-in-law; don't you? —New York Weekly.

The outer layers of the alligator's skin are said to contain a large percentage of silice, hence the hardness of the animal's hide.

FOR THE HOUSEWIFE.

WASHING CHAMOIS LEATHER.

To wash chamois leather dissolve a little soda in warm water, and after rubbing some soft soap well into the leather, soak it for two hours covering up the pan. Move the leather about and rub it gently, when it is clean, rinse with a slight lather of soap in a weak solution of soda and warm water. It requires no other rinsing than this as it is the small quantity of pure soap adhering to the leather that helps to soften it. Wring tightly in a rough towel and dry quickly in the sun or near a fire.

RESTORING LUSTRE TO FURS.

Here is a recipe obtained direct from a Russian dweller for restoring lustre to furs. Dwellers in cold climates wear so much fur that their experience in preserving its beauty cannot fail to be useful. Heat a quantity of rye flour as hot as the hand can bear. Spread a sheet upon the floor, lay the fur to be dressed upon it, cover the garment with the heated flour, let it remain for half an hour, then shake, and finally go over it with a long-haired brush. It will take some time to remove all the rye, but this trouble will be repaid by the improved appearance of the fur. Coarsely ground meal probably would answer if rye flour is not obtainable. Bran is more easily dealt with, but its efficiency as a restorer would probably be inferior to that of flour.—New York Post.

CLEAN FEATHERS IN LIME WATER.

A new and satisfactory way to clean white hat feathers is to dip them in lime water. Make the solution quite thick and allow the plumes to remain in the wash for some time. When thoroughly soaked, lift them gently out of the bath so the mixture will partially adhere. Next lay the feathers on a rough cloth, letting them remain until dry. Then shake thoroughly and softly beat against the cloth until all the particles of dry lime have fallen off. A sun bath of a few minutes will restore their freshness, and the usual amateur process of holding them over steam to regain the curl will result in their being almost as good as new.

In curling feathers with steel, it should be remembered that only the blunt side of the instrument should be used.

A wise recipe to follow in preparing feathers for beds is this: Water is saturated with quicklime; the feathers are well steeped and stirred for three or four days; they are taken out, drained and washed in clean water, dried on nets or dry cloth, shaken occasionally while drying, and finally beaten to expel any dust. This is for amateur treatment; the most efficient method is to have them steamed by machine.

To dye white or cream feathers it will be found that they take easily to all dyeing materials. Safflower and lemon for rose color or pink, Brazil wood for deep red, Brazil wood and cudbear for crimson, indigo for blue and weld for yellow. It is safest to bleach them before dyeing. The manner of treatment is the same as that cloth.—New York Press.

RECIPES.

Cake—Three eggs, one cup of sugar, one cup of flour, one teaspoonful of Royal baking powder, three or four tablespoonfuls of water. Make in one square loaf.

Sweet Omelet—Make as for plain omelet, adding a scant tablespoonful of pulverized sugar for every two eggs and omitting of course salt and pepper. When done, spread one-half with a few spoonfuls of jam, jelly, marmalade or any kind of preserve, fold over, sprinkle with sugar and serve.

White Caper Sauce—To half a pint of white sauce, made with milk or half milk and half the liquid in which the mutton has been boiled, add a tablespoonful of French capers, a tablespoonful of lemon juice, or a dessert spoonful of the liquid of the capers. On no account strain this sauce, as the capers must be seen in it.

Cream Fritters—Boil cornstarch in milk, as for blanc mange. Take from the fire when nearly done and stir in four eggs to a quart of milk. Pour the mixture upon the biscuit pan and put it in the ice-box to harden. When cold and firm cut it into inch squares or diamonds; dip each piece into a batter made of two eggs, one teaspoonful of flour and one tablespoonful of milk, after rolling a square in the batter, dip it in bread crumbs and drop it into boiling fat. Dip out each piece as soon as it browns and lay upon brown paper, to absorb any fat which may cling. Serve the fritters hot with canned strawberries for sauce.

STYLES IN DRESS.

LATEST CREATIONS IN THE WORLD OF FASHION.

Healthful and Conventional Evening Costumes—Neck Garniture—Sleeve in Two Materials—A Young Girl's Dress.

THERE is considerable discussion at present about low-necked gowns. Some women contend that they should be done away with entirely. This opinion, however, is divided in educational and particularly social circles,



TWO EVENING COSTUMES.

where physical culture has become a popular and accepted belief. To supply special information upon this burning subject the New York Mail and Express has endeavored to get the latest creations in healthful and conventional evening costumes. The accompanying double-column illustration conveys some valuable hints. One of the chief points is the fitting of the back loosely and the hanging of the materials from the shoulders, thus bearing the balance of the weight upon the hips and shoulders and not the waist.

Another point is the freedom allowed by the puffed ornamentation of the corsage, which is loose, puffy, soft and elastic, allowing the lungs perfect, unrestricted action. The skirt is full and also of soft tissue, which can be tulle, crepe de chine, Surah silk, Egyptian crepe or Japanese silk. A dainty shirring about the bottom of the skirt gives a neat and splendid finish. The sleeves follow the latest dress reform rules, and are composed of large gracefully fitted rolls of lace and chiffon to match the other materials in the make-up of the gown. The latest and daintiest colors can be employed in the innovation; violet and lemon, old gold and seal brown, black and white are recommended.

The second fashionable creation introduces a new basque, a late neck garniture and a new style of collar. The waist is to be made of cheviot or broadcloth. It fits like a glove over the bust, and when molded to a perfect figure is a modiste's dream of delight. It does not need much garniture. The belt adds to the slenderness of the waist, and can be of jetted satin ribbon, flowered crepe or broadcloth. The sleeves are extra large, but are quite smooth upon the shoulders. A large military collar surmounts the affair. Mrs. J. J. Astor, Mrs. Edwin Gould, Mrs. de Forest and Miss Fair have done much to make this ideal creation fashionable by subscribing to its popularity. They all are fortunately endowed with wonderful figures.

The neck garniture is a dainty feathery cape. It can be made by sewing ostrich tips on to stiff material, by fastening together rosettes of peccot-edged ribbons and confining to a solid background, or by fluffy combinations of rich laces.

The coiffure which presents itself is part Grecian and part Oriental. The hairdressers are evidently extending the Japanese fad. The hair is gently frizzed into a pompadour in front, laid in wrinkles of soft curls at the side and confined in a pug at the back.

THE LATEST IN WAISTS.

If the present-day woman were asked what is the most important item in her wardrobe, she would unquestionably answer—her waists. And there seems to be new ones brought out every day. At least, if they are not radically new they are modified and transformed, turned "hind-side before," and one might almost fancy upside down, so quaint and novel are some of the latest models. A Paris design is of figures. The sides and back fit closely, the front is a series of flat plaits from the bust to the belt. Above these there is a drapery of embroidered chiffon or lace, while turning back from this embroidery are sections of the material folded in jabot fashion on either side. These begin at the collar and cover the entire upper half of the waist front. They are made of the silk matching the waist and are lined with some contrasting color. The collar is of the waist material, as is also the folded belt; the sleeves are in enormous puffs from shoulders to elbows and close-fitting hence to the waist.

Another waist, one that was greatly admired at its introduction, is of India silk. The full back and front are skirred in at the collar and waist-

line and fall below the waist for something more than a quarter of a yard. The lower edge is hemmed and is without trimming. A strap belt with crossed ends, a folded collar with rosettes at the sides and full leg-of-mutton sleeves complete the design. From collar to waist-line are rosettes made of the material. This is an extremely pretty waist for a slender figure, and is especially adapted to young girls.

SLEEVE IN TWO MATERIALS.

This very effective sleeve is made with straight widths of the predominant color of the dress, and gored pieces of the fancy. In the flat paper pattern the chief color is marked blue,



and the fancy red. The straight widths of blue and the gored red are joined together, and then the pattern is laid on, and the sleeve shaped for the top and bottom. It is gathered round the elbow, and though gathered again at the top, the blue is laid in box pleats over the red to hide the seams.

A narrow band of the fancy, and a rosette, make both the lace and the raw edges of the sleeve neat on to the fitted lining. A few stitches are necessary to keep the folds in place. One width of the plain divided into three



DRESS FOR A YOUNG GIRL.

This dress, for a young girl, is in woolen serge. Skirt mounted in small plaits, grouped at the waist behind, flat in front, is trimmed with two long brackets buttoned at bottom



A YOUNG GIRL'S DRESS.

and framing the front. Close jacket with puckered basque plaits; the fronts are open in a straight line over their length over a simulated waistcoat of black velvet. Very puffy sleeves joined to a close fore-sleeve of velvet trimmed with facings.

NEW TORTOISE-SHELL COMBS.

The latest tortoise-shell comb is inlaid with enamel. A high comb displayed in a New York jeweler's shop shows at the top an Empire design in white enamel outlined with gold. Combs wrought with turquoise enamel are also new and effective.

WOMEN AS BRAVE AS MEN.

LADY SOLDIERS.

Some Maids and Matrons Who Served During the Civil War.

Women of all rank and positions took part in the late civil war, not only as spies, but also as private soldiers and holding honorary commissions. It is difficult to say whether their motives were like those of Joan of Arc—the salvation of their country—or merely love of excitement. But it is astonishing to find, in talking with ex-officers, how many of the other sex did share the hardships of battle, some openly confessing their sex, others disguised as men.

Every one knows of Belle Boyd, the famous spy, but there are many whose names never became famous, but whose work was as subtle and as daring.

A NOTABLE SCOUT.

Brigadier General Baker of the Secret Service during the civil war, tells of the work of a Miss Ford, who was a devoted little rebel, and lived at Fairfax Court House. Her father's home was headquarters for the staff officers of the Union, and Miss Ford was quite a belle among them. She was to all purposes, for the Union, and the officers believed in her to the extent of telling her much of the strength of the army by careful investigation and close observation she obtained in a seemingly careless manner all information necessary for the use of the Confederates.

The only frequent visitor she had was an unpretentious provincial youth, who would sit on the piazza with her in the afternoon exciting no suspicion. The "youth" was Mosby, the famous guerrilla, and Miss Ford, who was honorary aid-de-camp to Brigadier General J. E. B. Stuart, was giving him the whole scheme and strength of the Union forces, where the pickets were stationed, the strength of the outposts, the names of officers in command, the nature of general orders, the places where officers' quarters were established and the number of officers present.

Once when she was riding with a Union officer, Mosby joined them in his unfashionable citizen's clothes; Miss Ford introduced him under his assumed name, and joining them for a few miles he learned much that he wished to know. That night Mosby was enabled through Miss Ford's information to make the attack upon General Stoughton, carrying officers as prisoners, also valuable property, and capturing one hundred flag horses. It was this affair which called forth Lincoln's well known remark that "it was a great pity; he could make Brigadier Generals, but couldn't make horses."

A WOMAN TO CATCH A WOMAN.

The true circumstance and mode of attack the accurate information in possession of the Confederates leaders, all point unmistakably to the existence of a spy within its lines, so a woman was sent to meet the detective of the female detectives of the Secret Service went to Miss Ford, represented herself as a Southern woman, asking protection to reach the Confederate lines, and the two women became friends. In a conversation Miss Ford showed the detective the sealed commission of aid-de-camp, which she kept between her mattresses. She was arrested and sent to Old Capitol Prison.

IN AN ILLINOIS REGIMENT.

Mrs. Lurchin, another woman of high birth, fought on the Union side. She was the daughter of a Russian officer, born in a Russian camp, and was the wife of Colonel Lurchin of an Illinois regiment. During an illness of her husband she took command of the regiment and proved herself an intrepid leader.

Neither did these women go unrewarded. There was Major Pauline Cushman, who, unlike Mrs. Lurchin and Mrs. Etheridge, wore military trousers as well as coat. Miss Cushman was a beautiful and well known actress when the war broke out. At the commencement of hostilities she was playing in Louisville, and incurring the suspicion of being a secessionist, she was arrested by federal authorities. To test her she was asked if she would enter the secret service of the government. She consented and was at once employed to carry letters between Louisville and Nashville.

Miss Cushman was employed by General Rosecrans, and was for months with the Cumberland army. Major Cushman knew every road and every house for miles, was the most daring of scouts and intrepid of fighters. She visited the Confederates during a time after time. Twice she was suspected of being a spy and arrested, but both times she escaped by keenest strategy.

A HIT OF STRATEGY.

Once Miss Cushman was sent as scout toward Shelbyville from Nashville, which was held by Union forces, to ascertain the strength of the enemy. Returning she was captured placed on a horse in charge of two scouts and taken to Forrest's headquarters. Informed for awhile, she rode on, but at last feigned sickness and said she was unable to ride further. Stopping at a house, Miss Cushman found that federal scouts had passed that way an hour before.

Calling an old negro to her, she put some money into his hand, told him to go down his road and come back screaming, "The Yankees are coming!" He did as she directed, and, although the Southern soldiers refused to believe him at first, they were so much part so well they finally made off to hiding, leaving Miss Cushman alone. She escaped, but found it was necessary to pass the Confederate pickets. To the first four, when halted, she gave the countersign—a canteen of whiskey—but the fifth was more inquisitive and she was turned back. She reached Rosecrans finally, but was in the end arrested.

A WISCONSIN HEROINE.

One of the women who distinguished herself nobly in the soldiering of the army was Mrs. Annie Etheridge, of Wisconsin, who was in the second battle of Bull Run, and had public recognition from General Kearny, of her services. Her dress was covered in promotion. She was often under fire. An officer was once shot down by her side, and once, when a rebel officer was captured, Mrs. Etheridge escorted him to the rear of the general's command. At Spottsylvania Heights, when the soldiers were retreating, she remonstrated with them and brought them back, altogether proving herself a daring soldier. She received a government appointment after the war.

A GALLANT OFFICER.

Captain Taylor was another titled woman soldier that General Kirkland tells of. She was Miss Sarah Taylor, stepdaughter of Captain Dowden, and joined the First Tennessee. She was only 18 when she entered the army, and through the whole war was the idol of the Tennessee boys. She wore the regulation sword and silver mounted pistols, was an expert swordsman, a sure shot with pistol and could ride like an Arab. When retreating she was given to reinforce Captain Garrard. Captain Taylor galloped, cap in hand, along the line, cheering the men, and marched in the van with them. They considered her as a mascot.

Mrs. Reynolds, wife of Lieutenant Reynolds, Company A, Seventeenth Illinois, received an honorary major by Governor Yates of Illinois for "meritorious conduct on the bloody battlefield of Pittsburg Landing. There are only a few of the most notable instances of women warriors of the late war, but all officers unite in saying that these dozens of private who served with bravery equal to the men, and many whose sex was not discovered until the war was ending.

"Great reforms are seldom accomplished without bloodshed," was the consoling thought of the man who decided to do his own shaving.